THE F STANDS FOR FOIA
By Britney Crawford

As amended in 1974, and approved by Congress, the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requires all Federal Government agencies to respond to requesters within “twenty working days.” The staff in the National Archives Special Access and FOIA Division at the National Archives at College Park knows this 20-working-day mandate well.

This newly expanded office of 22 staff consists of the FOIA Team and Special Access Team. Both play an integral role in meeting the National Archives and Records Administration’s (NARA) responsibilities under the FOIA. The archivists and archives technicians assigned to these teams are responsible for logging and tracking requests, making proper assignments, and ultimately providing responses for archival records under the FOIA.

This staff is just one organization within NARA responsible for administering the FOIA. Other units include Presidential Libraries, General Counsel, National Declassification Center, and field offices in Research Services including the National Personnel Records Center. Like the Special Access and FOIA division, these organizations are required to enforce the FOIA’s 20-working-day response mandate.
In addition to its FOIA responsibilities, the Special Access and FOIA division is also responsible for processing and providing access to highly sensitive collections of records such as the Records of the Watergate Special Prosecution Force (Record Group 460) and Records Related to Special Prosecutors and Independent Counsels (Record Group 449). The JFK Assassination Records Collection is one of the largest collections under this office’s purview. This NARA division is currently processing over 30,000 documents for mandated release in October 2017.

HOW DOES THIS OFFICE’S WORK AFFECT RESEARCHERS WHO ARE SEEKING ARCHIVAL RECORDS SUBJECT TO THE FOIA?

The recent increase in staff and resources, and active engagement with NARA’s research community, allows the Special Access and FOIA staff to improve communication and provide access to records requested under the FOIA. We will also proactively disclose information and records to the public to every extent possible.

RESPONDING TO FOIA CUSTOMERS

In fiscal year 2015, this office received 1,292 FOIA requests. Out of those requests, 897 are now processed and closed. Thanks to the hard work put into the triage process (an informal reference procedure to provide an overview of the records requests and expectations), half of all incoming FOIA requests to this office were resolved and closed within 20 working days.

INCREASE PUBLIC COMMUNICATION AND UNDERSTANDING

The Special Access and FOIA staff is working with NARA’s web team to develop a page that links archival records in the the National Archives Catalog. The digital files will be arranged and uploaded to NARA’s Electronic FOIA Reading Room specifically for archival records. Users will be able to access archival records released under the FOIA from this digital Reading Room as well as from the National Archives Catalog. The Reading Room is on schedule for release in 2017.

ACCESS FOR JFK CUSTOMERS

The JFK Assassination Records Collection web page contains multiple digital files uploaded from previous releases since the collection’s origination in 1992. The processing team for this collection continues to meet their project goals. Due to their work, NARA plans to finish on schedule and release the records digitally in October 2017.

ACCESS FOR ON-SITE CUSTOMERS

In this past fiscal year, the team screened over 1,500 cubic feet of records “on demand” in the research room at the National Archives at College Park, MD, benefiting researchers there on a daily basis.

PROACTIVE DISCLOSURE

Under a Special Access Review project, staff began to review and make available files related to the Martin Luther King, Jr., Assassination Investigation (MURKIN). A 15-volume case file from Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Jackson Field Office (157-JN-1986) is now available online. Additionally, FBI Headquarters and Memphis Field Office files have gone through review and are being prepared for scanning. Once this is complete, review of the remaining Field Office files, using a prioritized list, will result in routine releases.
RIGHT: Civil Rights March on Washington, D.C. [Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. speaking.]
National Archives Identifier: 542068

FEATURE

STEPS TO FILE A FOIA

As part of NARA’s mission to Make Access Happen, the Special Access and FOIA staff will continue to provide access through the FOIA. If you would like to file a FOIA for archival records in NARA’s custody, the office recommends the following steps:

**Step 1:** Visit www.archives.gov to learn about NARA’s holdings and research our online catalog to determine if your records are subject to the FOIA. A large percentage of NARA’s archival records are open to the public and do not require a FOIA request.

**Step 2:** If the records of interest are subject to the FOIA, visit our Freedom of Information Act page for an overview of NARA’s guidance and regulations regarding archival records and FOIA requests. You can also visit NARA’s FOIA Reading Room to locate files that have been previously digitized and released under the FOIA. To learn what has been previously released by the National Declassification Center (NDC) following declassification review, visit the Releases Entries web page.

**Step 3:** When you decide to file a FOIA for archival records, submit your request directly to the Special Access and FOIA division.

Email: specialaccess_foia@nara.gov
U.S. mail: Special Access and FOIA, Room 5500, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740
Fax: (301) 837-1864

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have questions, speak directly to a Customer Service representative, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (excluding Federal holidays), at 301-837-3190

If you discover that your records are located in a NARA field unit or Presidential Library, contact that specific facility for further information prior to submitting a FOIA request. A list of facilities is located on our web page.

ADDITIONAL FOIA RESOURCES

Office of Government Information Services-FOIA Ombudsman
National Declassification Center Blog
Department of Justice Office of Information Policy
Freedom of Information Act Guide
FOR SOME TIME, ONE OF THE GOALS OF THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES AT ATLANTA HAS been to better connect with academic researchers. With holdings from over 100 different record groups and approaching 200,000 cubic feet of material, we have long felt the vast majority of our holdings were unknown and underused. In recent years, we’ve made significant strides to change that. Beginning with our first annual symposium in 2012, Atlanta has made dozens of universities and hundreds of researchers aware of our holdings. Each year, our annual symposium results in new researchers exploring more records. These researchers range from high school students to undergraduates and postdoctoral Ph.D.’s working on a vast array of historical subjects. Our next symposium focuses on public health and will take place on September 17, 2016.

