

Archeion and Bouleuterion, the Foundation of Democracy

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Abstract: At the 2010 Research Forum, I presented the poster which shows the origin of archival system in Classical Athens. *Metreon*, the temple of Mother Goddess, was the place to store the city-state records. This temple used to be the *Bouleuterion*, the council's building.

For this year's Forum, I will present a study on the words *archaeon* (ἀρχεῖον), the etymology of archives, and *bouleuterion*, using online resources such as Perseus digital library or Internet Archive. *A Greek-English Lexicon* edited by Henry George Liddell and Robert Scott (LSJ) indicates that *Archeion* is derived from *Arche*, which has two meanings, beginning and authority, and is the singular neutral nominative form of “*archeios*”, adjective of the second meaning. Tracking the history of the word usage, *archeion* means archon's (the ruler's) office at first, then means archival materials or repository during Hellenistic period. Latin dictionary points out that East Roman Emperor Justinian I in the 6th century reviewed all Roman laws and announced to keep them in “archive and *grammatophylacio*”. This “archive” has its original form, *archium* or *archivum* translated from the Greek word *archeion*. Probably this word spread over European world. Therefore, the archives is deeply connected with codification and authority.

The *Bouleuteion* housed the city-state records which describe the decision-making process by the representatives of citizens. *Bouleuteion* means belonging to *Boule* and the building for *Boule*. *Boule* is an institution to confer and decide public affairs by the representatives of citizens. Archaeologists report that Olympia and Delphi also stored their records and archives in

Bouleuterion. Not only city-states like Athens but Pan-Hellenic sacred places have *Bouleuteria* which housed records. Therefore, *Bouleuterion* is very important when we think what the foundation of democracy is.

About the author:

Yayoi Tsutsui is provisionally Certified Archivist and Registered Archivist of the Japan Society for Archival Science. She is a part-time lecturer of Hitotsubashi University and a part-time staff of National Institute of Japanese Literature. She is also a part-time student of Gakushuin University. She earned the degree of Master of Arts in Archival Science from Gakushuin University, the first graduate school of Archival Science in Japan, in March 2010. She has served on staff at the University Museum of the University of Tokyo, and the Shibusawa Memorial Foundation. She has been involved in the construction of a number of exhibitions and databases. Yayoi Tsutsui received her Certificate of Museum Studies from Harvard University Extension School in 2001 and her Bachelor of Arts from International Christian University in 1980. She joined SAA in 2009 and attended the annual conferences in Austin, Washington D.C. , Chicago, San Diego, and New Orleans. She is a member of the Archival History Roundtable and the Museum Archives Section.