Introducing the Donated Collection Explorer

The National Archives safeguards billions of documents and materials created in the course of business conducted by the U.S. government. In addition to these Federal records, the National Archives holds collections of donated historical materials, many of which pertain to and illustrate historical activities of the United States, or document a significant program or activity of the U.S. government.


To help you navigate the universe of records held at the National Archives, we are excited to introduce the third in a series of online finding aid tools: the Donated
This next-generation finding aid includes 826 Collections and provides access to over 829,000 digital pages available in the National Archives Catalog. Within the Donated Collection Explorer, you will find donated materials that document significant programs or activities of the U.S. government, materials with historical or intrinsic value, donations from notable military figures, records from polar exploration, wars, and more.
Statement Dictated by General George S. Patton, Jr., 6/11/1945, National Archives Identifier 128215416, From the George S. Patton, Jr. Papers Collection.

As with our other next-generation finding aids, this data visualization allows you to browse NARA’s holdings by donated collection. Click on any collection name to see an overview of the scans available online, and find links to records in the Catalog, organized by format.

Each Donated Collection page has a progress bar that provides an estimate of the percentage of textual pages that are currently available online.
Harmon Foundation Collection

Number of Textual Scans online
The progress bar provides an estimate of the percentage of textual pages in this Collection Group that are available online. Some Collection Groups have only one format while others have multiple formats.

0.20%

Browses Our Records

Photographs

Explore

Video and Audio

Explore

Our work isn’t finished yet. We have more digitizing to do.
In the meantime, explore descriptions of our records. These records, though not yet digitized, are available at National Archives locations.
Give our [Donated Collection Explorer](#) a try! We’d love to hear your input on how this might be beneficial to you in your research, and your ideas about how we could further refine our
data visualizations for future projects. Also, the data powering our Explorers will be updated regularly, so check back to see what we have added and what changes have been made.

Antarctica Oil #682 Bellinghausen/ King George Island/ South Shetland Islands, ca. 1969. National Archives Identifier 5634739. From the Lee W. Court Paintings Collection

Interested in our other next-generation finding aids? Check out these tools to help you with your research online:

- **Record Group Explorer**: includes all of NARA's Record Groups (over 600) and provides access to over 140 million of our digital pages.

- **Presidential Library Explorer** includes 14 Presidential Libraries and provides access to over 1.6 million digital pages.
Vigée-Lebrun: "Bildnis der Koenigin Marie-Antoinette." National Archives Identifier 12015367. From the Monuments Men Foundation for the Preservation Art Collection

Transcribe Records as a Citizen Archivist

**Donated Collection Explorer mission**

Join us in celebrating the launch of the Donated Collection Explorer by transcribing a variety of records that can be viewed in the Explorer.

[Get started transcribing!](#)

New to the Citizen Archivist program? Learn how to [register and get started](#).
Illustrated Map of Antarctic Region, ca. 1650. National Archives Identifier 70187163. From the Albert Lincoln Washburn Papers Collection

Start your research on History Hub

Have a question? Find your answer on History Hub!

For those looking to conduct research or learn more, we encourage you to browse recent posts and questions on History Hub:
Where can I find records of my mother’s Red Cross service during World War II?

I’m looking for Robert McNamara's memos and documents as Secretary of Defense.

Where can I locate records & photos of Alaskan Malamutes in the Army?

See our recent newsletter for more details, information, and instructions about using History Hub for your research.

Make History Hub your first stop! You can ask—or answer—questions on History Hub, or see if your question has already been answered.

COVID-19 Update

The National Archives is committed to the health and safety of our visitors and staff. We are closely monitoring the situation regarding COVID-19, and we are working with public health officials and our counterpart agencies to monitor and respond to the evolving conditions and following CDC guidelines.

For more information, visit https://www.archives.gov/coronavirus

Questions or comments? Email us at catalog@nara.gov.