Beginning in 2015, the history department at neighboring Clayton State University asked the National Archives at Atlanta to collaborate in redesigning their senior seminar and historiography courses. Their history professors are seeking to give students “hands-on” experience by working with the raw materials of history and at the same time develop new scholarship. This relationship is the beginning of a significant collaborative arrangement between the Archives and Clayton State University. Working with the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) staff, professors will identify potential projects for their students to write about and delve into records that support the topics. Students won’t be the only scholars researching topics, however. Clayton State history faculty plan on developing their own research based on our holdings to produce scholarly articles for publication.

This initiative dovetails ideally with NARA’s mandate to make access happen. At our initial meeting, the questions the historians posed to NARA staff helped us consider our holdings in different ways. For example, we were asked if holdings from Record Group 4, U.S. Food Administration, could be used for insight into women’s history during the early 20th century. We didn’t have an immediate answer to this question, but we certainly will investigate.

Having a National Archives facility adjacent to a state university as well as to the Georgia Archives offers us a unique opportunity for collaboration between our institutions. It also offers a way for NARA employees, in this case Research Services and Education and Public Programs staff, an opportunity to collaborate. Promoting the rich holdings of our facility to the academic community helps us to realize the promise of our location and fulfill NARA’s strategic goals.

For more information, please visit:
National Archives at Atlanta: http://www.archives.gov/atlanta
Clayton State University at: http://www.clayton.edu/arts-sciences/humanities/History
New from the National Archives at Boston

By Joseph P. Keefe

OUR COLLEAGUES AT FAMILYSEARCH.ORG HAVE RECENTLY FINISHED DIGITIZING AND putting online a new original series that will be of interest to genealogists and historians alike—the Massachusetts, Salem, and Beverly Crew Lists and Shipping Articles. This is the first time these records have been captured on microfilm or digitally. The series consists of three original collections from the National Archives at Boston:

• Crew lists and returns of seamen for the Port of Salem and Beverly, compiled 1797–1818. National Archives Identifier 1600758
• Shipping articles for the Port of Salem and Beverly, 1810–1899. National Archives Identifier 1600870
• Crew lists for the Port of Salem and Beverly, 1787–1934. National Archives Identifier 1600759

The content of the records vary by record type, but researchers may find any of the following:
• Name of ship and port of departure
• Ship’s arrival date and port of entry
• Names of crew members
• Position in the ship’s crew
• When and where engaged as a member of the crew
• Age
• Gender
• Race
• Nationality
• Height
• Weight
• Physical marks or peculiarities
The records are arranged chronologically by year.

1790 - SALEM’S SUCCESS
When the United States was young, ships from Salem, Massachusetts helped to build the new nation’s economy by carrying cargo back and forth from the West to Asia. By 1790, Salem was the sixth largest city in the country, and the richest per capita. International trade with Europe, the West Indies, China, Africa, and Russia produced great wealth and prosperity in Salem. The success of maritime trade became the bedrock of the national economy. In 1790, customs duties on imported goods contributed 90 percent of all Federal revenue. Many of these goods were sold in the United States. Other commodities brought back from the East Indies were sold in Europe. This success—commonly referred to as the China trade (including the East Indies)—also contributed to a national spirit. Sailors returning from sea shared stories of the exotic people and scenery that they encountered. American homes were soon decorated with imports crafted by Eastern artisans. America was growing as a nation both financially and culturally, and the name Salem was known in ports around the world.

BEGINNING IN 1803
Beginning in 1803, before a vessel could depart on a foreign voyage, the master had to deliver a list of the crew (verified by his oath) to the customs collector at that port. The collector then supplied the master with a certified copy of the list (copied in a uniform hand) along with a Clearance Certificate. At this time, the master entered into a
$400 bond to exhibit the crew list to the first boarding officer he encountered upon return to a U.S. port. Once there, the master was required to produce the persons named and described in the crew list to give account for any crew members not present. Notes certifying sickness, discharge, or desertion (usually signed by a consular official) were often included with the original list in order to account legally for individuals not present.

**MID-19TH CENTURY**

In the mid-19th century, Salem evolved into an important manufacturing and retail center. Irish and French Canadian immigrants poured into Salem to work on its new leather and shoe factories or at the Naumkeag Steam Cotton Company. Italian and Eastern European immigrants began arriving in the early 1900s to take advantage of Salem’s prosperity. By 1914, the population of Salem had swelled to 40,000. Between 1799 and 1934, over 15,000 voyages to foreign ports originated from Salem, Massachusetts.

It took over a year for the digitization team from FamilySearch to film this series from original records. The collections were filmed at the National Archives regional facility in Waltham, Massachusetts. The records are arranged chronologically for the most part.

You can view this collection by visiting the FamilySearch page for Massachusetts, Salem, and Beverly Crew Lists and Shipping Articles at [https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Massachusetts,_Salem_and_Beverly_Crew_Lists_and_Shipping_Articles_(FamilySearch_Historical_Records)](https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Massachusetts,_Salem_and_Beverly_Crew_Lists_and_Shipping_Articles_(FamilySearch_Historical_Records)).
Though several parks predate the agency, 2016 marks the 100th anniversary of the creation of the National Park Service (NPS). While events and commemorations will take place throughout the year—at the more than 400 sites deemed worthy of protection and preservation—one can also celebrate the history and heritage of the National Park Service in Record Group 79, Records of the National Park Service at National Archives facilities nationwide.

