

Film Copyright Problems

The National Film Archive of London suggests that the following problems should be considered:

1. Statutory Deposit (legal right of acquisition).
2. Rights to be reserved to film archives in interests of preservation (e.g. right to make acetate copies of nitrate films).
3. Privilege of film archives to make copies for research (i.e. on the premises of the archive).
4. Privilege to make copies for educational purposes (i.e. outside the archive).
5. The privilege of quotation (citation).
6. (a) How long should copyright subsist?  
(b) Where length of copyright is determined by reference to the life of the author, who is the author?
7. Difficulties in tracing the contractual history of a film to identify the present copyright owners.
8. Registration of the authoritative version of a film by means of archival deposit.

We ask you to make additions to this list, and send them to us as quickly as possible.