

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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**BUILDING TOTAL ARCHIVES: A CASE STUDY OF THE COLLECTION AT THE
BULAWAYO NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF ZIMBABWE.**

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE BACHELOR
OF**

SCIENCE HONOURS DEGREE

IN

RECORDS AND ARCHIVES MANAGEMENT

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

BULAWAYO, ZIMBABWE

YEAR: 2012

ABSTRACT

The purpose of the study was to explore how far the National Archives of Zimbabwe (NAZ) Bulawayo has managed to build total archives (that's the total reflection of society in their collection) since their formation in 2001 as an archival institution. Total archives came from an acceptance of public responsibility for the preservation of a wide range of archival material in all media and from all sources, in order to preserve society's documentary heritage. Data was collected from the NAZ Bulawayo staff members whereby some were well vested in the holistic approach. Purposive sampling was used in the study. The key findings of the study revealed that if the concept of total archives was put in place it would go a long way. Especially considering the need to have total networks, that will help ensure that the records of all significant human endeavors are preserved, including the total Life-Cycle, total media and total record that's acquiring collections reflecting the total complexion of a society. The researcher recommended that total archives should include everyone for archives have the potential to change people's lives. They are a fundamental bulwark of people's democracy, culture, community and personal identity. The study concluded that there was a long way to go before NAZ Bulawayo collection could be considered a reflection of the society.