The National Archives at Denver holds 2,800 cubic feet of National Park Service records. Some of those files even come from a park that we can see from our parking lot. As you exit Interstate 25 in northern Colorado, and turn west toward the National Archives at Denver facility, one feature stands out on the horizon—Long’s Peak. The 14,259-foot snowcapped mountain, nearly 50 miles west of the archives, is the centerpiece of the Rocky Mountain National Park and is celebrating its 101st anniversary this year.

While President Wilson signed the legislation creating the park on January 26, 1915, the park dedication did not occur until September 4 of that year. The accompanying two photographs from our holdings show a few of the several thousand visitors who attended the ceremony in Horse shoe Park. Local newspapers proclaimed it the largest gathering of automobiles in Colorado at the time. Local accounts also reported—in typical fashion for Colorado weather—that rain plagued the beginning of the ceremony but soon gave way to sunshine. With the parting of the clouds, Long’s Peak emerged as though scripted for the ceremony.

The National Archives at Denver holds records for many other national parks and monuments throughout the American West. If you are in the area taking in the preserved splendors of America, stop in and learn more about the creation and maintenance of these natural treasures.

Visit us online at www.archives.gov/denver.
THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES AT DENVER RECENTLY ACCESSIONED 526 CUBIC FEET OF records created by two Forest Service regional offices in Denver, CO (Region 2), from 1897 to 1984; and Ogden, UT (Region 4), from 1901 to 1962. The records encompass all aspects of the Forest Service’s work—scientific, commercial, conservation, engineering, educational, recreational, and protective. Between the two regions, the records describe activities in nearly four dozen national forests in seven states: Colorado, Idaho, Nebraska, Nevada, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming.

These records were previously unscheduled and languished for years in the Denver Federal Records Center. To accession them, someone had to examine each box to match the contents with current records schedules in order to determine which files met the criteria for permanent retention. Beginning in 2007, Denver archival staff undertook that task. With concurrence of the Forest Service’s national records officers, we now have custody of these valuable historical records, and they are available for research.

Some of the records actually predate the creation of the Forest Service. (The agency was created in 1905 when responsibility for management of the nation’s forest reserves was transferred from the Department of the Interior to the Department of Agriculture.) These early records include scientific studies and reports relating to watersheds and timber reserves. Eventually, these were passed on to the Denver and Ogden regional offices, which were established in 1908.

These selected records are a wonderful variety of documents and include ranger diaries, photographs, maps, road plans, meeting and conference agendas, fire reports, wildlife and plant studies, mining and grazing information, timber sale data, official correspondence, copies of newspaper and magazine articles, public service radio and television scripts, and of course many items relating to Smokey Bear.

These two new series bring the National Archives at Denver’s total holdings of Forest Service records (Record Group 95) to almost 2,500 cubic feet.
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AT FORT WORTH

Finding Aids Now Available Online

By Meg Hacker

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AT FORT WORTH STAFF RECENTLY MADE SELECTED FINDING aids available online. Fort Worth has a variety of guides, reference information papers, lists, and other finding aids for archival holdings at their facility. Here’s a list of those that are now online:

- Guide to Archival Holdings at the National Archives at Fort Worth, 1994. This is a comprehensive guide to the region’s archival holdings at the record group level. For each record group it includes an administrative history; inclusive dates and volume; narrative describing source, content, and types of records; a list of finding aids; a list of related microfilm held by the region; and remarks about restrictions. The entries provide details not available in the Guide to Federal Records in the National Archives of the United States, 1995.
- Records of the United States Food Administration, Record Group 4.
- Records of the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering, Record Group 8.
- Records of the National Recovery Administration Region VIII, Record Group 9.
- Records of the Veterans Administration, Rehabilitation Division, Record Group 15.
- Records of the Office of the Secretary of Agriculture, Record Group 16.
- Records of the Army Air Force, Record Group 18.
- Records of the United States District Courts in Arkansas, Record Group 21.
- Records of the United States District Courts in Louisiana, Record Group 21.
- Records of the United States District Courts in Oklahoma, Record Group 21.
- Records of the Bureau of Naval Personnel, Record Group 24.
- Records of the National Labor Relations Board, Record Group 25.
- Records of the Weather Bureau, Record Group 27.
- Records of the United States Shipping Board Gulf District, Record Group 32.
- Records of the Extension Service, Record Group 33.
- Records of the General Land Office, Record Group 49.
- Records of the United States Geologic Survey, Record Group 57.
- Records of the Farmers Home Administration, Record Group 96.
- Chinese Immigration and Chinese in the United States: Records in the Regional Archives of the National Archives and Records Administration, Reference Information Paper (RIP) 99, 1996. Selected information pertains to records at the Fort Worth facility.
- List of American Indian Rolls of Microfilm Available at the National Archives at Fort Worth.
- Online Catalog NARA’s online catalog contains selected information pertaining to records in Fort Worth. See our search tips to find out how to limit your searches to records there.
- Visit the National Archives at Fort Worth online at: http://www.archives.gov/fort-worth/index.html.
THE GEORGE W. BUSH PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM LAUNCHED ITS NEW Digital Library this past August 2015.

