



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What is the mission for the SOM Archives and Library Foundation?**

Our mission is to locate, organize, preserve, and share records, resources, materials, and documents that support the activities and expressions of Science of Mind®.

Click on this link to hear [Centers for Spiritual Living's Spiritual Leader Dr. Kenn Gordon talks about the Archives and its benefits](#)

### **What is Science of Mind (SOM)?**

Science of Mind® (also referred to as Religious Science) is the core teaching of Centers for Spiritual Living. Science of Mind is a philosophy that integrates spiritual truths with science and physics. Simply put, Science of Mind teaches the unity of all life. Intentions and ideas flow through a field of consciousness, which actually affects and creates the world around us. This idea is common to most major religions and is supported by the teachings of psychology and quantum physics. In Science of Mind, we believe that the secret to living a successful life is to consciously choose positive and productive thoughts. Put another way, "As you think, so you become."

### **Are Science of Mind and Religious Science the same?**

Religious Science is the name of the church that Dr. Ernest Holmes started, which was the precursor to [Centers for Spiritual Living](#). Dr. Holmes' comprehensive book of teachings is entitled *The Science of Mind*. Members of Centers for Spiritual Living often use the phrases Science of Mind and Religious Science interchangeably.

### **Who was Ernest Holmes?**

Dr. Ernest Holmes founded the spiritual movement that started Centers for Spiritual Living. Born in 1887 on a small Maine farm, Dr. Holmes spent his teenage years outdoors, asking himself "What is God? Who am I? Why am I here?" This questioning led to his 1926 book, *The Science of Mind*, which outlined the foundational viewpoints of modern New Thought.

Click [HERE](#) to view this very enlightening and comprehensive article on Dr. Holmes on the Archives' website.

### **What is an Archives?**

Archives contain what is called Primary Source Material--original documents, records, manuscripts, photos, artifacts (objects such as furniture or personal belongings). These items are truly irreplaceable. This is why it is important to have proper archival quality storage systems to prevent deterioration of items (especially photos and film). This is also why it is important for an archive to scan and digitize as much of the material as possible so it can be preserved electronically and available forever.

### **Where is the Archives located and can I visit?**

The physical archives are located in the Centers for Spiritual Living Home Office at [573 Park Point Drive, Golden, Colorado 80401](#).

For a tour, schedule an appointment with Executive Director Kathy Mastroianni at 720-496-1361 or [Kathy@scienceofmindarchives.org](mailto:Kathy@scienceofmindarchives.org). Please allow one hour to explore all the amazing and sacred treasures available at the Archives. Tours are currently free and Love Offering donations are welcomed to support the work of the Archives.

### **What is the Archives' history?**

In the late 1990's, Rev. Drs. Marilyn and Richard Leo were invited to start collecting and organizing the history of Dr. Ernest Holmes and the Religious Science Movement, especially because Dr. Marilyn was a close family friend and neighbor of the Holmes. Dr. Richard made his transition in 2001 and Dr. Marilyn continued to lead this important project. In 2007, the Science of Mind Archives and Library Foundation became an official 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization. In 2008, the Archives were moved to Encinitas, California, at the Holmes Institute Campus. In 2010 the Archives moved from Burbank, California to its current beautiful 2,600 square foot space shared by Centers for Spiritual Living Home Office in Golden, California.

**What is the relationship between Centers for Spiritual Living (CSL) Home Office and the SOM Archives?** The Archives is a separate 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization housed in CSL's Home Office.

### **Who does the Archives benefit?**

Anyone and everyone whose lives have been touched by the profound teaching called Science of Mind will benefit from exploring the Archives. Ministers, Practitioners, members of Centers, teachers, students, and especially ministerial students will delight in "tiptoeing through the archives". Readers of Science of Mind magazine are a perfect audience to deepen

into the history and wisdom that can be found in the plethora of resources at the Archives.

### **What can be found in the physical Archives?**

Today, priceless treasures include all Science of Mind magazines since 1927, Creative Thought magazines back to the first issue in 1954, all of the original Institute of Religious Science and School of Philosophy board minutes back to 1926 (including minutes from both Religious Science International and United Church of Religious Science after the “split” in 1954), books in many languages, tapes of Ernest Holmes’ radio talks, as well as film and videos of Ernest Holmes and other Religious Science leaders. In addition, the library contains over 12,000 metaphysical books and personal artifacts from Ernest and Hazel Holmes, such as furniture from their home and Ernest’s famous plaid shirt.

### **What can be found online at the Archives?**

Our website contains published and unpublished writings of Dr. Ernest Holmes, his audios and collections as well as books, pamphlets and magazines by other Science of Mind authors. It is free to research and download public domain materials. Copyrighted materials may be previewed and available for sale in our E-Store. Almost all 85 years of Science of Mind magazine available for free download (going back to the first October 1927 issue). There are 200 issues missing and thanks to a number of generous donations, they are in the process of being digitized and will be available in the next few months. About 20 years of Creative Thought magazine are also available for free download. More issues are constantly being added, so check back frequently.

Our newest edition to the website is the New Thought MindMap, created by Rev. Dr. David Alexander and added to the Archives’ website thanks to a generous Hefferlin Foundation grant.

**Are there other resources available that are not found on the Archives’ website?** The Archives has digitized many of Ernest Holmes’ Radio Talks from the 1940’s and 50’s. Ten albums are currently available on iTunes or [Smile.Amazon.com](http://Smile.Amazon.com) for less than \$10 for two half-hour talks.

*The Ernest Holmes Papers* is available in many book stores, including Amazon.com. *The Ernest Holmes Papers* contains three hard-to-get volumes (including: *The Philosophy of Ernest Holmes*, *Anatomy of Healing Prayer* and *Ideas of Power*) was republished by the Science of Mind Archives & Library Foundation and can be purchased [HERE](#) on Smile.Amazon. Note: When you shop on Amazon through their "Smile" program, you can designate the Science of Mind Archives as your chosen charity and a donation will be made to support preserving our SOM history at no additional cost.

## **How do I become a member and support the Archives?**

[1st Circle](#) is a membership program specifically for Practitioners (including Ministers who are always Practitioners first!) to come together to demonstrate your support for preserving our sacred history. Through a minimum annual contribution of [\\$125 \(or \\$11/month\)](#) you can know you are making a priceless difference!

[Friends of Ernest](#) is a membership program for individuals, businesses and Centers for Spiritual Living who are dedicated to the preservation of our history. Membership levels range from [\\$50 to \\$100,000+](#). Many Centers tithe to the Archives on a regular basis to support their Spiritual Source--the preservation of Dr. Ernest Holmes' history.

## **How will the funding be used?**

The Science of Mind Archives and Library Foundation is an independent 501 (3) (c) entity, entirely supported by donations. Your donations preserve our heritage for future generations.

## **What other opportunities are available to support the Archives?**

- Volunteering--opportunities are available either on-site or remotely from the comfort of your home anywhere in the world. Email [Info@somarchives.org](mailto:Info@somarchives.org) or call 720-496-1361 if you are interested.
- Fund a [project](#) and--literally--preserve our history
- “Like” us on [Facebook](#)
- Sign up through the [AmazonSmile](#) program and designate the Archives as your chosen charity. For no additional cost, Amazon will make a donation to the Archives based on your purchases.
- Invite the Archives to “Zoom” (videoconference) to your Center or group to share all the great resources available!