

COLLECTING POLICY

The Expatriate Archive Centre (EAC) is a unique, non-profit, independent archive based in the Netherlands, with a global outreach. The guidelines set forth in this document provide an overview of the EAC's existing holdings and govern the acquisition of new material; however, the collecting policy is deliberately flexible to allow each potential accession to be judged on its own merits.

MISSION STATEMENT AND OBJECTIVES

The EAC's mission is to collect and preserve the social history of expatriates worldwide, for research and the future.

Migration in one form or another has been a feature of human society since its early emergence. Nevertheless, one factor related to migration that has changed over the centuries is the motivation for moving from one place to another. Ethnologists, historians, and psychologists focused on migration studies are dedicated to conceiving and defining the multiple motivations, circumstances and effects these movements have on all those who are involved.

A specific feature of recent global migration developments is the continuously growing community of people 'on voluntary temporary move' - the expatriates. Expatriation as a sub-field of migration studies has not historically received as much academic attention as other forms of migration. However, in recent years there has been an upsurge of interest in studying the expatriate experience.

The EAC was created to fill the need for source material to facilitate research about expatriates. The EAC objectives are:

- To curate and preserve unique source material documenting the experiences of expatriates of all nationalities and backgrounds;
- To establish a centre of excellence for expatriation research;
- To give the life stories of expatriates their rightful place in global migration history.

The EAC actively seeks collaboration opportunities with other academic institutions to further facilitate research on subjects related to expatriate life.

DEFINITION OF EXPAT

The EAC defines an expatriate as anyone who lives temporarily in a country other than his/her 'home' country, including but not limited to the following categories:

- Business: employees of international or local businesses;

- Economic: workers in search of temporary work;
- Diplomatic: embassy and consular staff;
- Intergovernmental: employees of the UN and other international organisations;
- Academic: researchers or lecturers on an exchange programme or research assignment or international students;
- Non-profit/NGO: people working in non-governmental, non-profit, and charitable organisations;
- Religious: missionaries and workers in religious associations;
- Sport: athletes assigned to clubs and/or teaching/coaching;
- Cultural: artists, musicians, etc.;
- Military: on missions or stationed;
- Expatriate spouses, partners and children accompanying any of the above;
- Repatriates and returnees.

The EAC gathers material from expatriates worldwide, their accompanying partners and children, including TCKs (Third Culture Kids) originating from their time living abroad, as well as the repatriation period. The EAC also collects material from organisations that were created by and/or for expats.

SCOPE AND SUBJECT AREAS COLLECTED

The EAC collects documents of individuals (expats, repats and TCKs) and related organisations which illustrate a cross-section of expatriate life. Materials are preserved at the archive because they are of social-historical value and enduring public interest, with the intention that they be used in academic research.

During its relatively short history, the EAC has acquired a significant number of interrelated collections in various fields. The holdings of the EAC include material in many different languages, from dozens of different nationalities and countries, dating back to the late 19th century. The EAC's main focus is on individuals' papers, with other material considered as supplementary. The collections described below are representative of the EAC's previous and ongoing collection development efforts.

Individual and Family papers

The individual and family collections held at the EAC form the core of its holdings and cover a wide range of subjects related to expatriate life, including but not limited to: moving and finding housing, dealing with foreign bureaucracies, travelling and language barriers, social life and integration, on-site living conditions, adjustments to new cultures, reflections on political situations and environments, expatriate careers, expatriate partner/spouse experiences, emotional impacts on identity and personality, running a family and raising children abroad. The majority of the source material is in English, with many materials in Dutch. The collection also includes additional documents in around twenty other languages, from fifteen nationalities and more than eighty nations. Some representative collections include:

- Correspondence from a Swiss family in the 1950s who lived in various countries in Europe, South America, Africa and Asia;
- A British family's collection from Germany, Greece, the Netherlands and Saudi Arabia between 1981-2012;
- A collection from a Dutch man in the Congo during the late 19th and early 20th centuries (the archive's oldest holdings);
- Correspondence and memoirs of a German family in the 1960s who lived in Nigeria during the civil war;
- Memoirs and personal items of a Chinese-Luxembourg couple who lived in various countries in Europe, America and Asia in the beginning of the 21st century;
- Travel diary of an Australian couple who lived in the Netherlands in the 2000s and 2010s;
- Collection from a U.S. family who lived in Guatemala and the Netherlands in the 1960s;
- Memoirs and interview of a Third Culture Kid and expat who was born in Algeria in the 1970s and lived in various countries all over the world (South America, Europe, Africa, Asia, North America).

