

Guidelines for Research Visits to SES Storage Depots

We are glad to host researchers from all over the world to work with our collections. To ensure productive visits and effective work with our objects and collections, we'd like to contextualize a few important conditions that determine the use of our storage areas:

Preparing Your Research Visit:

In the wake of your initial request, we

- conduct preparatory research (e.g., collections context, object and collector biographies, provenance)
- ask our Restoration Dept. to control object conditions and to determine possible risks regarding handling, transport, and/or exhibition
- organize logistics depending on the scope of the request (e.g. work space, object throughput, tech support)
- consider ethical contexts of the research (e.g., working with human remains, requests from source communities regarding the handling of sacred/secret objects by uninitiated persons)
- coordinate schedules for your curatorial/scientific/tech support during the visit

In order to ensure efficient work during your stay, we therefore ask you to **schedule visits at least three months in advance.**

At this point, only a part of our collection can be researched online; we will gladly help you fine-tune your selection of objects from our internal database.

For logistical reasons, we can only provide a limited number of objects per day of your visit, but we'll discuss these conditions in advance and seek to accommodate your needs as much as possible.

In addition, please be aware that the physical conditions of an object (restoration requirements), as well as ethically sensitive contexts might require special security precautions and restrictions.

Therefore, we cannot guarantee unlimited access to the objects.

Because some of our storage areas contain contaminated and toxic objects, we will ask you to sign a form with safety instructions upon your arrival. To protect their health, pregnant and nursing women, as well as young adults under 16 years of age cannot be granted access to the storage areas.

Thank you for your cooperation!

SES Director / Collections and Storage Management