

Making the case for ArchivesSpace

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Archives at NCBS

contemporary
biology
India

Open to public: February 2019
A collecting public archive

Archives at NCBS



Archives at NCBS: Reading Room 1



Photo credit: Ravi Kumar Boyapeti, NCBS

Archives at NCBS: Reading Room 1



2017

03/17, ArchivesSpace at American Institute of Physics – Thanks, Amanda Nelson!

03/17 – 04/17, Endorsement for ArchivesSpace from NYU, SNAC Cooperative

04/17 – 06/17, Connect to ArchivesSpace through SNAC Cooperative

06/17, First conversation with ArchivesSpace, Christine Di Bella

04/17-08/17, Conversations with IT at NCBS. First ArchivesSpace instance

08/17-01/18, Fiddling with ArchivesSpace. Distinguishing from DAMS, figuring out future plans

01/18, Decided with ArchivesSpace

2018

03/18-Now, Guidance from Caltech Archives on DAMS – Islandora, ArchivesSpace

09/18, University of Melbourne Archives intro to AtoM – alternative archive description+~DAMS

01/18-11/18, Almost a year of nothing – building physical archive, setting up finding aids

11/18, Archives opening prep: Build up ArchivesSpace, no DAMS – stick with Drupal prototype

12/18, Become ArchivesSpace ‘very small institution’ member

12/18, Finalize finding aids. Ananya (3rd yr student) ingests data on ArchivesSpace

2019

01/19, ArchivesSpace live. 18 collections with finding aids. Only oral history digital

02/19, ArchivesSpace public interface tweak to remove all unused options

Why

- Open source and free – important for a tiny institution with limited financial resources
- Wide community of archives for support
- Web-based platform that adopts archival description standards + easy to test without commits
- Archives has no previous system: Completely open to any possibilities out there.

Archives at the National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS)

<http://archives.ncbs.res.in/>

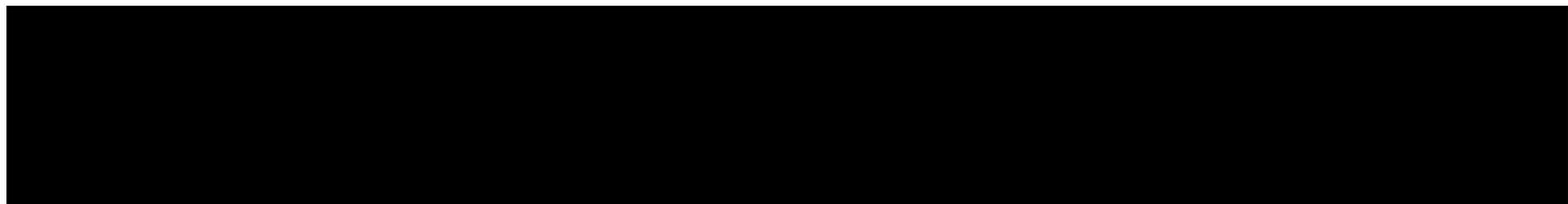
Catalogue button -> ArchivesSpace: <http://catalogue.archives.ncbs.res.in/>

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL archives.ncbs.res.in. The page header includes the NCBS logo and navigation links: Home, Collections, Catalogue, Stories, About, Blog, Events, Contact, and Search. The 'Catalogue' link is circled in red. The main content area features a document titled 'Nudge' with a description: 'Excerpt from Veronica Rodrigues' letter to the Dean at TIFR on Feb 11 1990 where she protests against the asymmetric use of personal titles for women scientists (and not for male scientists) in official correspondence. NI-001_1_2_1_9, Archives at NCBS'. To the right is a scanned image of the original letter. The typed text of the letter reads: 'I feel that appending (Kum), (Smt) or (Ms) to the names of women scientists in official correspondences is not only unnecessary, but also unacceptable. This practice should be stopped unless you consider qualifying men scientists with (Shri) or (Kumar). Thank you for your attention, Sincerely Yours, [Handwritten Signature] Dr. Veronica Rodrigues.' Below the typed text is a stamp from TIFR Director's Office dated 13/2/90 and several handwritten notes in blue ink, including 'For guidance by...', 'By Reg v', and 'we wrote Veronica Rodrigues?'. A red arrow points from the 'Catalogue' link in the header to the scanned document.