Since the library’s Presidential records became subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) on January 20, 2014, the number of records open and available to the public has surpassed 1 million pages. To make sure that we’re meeting the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) strategic goal of digitizing its holdings, the library has acquired two high-speed scanners and is using interns and volunteers to “Make Access Happen” digitally.

The library has posted documents from 12 collections created by FOIA requests on its Digital Library, including:
• Selected dates from President George W. Bush’s Daily Diary
• Final copies of unclassified HSPDs (Homeland Security Presidential Directives) and NSPDs (National Security Presidential Directives)
• FOIAs with regard to Jeb Bush, Barack Obama, and Prince Charles
• An electronic FOIA regarding emails sent or received by assistants to the President on September 11, 2001.

The library is now working closely with the NARA’s Office of Innovation to ensure that these records, as well as future digitized records, are also included in the National Archives Catalog.

The staff hopes that researchers near and far have the opportunity to access the records of the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum.

Webpage: https://www.georgewbushlibrary.smu.edu/

Document from 2014-0401-F; Records Management, White House Office of - Subject Files - P0010 (Messages Received by the President), 677741)
GERALD R. FORD PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

Collection Openings

By Jeremy Schmidt

Test vehicle at the Federal Railroad Administration’s High Speed Ground Test Center in Pueblo, Colorado, ca. 1974. Department of Transportation photograph by J. L. Proffitt. John Barnum Papers, Box D3, folder “5/14/74 - National Transportation Week (1)”

John W. Barnum Papers, 1971–78 (91 linear feet), Deputy Secretary of Transportation. Materials related to domestic and international transportation issues, railroad reorganization, Amtrak, Conrail, northeast rail crisis, highway legislation, no-fault vehicle insurance, Trans-Alaska Pipeline, Civil Aeronautics Board investigations, international air travel agreements, and Law of the Sea negotiations.

Gerald and Betty Ford Special Materials Collection, 1941–2007 (19 linear feet). Letters, photographs, and books deemed to have special value by the Fords. The materials were sent by world leaders, politicians, celebrities, prominent individuals, and personal friends.

James T. Lynn Papers, 1973–77 (36 linear feet), Director, Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Extensive materials related to the OMB’s activities associated with the formulation of the President’s budget, the national economy in general, especially inflation, and Federal housing programs.

East and South Asia Files, 1974–77 (34 linear feet). Substantive materials on foreign policy and defense issues for thirty countries ranging geographically from Morocco to Saudi Arabia to India. The materials provide information about such topics as military and economic assistance, regional alliances, territorial disputes, Soviet interests and activities, Middle East peace negotiations, Arab boycott, U.S. security interests in the Persian Gulf and Indian Ocean, PLO, UN, atomic energy, oil, terrorism, and human rights.
Secretary Kissinger goes over details of the Sinai II Agreement with Egyptian officials in President Sadat's beach house in Alexandria, Egypt, August 1975. White House Photographic Office - Secretary of State Photographs (Middle East Slide #9).


**Edward C. Schmults Papers, 1973–77** (14.5 linear feet), General Counsel and Undersecretary of the Treasury (Nixon administration); Deputy Counsel to President Gerald Ford. Materials related to legal determinations and advice given within the Treasury Department and White House on topics such as Watergate, General Revenue Sharing Program, Emergency Loan Guarantee Program, railway improvement, and regulatory reform.

**Roy Wetzel Papers, 1952–2011** (1,058 audio tapes, 1,264 videotapes, 11 DVDs), NBC News Journalist. Audio and video recordings primarily related to U.S. Presidential elections and politics (1952–2008), and to lesser extent U.S. local and off-year elections, American politics in general, and politics and elections in Germany, United Kingdom, and Canada.

For a complete list of collection openings and finding aids see: [http://www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov/library/newsnotes.asp](http://www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov/library/newsnotes.asp)

Advance notification to access folders within these collections may be required. Please contact the library well in advance of your trip.

**Research Travel Grants** are available to support your research trip [http://www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov/library/hpgrants.asp](http://www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov/library/hpgrants.asp)

**Digitization Projects**

Large sections from the following collections were digitized recently:

- **Benton Becker Papers** (Attorney and Adviser to President Ford); **Philip Buchen Files** (Counsel to the President); **James Cannon Files** (Executive Director, Domestic Council); **Gerald Ford Congressional Papers**; **Robert Hartmann Files** (Counsellor to the President - Communications and RNC Liaison); **Vernon Loen and Charles Leppert Files** (Congressional Relations - House); **Theodore Marrs Files** (Public Liaison)


**Digitization-on-demand** (fee service) is also available for many file units.

**Gerald R. Ford Library and Museum webpage:** [www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov](http://www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov)
IN 2015 THE KENNEDY LIBRARY RELEASED AN UPDATED FINDING AID (GUIDE) to the *Ernest Hemingway Personal Papers* to improve organization and to enable better access to the collection. Since the collection came to the library in the 1970s, several folders contained “unidentified” incoming letters from unknown authors. Naturally, this piqued our interest. By combining the new arrangement, online search engines, and digitized records, could we finally identify some of these mystery writers?

Here are two examples of how we re-searched the unidentified letters.

