Lanskoy Grigory N.[1]

ARCHIVAL SCIENCE IN THE POSTINDUSTRIAL SOCIETY

Abstract:

Purpose: *presentation of specific features, possible directions and actual objectives of development of world archival science under the influences of postindustrial society. These features, which are fundamental for social and information sciences, are analyzed because of the active spread of new electronic technologies that serve to preserve and describe documents while using various forms of communication.*

Method/approach: *The methodological basis of this study is based on a systemic and integrated approaches. The application of the systemic approach to archiving and archival research presupposes the attractiveness and commonality of the results and serves to improve the presentation of archival material and the main forms of working with them. The use of an integrated approach in research makes it possible to show the influence of objective and subjective factors on the development of archival science in the post-industrial society.*

Results: *The first specific feature of archival sciences in the context of post-industrial society is the emergence of a new subject – study programme. The technical and technological advances in the field of information technology have led to the establishment of a new community of archival studies through information technology. The elaboration and adoption of collaborative methodological documents at the international level in the period between 2000 – 2020 became the basis for the integration of elements of post-industrial society in the field of archival science and, at the same time, in the content and structure of archival informational systems.*

Conclusions/findings; *Development of archival science, unlike many other branches, depends not only on the existing level of methodological and theoretical thinking, but also on the technical and technological results of social development. This dependence is particularly evident under the conditions of post-industrial society in which the dominant development of computer information technologies offers new possibilities for collecting, preserving and using archival documents.*

Key words: *Archival studies, informational resources, post-industrial society*

1 Grigory Lanskoy, doctor of historical sciences, professor at the department of documentary sciences, audiovisual and technical archives and at the department of foreign regional studies and external policy of Russian state university for the humanities, gri_lanskoi@list.ru.

1 INTRODUCTION

Development of any science depends on a number of factors. Among them, majority of external factors are political, economic, and – especially in the case of the social sciences and humanities ideological. Internal factors are also very important, as their emergence depends on specific aspects of professional activity of individual professionals. In the natural and technical sciences, these factors are due to the results of experiments and statistical work related to existing and new objects. The same empirical basis can be established for social scientists who try to discover new forms and results of action in different regions and administrative institutions. The development of the humanities is in most cases connected with rethinking of intellectual categories and definitions that are important for important for peoples in every period of their existence. An important feature of these branches of intellectual activity can be defined in the context of the historical and objective attraction of the various developmental outcomes of different societies. When analyzing objects of cultural heritage (documentary heritage), specialists analyze and consider their significance from the point of view of the time of their creation and the period in which the study of their formal and content features began. In implementing this approach, the staff from museums, libraries, and archives, at the stage of their collection and preservation, make a comprehensive assessment not only on their content but also of their origin, in order to create and understand their typical and unique characteristics for a given historical period and territorial space.

The development of archival science differs from other areas of professional activity and in this respect can be compared to other sciences, concerned with the study of information systems and their components – various sources and technologies. For this reason, in times of radical technological upheavals, professionals are trying to find new methodological approaches in the field of studying the properties of documentary sources (Duranti, 1998) and innovative thinking about working with them in different types of archival institutions and services (Klasinc, 2019). The emergence of this intellectual tendency is not spontaneous for all countries, especially in a situation where they have their own basic traditions of dealing with fundamental categories such as archives, documents, media. Their lack of confidence and trust in the possibility of forming and developing archival informational systems in a truly electronic space – cloud –without their obligatory transition to the material sphere, which has existed for centuries, would lead to the emergence of a harmonious relationship between the global process of electronic information changes and the level of scientific consciousness, resting in realities of the time when the inclusion of documents as material carriers with the recording of information on them had no alternative in both, the scientific and normative spheres.

2 METHODS

The methodological basis of the research is based on systemic and integrated approaches. The choice is directed towards the analysis and interpretation of archival research and at the same time towards the problems posed and analyzed in it. The application of a systemic approach to the content of archival research determines its attractiveness as a commonality of the results of understanding and presenting archival documents and the main forms of working with them. In contrast to the period of ideological confrontation between socialist (Marxist) and capitalist approaches to evaluating the content of documentary and, to a large extent, historical sources, the conceptual heritage of archival studies analyzed in this paper represents a global space of intellectual production in which two distinct approaches to the study of archival materials, technologies and in-

stitutions can be found. This heritage can be divided into two localized systems in which specialists choose their own intellectual and methodological strategies of thought. The first system is focused on the study of the historical results of the formation of archival services in their various institutional forms and the organization of their work with groups of documents, the common features of which determine the status and direction of the professional activity of the professionals working in these services. In the second research system, the work of scholars is focused on the search for and presentation of methodological approaches and practical aspects of work with archival records that can be based on the use of computer technological progress. The peculiarities of this intellectual direction manifest themselves in various areas, between which one can see, for example, the obvious existence of the publication of historically important documents in traditional (typographical) and electronic form.

