

**Society of American  
Archivists Council Meeting  
October 31 – Nov 1, 2023  
Hybrid Meeting (Chicago, IL)**

**Annual Report: American Archivist Editorial Board**

Submitted by: Amy Cooper Cary, Chair and Editor, *American Archivist*  
Council Liaison: Joyce Gabiola

Below are the major activities of the *American Archivist* in the year August 2022 – August 2023. This report reflects regular reports made to the Council and highlights activity in the publication, as well as other events and initiatives. The Editor invites feedback and comment at [americanarchivist@archivists.org](mailto:americanarchivist@archivists.org) or [amy.cary@marquette.edu](mailto:amy.cary@marquette.edu)

Respectfully submitted,  
Amy Cooper Cary  
Editor, *American Archivist*

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**Publication**

- Published *American Archivist* 85:2 and 86:1 – Two issues published 18 articles and 14 reviews ( <https://meridian.allenpress.com/american-archivist/issue/85/2> and <https://meridian.allenpress.com/american-archivist/issue/86/1> )
  - Included Publication of the first section of A\*CENSUS II (All Archivists Survey). The second section (Administrator’s Survey) is scheduled for 86:2, F/W 2023.
- Reviews Portal published 16 reviews in the report time period.
- Reviews Portal published “Intergenerational Conversations” – a project that was initially presented to the Publications Board. The project began in January of 2023, to reflect on the writings of John Fleckner, bringing new and diverse voices into conversation with archival literature. <https://reviews.americanarchivist.org/category/intergenerational-conversations/>
- Editor oversaw the Pease Award – Awarded Spring 2023 to Sony Prosper for his article “Conceptualizing Records: Black Bottom Archives, Detroit Sound Conservancy, Faulkner Morgan Archive, Hula Preservation Society, and History Project,” to be published in 87:1, Spring/Summer 2024.
- Editorial Board is beginning to engage in a conversation about ChatGPT in publications and considering the path to develop policies for its use.

**Events and Initiatives**

- Editor held regular, bi-monthly meetings with the Editorial Board, as well as the regular annual meeting (June 29, 2023). Regular bi-monthly meetings are well attended and address all manners of work on the Board. Minutes are published on the Editorial Board web page: <https://www2.archivists.org/groups/american-archivist-editorial-board>
- Editorial Board held a Virtual Conversation Lounge at the 2023 Annual Meeting; Editor also participated in the CODA Virtual Conversation Lounge.
- Write Away Forum was held in November 2022, in conjunction with the Publications Editor. Editor and Reviews Editors presented.
- Editorial Board held a joint meeting with CODA in November 2022 to discuss the role of *American Archivist* in contributing to the CODA Research Roadmap and to the Dataverse. Conversations about these areas for collaboration are ongoing.
- Editorial Board approved the special section on Middle East and North African Archives, which is being published in 86:2, Fall/Winter 2023. Board members Sumayya Ahmed and Rebecca Hankins worked with Cary to see the project through a very ambitious call and editorial process.
- Early Career members Bree'ya Brown and Amanda Greenwood took over the Hidden Content Project, which seeks to make segments of content more searchable and accessible. Amanda Greenwood took oversight of the project as a Board member at the 2023 annual meeting and will carry on the work with Bree'ya and new Early Career Member Karina Wilhelm. Board member Katharina Hering published an article on the project in the September/October issue of *Archival Outlook* <https://mydigitalpublication.com/publication/?m=30305&i=803534&p=14&ver=html5>
- Editorial Board conducted a Readership Survey in Spring 2023 – 14 questions sent out to all members, seeking opinion on our foray into an entirely digital format, an understanding of reader engagement with the journal, and soliciting information about readership preferences. Board members Amanda Greenwood and Eric Hung published an article about the results in the July/August 2023 *Archival Outlook* -- <https://mydigitalpublication.com/publication/?m=30305&i=798391&p=16&ver=html5>
  - As part of the survey, we identified subject areas that readers are most interested in, and the Board will be working on ways to encourage submissions in these topics of interest.
- Editor continually meets with individual authors, groups of authors, and others interested in publication, to engage and encourage a diverse range of submissions, authors, and voices.
- At the Annual Editorial Board meeting in June 2023, it was announced that Editor Amy Cooper Cary was re-appointed for a second term as Editor. Cary will continue service to *American Archivist* for the January 2024 – December 2026 term. On a personal note, I want to express my honor and gratitude to be able to continue my service to *American Archivist* and to SAA.