3C—Analyzing the Institution

The Library Assemblage: Creative Institutions in an Information Society, Natasha Gerolami (Huntington University).

The library is a creative assemblage. And you may be wondering . . . why does that even matter? It matters because there is a very forceful form of information society rhetoric that glorifies how “the walls of the library are coming down,” implying freedom and connectivity yet also intimately linked with a market-based approach to information dissemination. I propose an alternative approach based in the work of Gilles Deleuze. His model of the institution permits us to conceive of the potential of the library as an institution without it being determined by the information society. Instead, the library can be construed as a creative assemblage with an emphasis on social justice.