Current Focus: The EAC continues to acquire material from individuals and families with the aim to broaden the collection to include as many different types of expatriate experiences as possible, as well as providing more data to researchers in areas already covered by existing collections. Besides steadily increasing the amount of material created in traditional formats such as letters and diaries, the EAC is consulting with other archives and innovating new ways to collect and store the digital material (e.g. blogs, social media, etc.) that 21st century expats are creating.

Archives of organisations

In addition to the individual and family collections that form its core, the EAC has a number of supplementary collections that give context and additional insight into expatriate life. Among these supplementary collections are archives from several different organisations that are related to expatriates in some way, whether because they are comprised of expatriates or provide services to them.

- GOS (Global Outpost Services) – GOS provides support to Shell employees and their families who face the challenges of global mobility. Because the EAC shares GOS's roots in Shell, it holds parts of the GOS archives as well as parts of the archives of local Outpost offices around the world. The holdings date back to the times of the Outpost foundation in 1995 and continue until the beginning of the 21th century. The documents include reports and minutes about Outpost activities worldwide as well as Newsletters and informational brochures related to expatriate life.
- RNW (Radio Nederlands Wereldomroep¹) – The EAC holds the website archives of RNW, which was set up in 1945 to connect Dutch people living abroad with their home country. The material was held on a series of interconnected websites, which were discontinued in

¹ Radio station The Netherlands worldwide

2014. The holdings at the EAC include the "Wereldkids"² website and expat related articles from the www. rnw.nl news website.

- FAWCO (Federation of American Women's Clubs Overseas) – FAWCO is an international network of independent organisations for American women abroad, focusing on education, the natural and human environment, multicultural understanding and international goodwill. The FAWCO archive is the first collection to be held on loan to the EAC. The holdings include scrap books, conference reports, financial documents and audio-visual material, as well as publications and material about FAWCO events and activities.
- AWCA (American Women's Club Amsterdam) – Established in 1927, this women's organisation is a blend of long-term and short-term residents in the Amsterdam area who have ties to the United States. The AWCA is primarily a social club, but also provides opportunities for philanthropy and community involvement. The holdings include annual reports, board documents, publications and material documenting the history of the AWCA, as well as material about AWCA events and activities.

Current Focus: The EAC aims to continue to connect with expatriate related organisations with suitable material to contribute and will continue to append new documents to the existing GOS, FAWCO and AWCA archives.

Curated Material

While the EAC focuses mainly on sources we would consider 'original' (i.e. material created spontaneously at or near the time when the events depicted occurred), it also houses some materials that have been curated or 'artificially' compiled by the EAC, for example materials solicited from expatriates as part of a specific project such as a book or exhibition.

- Shell Ladies Project – The original precursor of the EAC was the 'Shell Ladies Project', a few wives of Shell employees who wanted to give voice to the stories of Shell wives and families posted on expatriate assignments. They published two books, *Life on the move* (1993) and *Life now* (1996). The EAC houses not only the books, but also the materials collected for their publication, both those that were published and those that were not.
- *The Sourcebook* – In 2003 Outpost Family Archive Centre (OFAC) was created to archive the materials collected for the books mentioned above. In 2008, as a 'follow up' to those two publications, OFAC released *The Source book*. This publication included both original documents from the Shell Ladies Project and newly solicited submissions describing life abroad as a 'Shell wife' from 1927 to 2007.
- *Expat Impressions of The Hague* – In 2015 the EAC partnered with several local archives and organisations, and solicited material from individuals to create an exhibition called *Expat Impressions of The Hague*. The exhibition was curated by a local expat artist, and featured large display boards showcasing quotations from expatriate sources such as diaries, letters, and other original writings, along with photographs, as well as impressions written on the

² "World Kids"

spot on postcards by viewers of the exhibition. The materials (including many that were not used in the exhibition) are held by the EAC, as is the exhibition itself.