**CASE #1: “ONE GUT CORDES”**
Hemingway received two letters from someone who signed as both “One gut Cordes” and Bill. The letters are dated September and October 1916, and the accompanying envelopes bear a return address of 715 Springfield Pike, Wyoming, OH. The writer discusses football, camp, and girls, leading us to think that he was probably a young man around Ernest’s age (then 17).

With these clues in hand, we searched through the 1910 United States Federal Census records held by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) and digitized by Ancestry.com. After setting the geographic parameters for Wyoming, Hamilton County, Ohio, we skimmed the digitized census pages but had no luck. However, we noticed that Wyoming was a division of Springfield Township, so we went back. This time we selected the census pages for Springfield, Ohio. Fifteen enumeration districts are listed under Springfield, and six of them cover “Wyoming village.”

We scrolled through these pages until we found the street address of Springfield Pike, then house number 715. There they were—the Cordes family! So “one gut Cordes” did in fact refer to his surname. The family included a son, William A. Cordes, who was 10 years old in 1910. This meant he was born around 1900, only a year after Ernest—and it makes sense that he signed one of the letters with the nickname “Bill.” We had found our mystery writer.

In retrospect, we could have made some assumptions to get to the information more quickly. Searching the 1910 census for the name William Cordes, born around 1899, living in Wyoming, Hamilton County, Ohio, does in fact lead you to the same person. This may not always work, but employing some educated guesses is always a good tactic to use when searching census records.

**CASE #2: CHARLES FROM THE GRIPSHOLM**
Hemingway received a letter written by someone named Charles on February 17, 1938. Fortunately, Charles left many clues in the content of his letter:

> The weather at Nassau continued to be filthy for four days after you left. Ronnie and I spent most of that time in the Colonial bar. . . . I ran across Crabbe and Dalhousie at Bradley’s. . . . I’m well at work again and return to England by the *Berengaria* on March 2nd. . . . My warmest greetings to you both. I shall long remember that happy trip on the *Gripsholm*.

Since it sounds like Charles and Ernest met on a sea voyage, we started our search in the passenger lists in Ancestry’s immigration and travel records. To locate the specific trip, we searched for the name Ernest Hemingway, born in 1899, and destined for Nassau, Bahamas. Among the search results was evidence that Hemingway left Southampton, England, on January 14, 1938, aboard the ship *Gripsholm*, which was bound for Nassau. Upon inspecting the passenger manifest for this voyage, we located two British citizens named Charles: Charles H. Caves, listed as a 54-year-old manservant from Newton Mearns, Scotland, and Charles S. Evans, a 49-year-old executive from London, England. Also included are the other men mentioned in Charles’s letter: Archibald Crabbe, Earl John G. Dalhousie,

and Ronald Banon (who could be “Ronnie”). Based on this evidence, we concluded that our writer was Charles S. Evans. Further research revealed that Evans was a publisher of *West Magazine* in London. With this new information in hand, it is easy to imagine why Ernest the writer and Charles the publisher got along so well on their “happy trip” on the *Gripsholm*.

Researchers can read more about the changes and additions to the collection guide in our blog post, “Introducing the Updated Finding Aid to the Ernest Hemingway Papers”, or by contacting a reference archivist at Kennedy.Library@nara.gov.
News from the
John F. Kennedy Presidential Library

By Stacey Chandler

THE JOHN F. KENNEDY PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY STAFF CONTRIBUTE TO A PROLIFIC blog named Archivally Speaking. It covers a variety of topics including newly opened materials available for researchers and recently digitized records. Learn more about the blog at http://archiveblog.jfklibrary.org/2011/06/hello-world/.

Over the spring and summer of 2015, we worked on a number of projects, including the opening of noteworthy collections, newly digitized records, and creating find aids for researchers to explore and use. We hope that you find this work interesting and helpful.

NEWLY OPENED MATERIALS AT THE JOHN F. KENNEDY PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

Paul Rand Dixon Personal Papers
July 2015, the Paul Rand Dixon Personal Papers opened for research. This collection contains material documenting Dixon’s leadership of the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) from 1961 to 1981. There are a small number of files pertaining to his position with the U.S. Senate Antitrust and Monopoly Subcommittee from 1957 to 1961. To see collection highlights and learn more about the work that went into processing the papers, see Christina Fitzpatrick’s blog post “Newly Opened Collection: Paul Rand Dixon Personal Papers.”

William Henry Byrd Personal Papers
May 2015, the William Henry Byrd Personal Papers was opened and digitized. The collection relates to Byrd’s service as the Puerto Rico Peace Corps training camp director. Papers include training camp staff memos; personal correspondence; and Byrd’s weekly camp reports. The paper records are now fully digitized and accessible through the collection’s finding aid. Audiovisual materials include photographic prints of Byrd and his family in Puerto Rico and various Peace Corps activities. For more information about the collection, see Corbin Apkin’s blog post “Newly Opened Collection on Early Peace Corps Training Camps in Puerto Rico.”

William J. Hartigan Personal Papers
May 2015, the William J. Hartigan Personal Papers opened for research. This collection documents Hartigan’s work as Assistant Postmaster General in the Bureau of Transportation from 1961 to 1967. The collection also includes a small amount of Swearing-in of David S. Black as General Counsel of the Bureau of Public Roads by E.J. Martin and R.M. Whitten, 1961

David S. Black Personal Papers
May 2015, the David S. Black Personal Papers opened for research. Spanning the years from 1961 to 1969, this collection relates to Black’s work as General Counsel for the Bureau of Public Roads, his service in the Federal Power Commission and the Bonneville Power Administration, and his role as Undersecretary of the Department of the Interior. For more information, see Abigail Malangone’s blog post “Newly Opened Collection: David S. Black Personal Papers.”
of material relating to Hartigan’s political activity in the Democratic National Committee on both a state and national level between 1959 and 1967. To read more about the collection’s contents, see Jenny Marciello’s blog post “Collection Opening: William J. Hartigan Personal Papers.”

