The James N. Gillum Archives of the Norfolk & Western Historical Society is a key element in the Society’s mission to preserve the history of the Norfolk & Western and Virginian Railways. The Archives is a repository of documents covering over a century and a half of history of the railroads, their predecessors and the cities and regions through which they operated. These documents primarily include mechanical and engineering drawings and photographic images in many formats. The collection also includes books, magazines, newspaper articles, maps, reports, rulebooks, timetables, menus, annual reports, promotional and publicity material, forms, ledgers, contracts, correspondence, specifications, bills-of-materials, operating manuals, test results, engineering sketches, dispatcher’s logs, and survey field notebooks.

This collection provides first-hand information for:

- Researchers developing exhibits and displays for museums and other venues;
- Authors writing books, articles and stories for publication;
- Manufacturers creating historically accurate models for commercial production;
- Hobbyists recreating historical models and scenes for personal pleasure.

The Archives also provides the source material for the Society’s own publication program. These activities further the Society’s educational mission to promote the history of these two railroads.

**VISITING**

Visitors are welcome during our work sessions (four days each month, listed on our website) or by appointment. Please email ahead of time to let us know your plans.

**SERVICES WE OFFER**

- Full-size color copies of drawings
- Prints from photos or slides
- Copies of documents up to 11”x17”
- Digital images for publication

**EQUIPMENT**

- HP DesignJet T790 printer
- Canon copier (for smaller documents)
- Contex HD 42” wide-format scanner (drawings)
- Epson 10000XL scanner (photos)
- Nikon film scanner (negatives, slides)

**GET INVOLVED**

Help preserve and catalog our collection at one of our all-volunteer staff work sessions. Gather prototype data for the next model to be manufactured. Assist our various authors with their research or select photos or drawings for publication. Our cadre of N&W veterans will share their stories and knowledge. Maybe you will be the one to uncover the next “gem” in our collection. No experience necessary. We provide training and match you with a part of the collection that most interests you.

The Archives are located at:

2101 Salem Ave SW, Roanoke, Virginia

Mailing address:

PO Box 13908, Roanoke VA 24038

archives@nwhs.org • www.nwhs.org/archives

**ABOUT THE ARCHIVES**
LIBRARY
The Archives maintains a library of over 1,100 railroad-themed books and periodicals as well as a complete set of Annual Reports and employee magazines from the Norfolk and Western Railway.

DRAWINGS
Over 70,000 mechanical and engineering drawings make up the most significant part of the Archives collection. Mechanical drawings detail the construction, modifications and maintenance of steam, electric, diesel locomotives along with freight and passenger rail cars. Engineering drawings cover the track, bridges, buildings and property along the lines of the railroad.

PHOTOGRAPHS
The Archives collection contains over 50,000 prints, slides, negatives and digital images. A majority of the images are from the 20th century but a few are from the late 1800’s. Many of the earlier images are from the N&W Railway’s own photographic department. There are historic photos of stations and other structures from 1916-1917 as a result of the railroads’ complying with the ICC Valuation Act of 1913.

1. Front view of Class J No. 608 locomotive at Lamberts Point, Virginia.
4. Drawing of front elevation and section through engine truck of Class A locomotive.
6. Class A No. 1213 locomotive gets serviced efficiently in one of N&W’s modern lubritoriums.
7. N&W RR Class M No. 95 locomotive at the Roanoke Shops.
8. Class J No. 609 pulling the Powhatan Arrow passenger train beside the New River.
9. Virginian Railway Class EL-C electric locomotive No. 233.