Current Collecting Focus: The EAC remains open to future projects, collaborations, and other compilations, and welcomes proposals from researchers, organisations, or other parties interested in creating or donating such projects.

The EAC library

Apart from the archive, the EAC houses a small but growing library of print, audio-visual and electronic resources with the primary focus of providing volunteers and researchers on-site access to complementary material about the various aspects of expatriate life. The library comprises books and other materials donated to the EAC as well as items purchased by the EAC. Holdings include reference books (atlases, dictionaries, etc.), books on topics relating to expatriate social studies, including TCK's, expat memoirs, expat fiction, historical background, foreign languages, and books related to collections held in the archive, usually because they are authored by someone who has donated personal materials to the archive.

Of particular interest in the library is the EAC's collection of theses, dissertations and articles written based on research of the EAC collections, including the following:

- Mirjam M. Burkhard, Erasmus University, Faculty Social Sciences. Master thesis *Expats and transnationalism*;
- Kalle Kuikkaniemi, AKV/St. Joost, photography department. Photography project *Nico Let Op*;
- Sabine Kouwenhoven, Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University Rotterdam. Master thesis *Dual career expatriate couples with focus on the trailing spouse*;
- Martin J. Loeve, University for Humanities Utrecht. PhD thesis *Ander-ing On-Stage Addressing Expatriate Loneliness*;
- Mara Sfountouri, Erasmus University of Rotterdam. Master thesis *Writing home. National identity in expatriates' letters, 1978-2009*;
- Aniek Smit, University of Leiden. Article in *Historisch Tijdschrift* 47(3) 'Life with the Dutch Touch': *internationale vrouwenclubs tussen cultuurbehoud en integratie in naoorlogs Den Haag, Holland*³.

Current Collecting Focus: The EAC sees its library as a useful addition to the core holdings. It will grow organically with a strong focus on print material documenting the following aspects of expatriate life: academic social studies on expatriate life and Third Culture Kids, memoirs and biographies of expats, and research publications.

TYPE OF MATERIALS

The EAC accepts a broad range of formats and material types, both printed and digital and in any language available. Listed below are examples of what the EAC typically accumulates. The list is not

³ International women's clubs between cultural preservation and integration in post-war The Hague, the Netherlands.

complete but rather suggestive. However, it is ranked in order of what the EAC considers most valuable for its collection.

For individual and family collections:

- *Correspondence*, including paper letters, emails, notes, postcards, or any other form of digital and traditional written communication;
- *Diaries and journals* of any kind, whether handwritten or typed, detailed or sparsely recorded, commercially printed or as plain notebooks;
- *Websites and blogs*, whether sparsely recorded or continuously;
- *Articles, manuscripts and essays* whether handwritten or typed, as fragment or complete, commercially printed or as plain draft;
- *Scrapbooks, photo albums* or any other kind of individually designed visual documents, as long as considerable annotations and identifying information about subjects, locations and persons are available (i.e. the EAC does not accept photographs or videos without accompanying explanatory text);
- *Personal or legal documents*, such as certificates, awards, programmes, invitations, membership cards, inventory lists or any other kind of related traditional or digital material;
- *Pictures* and any other kind of digital and traditional visual material such as loose photos and photographic prints, drawings, paintings, posters, maps, etc., if considerable annotations and identifying information about subjects, locations and persons are available;
- *Additional documentary material*, such as newsletters, newspapers, journals, magazines, clippings, tickets, invitations, school reports, yearbooks, annuals or any other kind of commercially or privately published related material;
- *Audio-visual documents* both analogue and digital, such as films, videos, recorded interviews or any other kind of related material if considerable annotations and identifying information about subjects, locations and persons are available.

For organisational collections:

- *Annual reports and meetings minutes* of organisations serving the expatriate community and composed (or not) of expats;
- *Organisational publications* such as monthly newsletters, magazines, or e-zines;
- *Correspondence*, including paper letters, emails, notes, postcards, or any other form of digital and traditional written communication;
- *Websites and blogs*, whether sparsely recorded or continuous.

