



Historical/Archive Department Report

7/5/2023

Since the museum is open now for the 2023 season, the Historical/Archive Department will reopen on a limited basis as staff is available. (Please contact the archive staff to make arrangements to visit.)

While off to a slow start for 2023 in the archive department, we have been making progress on several areas of our collection.

Ethan Doty has joined the department and has been working on the magazine collection. We have rearranged the Simplot car with some working space and two desks and he has been working on getting the magazine collection sorted and beginning to catalog all of them.

He has also done some sorting of a model collection that was donated during the winter. We will be in the process of looking at this collection to see how we will handle all the different parts of this collection.

Since I have been working on the train crew when I am at the museum, I have not had a chance to tend to some other projects that I expected to get to early this year. Hopefully I will have some time later in the summer to make more progress on some of those projects.

We have been making more improvements to the H/A webpages and are bringing a new level of access to some of the collections donated to the society by our members, railroad employees and the general public. This is just a start as to what we envision on releasing to our members and public. Please understand this is a "Work in Progress" and several collections have not been inventoried or processed as of yet.



Each month we release new materials to the archives pages. Please be on the lookout for these new items. The new material is announced in the Latest Museum News column on the website. The updates contain several different aspects of our collection and modeling items and I hope that we can continue to add to the photo albums that we have been working on.

If you have not visited the Historical/Archive Department web page recently, please consider looking at them to see “What’s New” in the Western Pacific Documents page.

[https://wplives.org/wphistory\\_wp\\_documents.html](https://wplives.org/wphistory_wp_documents.html)

Members and the general public mostly contact us through our website using the [Info@wplives.org](mailto:Info@wplives.org) or [Historical\\_Archive\\_dept@wplives.org](mailto:Historical_Archive_dept@wplives.org), when asking questions. Emails sent to these are directed to a mailing list so that they can be addressed.

As I point out in each of my reports every month, we still need some donation help with the materials needed to keep the archives moving forward and protecting them.

### **Needs for the Archives:**

We are always looking for help in getting materials properly stored and we need the support of the membership with helping supply storage materials for the archives.

We still need help in getting funding and storage materials for the archive department. Should you be able to help out, please let us know!

Should any member receive any donation and/or get an inquiry about a donation, please get in touch with one of the archive staff or archive committee to make sure we properly address the donation or inquiry.

Thank you to all the members of the FRRS/WPRM who contribute to the society and the archives.

Kerry Cochran  
Director/General Superintendent/Archive Manager