Ernest Hemingway Personal Papers

The collection of Ernest Hemingway Personal Papers was reprocessed and described in full for the first time in a new finding aid that debuted April 2015. The collection is arranged into nine distinct series, so it allows researchers easier access to materials of interest. For highlights and more information on the changes, see Stacey Chandler and Christina Fitzpatrick’s blog post “Introducing the Updated Finding Aid (Guide) to the Ernest Hemingway Papers.”

Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis Personal Papers

The Nancy Tuckerman series of the Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis Personal Papers opened for research in March 2015. Tuckerman was the White House Social Secretary from June 1963 until 1964, when Tuckerman was Mrs. Kennedy’s personal secretary and chief of staff. The series contains subject-based files and correspondence spanning Mrs. Kennedy’s last few months in the White House until her death in 1994. They document her interest in such topics as the redecoration of the White House, travel, arts and culture, and press coverage. For collection highlights, see Jenny Marciello’s blog post “Newly Processed Materials: Nancy Tuckerman Files of the Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis Personal Papers.”

NEWLY DIGITIZED MATERIALS AT THE JOHN F. KENNEDY PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

White House Audio Collection

In the JFK Library’s digital archives, researchers can browse nearly 11,000 textual folders; approximately 17,000 photographs; 125 moving images; and roughly 1,500 sound recordings, including the entirety of the downloadable White House Audio Collection. Many of our nearly 1,000 digitized oral history interview transcripts also link to the corresponding interview audio (listen to an example here).

White House Photographs

Digitized images from the White House Photographs (the library’s most frequently requested photograph collection) are available through the finding aid. Recently added materials covering major events are described in blog posts. In a blog post by Laura Kintz, researchers can read about the digitization of the photographs documenting President Kennedy’s trip to Italy in July 1963. Lindsay Closterman’s blog post describes the work that went into cataloging photographs from the day of the President’s death on November 22, 1963, as well as the President’s funeral services spanning November 23 through November 25, 1963.
LYNDON B. JOHNSON PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

Highlighting Head Start: The Papers of Polly Greenberg

By Brian McNerney

POLLY GREENBERG WAS A PIONEER ADMINISTRATOR IN PROJECT HEAD START and served on the front lines of the Civil Rights Movement’s epic struggle to bring opportunity and education to neglected populations. The Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential (LBJ) Library and Museum holds the Papers of Polly Greenberg, which comprise 22 boxes of archival materials recording this extraordinary woman’s experience. She established a network for the 64 Head Start centers in Mississippi named the Child Development Group of Mississippi (CDGM). Before Greenberg died in 2013, she wrote a personal narrative describing the conditions: “during the first season of the national Head Start program’s existence, thousands of unbelievably poor black families organized and participated in CDGM’s centers, feeding and caring for 12,000 children in dozens of counties.” Her papers provide an expansive look into the day-to-day struggles of the first generation of Head Start workers. It includes their exposure to racial hatred and simmering violence in Mississippi during the 1964 Freedom Summer and in the reluctant Deep South during the first years after enactment of the 1965 Civil Rights Act.

The Greenberg papers also include artwork by children, a broad array of informational literature used to promote the program at the time, and voluminous correspondence between members of CDGM and their Washington, DC, program counterparts. Accessioned by the LBJ Library in 2014 from one of Polly Greenberg’s daughters, the entire collection is open to interested researchers. The Head Start program continues to serve underprivileged and needy recipients to this day. The papers offer a poignant way to commemorate the half-century celebrations of CDGM’s helping hand to hundreds of thousands of young Americans.

Unpublished artwork from the Papers of Polly Greenberg.
INNOVATION HUB

The Innovation Hub opened in July 2015 and we have been going strong ever since.

By Dina Herbert

CITIZEN SCANNING PROJECT

Our main project at the moment is Citizen Scanning—that could be you! The Scanning Room in the Innovation Hub has National Archives scanners for researcher use and staff who can assist you with the machines. Because it is an official research room, you will need a researcher card to enter it. When you use the room, we require that you scan at least an entire folder’s worth of records. Once you’ve scanned the documents, we upload copies to our online National Archives Catalog, and you can immediately take your own copies home on your flash drive. This project is working toward our agency goal of Making Access Happen through digitization. As you contribute to the National Archives Catalog, we hope that you feel part of our digitization process and the greater goal.

In fiscal year 2015, the Citizen Scanning project scanned over 970 files and uploaded over 14,000 pages into the catalog! In just the last few months of 2015, we scanned more than 350 files with approximately 5,000 pages and added them to the catalog. You, too, can join us in the effort by helping to scan more documents to upload into the catalog.

WIKIPEDIA SPACE

In addition to the Citizen Scanning project, we have other projects and goals. The Innovation Hub is hosting the first prototype of Wikipedia Space. Developed by American University Professor Andrew Lih, with funding from the Knight Foundation, the project’s goal is to design a physical exhibit about Wikipedia and open content. The physical learning space is intended to promote understanding of Wikipedia and Wikimedia projects at cultural institutions. We are hosting this project as part of our Wikipedia engagement program because we are a site for public events involving Wikipedia, such as edit-a-thons.

