

P5 Archive Checker

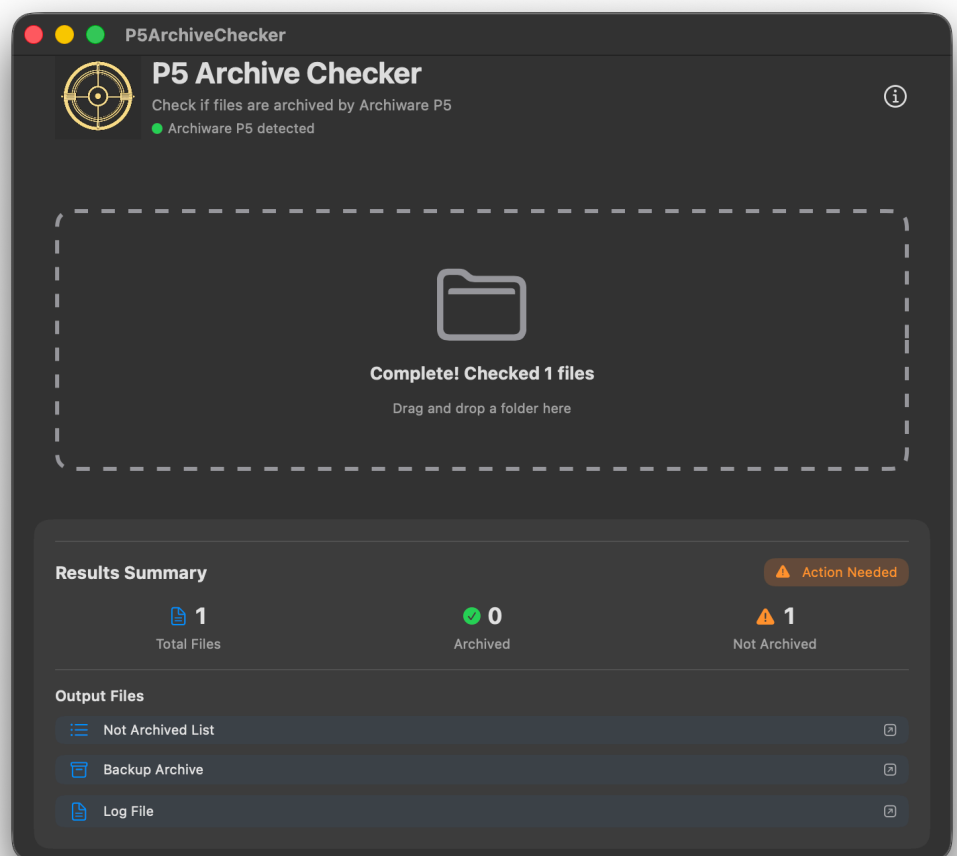
Are my files archived?

P5 Archive Checker for macOS is a Drag-and-drop folder checker for Archiware P5.

P5 Archive Checker is a macOS native application that allows you to quickly verify whether the files inside any folder have been archived to Archiware P5 Archive.

Simply drag a project folder into the app, and it performs a full inspection using the system's installed P5 tools.

The P5 Archive Checker app is a drag and drop application to test folders if archived by P5



This documentation describes how the bundled shell script operates internally and how the Swift application communicates with it.

Overview

When a folder is dropped into the app, P5 Archive Checker:

1. Scans every file in the folder (and its subfolders).
2. Queries Archiware P5 using the nsdchat command-line API.
3. Determines:
 - Which files are archived
 - Which files are not archived
 - Archive handles
 - Archive status
 - File sizes (raw + GB)
 - Archive date (converted from UNIX time)
 - Tape volume name and barcode
4. Generates user-readable reports and log files.
5. Provides continuous progress updates to the Swift UI.
6. Cleans up temporary files after completion.

The core logic is implemented by a POSIX shell script bundled with the app.

System Requirements

- macOS
- Archiware P5 installed locally
- nsdchat available at:

/usr/local/aw/bin/nsdchat

If P5 is missing or not executable, the app reports a fatal error immediately.

How the Script Runs (High-Level)

1. Environment Checks

Before running, the script verifies:

- nsdchat binary exists
- It is executable
- A folder path was provided by the app

2. Progress Reporting to the App

The script writes progress updates to:

/private/tmp/p5-progress-`<timestamp>`.txt

3. Temporary Working Files

All intermediate data is stored in /private/tmp with timestamped filenames. These files are used to track:

- All discovered files
- Files with archive handles
- Files not archived
- Status, size, creation time
- Volume and barcode
- Final CSV compilation

4. File Scanning

The script recursively scans the folder:

- Hidden files excluded
- P5 metadata excluded (*.p5c, *.p5a)

5. P5 Query Phase

For each file, the script runs:

nsdchat ArchiveEntry handle localhost {"<filepath>"}

Files are split into:

- Archived files → have a handle
- Not archived → no handle

Additional metadata is retrieved only for archived files:

Property	Command
Status	ArchiveEntry <handle> status
Size	ArchiveEntry <handle> size
Btime (archive timestamp)	ArchiveEntry <handle> btime
Volume Name	ArchiveEntry <handle> volume
Volume Barcode	Volume <volname> barcode

6. CSV Generation

A final archive CSV is produced:

/Users/Shared/<timestamp>-Archived-<folder>.csv

Columns:
File Path
P5 Handle
Status
Size (bytes)
Size (GB)
Archived Date
Volume Barcode

What the User Sees

- A drag-and-drop window
- A progress bar as files are scanned and queried
- A success or error result
- Buttons to open:
 - CSV archive report
 - Missing-file summary
 - Log file
 - Backup archive (optional)

This app is designed for:

- Post-production technicians
- Archivists
- Data wranglers
- Artists needing quick confidence checks
- Studios using P5 as part of a long-term archive workflow

Summary

This macOS native app provides a fast, automated method to verify the archival status of a project folder in Archiware P5.

It combines the power of P5's nsdchat cli with a Swift user interface, enabling:

- Live progress
- Detailed archive metadata retrieval
- Automatic CSV output

The result is a smooth, reliable, production-ready archive verification tool.