

ARCHIVE ANNEX RENOVATION APPROVED BY COUNTY COMMISSION

At its' February 26th, 2018, the County Commission approved the transfer of \$250,000 from the archive reserve fund into a budget spending line to fund the renovation of the Archive Annex. Thomas Weems will serve as architect for the project, which should get underway later this spring or summer.

Originally serving as the county jail, this space is located on the top two floors at the rear addition of the Washington County Courthouse in downtown Jonesborough. Since 2013, the space has been housing county records. The project involves providing a stable environment for the long-term preservation of these records. During the project, a new heat and air system will be installed, lighting and electrical upgrades will be made, and 100 exterior windows will be enclosed from the inside. This window treatment will maintain the original street view of the building. All this work will provide a stable climate for record storage as well as increasing accessibility and security.

Records from 13 different county offices and departments are currently housed in the Annex. This includes records stored at one time at the Downtown Center in Johnson City, as well as records transferred from elsewhere in the courthouse and from the Justice Center in Jonesborough. The records housed in the Archive Annex cover primarily the period from the 1960s into the early 21st Century.