TAGGING AND TRANSCRIPTION PROJECT

We are working on another project to increase tagging and transcription to our catalog. In the Hub, there are two public computers that you can use to tag and transcribe. Tagging and transcription makes the catalog more robust and searchable. By adding keywords, terms, and labels to a record, you can help others find what they need. Transcription helps improve search results and increases accessibility to our records. We are also hoping to host many transcribe-a-thons (virtual and in-person) over the course of the year, so keep an eye on the Hub website.

Let the staff know what kinds of projects and programs you want in the Hub. Email innovationhub@nara.gov at any time to start a conversation! Follow our hashtag on Twitter at #ArchivesInnovHub.
Online Reference Reports for Genealogical Research

REFERENCE REPORTS ARE BRIEF (ONE- TO FOUR-PAGE) DESCRIPTIONS OF RESEARCH strategies for frequently used records of genealogical interest in the National Archives Building, Washington, DC. Most of the records described in the reports are on microfilm, although they discuss some textual records as well. Many of the documents are also available on Ancestry, Fold3 (formerly Footnote), or Heritage Quest; however, the Reference Reports generally do not indicate which records are online. These reports listed below are also available in hard copy in the Microfilm Reading Room at the National Archives Building in Washington, DC.

The Reference Reports are arranged by general subject headings and listed by individual topic. Find links to all the Reference Reports at www.archives.gov/research/genealogy/reference-reports.html.

African American Reference Reports

Records created by post–Civil War Federal agencies are perhaps some of the most important records available for the study of African American genealogy. Reconstruction-era Federal records document the black family’s struggle for freedom and equality and provide insight into the Federal government’s policies towards the nearly 4 million African Americans freed at the close of the American Civil War. The records help bridge the gap for the transitional period from slavery to freedom. African American Reference Reports describe research strategies for some of the most frequently used records relating to African American genealogy, including service in the United States Colored Troops (USCT), Buffalo soldiers, District of Columbia emancipation records, the Freedmen’s Bureau, Freedman’s Bank, and Works Project Administration Slave Narratives.

Census Reference Reports

Article 1, Section 2, of the U.S. Constitution authorized the taking of a national census in the United States every 10 years in order to apportion representatives in the lower house of Congress. The first census was conducted in 1790 and included the 13 original states as well as the districts of Kentucky, Maine, Vermont, and the Southwest Territory (Tennessee). Initially listing only the heads of households, over time the Federal census included more detailed information and questions that reflected the social, ethnic, financial, and occupational status of ordinary Americans. Census Reference Reports describe research strategies for using the Federal decennial census from 1790 to 1940 as well as available published indexes and the Soundex. The reports also cover more specialized topics such as nonpopulation schedules for agriculture, manufacturing and industries, mortality, social statistics, and defective, dependent, and delinquent classes; early census records for the District of Columbia; enumeration district (ED) maps; and searching for African Americans in the census.

District of Columbia (Washington, DC) Reference Reports

An act of Congress on July 16, 1790 established a Federal district for the seat of the United States Government along the Potomac River on lands donated by Virginia and Maryland. Stretching from Georgetown to the Anacostia River, and later including Alexandria, the new Federal territory was officially named the District of Columbia in 1796. The Federal Government relocated to the District of Columbia from Philadelphia on December 1, 1800, with Congress exercising exclusive management and legislative control over the district via designated committees in the House and Senate. As the national capital, the District of Columbia became the center for numerous charitable organizations and institutions, including the Freedmen’s Bureau and Hospital, the Freedman’s Bank, the Government Hospital for the Insane (St. Elizabeths), the Columbia Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind, and the Board of Children’s Guardians. During the Civil War, the District also established the first Federal police force with the Metropolitan Police.

District of Columbia Reference Reports describe strategies to research these organizations as well as other topics, including the district in the Federal census, immigration into Alexandria and Georgetown, naturalizations, slavery in the Federal capital, congressional and district court records, military service during the Civil War, and DC building permits and city directories.

Civilian Federal Employees Reference Reports

Since the Federal Government was organized in 1789, individuals have served...
the United States as employees of the executive and judicial branches. They have served in Federal departments, agencies, and bureaus, as well as the Supreme Court and Federal district and circuit courts, and also as elected members of the Legislative branch (Congress). Occupations ranged from the heads of departments and agencies to entry-level caretakers, clerks, mechanics, and other types of manual labor. Until the 20th century, the Federal Government kept information about appointments and personnel with the general headquarters records of the respective executive departments. Other information about employees was often dispersed through correspondence files of the agencies for which they worked. The administrative and physical control of all former Federal personnel records, both civilian and military, became centralized after the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) was established in St. Louis, MO, in May 1966.

Citizenship Reference Reports
The National Archives holds records pertaining to various aspects of U.S. citizenship. Since 1790, naturalization records have documented the process by which foreign-born persons (aliens) became American citizens, while passports, protection certificates, and other maritime records were used by U.S. citizens and merchant seamen to verify and safeguard their American nationality while traveling abroad. During the Civil War, both the Federal Government and the Confederate States government compiled records relating to Southern civilians, or Confederate citizens, including amnesty records to restore U.S. citizenship to former Confederates once the war was over.