In general the EAC prefers a coherent body of material rather than individual items. The main focus is on written material and pictures; audio-visual and/or any other additional material is considered supplementary. Original documents are preferable to copies. Copies and transcripts are only acquired where the originals are not available and the material is of sufficient importance to the EAC's collections. The EAC focuses on collecting rare and unique materials rather than publications which are available elsewhere, such as popular books or magazines.

METHODS OF ACQUISITION

Whatever the source, EAC records are generally acquired by gift/donation. Ownership, custody, and publication rights are transferred to the EAC upon accession. Gifts/donations (as opposed to loans) are preferred because they ensure that a collection will be permanently preserved and available for research. The EAC in consultation with donors evaluates and selects only material worthy of permanent preservation. Duplicate or ephemeral material identified in the initial processing of an archive is returned to the donor or destroyed in a secure manner, according to the EAC policy and the donor's instructions.

The EAC accepts material in accordance with the relevant Dutch legal rules and regulations regarding privacy and Data Protection (Wet Bescherming Persoonsgegevens), copyright (Auteurswet) and storage conditions of archives. The EAC is committed to making personal and organisational records as open and accessible as possible to researchers while respecting the privacy requirements described in donation agreements. Donors' wishes on the confidentiality and copyright status of material are always established in advance. The EAC will respect any limitations that have been made with regard to identification and non-disclosure over a certain period of time (max. 50 years).

The EAC aims to assist donors in finding the most appropriate home for their records and at times may direct records to another repository if the material does not fit within the scope of the EAC.

The EAC does not normally purchase any material, unless in exceptional circumstances.

Loans can be considered only for the organisational archives of still functioning institutions. Each loan agreement is discussed and agreed upon on a case-by-case basis. The EAC prefers gift/donation over loan.

GUIDELINES FOR DONATING

The EAC treats each collection individually, and makes decisions regarding which materials are appropriate on a case-by-case basis. However, here are some general guidelines on what may influence whether the EAC accepts a particular item or collection.

Ownership of Intellectual Property

All intellectual property rights associated with the materials to be donated must belong to the donating party. If the rights to the material to be donated belong to another party, that party must give permission, and the donation agreement must be executed with the owner of the material.

Physical Condition of Acquisitions

Because the EAC has limited preservation and conservation resources, it is vital that the EAC only acquire materials in the best possible physical condition. Exceptions may be made in instances where the scarcity of an item in any condition warrants accepting a less-than-perfect specimen. In general, the costs involved in repairing and storing damaged documents are beyond the limited means of the EAC budget, so the EAC may decline imperfect material.

Digital File Formats

The range and number of digital formats available worldwide is vast and continually evolving. The EAC may be unable to preserve some of these formats or to present them in their original form. Therefore it is vital that the EAC only acquire digital records which are within technical and budgetary capacity to receive, maintain and make available. All documents will be digitised or transformed into specific file formats that are in accordance with the EAC guidelines and are compatible with the archival registration system.

Records Not Accepted

Records that do not fall within the EAC's scope or serve enduring research interest will not be collected by the EAC. If records do not meet the selection criteria as described above, they are returned or disposed of according to the EAC policy or donor's instructions.

In general, the EAC cannot accept duplicate copies of records already held in other Archives or related institutions. Exceptions may be made in instances where a second copy has unique features, but the general rule is against adding redundant copies of published works.

The EAC cannot accept non-digital materials such as 8mm reels, video tapes or any other kind of audio-visual documents which may require a special preservation environment. This is due to the fact that the EAC may be unable to keep them in good condition and to provide equipment to present them for public viewing in their original form. However, the EAC will accept digital copies of those materials. The EAC can also assist in facilitating digitisation of those materials, although in these cases the cost of digitisation is the responsibility of the donor.

Exceptions to these constraints may be made in instances where the scarcity of an item in any condition warrants accepting regardless.

