

Learning Places Fall 2016 **Interference Archive.**



The visit to the Interference Archive in Gowanus, Brooklyn was different from all the other visits that we did. The name “Interference Archive”, to me, was strange. When I heard “Interference Archive”, I thought it was going to be some place that has something to do with different kinds of interference. To my surprise, it’s a place where a lot of random things are archived. It seems that this place achieves things that a lot of people would throw away or keep in their basement for some time then throw away. Upon taking a closer look at the material, I believe that these things can be used in different ways. I saw a lot of things that would normally be given out at events or on the street and upon looking at the web site, I thought of one reason this place can be used. The web site states that they have “archive of cultural ephemera produced by and for social movements worldwide”. I don’t believe regular Libraries/Archives store or archive things like this so if someone needs to research a social movement and what was their motto or what their brochures, posters or handouts are about, then the Interference Archive seems to be the place to do some research. At the visit and on the web site I saw that “political protest buttons” and “posters” are archived as well and these are also things that people would just throw away after use, so this is an interesting way of saving them for later generations to look back on the different movements and protests. Probably the only way one could try to find these things is by looking at and analyzing news video clips, but I think that the Interference Archive is adding another avenue for research making it easier to find these things.

(n.d.). Retrieved December 7, 2016, from <http://interferencearchive.org/our-mission/>

(n.d.). Retrieved December 7, 2016, from <http://interferencearchive.org/our-history/>

Questions:

1. The web site states, "An open-access, open-stack archive of cultural ephemera produced by and for social movements worldwide". How recognized is the Interference Archive around the world?
2. How does the Interference Archive get to know about the different things that gets collected?