Archives: Accessioning, Description, Web Access

ArchivesSpace catalogue, Archives at NCBS: <http://catalogue.archives.ncbs.res.in/>

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL catalogue.archives.ncbs.res.in. The browser's address bar and tabs are visible at the top. Below the browser, the website header features the "ArchivesSpace Public Interface" logo on the left and the "ArchivesSpace" logo on the right, which includes the text "a community served by LYRASIS". A navigation bar below the header contains the links "Repositories", "Collections", and "Digital Materials" with a search icon. The main content area begins with a "Welcome to ArchivesSpace" heading, followed by the text "Search across our collections, digital materials, and more." Below this is a "Search The Archives" section containing a search form. The form includes a text input field with the placeholder "Enter your search terms", a dropdown menu for "Search all record types", a dropdown for "Keyword", and a "Years:" section with "From" and "To" input fields and a "+" button. A blue "Search" button is positioned below the form. At the bottom of the page, a footer contains the links "Staff Interface", "Visit ArchivesSpace.org", "v2.5.1", and "Send Feedback or Report a Problem".



ArchivesSpace: Archives at NCBS: Collections Page

catalogue.archives.ncbs.res.in/repositories/resources

Most Visited Getting Started Archives at NCBS Archives at NCBS - Ar... NCBS GAC

ArchivesSpace Public Interface



Repositories Collections Digital Materials

Showing Collections: 1 - 10 of 18

1 2

Title (ascending) Sort

Filter Results

Ajith Kumar Papers
Collection Identifier: MS-005
Abstract The collection contains the papers of Ajith Kumar -- research field notes gathered during Kumar's fieldwork in the early 1980s. Being a small volume, the material is all contained within one folder in the Research series.
Found in: Archives at National Centre for Biological Sciences

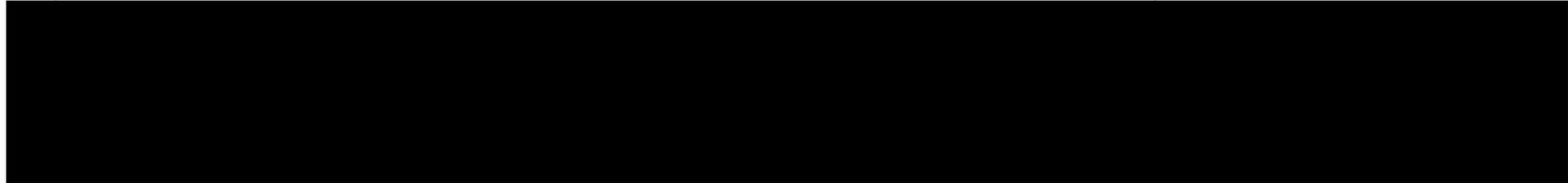
Artefacts : K. S. Krishnan's Office
Collection Identifier: AT-002
Found in: Archives at National Centre for Biological Sciences

Artefacts : Obaid Siddiqi Office
Collection Identifier: AT-003

Search within results

From year To year

Search



ArchivesSpace: Archives at NCBS: Ravi Sankaran papers. 1/2



ArchivesSpace Public Interface



Repositories Collections Digital Materials

Ravi Sankaran Papers

Collection Identifier: MS-004



Archives at National Centre for Biological Sciences | Ravi Sankaran Papers

Collection Overview **Collection Organization** Container Inventory

The collection contains the papers of Ravi Sankaran, predominantly research material including field notes, pre-prints, re-prints, publications, statistical data, graphs, maps and pamphlets on various species and ecosystems Lesser Floricans, Bengal Floricans, Great Indian Bustard, on the conservation of edible-nest Swiftlets, Nicobar megapodes and ecology of Andaman and Nicobar islands. It also contains his personal diaries, letters, post...[See more >](#)

Dates

Majority of material found within 1985 - 2009

Condition Description

The collection is in a good condition except a few field notes infested with insects.

Access

Collection organization

Ravi Sankaran Papers

[> Research, 1985-2008](#)

ArchivesSpace: Archives at NCBS: Ravi Sankaran papers. 2/2



Access

The collections of Archives at NCBS are open to researchers, historians, journalists and the broader public interested in knowing more about the Centre in general and field of biology in particular. People interested in accessing the collections are requested to apply in writing to archives@ncbs.res.in

Publication Rights

Copyright may not have been assigned to Archives at National Centre for Biological Sciences. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Head of Archives. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the Archives at National Centre for Biological Sciences as the owner of the physical items and, unless explicitly stated otherwise, is not intended to include or imply permission...[See more >](#)

Extent

5.5 Linear Feet

[Collapse All](#)

Additional Description

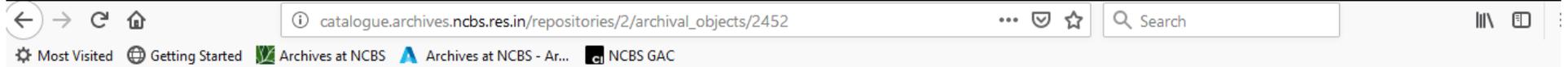
Biography

Ravi Sankaran was an ornithologist, biologist and an unconventional wildlife conservationist. He was born on 4th October 1963. At the age of 9, he was sent to Rishi Valley boarding school, where he completed his high school. He then joined the undergraduate program in Zoology at the Loyola College, Chennai. It was during this time that he developed a keen interest in Bustards, and went on to approach the most ambitious ongoing project on the same, at the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS).

