

THE ABRAHAM LINCOLN LIBRARY AND MUSEUM  
SEPTEMBER DIGITAL HISTORY WORKSHOP

# Digital Resources at The Library of Congress



ACCESSING | EXPLORING | SAVING



# LoC Digital Collections

HOW HARD IS IT TO NAVIGATE?

Whereas a researcher, genealogist, or history buff may have once had to travel to Washington, D.C to search through one of the many collections found at the Library of Congress, the Digital Collections page makes searching through some of the holdings at the Library of Congress as easy as turning on a home or library computer.

This guide provides an introduction to the digitized collections found at the Library of Congress. The materials found on the website include not only written material, but audio and video as well.

# Sample Collections

## Revolutionary War

George Washington Papers  
Thomas Jefferson Papers  
Alexander Hamilton Papers

## Civil War

Civil War Collection  
Abraham Lincoln Papers  
Clara Barton Papers  
Confederate States of America Records

## WWI

John J. Pershing Papers  
Posters: World War I Posters

## WWII

Farm Security Administration/Office of War  
George S. Patton Papers  
After the Day of Infamy: "Man-on-the-Street" Interviews Following the Attack on Pearl Harbor

## Vietnam

Vietnam-Era Prisoner-of-War/Missing-in-Action Database

## September 11

September 11, 2001 Web Archive  
September 11, 2001, Documentary Project

## Architecture

Historic American Buildings  
Survey/Historic American Engineering Record/Historic American Landscapes Survey

## Military

Veterans History Project  
Military Battles and Campaigns

## Music

Music for the Nation: American Sheet Music, ca. 1820-1860, 1870-1885  
National Jukebox

## Newspapers

Chronicling America  
Stars and Stripes: The American Soldiers' Newspaper of World War I, 1918-1919  
Japanese-American Internment Camp Newspapers, 1942-1946

## Politics

Printed Ephemera: Three Centuries of Broadsides and Other Printed Ephemera

## Professional/Honorary/Volunteer Organizations

Manuscript Division Web Archive

# Getting started

Library of Congress > Digital Collections

Subscribe Share/Save

## Digital Collections

### Featured Content

- Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering...
- Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers
- Farm security administration/office of war information ...
- Cities and Towns
- Civil War Maps

Results: 1-40 of 299 | Refined by: Part of: Digital Collections

### Refine your results

Subject	Count
American History	92
Performing Arts	74
Government, Law & Politics	65
World Cultures & History	62

## Digital Collections

View Select Go Sort By Select Go

**STEP 1:** Access the Digital Collections at <https://www.loc.gov/collections/>

This is a good starting point for any collection located at the Library of Congress. Selecting a specific collection on this page can lead the research to other collections that may be of use.


**STEP 2:** Orient yourself to the page:

- A search box for all collections is located at the top of the page.
- Popular collections are located in the "Featured Content" bar.
- The full list of collections is located just below "Featured Content."
- Results can be refined in the left-hand toolbar.

# Search across collections

## Digital Collections


View   Sort By



**COLLECTION**  
**Civil War Soldier in the Wild Cat Regiment : Selections from the Tilton C. Reynolds Papers**

Comprising 164 items (359 digital images), this online presentation includes correspondence, photographs, and other materials dating between 1861 and 1865 documenting the Civil War experience of Captain Tilton C. Reynolds, a member ...


[View 174 Items](#)



**COLLECTION**  
**Liljenquist Family Collection of Civil War Photographs**

More than 2,000 special portrait photographs, called ambrotypes and tintypes, and small card photos called cartes de visite represent both Union and Confederate soldiers during the American Civil War (1861-1865). The portraits ...


[View 1,711 Items](#)



**COLLECTION**  
**Washington During the Civil War: The Diary of Horatio Nelson Taft, 1861-1865**

This collection represents three manuscript volumes that document daily life in Washington, D.C., through the eyes of U.S. Patent Office examiner Horatio Nelson Taft (1806-1888), including Taft's connection with Abraham Lincoln and ...

[View 7 Items](#)



**COLLECTION**  
**Nathan W. Daniels Diary and Scrapbook**

The papers of Union army officer and Freedmen's Bureau advocate Nathan W. Daniels (1836-1867), spanning the years 1861-1867, consist of three volumes of a handwritten diary with photographs, illustrations, and newspaper clippings ...

