



ARCHIVAL RESOURCES

of the Virginias

Who We Are

- Archival Resources of the Virginias (ARVAS) (formerly Virginia Heritage)
- Consolidated database of finding aids from 56+ institutions in Virginia and West Virginia
- Information on the array of manuscripts and archival materials
- All-volunteer leadership team with representation from 11 institutions

Timeline of ARVAS history



What We've Been Doing

- Creating an aggregator for shared discovery of finding aids, which can help with finding related collections across institutions.
- Steadily growing and expanding! We've long since outgrown our original NEH grant from 2000.
- Adding new members, including our first West Virginia member in 2020.
- Developing a process for harvesting finding aids from ArchivesSpace
- Developing EAD training + technology support, including two pathways creating EAD files to upload.
- Offering (limited) support from our volunteer team to help with EAD creation.
- Hosted (and continue to host) information sessions and town halls



What's Next?

- Onboarding more members!
- Hopefully, additional support for other finding aid/descriptive record discovery (we want to hear your access challenges and brainstorm creative solutions!)
- Advocacy for a national descriptive record platform (participation in NAFAN and other discussions)
- Support for discovery of community archives (more on that shortly)
- Staying sustainable!



Website Overview (public pages, membership pages, and database, oh my!)

- Main website: <https://arvasarchive.org/>
- Includes information about ARVAS and its governance structure, resources for members and member directory
- Finding aid search box that searches across all the guides submitted by our member institutions



Search Finding Aids

Search ...

Search

Advanced Search



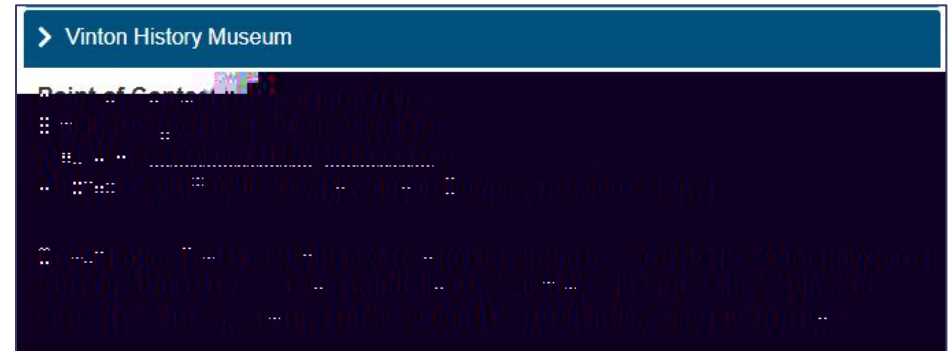
Community Archives Directory

- Community archives directory - low barrier way to get your information out there
- If you want to become more involved, what are the next steps and what are the benefits

^ Central Rappahannock Heritage Center

^ Surry County, VA Historical Society & Museums, Inc.

^ Vinton History Museum

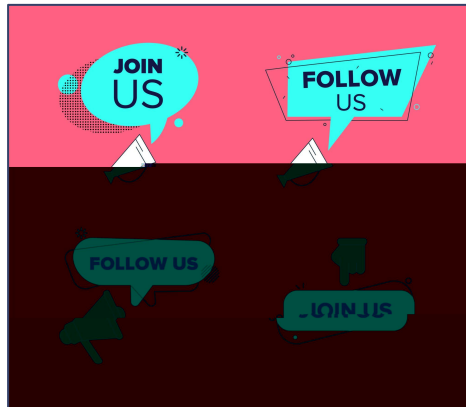


[Fill out this form to join the directory](#)



Getting involved

- Join the Community Archives Directory
- Join the mailing list for VIVASC, which is ARVAS' main communication (but don't worry, you won't get overwhelmed with messages)
- Follow us on Facebook and Instagram



Q&A: What can we tell you?



Website: arvasarchive.org
Email: arvasarchives@gmail.com
Facebook: [ARVASarchives](https://www.facebook.com/ARVASarchives)
Instagram: [arvas_archives](https://www.instagram.com/arvas_archives)

When in doubt, contact Kira (kadietz@vt.edu) and Margaret (kiddm@vcu.edu)