The application of a comprehensive approach in this study makes it possible to identify the influence of objective and subjective factors on the development of archival science in a post-industrial society. Objective factors include the developing infrastructure for the creation, dissemination, preservation, and practical use of documents, as well as the norm-setting activities of various states in the field of organizing and regulating digital transformation strategies in different spheres of information technologies. Regardless of the tendencies of theoretical thinking in certain states, this study shows that all developing countries in the late 2010s adopted normatives and other strategically important documents in this area, the content of which should be directed to the efforts of experts in various and, in particular, information sciences (Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation on the System of Implementation of the Management of the National Programme „Digital Economy of the Russian Federation" with a normative document on the System of Management of the Implementation of the National Programme „Digital Economy of the Russian Federation"). Subjective factors in the development of archival science include traditions in the interpretation of its main objects and specific approaches to the analysis of work with documents determined by the content of these traditions.

The commonalities of the methods used in this study are directly related to the chosen methodological approaches. The retrospective method made it possible to identify and reveal the content of the lore in understanding the specificities of archives and documents in the industrial and post-industrial periods. The application of the synthetic (logical) method was necessary to show and trace the connection between the inclusion of basic theoretical categories and the description of the main practical processes in working with archival documents and metadata sources. Fundamental and, above all, innovative aspects of the present research were also provided by the application of the comparative method. On the one hand, it was used to illustrate the differences between archival research strategies in the industrial and post-industrial periods. On the other hand, this method was used to highlight the distinguishing features of historical and informational approaches to analyzing trends and forms of working with archival materials.

3 RESULTS

The first feature of archival studies in the conditions of post-industrial society is the emergence of a new subject/programme of study. Technological advances in the incorporation of information technology into some of the possible branches of professional archival work have meant that the professional approach has begun to displace the information sphere in the archival studies community.

In the countries that existed in the initial phase of the diffusion of computer technologies for the needs of archival services and institutions, the way to study this new subject was to analyze the structure and formal content of documentary information. Thus, Avtokratov (1976), one of the best-known Soviet experts on the analysis of the subject, proposed to classify the information resources available in archives into a first and a second level. He included in the first level all types of documents collected by state archival organizations; the second level, in his understanding, consisted of tools created by archivists to display and search for information about the origin, content and external characteristics of these documents. After the successful experience of Soviet archivists and experts with the application of computer technologies for the inventory, formal description and content analysis of documentary sources (previously selected historical topics, the first of which was devoted to the Russian Revolution of 1917), the experts decided to create databases to replace documentary and other existing texts in them that were created electronically without copying them on paper (Glushkov, 1982). As a result of these studies, a concept was developed in the Soviet Union in the early 1980s according to which all sources of information, regardless of the technology of their creation, could be used and studied on the basis of a global methodology to identify common and at the same time specific characteristics of written, visual, and acoustic texts (Kovalchenko, 1982). The global economic and political crisis in the last decade of the Soviet state and then in the first years of the establishment of the new Russian state had a negative impact on the degree of diffusion of modern information technologies in archives. For this reason, in 2020 the Deputy Director of the Federal Archives Service of Russia announced an updated strategy for the development of the state archives service in this area (Naumov, 2020). In this context, it can be pointed out that the results of the scientific work of Soviet scientists in the field of archival management, historical science and informatics remain relevant to this day.

In Western Europe and North America, the development of archival knowledge had a somewhat different strategy than in the Soviet Union. It arose from the projection of the model of a new society that was more technologically advanced than in the period when the industrial base for various industrial and other branches of production was created. It is important to note that this area of intellectual activity developed not only through the work of experts in the field of archives or information technology, but also through the work of people who were oriented towards administrative work and finally had the opportunity to participate in the realization of their ideas (Brzezinski 1972). In the second half of the 1970s (when a critical phase of systemic collapse began in the Soviet Union and some other countries of the socialist countries), experts from Western Europe and North America concentrated their research in the area of the practical design of conditions for incorporating elements of the post-industrial model of society into concrete archival work. Their activities in this area went in two directions that had not been realized in Russia for a long time. The first direction referred to the adoption of a new understanding of „archive" as a community of documents and the division of this definition with reference to public or private archive services in which these documents should and can be partially replaced. This change in theoretical thinking was reflected in the legislative acts of several countries and influenced many professions that make up the subject area of archives (Loi No. 79-18 du 3 janvier 1979 sur les archives, 1979). The second direction was aimed at transforming the infrastructure of archival services in order to create new conditions for preservation and, at the same time, access to documents on a global scale. This process began with the design and subsequent construction of new, methodically unified buildings to replace the various archival services and institutions (Duchein, 1985), and in the 21st century focused on the development

of open information services for users based on the EAD (2022) and OAIS[2] (2012) standards. The creation and adoption of these and a number of other guidelines formed the basis for the integration of elements of post-industrial society into the archival field and thus into the content and structure of archival information systems. Indeed, this process provided the opportunity to develop a model in which new technologies for preservation, description and communication with different documentary sources were used to create new opportunities for users. In Western Europe and North America, theoretical research focused on endowing technological processes with new basic, systematically organized definitions (Pearce - Moses, 2005) and stimulating a significant degree of openness in archival documents to enrich collective and individual memory (Delmas, 2006). This process of intellectual endeavor has shown that the methodological and conceptual efforts of the expert accompany and support technical change, and in this context are directed towards the realization of new progressive goals.

