



# LUND UNIVERSITY

## Searching and researching archives

Arvidsson, Matilda

2008

[Link to publication](#)

*Citation for published version (APA):*

Arvidsson, M. (2008). *Searching and researching archives*. Abstract from REUNA Bergen workshop: Legal history on the edge of Europe: Nordic law in the European legal community 1000-2000 a.d..

*Total number of authors:*

1

### General rights

Unless other specific re-use rights are stated the following general rights apply:

Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the public portal are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

- Users may download and print one copy of any publication from the public portal for the purpose of private study or research.
- You may not further distribute the material or use it for any profit-making activity or commercial gain
- You may freely distribute the URL identifying the publication in the public portal

Read more about Creative commons licenses: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/>

### Take down policy

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.

LUND UNIVERSITY

PO Box 117  
221 00 Lund  
+46 46-222 00 00

## Searching and researching archives

**REUNA Bergen Workshop 2008-05-13**

*Matilda Arvidsson, Faculty of Law, Lund University*

In this presentation I juxtapose two web pages, analyzed as archives: the Gertrude Bell archives (<http://www.gerty.ncl.ac.uk/>), and the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA) of Iraq official web page (<http://www.iraqcoalition.org/regulations/>).

Following Jacques Derrida and Ann Laura Stoler, I argue that these archives should be researched not as sources of knowledge, but rather as the structuring and production of knowledge of law and colonial power. Researching law and colonial power in this way the similarities and dissimilarities in structuring the two archives as specifically online archives are analyzed in the presentation, pointing at the ways in which documents, texts, data is provided, presented and coded – and what the specific archival techniques of the two archives can tell us about law and its relation to power and colonial discourse.

### Litterature:

Jacques Derrida () *Archive Fever: A Freudian Impression*, Chicago: Chicago University Press

Ann Laura Stoler (2002) "Colonial Archives and the Art of Governance", *Archival Science* 2: 87–109