EAC SERVICES TO DONORS

The EAC stores, preserves and makes accessible the archives in its custody in accordance with current professional standards. All records received are accessioned immediately. The sorting, cataloguing, and indexing are undertaken as soon as possible, but may take some time, depending on the size of the collection, the EAC's workload, and current volunteer resources available. Materials are arranged, described, digitised and entered into an archival registration system respecting international archiving standards (ISAD, ISAAR). Copies of digitised documents are supplied to donors when specifically requested by the donor.

As a private archive, the EAC is governed by privacy laws established by the European Union and the Netherlands. Individuals who have performed research at the EAC may publish data or quotations derived from EAC materials only under the following conditions:

CONDITIONS OF ACCESS

1. Users must complete and sign a Research Agreement that has been approved and signed by the EAC Director before gaining access to the archival material.
2. Archival material may be researched only on-site (with supervision).
3. Some records may be restricted by law, by EAC policy, or by request of the donor.
4. No copies, whether printed or digital copies/scans (including cell phone photographs) are to leave the EAC.
5. Handwritten notes regarding archival material can be taken, but must not include names, addresses or any other personal identifying information.
6. Any archival material is never to be altered or defaced by any markings whatsoever.
7. Users are asked to keep records in the same order in which they are found.
8. Before publishing⁴ any data or quotations from the EAC, researchers must request and receive a written permission from the EAC Director (see 'Conditions of Release/Publishing of Material' below).
9. The EAC is to be credited on all used documents and photographs in accordance with the EAC citation guidelines (see 'Citing EAC Material' below).
10. The above mentioned rules are general; all research requests are treated on a case-by-case basis.

CONDITIONS OF RELEASE/PUBLISHING OF EAC MATERIAL

The researcher:

1. Shall submit a Final Material Request detailing the exact EAC materials that he/she wishes to use. It should be co-signed by the EAC Director;
2. Shall only use the collected data for the purpose described in the Final Material Request. For any other further use, new permission must be requested;
3. Shall use the data anonymously, redacting last names and any information that might directly or indirectly identify the related persons (e.g. dates, addresses, religion, etc.) , and shall not publish or release publicly any information which could infringe upon the right to privacy of individuals or be used to the advantage or disadvantage of other involved individuals or legal entities or third parties;
4. Shall follow any additional restrictions on individual material, as set forth in the Final Material Request;
5. Shall indemnify the EAC against any claim made by any third party in view of damages caused by the consultation of the collection;
6. Agrees to make a copy of his/her work available to the EAC for inclusion in the EAC's library;
7. When no consent for release and/or publication of the EAC material has been given, the researcher shall only use the data for private study and not share with other persons.

⁴ For purposes of the EAC, 'publishing' means making the content available to the general public, whether in print or online. Each researcher agreement explicitly mentions the reasons of usage of EAC materials (e.g. a master's or PhD thesis). Each additional usage of EAC materials (i.e. different from identified intentions in the signed researcher agreement) requires a separate agreement, co-signed by researcher and the Director. For further information see 'Conditions of Release/Publishing of EAC Material.'

CITING EAC MATERIAL

Traceability of work

Precise and consistent citation helps to demonstrate that research work is based on documentary evidence. It is also crucial to allow other researchers to identify the source, verify information or take any initial research forward.

Overview

References to archival records differ from references to books or other types of published material. A book is a separate entity in its own right, with its own author and title, but an archival record is usually unpublished and is just one item in a series of items created or maintained by an agency or person.

As far as possible, archival material is kept in the same sequence and filing system in which it was created and maintained. Correct citations provide a guide to the origin as well as the location of the records.

Citation protocol

Expatriate Archive Centre:

EAC 1.002.3.04.5,

pp 3, 5, 12

(full name of EAC,

full reference number,
followed by a comma)

(page number[s], separated by
a comma, if applicable)

followed by a colon)

Example

Expatriate Archive Centre: EAC 1.002.3.04.5, pp 3-5

Description of the EAC (for bibliographies, publications, etc.)

The Expatriate Archive Centre collects and preserves the life stories of expatriates worldwide for future research. The Expatriate Archive Centre is a unique, non-profit, independent archive based in the Netherlands, with a global outreach.