

ROWMAN & LITTLEFIELD

Managing Previously Unmanaged Collections

A Practical Guide for Museums

By Angela Kipp

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MANAGING PREVIOUSLY UNMANAGED COLLECTIONS

A PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR MUSEUMS

ANGELA KIPP



About the Book

Managing previously unmanaged collections can be challenging. The process of securing the collection and making it accessible needs the mindset of a collections manager as well as the one of a project manager. The book is a step-by-step guide how to approach this situation, assuming that there's nothing to start with but a collection that has to be accessioned and the person who is assigned to do it. It is about how to bring order into the chaos, to define what is needed in terms of time, money, staff and material, to spot facility issues and potential dangers, and to use the power of networking to solve an otherwise unsolvable task.

About the Author

Angela Kipp is the Collections Manager of the TECHNOSEUM in Mannheim, Germany and an independent museum consultant with a special focus on science, technology, farming and history collections. She holds the German Museum Studies degree of Diplom-Museologin (FH) and has worked in the museum field since 1998. She worked for various institutions including large museums like the Museum für Kommunikation (museum for communication) in Berlin and the Deutsches Museum in Munich, as well as for many smaller museums and cultural projects. She specializes in logistics, project management and the adaption of

technology for the special needs of museums.

Table of Contents

- Chapter 1: Congratulations, It's Your Mess Now!
- Chapter 2: A First Glimpse
- Chapter 3: Back at the Desk
- Chapter 4: Getting Organized
- Chapter 5: Diving into the Collection
- Chapter 6: The Power of Coffee
- Chapter 7: Getting Stuff Done
- Chapter 8: Storage Wants and Storage Needs
- Chapter 9: We Had Nothing
- Chapter 10: Failing Successfully
- Chapter 11: Success Stories

Review

Managing Previously Unmanaged Collections is a must have for the library of any collections caretaker! This book takes the ideas of project management and applies them to those messy collections that we all face at least once in our career. Kipp provides guidelines that will help both the new collections manager and veterans work their way through those unmanaged collections.

- Deborah Rose Van Horn, Registrar, Kentucky Historical Society & Chair, Southeastern Registrars Association

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