



Smithsonian
National Museum of the American Indian

ARCHIVES CENTER

Cultural Resources Center
4220 Silver Hill Road
Suitland, MD 20746

The National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) Archives Center actively acquires and serves as a repository for the records of contemporary Native American artists, writers, activists, and organizations. In addition, the Archives Center holds the records of the NMAI's predecessor institution, the Museum of the American Indian (MAI), Heye Foundation.

The Archives Center supports the mission of the museum by collecting, organizing, preserving, and making available papers, records, photographs, recordings, and ephemera that reflect the historical and contemporary lives of Native peoples throughout the Western Hemisphere. The archival collections are particularly focused on Native art, culture, knowledge, politics, events, and social and political movements. They also complement the NMAI's object collections and are used for scholarly research, exhibitions, journalism, documentary productions, and other research, educational, and Native community activities.

The NMAI Archives Center houses approximately 1,500 linear feet of manuscripts, 500,000 photographs, and a collection of sound and audiovisual recordings dating from the late-nineteenth century to the present.

Contact Information:

E-mail: NMAIArchives@si.edu or NMAIPhotos@si.edu

Phone: 301-238-1400 **Fax:** 301-238-3038

Website: nmai.si.edu/explore/collections/archive

Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:30am – 4:30pm (Appointment Required)

ON-SITE ACCESS

The Archives Center is located in the NMAI Cultural Resources Center (CRC) in Suitland, Maryland, approximately six miles southeast of the National Mall. Free parking is available at the CRC. The CRC can also be reached via Metrorail; it is a 10-15 minute walk from the Suitland Station.

The Archives Center is open to researchers by appointment only, Monday-Friday, 9:30am-4:30pm. **Appointments must be scheduled a minimum of five business days in advance.** To schedule an in-person Research Appointment with the NMAI Archives Center, please e-mail NMAIArchives@si.edu

Searching our Collections Online:

Smithsonian Online Virtual Archives: www.sova.si.edu

Smithsonian Collections Search: www.collections.si.edu

Smithsonian Transcription Center: www.transcription.si.edu

NMAI collections on the SIRIS Blog: www.si-siris.blogspot.com

ONLINE ACCESS

NMAI Archives Center collections can be accessed online in a variety of ways:

[Smithsonian Online Virtual Archives \(SOVA\)](http://www.sova.si.edu) is an online repository that provides integrated access to descriptions and detailed inventories of thousands of primary resource collections maintained by archival units across the Smithsonian. A complete list of NMAI Archives Center collection-level descriptions, finding aids, and digitized collections is available through SOVA. New finding aids and digitized content are added as they become available.

[Smithsonian Collections Search Center](http://www.collections.si.edu) contains all materials across the Smithsonian including—archival collections, library materials, objects and material culture, blog posts and video content. NMAI Archives Center collections, including a selection of digitized photographs, can also be found in the Smithsonian Collections Search Center.

[Smithsonian Transcription Center](http://www.transcription.si.edu) is a crowdsourcing project where digital volunteers transcribe historic documents and collection records. A small selection of NMAI Archives Center material has been added to the Transcription Center. Once transcribed, the material is then text-searchable in the Smithsonian Collections Search Center.