[View 10 Items](#)

**STEP 1:** You can choose to search through information located in all digital collections. Access the search bar located at the top of the page. Make certain that the drop-down tab reads "Digital Collections."

For this exercise, let's look for "Civil War Regiments"

**STEP 2:** The results page will pull up a number of collections that may be of interest.

We note that one collection focuses on "the Wildcat Regiment." If we wish to explore this collection further, we click on the collection.

**STEP 3:** Although only a few collections come up with this particular search, there is the chance that a search can produce numerous results. To better examine the results, in the right corner we can view the results by "List," "Gallery," "Grid," or "Slideshow." We can select "Sort by" and choose to organize the results by "Relevance," "Title," "Date," or "Shelf Order."

# Search within a collection

**Search:** by [Keyword](#) | **Browse:** by [Names](#) | [Subjects](#) | [Manuscript Titles](#) | [Geographic Locations](#) | [List of Recordings](#)

*After the Day of Infamy: "Man-on-the-Street" Interviews Following the Attack on Pearl Harbor* presents approximately twelve hours of opinions recorded in the days and months following the bombing of Pearl Harbor from more than two hundred individuals in cities and towns across the United States. On December 8, 1941 (the day after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor), Alan Lomax, then "assistant in charge" of the Archive of American Folk Song (now the Archive of Folk Culture, American Folklife Center), sent a telegram to fieldworkers in ten different localities across the United States, asking them to collect "man-on-the-street" reactions of ordinary Americans to the bombing of Pearl Harbor and the subsequent declaration of war by the United States. A second series of interviews, called "Dear Mr. President," was recorded in January and February 1942. Both collections are included in this presentation. They feature a wide diversity of opinion concerning the war and other social and political issues of the day, such as racial prejudice and labor disputes. The result is a portrait of everyday life in America as the United States entered World War II.

This online presentation includes one essay: "Making and Maintaining the Original Recordings." Also included are biographies of the fieldworkers who conducted and arranged the interviews, complete transcripts of the interviews, related manuscripts, and original disc sleeves. This presentation was made possible with the generous support of the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute and the New Deal Network.

The mission of the Library of Congress is to make its resources available and useful to Congress and the American people and to sustain and preserve a universal collection of knowledge and creativity for future generations. The goal of the Library's National Digital Library Program is to offer broad public access to a wide range of historical and cultural documents as a contribution to education and lifelong learning. Digital collections from other institutions complement and enhance the Library's own resources.

The Library of Congress presents these documents as part of the record of the past. These primary historical documents reflect the attitudes, perspectives, and beliefs of different times. The Library of Congress does not endorse the views expressed in these collections, which may contain materials offensive to some readers.

## Special Presentation:

[Making and Maintaining the Original Recordings](#)

### Understanding the Collection

[About the Collection](#)

[Biographies](#)

[Related Resources](#)

[Collection Connections](#)

### Working with the Collection

[Building the Digital Collection](#)

How to Access: [Audio](#) | [Photos](#)

[How to Order Audio Reproductions](#)

[Copyright and Other Restrictions](#)

[Acknowledgments](#)

**Tip 1:** Collections share similarities in set-up, but each collection has its own unique search features.

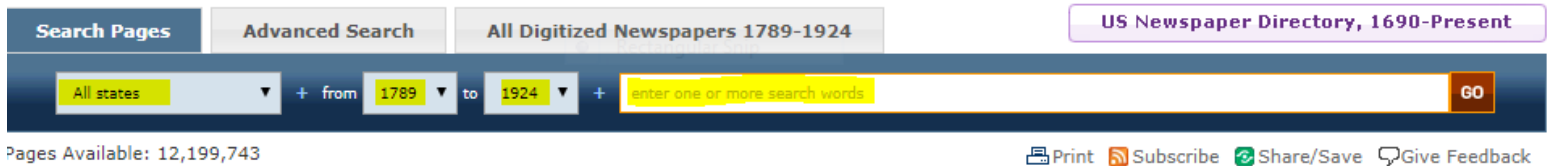
On most collection pages, you will be able to search within the collection by keyword, or you can browse if you are looking out of curiosity.

**Tip 2:** Some collections simply hold manuscripts. Others, however, may include audio or video. If audio or video is included in the collection, the LoC provides special instructions on how to view those items. Look for "Understanding the Collection," which typically appears on the first page for access tips.

