Arches Collector

Data collection app for Arches

(updated September 16, 2019)

What is Arches Collector?

Arches Collector is the mobile data collection companion app for the Arches cultural heritage data management platform. Arches Collector is a powerful app for data collection efforts, such as field surveys, and can be used to input or edit cultural heritage data in the field and sync the data with your existing Arches instance. ** An existing Arches instance (v4.4.2 or higher) is a pre-requisite for using Arches Collector**

[Features](#)
[Implementation Considerations](#)
[Download the App](#)
[Documentation](#)
[FAQ](#)

Features

- Runs on iOS or Android devices
- Offers full integration with your Arches v4 instance
- Supports data collection and temporary storage on devices when a network connection is not available
- Provides for synchronization of data (after offline activity) with your Arches instance
- Supports user permissions as defined in your Arches instance. This will allow your Arches administrator to define which users are permitted to add or update data using the Arches Collector
- Configurating data collection using the Arches Collector app is managed through your Arches instance using the Arches Collector Manager. You will be able to define the start and end dates, geographic areas, data fields, and users for multiple data collection activities.
- Collect information in the field by pinpointing map locations, capturing or uploading photos, selecting from pre-populated controlled lists or inputting text.
- Data collected using Arches Collector can be flagged as "provisional data" to be reviewed before being published in an Arches instance, providing a controlled environment for volunteer and crowdsourcing activities.

Implementation Considerations

Requirements for using Arches Collector
- Arches Collector is compatible with iOS and Android devices
- An existing Arches instance (v4.4.2 or higher) is required to deploy Arches Collector
- To begin data collection activities in the mobile app, a data collection project must first be created and activated in Arches Collector Manager. Arches Collector Manager is the system administrative management tool in Arches to initiate a data collection "Project", set parameters for the "Project" and activate the "Project" for users to begin data collection activities.

Online/Offline Considerations

Offline: If a connection is not available (Wi-Fi or network), data entered in the app is temporarily stored on the device until a connection is available and data is synced to the Arches server.
Online: If a connection is available (Wi-Fi or network), data entered in the app can be synced at any time and as often as needed. Data is not synced automatically to the Arches server.

Download the App
Arches Collector is currently available on iOS and Android. To install, you can download the app here:

Google Play

App Store

Documentation

Documentation is currently available and will be updated frequently during the initial release of Arches Collector. You can find documentation on Arches Collector Manager and Arches Collector on Arches Read the Docs.

Arches Collector Manager
Introduction to Arches Collector
Arches Collector Workflow

If you have any questions about Arches Collector that are not answered in these documentation guides, please post them on the Arches Community Forum

FAQ

Is Arches Collector open-source software?
Yes. Arches Collector is an open-source mobile app.

Does Arches Collector work offline in the field, if a Wi-Fi or network connection is unavailable?
Yes. Data entered or edited on the app is stored on the device and can be synced when a connection is available. Arches Collector is purpose built for cultural heritage professionals who work in the field collecting data in remote places without a network connection.

Can Arches Collector be used as a stand-alone mobile app?
No. Arches Collector is a companion app for your existing Arches instance and is not deployable without first creating and activating a Project in Arches Collector Manager.

Is there a limit to the number of mobile app users?
No. There is no limit to the number of users. Arches Collector is capable of handling large number of users for crowdsourcing or large group purposes.

Can images be uploaded to Arches Collector?
Yes. The app has capabilities to upload an image from the device and point and shoot directly from the app.

Is Arches Collector compatible with Arches v3?
No. Arches Collector is compatible and fully integrated with Arches v4.4.2 or higher (released June 2019).

Privacy Notice: *The Arches Collector app is designed to be used with specific instances/implementations of the Arches platform. Any data collected through the app is not shared with the app publisher, and is governed by the specific privacy policies of each instance's owner; please consult that entity's privacy policy.*