

What our future heritage can be: the purpose of an archive and library on the moon

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Introduction

The Lunar Sanctuary: a safe haven, a research facility, a place to discover the past and to improve the future.

This, almost, science fictional idea has not been born out of “I have a dream”, but “We have a dream”. All over the world people are introducing the concepts of humanities and heritage into the space travel industry. A couple of examples are First Library In Space, Memory of Mankind on the Moon and Footsteps on the Moon [1][2][3]. Also within the fictional area there have been great examples of ideas for an archive and library in space [4][5]. Now it's up to us to finally make it a reality.



Figure 1: logo for The Lunar Sanctuary.

Summary

During this research project we will not only explore this dream further, but also focus on the different kind of viewpoints that come with it as well. That means we'll have to (try to) answer some critical questions, for example:

1. What have archives and libraries meant throughout history and how will Alvarez they transform in the future? [6][7]
 - What do we see as our true heritage? [8]
 - What will show the history of mankind in the most dynamic way? [8]
 - What will actually go to the moon, and who will make that final decision? [9][10]
 - How will it be stored? (Architectural and preservation designs) [11][12]
 - Where on the moon will the archive and library be build?
 - Who will actually benefit from making this dream a reality? [13][14]

This means that next to the historical, archival and educational research, we need to look at our history of colonization, we need to look at our history and today's topics of immigration and emigration, and also important we need to look at (new) ways to collaborate and involve different kinds of areas of expertise. We may be not able to answer all these questions; even maybe more will arise when the research project evolves. It may be the tip of an iceberg, but it will be part of our future, so it's important to start asking these questions and see what it will lead us to.

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Short Summary

Welcome to the future! During this research project we will answer some critical questions concerning a "dream come true" facility that holds the knowledge of mankind, available to all: an archive and library on the moon. But what will it actually take to achieve this dream?