

Private Past, Public Future

Appendix 1: Qualitative questionnaire

Name:
Address:
Tel:
Email:
Ethnic background:

Personal motivation / background:

How are you personally involved in preserving Gypsy and Traveller history and culture?

Why have you done this work?

What obstacles have you encountered?

What do you feel you have achieved?

What more would you like to do?

Wider context:

Do you think museums, libraries and archives have done enough to make Gypsy and Traveller heritage visible and accessible? And why?

Why do you think they might not have done more?

What examples of best practice have you come across? Why do they work well?

What things haven't worked? Why?

What experiences of direct or indirect discrimination have you heard of from museums, library or archive staff?

What more could museums, libraries and archives do in the future?

What could be done to encourage more Gypsies and Travellers to use the services provided by museums, libraries and archives?

Do you think museums, libraries and archives have a role in educating the wider public about Gypsy and Traveller culture and history?

Cultural audit: (A cultural audit looks at what already exists about a culture in museums, libraries and archives.)

Do you think a cultural audit would be useful to see what museums, libraries and archives currently hold about Gypsies and Travellers?

Given that there will inevitably be gaps. What information/resources would you like to see included in future collecting practices? E.g., genealogies, oral history etc

Is there any information that you feel shouldn't be included?

How do you think Gypsies and Travellers would like to access this information?
Eg. Audio-visual, print, website

Are there any mediums that are culturally inappropriate or impractical?
Is there any information that should only be made accessible to community/family members?

Do you feel that collections should be segregated (in specific Gypsy and Traveller museums, libraries and archives) or should they be included within mainstream public services?

Exhibitions:

Who should be the primary audience for such exhibitions, Gypsies and Travellers, or gorgias ?

What venues would you like to see display exhibitions about Gypsies and Travellers?

Would traditional sites (such as museums and other public buildings) be more or less likely than non-traditional sites (such as Travellers sites or shopping centres) to attract Travellers? Why?

What other venues would you like to see host exhibitions about Gypsies and Travellers?

What themes would you like to see in exhibitions [perhaps show themed exhibitions already done, e.g. life on the road from the Showmen's exhibition, costume, etc.)

Who should curate such exhibitions, Gypsies and Travellers, or gorgias ?

Preserving Heritage:

Which elements of Gypsy and Traveller heritage (objects, stories, songs, music, crafts etc) should be preserved? Are there any that belong solely to the community?

How should it be preserved that makes it accessible to the community? (e.g. film, audio, print)

Where should Gypsy and Traveller heritage be preserved?

What resources are held by the community itself that have been overlooked by public heritage bodies?

In what way could the skills and resources of public heritage bodies be used to help the community preserve its own heritage?

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Appendix 2: Quantitative questionnaire

Gypsy and Traveller Heritage Questionnaire

Note: Please ensure that you read the notes before completing this form

Interviewer's name and contact details:

Gender: Male Female
Age: Under 16 17 - 30 31 - 45 46 - 65 65+

Ethnicity:

Romani
Irish Traveller
New Traveller
Showmen
Circus People

Area: Kent / Medway / Thames Gateway
Hampshire / Southampton / Portsmouth/IoW
Bracknell Forest / Slough / Windsor and Maidenhead / Wokingham / Reading
Brighton and Hove / East and West Sussex
Buckinghamshire
Milton Keynes / Oxfordshire
Surrey

Accommodation:

Housed Roadside Private site Public Site

Can you read and write?

Are you a member of your local library?

Where was the last museum you went to?

What was it that made you go?

What most interested you about it?

What did you dislike most about it?

What do you think is important to remember and commemorate in Gypsy and Traveller culture and history?

What do you think it is important to remember and commemorate in your own family's history?

Have you ever used an archive or county record office to research anything such as your own family history?

Has anyone you known ever used an archive or county record office to research anything such as your their family history?

Have you ever been denied access to a museum, library or archive because of your identity?

Past representation

Have you ever seen anything about Gypsies and Travellers in a museum?
If yes, where and what was it? And do you think it told the truth about Gypsies and Travellers? Do you think museums should present Gypsy and Traveller culture and history?

Have you ever seen anything about Gypsies and Travellers in a library?
If yes, where and what was it? And do you think it told the truth about Gypsies and Travellers? Do you think that Libraries should have information about Gypsies and Travellers?

Have you ever seen anything about Gypsies and Travellers in an archive?
If yes, where and what was it? And do you think it told the truth about Gypsies and Travellers? Do you think archives should have documents, photographs and other information about Gypsies and Travellers?

Have museums, libraries and archives done enough to celebrate and represent the history and culture of Gypsies and Travellers? If not, why not?

Preservation and representation in the future

Do you think museums, libraries and archives in your area should do more to celebrate the history and culture of Gypsies and Travellers? In not, why not.

How would you like this to be done? Put 1 next to the best idea, 2 to the next best and so on:

- Exhibitions
- Films
- Talks / Slideshows
- Books
- Audio CDs

Where would you like this to be done? Put 1 next to the best idea, 2 to the next best and so on:

- In existing museums, libraries and archives
- On Travellers sites
- In public places such as shopping centres

Who should this be aimed at: (Tick one)

- Just Gypsies and Travellers
- Mainly Gypsies and Travellers, but non-Travellers as well
- Just non-Travellers
- Mainly non-Travellers, but Gypsies and Travellers as well

Why should Gypsy and Traveller history culture be celebrated?