He is said to have walked in to the Hornbill House (where BNHS is located) on 25th March 1985 and met Asad Rahmani, who would later become one of his closest friend and mentor. Sankaran asked to work on the Florican project under Rahmani. In that year, he accompanied Rahmani as a junior field biologist on a project headed by Salim Ali. Sankaran visited the most prominent florican sites in North India – the Karera Bird Sanctuary, Dudhwa National Park and Sailana Florican Sanctuary. Sankaran spent the next four years of his life shifting between

- > Administration
- > Personal
- > Audiovisual Material

ArchivesSpace: Archives at NCBS: Sample 'folder level' object from a collection



ArchivesSpace Public Interface



Repositories Collections Digital Materials

Origin of Life -- Script -- All India Radio, Bombay. Draft copy. Includes drafts of a note, 'Books for biologists', 1968



File – **Box: 19, Folder: 25** **Identifier:** MS001-3-2-19-25

Archives at National Centre for Biological Sciences | Obaid Siddiqi Collection | Talks and Writings, 1961 - 2012 | Non-academic, 1968 - 2009
| Origin of Life -- Script -- All India Radio, Bombay. Draft copy. Includes drafts of a note, 'Books for biologists'. , 1968

Dates

1968

Access

The collections of the Archives at NCBS are open to the public. People interested in accessing the collections are requested to apply in writing to archives@ncbs.res.in

Extent

From the Collection: 39.5 Linear Feet

[Expand All](#)

Collection organization

- Academic, 1961-2012
- ▼ Non-academic, 1968-2009
 - Origin of Life -- Script -- All In...
 - New Ideas in Developmental ...
 - The Biological Mechanism of ...
 - Definition of Allele -- McGraw ...
 - Solar Eclipse and Animal Beh...
 - Responses: Receptor System

ArchivesSpace: Archives at NCBS: Sample search result

ArchivesSpace Public Interface

Repositories Collections Digital Materials Unprocessed Material Subjects Names Record Groups 

Search all record types where

keyword(s): mahabaleshwar

Showing Results: 1 - 10 of 10

Relevance  Sort 

35th Mahabaleshwar semiinar @Mahabaleshwar , 2010-02-21 - 2010-02-26

 Item

Found in: Archives at National Centre for Biological Sciences / K.S. Krishnan Collection / Personal / Conference tags and badges

Mahabaleshwar Seminar Posters , 1982 - 1995

 File — Frame: 3, Folder: 1 Identifier: NI006-5-1-3-1

Found in: Archives at National Centre for Biological Sciences / NCBS: TIFR Collection / TIFR Ephemera / Mahabaleswar Seminar Posters

Johri, M.M. — 25th Mahabaleshwar Seminar on Modern Biology, 1999-11-26

 File — Box: 3, Folder: 23 Identifier: MS001-1-2-3-23

Found in: Archives at National Centre for Biological Sciences / Obaid Siddiqi Collection / Correspondence / Academic

Mahabaleshwar Course / Seminar -- Handwritten notes. Includes notes on genetic recombination; discussions with F. Stahl, Radding. Reference to Imran Siddiqi's work., 1989

 File — Box: 30, Folder: 6 Identifier: MS001-4-11-30-6

Found in: Archives at National Centre for Biological Sciences / Obaid Siddiqi Collection / Research / Notes from collaborations, visits and workshops

Counterfoil for Ramanujan guest house for Mahabaleshwar IBRO seminar , 1998-10-13

 File — Box: 13, Folder: 16 Identifier: MS003-4-3-13-16

Found in: Archives at National Centre for Biological Sciences / K.S. Krishnan Collection / Correspondence / Letters received by Prof Krishnan

Four photographs likely from Mahabaleshwar talks: three group photos, Prof Krishnan seen in two photos; fourth photo shows Prof Krishnan talking to two students

 Item Identifier: MS003-5-6-15-7

Thoughts after being live for 1.5 months

- Initial install+interface tweaks requires some minimal tech support.
- Small learning curve: All ingesting of data done by 2nd yr (college) history student
- We now have a very discoverable archive. Easy to edit, add entries. Become sole search method.
- Quite useful in tracking between accessions to archive and final object description.
- Standards: Describing Archives – Content Standard (DACS) -American. ISAD(G) link.
- Some alternatives: Access to Memory (AtoM) – ISAD(G). description+~DAMS platform
- Great support – a buddy community! <https://archivesspace.org/community/aspacespace-buddies>
- Duplication of metadata in digital asset system. Revisit Block A, Session: “Integration with digital objects”.

