With a growing theoretical debate within Archival Science about the place of post-modern and post-colonial ideas and the impact that these might have upon archival practice, has come a realization that there are many communities whose experiences are not recorded in official narratives of the states in which they are located. This absence can partly be explained by the non-elite status of members of these communities or because their community practices, culture, and beliefs are often based upon non-textual ways of making and keeping records that fall outside the accepted archival paradigm. Using a case study of a community of African heritage in Mexico’s Costa Chica, this presentation reports on how such absences from the official record and recordkeeping came into being in Mexico, where the problem of underdocumented and underacknowledged communities is potentially exacerbated by the philosophy of mestizaje (the racial mixture of Indigenous and Spanish bloodlines and culture). Mestizaje permitted a sympathetic investigation of the Indigenous past and present in order to engineer a mestizo (mixed) future, but “silenced” other minority groups. Lastly, the presentation explains how black communities of the Cost Chica interact with its environment to maintain its own history and unique cultural landscape.