4 DISCUSSION

The development of a real post-industrial society forms new conditions and goals for experts in the field of archival science. The justification of the necessity of its development in the creation of theoretical and methodological bases for the implementation of concrete practical processes of preservation, inventory, description, and use of documents reflects the affiliation of archival science to the methodologically oriented field of knowledge. In our opinion, only this field of research is of interest to organizations and institutions with different forms of ownership, as the experts working there need answers to the questions arising from the creation of new information (especially software) technologies. The lack of these answers means that existing problems, e.g., related to the collection and preservation of documents on new, diverse material carriers, are exacerbated under the conditions of technological progress and cannot be solved without great and forced effort.

In the intellectual situation of the interest of many experts regarding the traditional questions of the formation of the system of archival institutions and the information potential of the documentary heritage present in them, it is possible, in connection with the needs of the developing post-industrial model of the society, to propose two equally important branches of archival science from the cultural point of view - the historical and the informational. These branches, which focus on the study of their own subject matter - archival documents - and the forms of practical work with them, have a different methodological orientation and related differences in the directions of professional intellectual activity.

The historical branch is devoted to the study of the process, results and regulative instruments of the formation of archival services in different periods. In this branch of research, experts reconstruct global and local chronological directions of the transformation of these objects on the basis of their ownership, legal access to them and a number of other features. For the representatives of this branch, the characteristic research focus is connected with special attention to the organizational structure and regulatory framework of various organizations and institutions, as they occupy the main place among the institutional sources of accumulation of the archives' documentary heritage. The historical approach can also be presented as the main one for the diplomatic study of sources with various retrospective information. The information direction in archival studies is aimed at analyzing archives not as institutional structures formed for the col-

2 OAIS - Open Archival Informational System.

lection and preservation of documents, but as information systems consisting of documentary sources and metadata, as well as technologies necessary for working with these sources. This direction forms a practically important variability in the specification of the objects of study, among which we can distinguish documents created not only on various material carriers, but also in electronic form without the necessary transition to paper and other physical objects. The methodological direction of the information approach forms the basis for the study of archives as information objects that can be replaced, preserved, diversified and used in both traditional and cloud infrastructure.

5 CONCLUSION

The development of archival science, unlike many other branches of professional intellectual and practical activity, depends not only on the existing level of methodological and theoretical thinking, but also on the technical and technological results of social development. This dependence is particularly evident under the conditions of post-industrial society, where the dominant development of computer information technologies offers new possibilities for the collection, storage and use of archival materials. At a fundamental level, these practical changes make it relevant to understand and study archives as documentary sources that are not only represented on tangible media in traditionally organized archival services but are also substitutable electronically in the cloud. The existing strategies and traditions in the historiography of archival studies determine the necessity of using historical-informational approaches in the study of archives and directions of working with them.

REFERENCES

Avtokratov, V.N. (1976). Some aspects of study of objects and subjects of archival science. *Woks of VNIIDAD*, *6*, 17–73.

Bzhezinskiy, Z. (1972). *Between two centuries: the role of America in technotronic era*. Progress Publ.

Delmas, B. (2006). *La societe sans memoire. Propos dissidents sur la politique des archives en France*. Bourinediteur.

Duchein, M. (1985) *Les batimentsd`archives: construction et equipment.* Documentation Francaise Publ.

Duranti, L. (1998).*Diplomatics: New Uses for an Old Science*. Scarecrow Press.

Encoded archival description. (2022). *EAD DTD Version 2002.* Available at https://www.loc.gov/ead/ead2002a.html (accessed 24. 01. 2023).

Gloushkov, V.M. (1982). *Basic points of out-paper informational science.* Nauka Publ.

Kovalchenko, I.D. (1982). Historical source in light of informational theory (to foundation of problem. *History of USSR*, *3*, 129–148.

Klasinc, P.P. (2019).Archival science – today. *Atlanti+*, *29* (1), 10–18.

Loi n° 79-18 du 3 janvier 1979 sur les archives. (1979). Available at https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/loda/id/LEGIARTI000006528398/1979-01-05/ (accessed 24/01/2023).

Naumov, O. (2020). *Digital transformation of Federal archival agency. Report on Council on archival work organized by Federal archival agency, Kazan, 3 September 2020*. Available at https://archives.gov.ru/reporting/report-naumov-2020-kazan.shtml (accessed 24. 01. 2023).

Pearce-Moses, P. (2005). *Archival Science, Glossary of Archival and Records Terminology*. Society of American Archivists.

Reference Model for an all Open Archival Informational System (OAIS). (2012). Available at https://public.ccsds.org/pubs/650x0m2.pdf (accessed 24/01/2023).

Russian federation government. (2019). *Resolution of Russian Federation government about system of realization of managing national program «Digital economy of Russian Federation» with regulative document about system of managing realization of national program «Digital economy of Russian Federation».* (2019). *Community of legislation of Russian Federation*, 2019, № 11, 1119; № 48, 6843.

TIPOLOGY: 1.01 Original scientific research