Broader Why

Interconnected Digital Archives of Science

Potential for ArchivesSpace to be a platform that aids the building
of a consortium of science archives

Common space for description and discovery

Consortium of science archives. 2020-2021

Phase 1: Early 2019

Archives at NCBS:

Template for physical archives + digital narrative space

Phase 2: Early 2020

Milli

Story building tool using archival objects

Phase 3: Mid 2020

Specere

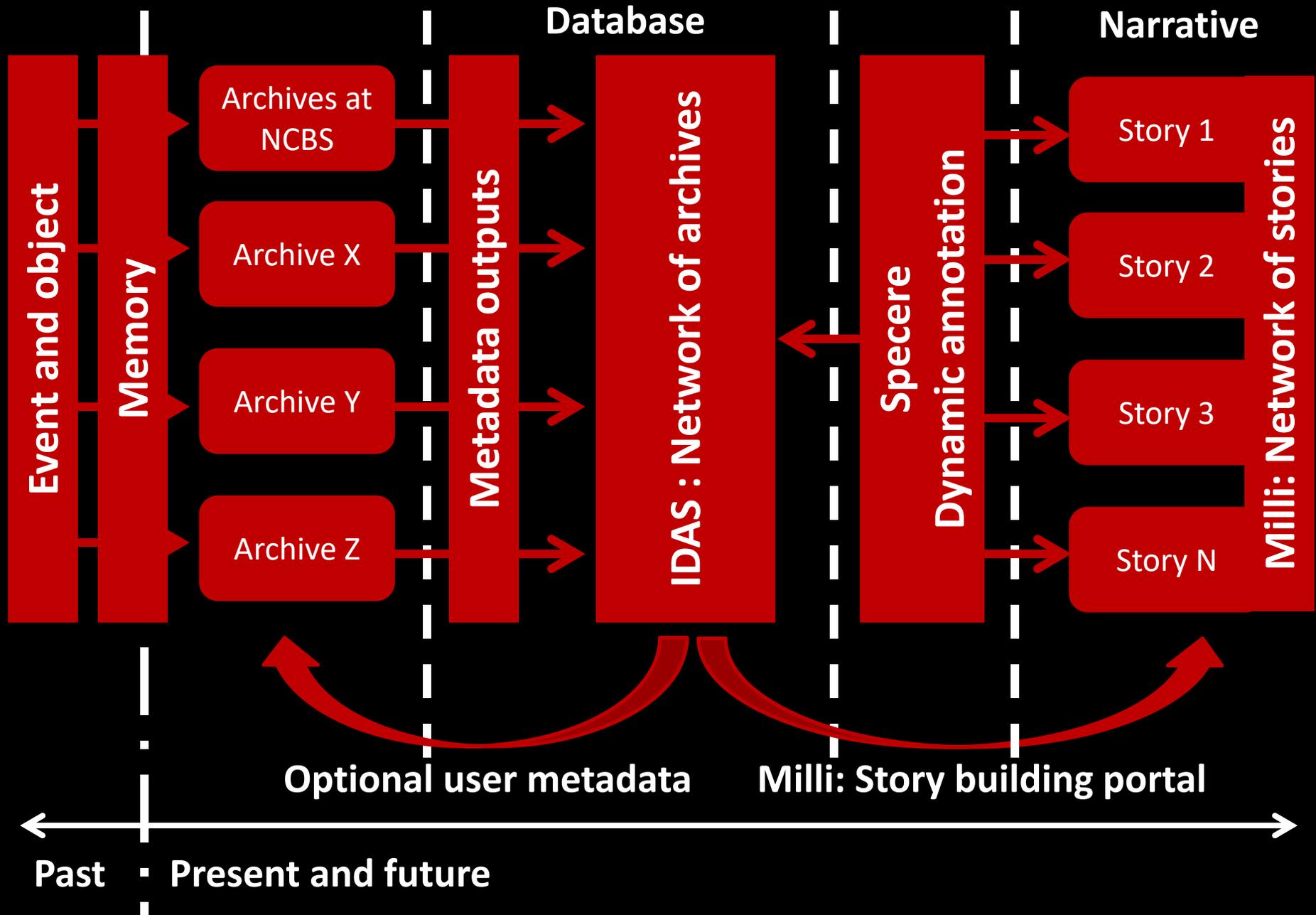
Standardized tool for annotation of archival objects

Phase 4: 2020-2021

Launch of IDAS

Interconnected Digital Archive of Science

Phase 4: Interconnected Digital Archive of Science (IDAS)



Archives at NCBS

Thanks, and over to University of Hawai'i - Mānoa!

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