

THE AMERICAN SAMOA HISTORICAL RECORDS ADVISORY BOARDS'

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2025-2028

NARA-NHPRC is the United States National Archives and Records Administration National Historical Publications and Records Commission in Washington, D.C. It exists to provide historical archives grant funding to eligible American States and Territories. American Samoa's Historical Records Advisory Board therefore applied and received a grant award to promote consciousness of American Samoa's unique archives during 2025. Grant objectives were also to acknowledge and celebrate American Samoa's historical 125th Tutuila Flag Day, the 100th Swains Island Annexation Day and America's 250th Semiquincentennial Celebration of 2026. ASHRAB therefore strives to promote the education, conservation, protection, translation and publication of significant American Samoa stories.

OUTLINE

MISSION: *To identify, preserve and share American Samoa's archival heritage.*

VISION: *To look beyond national and international barriers to new resources.*

VALUES: *Collaboration to protect historical archives for the benefit of past, present and future generations of American Samoa.*

GOALS: *To learn, save, guard, interpret and share American Samoa's archival information and improve resources and archival access usage via nine guiding themes...*

CREATE

- 1. To refine this 2025-2028 Strategic Plan with government & community ideas.***

SEARCH

- 2. To regularly seek funding opportunities from the NHPRC & other donors.***

GATHER

- 3. To hold four (4) quarterly ASHRAB meetings every year.***

JOURNEY

- 4. To promote ASHRAB and ASG Personnel attendance at archival conferences.***

SURVEY

- 5. To conduct surveys of ASG historical archives and private community repositories.***

INTERPRET

- 6. To compose Bilingual Finding Guides to significant public and private archives.***

TEACH

- 7. To hold four ASG Historical Repository Personnel training events every year
and/or four private community outreach events every year.***

SHARE

- 9. To provide an ASHRAB website for government & community enjoyment.***

Adopted April 28, 2025. Revised July 22, 2026.

ASHRAB Board Members 2025-2026

***Mrs. Tish Letitia Peau Folau. Am. Samoa Historical Preservation Officer
tishpeau@gmail.com Mrs. Peau is a reknowned social cultural leader affiliated with the
Government of American Samoa's Historical Preservation Office. She is active in traditional
Village and Church affairs and a number of local non-profit social organizations***

***Mrs. Divine Falaniko. Territorial Registrar of American Samoa folanikod@la.as.gov
Mrs. Falaniko is a well known leader of American Samoa. Prior to her Registrar of American
Samoa position she was with the American Samoa Office of the Attorney General.***

***Mr. Luaa'ipo Leslie Tua. Vital Statistician of American Samoa. l.tua@asdhs.as.gov
Mr. Tua has led the Dept. of Homeland Security's Office of Vital Statistics for a decade.
His statute position is responsible for American Samoa's Birth, Marriage and Death records.***

***Dr. Mary Lauagaia Taufete'e was previously Director of the Am. Samoa Arts Council Museum.
Dr. Taufete'e is a dedicated church and village leader and advocate for the people of American
Samoa. She has extensive experience in traditional Fa'a Samoa customs and is currently the
American Samoa Dept. of Education Director. marytaufetee@yahoo.com***

***Mr. James Himphill is employed as the Territorial Archivist of American Samoa.
james.himphill@das.as.gov After obtaining a graduate Degree in Anthropology and Museum
Studies, Mr. Himphill taught High School English and History for several years before
becoming a grant writer for the Am. Samoa Government. He has helped to establish American
Samoa's Humanities Council and the American Samoa Museum Board and is currently a
member of the Council of State and Territorial Archivists.***

***This Strategic Plan was made during a 2025-26 grant award from the National Historical Publications and
Records Commission of the United States National Archives in Washington, D.C.***