

**Society of American Archivists
Council Meeting
November 18/19, 2024
Chicago, IL – Hybrid**

***American Archivist* Editorial Board
Annual Report, August 30, 2023 – August 30, 2024
Submitted September 1, 2024**

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 2023 – August 2024. 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 or amy.cary@marquette.edu

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

Publication

- Published *American Archivist* 86:2 and 87:1. These two issues published 26 articles and 16 reviews.
- <https://meridian.allenpress.com/american-archivist/issue/86/2> and <https://meridian.allenpress.com/american-archivist/issue/87/1>)
 - 86:2 included the Administrators Survey Report from A*CENSUS II
 - 86:2 included a Special Section on Middle East and North African Archives (MENA)
- Editor oversaw the Pease Award Committee. The committee did not make an award for 2024.
- Reviews Portal published 26 reviews in the report time period.
- Reviews Portal completed publication of the first series of “Intergenerational Conversations” which focused on responses to the writings of John Fleckner. It also began to publish its second series of essays, which are responses to SAA Presidential Addresses. See <https://reviews.americanarchivist.org/intergenerational-conversations/>
- The Editorial Board approved the publication of two Special Sections:
 - 88:1 – Special Section on Accessioning – Call for Submissions closes October 1, 2024
 - 89:1 – Special Section on User Experience

Events and Initiatives

- Editor held regular, bi-monthly meetings with the Editorial Board, as well as the regular annual meeting (August 1, 2024). 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>
- The Editor participated in the Writer’s Forum, held January 9. This included members of the Publications Board, CORDS, the Dictionary Working Group, *Archival Outlook*, *American Archivist*, and the *American Archivist* Reviews Portal.
- Editorial Board held a Virtual Conversation Lounge at the 2024 Annual Meeting. This focused on submitting content for the upcoming Special Section on Accessioning (88:1)
- The Editorial Board worked on developing and drafting a statement on the use of Generative AI in the journal and reviews. The statement was adopted in February of 2024. See <https://www2.archivists.org/american-archivist/AI-statement>
- The Editorial Board adopted a Submission Window Workflow (see Annual Meeting minutes <https://www2.archivists.org/groups/american-archivist-editorial-board/august-2024-virtual-meeting> for the workflow document) This workflow will be tested for four issues beginning with Fall/Winter 2025 (88:2), to improve workflow for the Board, the Editor, and for submitting authors. Announcement of the new Submission Window Workflow will be made in September of 2024.
- The Editorial Board is beginning work on Classifications. These are used in the peer review process, where reviewers indicate their areas of expertise. Authors also use these classifications to assign subjects to their articles, allowing the Editor to make an informed match for peer review. The current classifications are outdated – some need to be removed; some need to be added. The goal is to better reflect the writing and content of the journal. We hope to have this project completed by Spring.
- Board member Amanda Greenwood continues to work on the Hidden Content Project, and will engage Board members and new Early Career members to complete the project. The goal will be to complete this in the coming year, so that we can move forward with next steps. That will entail working with the folks at Allen Press to do some additional organization of content.
- Editor worked with Hannah Stryker to implement some changes to the website which were implemented in May 2024. See the current home page layout here: <https://meridian.allenpress.com/american-archivist> The goal was to make the Reviews Portal and Editorial Policies more accessible. This included adding the Generative AI statement to the main page, as well as making a clearer link to the means to become a Peer Reviewer.
- 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.