**Tip 3:** Have specific questions about a collection? Librarians at the LoC are incredibly helpful. At certain times of the day, they hold live chats. At other times, they offer a web form. Both contact options can be found at:

<https://www.loc.gov/rr/asklib/ask-memory.html>

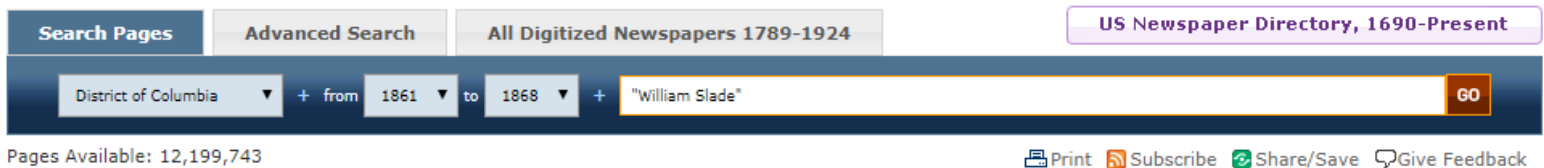
# Tips for search terms



Search Pages    Advanced Search    All Digitized Newspapers 1789-1924    US Newspaper Directory, 1690-Present

All states + from 1789 to 1924 + enter one or more search words GO

Pages Available: 12,199,743    Print    Subscribe    Share/Save    Give Feedback



Search Pages    Advanced Search    All Digitized Newspapers 1789-1924    US Newspaper Directory, 1690-Present

District of Columbia + from 1861 to 1868 + "William Slade" GO

Pages Available: 12,199,743    Print    Subscribe    Share/Save    Give Feedback

**Tip 1:** Today's spelling is not always similar to the spelling of the past.

For help with 19th century spelling, visit the Oxford English Dictionary's notes on 19th century spelling variations at

<http://public.oed.com/aspects-of-english/english-in-time/nineteenth-century-english-an-overview/>

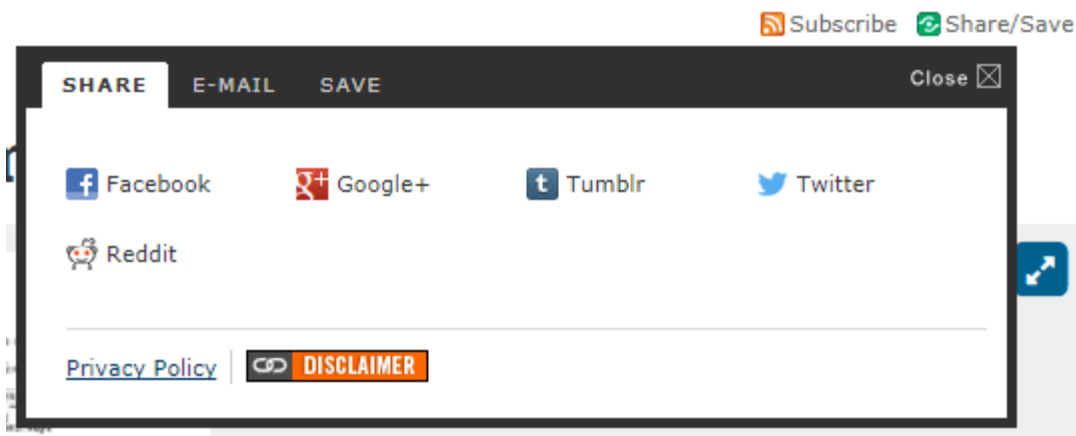
**Tip 2:** Remember, the present names given to past events were not always the given names in the given period. The Civil War took on a number of names, ranging from "the war" to "the rebellion."

Likewise, the White House was often referred to as the "Executive Mansion."

**Tip 3:** To maximize the best results, use quotation marks to isolate words or phrases that might appear together.

For example, "the Republican Court" was a common phrase used for the presidential administrations of the 19th century. Writing these words separately can complicate the search results.

# How to save & share results



Most digital collections at the Library of Congress have a "Share/Save" button at the top right corner of the collection page.

Other collections offer the opportunity for the viewer to directly download a source.

Share a source directly to Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Google+, Tumblr, Reddit by selecting the "Share" tab.

Email a specific source by selecting the "E-Mail" tab.

Save a particular source to your browser by selecting "Save" in the top right corner of the Chronicling America page.



# Notes

SEPTEMBER 7, 2017 | 3:00 PM | ABRAHAM LINCOLN LIBRARY AND MUSEUM