What subjects would you like to see included in an exhibition about Gypsies and Travellers. Score the following out of 10:

History / Politics

Modern Gypsy/Traveller life
Foreign Gypsy/Traveller life
Past Gypsy life
The Gypsy Holocaust
Modern persecution of Gypsies

Music

Foreign Romani music, such as Flamenco and Jazz
British Romani music
Country western
Any ideas?

Sport

Trotting
Boxing
Hare coursing
Any ideas?

Language

English Romani
Irish Cant
Eastern European Romani

Famous Travellers

Gypsy and Traveller Religion

Health

Old Gypsy Traveller remedies

Customs

Weddings

Funerals

Gypsy and Traveller trades

Art

Gypsy and Traveller stories

Gypsy and Traveller plays

Gypsy and Traveller poems

Any other ideas for exhibitions?

Any other comments?

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.....
.....

Would you like to help organise a local exhibition about Gypsies and Travellers?

If so please add your name, address and telephone number below:

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.....
.....

Would you like to help look after Gypsy and Travellers' culture and history in a museum or archive?

If so please add your name, address and telephone number below:

.....
.....
.....

Notes:

1. Please ensure that you explain the purpose of the research, including how it will be published and what it will be used for before you ask questions (if necessary refer to the Traveller heritage research brief)
2. Please ensure that you complete the form on behalf of the respondents. Please write clearly.
3. Please think carefully about the amount of time required for completion of this form- provide the respondents with plenty of time for each question.
4. Please be prepared to explain the questions to the respondent, but be careful not to prompt them.
5. The respondent is free to decline answering questions they feel uncomfortable with. Please respect this.
6. Please ensure that you select a representative sample of respondents.
7. Please get as many completed forms as possible but remember quality before quantity...

Please return to:

Jake Bowers
Travellers Researcher
c/o Surrey History Centre
130 Goldsworth Road
Woking
Surrey
GU21 6ND

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Appendix 3: Statistical Summary

Gender: Male 35% Female 65%

Age: Under 16: 14% 17 - 30: 17% 31 - 45: 41% 46 - 65: 27% 65+ : 1%

Can you read and write? 82% Yes, 18% No

Are you a member of your local library? 17% Yes, 83% No

Have you ever used an archive or county record office to research anything such as your own family history? 19% Yes, 81% No

Has anyone you know ever used an archive or county record office to research anything such as your their family history? 36% Yes, 64% No

Have you ever been denied access to a museum, library or archive because of your identity? 5% Yes, 95% No

Past representation

Have you ever seen anything about Gypsies and Travellers in a museum? 50% Yes, 50% No

Do you think it told the truth about Gypsies and Travellers? 15% Yes, 85% No

Do you think museums should present Gypsy and Traveller culture and history? 98% Yes, 2 % No

Have you ever seen anything about Gypsies and Travellers in a library? 44% Yes, 56% No

Do you think it told the truth about Gypsies and Travellers? 25% Yes, 75% No

Do you think that Libraries should have information about Gypsies and Travellers? 96% Yes, 4% No

Have you ever seen anything about Gypsies and Travellers in an archive? 11% Yes, 89% No

Do you think it told the truth about Gypsies and Travellers? 17% Yes, 83% No

Do you think archives should have documents, photographs and other information about Gypsies and Travellers? 96% Yes, 4% No

Have museums, libraries and archives done enough to celebrate and represent the history and culture of Gypsies and Travellers? 2% said that they have not done enough.

Preservation and representation in the future?

Do you think museums, libraries and archives in your area should do more to celebrate the history and culture of Gypsies and Travellers? 100% Yes

How would you like this to be done? Put 1 next to the best idea, 2 to the next best and so on:

- Exhibitions: 1st
- Films: 2nd
- Talks / Slideshows: 3rd
- Books: 4th
- Audio CDs: 5th

Where would you like this to be done? Put 1 next to the best idea, 2 to the next best and so on:

- In existing museums, libraries and archives: 1st
- On Travellers sites: 3rd
- In public places such as shopping centres: 2nd

What subjects would you like to see included in an exhibition about Gypsies and Travellers? Score the following out of 10:

	Approval rating:
History / Politics	
Modern Gypsy/Traveller life	79.1%
Foreign Gypsy/Traveller life	65.9%
Past Gypsy life	85.9%
The Gypsy Holocaust	82.0%
Modern persecution of Gypsies	82.4%
Music	
Foreign Romani music, such as Flamenco and Jazz	52.9%
British Romani music	78.2%
Country western	71.3%
Sport	
Trotting	80.5%
Boxing	77.8%
Hare coursing	66.3%
Language	
English Romani	66.8%
Irish Cant	47.4%
Eastern European Romani	52.0%
Famous Travellers	76.5%
Gypsy and Traveller Religion	76.1%
Health	
Old Gypsy Traveller remedies	73.2%
Customs	
Weddings	81.8%
Funerals	82.7%
Gypsy and Traveller men and women's trades	82.9%
Art	
Gypsy and Traveller stories	84.0%
Gypsy and Traveller plays	69.0%
Gypsy and Traveller poems	76.2%