



Moon Village as Host of a Lunar Archive

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It is increasingly recognized that it would be prudent to emplace in the Moon a great and growing store of critically important information to ensure the survival and recovery of Earth's civilization after a global disaster. Delivery and maintenance are well within the scope of established lunar robotic technique. Modern storage technology enables the creation of compact and robust data capsules to be placed under the lunar surface where the environment is cold and stable. Information retrieval is an interesting problem awaiting creative solutions to assure recovery in unknown post-disaster conditions. The initiative toward establishing a south polar Moon Village provides a boost for the archive concept, and at the same time that concept adds to the expected benefits of the Village. In this paper we address the gains and problems of incorporating the archive in Village planning.