

MASS OBSERVATION ARCHIVE STUDY VISIT

Mass Observation Archive at the University of Sussex, Falmer (Brighton)
Friday, 25 September 2009, 10.00 - 4.15pm

How can museums and libraries unlock the potential of the Archive to create resources and exhibitions around the 'home'?

The Mass Observation Archive is a unique primary historical resource which specialises in material about everyday life in Britain. It contains papers generated by the original Mass Observation social research organisation (1937 to early 1950s) and newer material collected continuously since 1981. The Archive was awarded Designated status in 2005.

Beginning with an overview of the Mass Observation Archive's history, methodology and home-related collections, the day will focus on the practical issues of using this rich resource through handling sessions and discussion. The practical sessions will focus on 'directives' relating to **objects about the house** – responses from members of the national panel to open-ended questionnaires from both the Archive's original and more recent holdings.

The study visit is aimed at museum professionals - learning and access staff, curators and exhibitions teams; librarians and archivists and researchers.

Speakers include:

Prof. Dorothy Sheridan (University of Sussex), Development Director at the Mass Observation Archive. Dorothy has been working with the Archive since 1974 and is the author of several books on the collections including *Writing Ourselves: Mass Observation and Literacy Practices* (Hampton Press, 2000) and *Wartime Women: A Mass Observation Anthology* (Heinemann 1990, Phoenix Press 2009).

Dr Nick Hubble (Brunel University), former Honorary Research Fellow at MO and author of *Mass Observation and Everyday Life: Culture, History, Theory* (Palgrave, 2006).

Alison Clarke (University of Applied Arts, Vienna), who commissioned the Autumn 2006 Mass Observation directive *Your Home* and has extensive experience of using the MO Archive both in her own research and as a teaching resource.

Tickets: £30, £20 concessions (includes refreshments)

(please note that in order to keep costs down, lunch will NOT be provided, there is however a canteen and several cafes on the University of Sussex campus)

Please see overleaf for directions.

To book please return the booking form by email, fax or post to SSN Co-ordinator Kristzina Lackoi by **Monday 14 September 2009**.

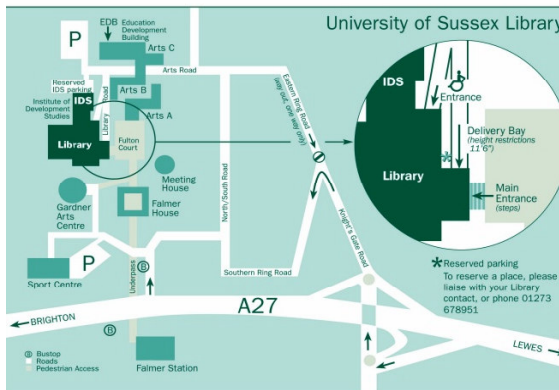
Places are strictly limited to **40**, so book early to secure your place!

klackoi@geffrye-museum.org.uk
Fax: 0207 729 5647

Geffrye Museum
Kingsland Road, London, E2 8EA

Map and directions

The Mass Observation Archive is located within the University of Sussex campus in Falmer.



Getting there by train

The University is easily accessible and is well served by trains from Brighton station. There are at least four trains from Brighton to Falmer each hour (journey time: 8 minutes, single tickets £2).

The University is a short (10 minute) walk away from Falmer Station and is well signposted.

Getting there by car

The University is at Falmer on the A27 between Brighton and Lewes, about 4 miles (6 km) from the centre of Brighton. (Please follow signs for University of Sussex on the north side of the A27). Visitors from London and the north should take the M23/A23 road towards Brighton. Before entering the centre of Brighton, join the A27 eastbound signposted Lewes. Drivers from the east or west take the A27 direct to the University.

Further information

To join our free mailing list or for further information about *Histories of Home* events please contact SSN Co-ordinator Krisztina Lackoi at klackoi@geffrye-museum.org.uk or on 0207 739 9893. Krisztina is based at the Geffrye Museum.

Histories of Home is supported by the MLA through Renaissance London.



RENAISSANCE LONDON
museums for changing lives