

**Society of American Archivists
Council Meeting
July 26, 2023
Hybrid Meeting – Washington, DC**

**Report of the American Archivist Editor
(Prepared by Amy Cooper Cary)**

I. Update on Publication Status

- **86:1** was released on June 29.
- **Content for 86:2** – Content for Fall/Winter 2023 (reported in April 2023 report) is being sent to copy editing. The content for the Special Section on Middle Eastern and North African Archives (Sumayya Ahmed and Rebecca Hankins, Editors) is still in selection but will be moving to copy Editing later in July
- **Content for 87:1** is in selection. 87:1 will include a Pease Award winner, which the committee selected. The winner, Sony Prosper of the University of Michigan (nominated by Ricky Punzalan), is working with Cary on moving his submission through the peer review process. The working title of the article is “Conceptualizing Records: Black Bottom Archives, Detroit Sound Conservancy, Faulkner Morgan Archive, Hula Preservation Society, and History Project.” See [Theodore Calvin Pease Award: Sony Prosper | Society of American Archivists](#) for the citation.

II. Reviews -- “Intergenerational Conversations.” (Rose Buchanan and Stephanie Luke, Editors)

- Intergenerational Conversations is halfway through its publication cycle, with six essays up and available in the Reviews Portal.
<https://reviews.americanarchivist.org/intergenerational-conversations/>
- The Editors are exploring opportunities to continue this series beyond the consideration of John Fleckner’s writing. If you have ideas about other authors or articles to consider in the Intergenerational Conversations series, please get in touch with Rose and Stephanie -- reviewseeditor@archivists.org

II. Update on Activity, Conversations, and Initiatives

- The Editorial Board met on June 29, 2023, for its open annual meeting. We had a few visitors from membership. Meeting agenda is here:
<https://www2.archivists.org/groups/american-archivist-editorial-board/june-2023-virtual-meeting>
- The re-appointment of Amy Cooper Cary for a second term as Editor was announced. Cary will continue service to *American Archivist* for the 2024 – 2026 term. On a personal note, please let me say that I’m honored and grateful to be able to continue my service in the capacity of Editor of *American Archivist*. Heartfelt thanks to the Council,

to the Editorial Board, and to folks in the SAA Office who have given me so much encouragement and support.

- Board members Eric Hung and Amanda Greenwood wrote a terrific article summarizing the findings of the Readership Survey for publication in *Archival Outlook*. See <https://www2.archivists.org/sites/all/files/Lessons%20from%20the%202023%20Readership%20Survey.pdf>. This article is worth a read. In particular, this highlights the efforts of the Board to engage readers. The Readership Survey was a concise survey designed to explore a handful of issues about the journal in its digital format. Thanks to Eric and Amanda for a concise summary of findings to share with membership.
- As a part of the survey, we also gathered information about what readers are most interested in in the journal. See <https://www2.archivists.org/sites/all/files/Readership%20Survey%20Responses.pdf> We continue to make the survey results and the topics of interest aspects of our ongoing conversation.
- Cary, Eric Hung, and Amanda Greenwood will be hosting the *American Archivist* **Editorial Board Virtual Conversation Lounge on July 28, at 5:30 PM**. The virtual lounge, hosted during *Archives*Records 2023*, will be an opportunity to discuss the Survey results and will provide opportunities for discussion with the membership. Please feel free to attend!
- Bree'ya Brown –last year's early career member – has agreed to stay on for another year to work with Amanda Greenwood on the Hidden Content Project. We will also be bringing on a second early career member to work with them on this ongoing project.
- The Editorial Board is considering a proposal for a Special Section on Accessioning. Cary will be providing the proposal's editor feedback in the coming weeks.
- The Editorial Board is engaging in a conversation about using ChatGPT in articles. Reviews Editors Buchanan and Luke received a submission for the Reviews Portal that used ChatGPT to edit. We are gathering examples of journal policies and input from the Editorial Board to help inform the need for a policy for *American Archivist*.