Citizenship Reference Reports describe research strategies for using Federal naturalization records, State Department passport applications, and seamen’s protection certificates and vessel crew lists from the U.S. Customs service and the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). The reports also cover more specialized topics including U.S. citizens who died overseas as well as certain rights and activities enjoyed by U.S. citizens, such as submitting private claims to Congress and the Southern Claims Commission, participating in New Deal public relief programs during the Great Depression, and attending significant national events such as the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition of 1876.

Immigration Reference Reports
Immigration records document the arrival of aliens and return of U.S. citizens to the United States from foreign ports from 1820 to the early 1980s. Before 1820, individual ports compiled their own records, which are not available at the National Archives. The U.S. Customs Service maintained inbound passenger and crew lists from 1820 to 1890. In 1891, the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) controlled entry into the United States. Starting in 1895, immigration officials tracked border crossings from Canada as well, and from Mexico around 1903. Immigration Reference Reports describe research strategies for some of the more frequent topics and records relating to immigration, including the arrival of specific ethnic groups such as the Irish and Chinese, New York passenger arrivals, and accessioned records for later 20th century immigration.

Military Reference Reports
From 1775 to the early 20th century, the United States engaged in numerous military conflicts, both internally and against foreign foes. These wars were fought by the U.S. military establishment, including the Regular Army, Navy, and Marine Corps, as well as by citizen volunteers in state and local militias called into Federal service. Military Reference Reports describe research strategies for frequently used records relating to military service in the Revolutionary War (1775–83), War of 1812 (1812–15), Old Indian Wars (1817–58), Mexican War (1846–48), Civil War (1861–65), Spanish-American War (1898), and Philippine Insurrection (1899–1902). Related topics also include pension and bounty-land records, prisoners of war, and some 20th-century draft records (World War I and World War II).

Native American Reference Reports
Records created by the Indian Affairs Office (later renamed the Bureau of Indian Affairs) are the main source for researching Native American genealogy in Federal records. These records relate to tribes officially recognized by the United States, including the Five Civilized Tribes (Cherokee, Chickasaw, Chickasaw, Creek, and Seminole) and other Native American nations involved in various treaties or guardianship relationships with the Federal Government. Native American Reference Reports describe research strategies for some of the most frequently used records relating to Native American genealogy, including a variety of census and enrollment rolls created by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of the Census, and published government sources (including the American State Papers and the Official Register) about Indian agents, superintendents, and Native Americans employed by the Indian Affairs Office in the Department of the Interior.

Electronic Records Reference Reports
The reference report for electronic records provides an overview of selected electronic data records in the custody of the National Archives directly relating to genealogy. Full descriptions of the series and data files listed in this report are in the National Archives Catalog. Users can search the catalog by title, National Archives Identifier, type of archival material, or keyword.

Some of the series and files listed in this report are accessible online via the Access to Archival Databases (AAD) resource at http://archives.gov/aad.
Facility Projects
National Archives Building, Washington, DC

By Timothy Edwards

ELEVATOR RENOVATION PROJECT
Three National Archives Building passenger elevators will go through renovation this year. All three elevators are located on the Research Center (Pennsylvania Avenue) side of the building. Elevators 1 and 2 are the “main” ones taken by researchers. These elevators serve the basement and up to Tier 18. Freight elevator 3 also serves the north side, but it is mostly used by staff. The National Archives Facilities office will announce the work before it takes place.

Rebuilding these elevators is critical for reliable service, and the work will continue their use for up to 25 years. The modernization will include upgrades to elevator controls, door equipment, hoist machines, and other important components to the system.

We will work on one elevator at a time so that two elevators can remain in service. During heavy traffic periods, you will likely encounter slower elevator response time and longer waits.

The Facilities office expects the project to take approximately 18 months.

SEVENTH STREET LOADING DOCK BARRIER REPLACEMENT
In mid-March, the National Archives Facilities office will replace the vehicle barrier system at the Seventh Street Loading Dock entrance. The existing wedge-type barrier has been in service for over 20 years and needs replacement. The new barrier will have an active beam that will extend across the driveway and swing vertically to allow vehicles to pass. A below-grade steel substructure cemented in place will provide extensive stopping capability of vehicles. The Facilities office plans to perform the work at night to allow the loading dock to remain open during normal business-day hours. They expect this project to take six weeks.
Nationwide Programming About the Records

THROUGH BOTH ON-SITE AND YOUTUBE PROGRAMS, YOU CAN LEARN HOW TO use Federal Government records at the National Archives for historical and genealogical research.

Please check our web pages often for schedule updates.

Know Your Records programs are lectures held throughout the month and available both on-site and on YouTube. Recordings, handouts, presentations, and captioning are available at the National Archives Know Your Records playlist on YouTube.

On-site: William G. McGowan Theater, National Archives Building, Washington, DC
On-line: US National Archives channel and Know Your Records playlist

March 30  Updates to the National Archives Catalog
April 11  National Archives at Kansas City: Historical and Genealogical Resources
May 10  Civil War Records from the National Archives and Personal Collection
May 19  Favorite Films of the National Archives Motion Picture Lab

CONTACT KNOW YOUR RECORDS STAFF:
National Archives and Records Administration
Research Customer Support
700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20408
KYR@nara.gov  |  202.357.5260
Visit us at www.archives.gov/calendar/know-your-records
Genealogy Workshops Nationwide

Genealogy Workshops Nationwide

The National Archives offers the public a nationwide program of genealogical workshops and courses. Topics include an introduction to genealogy and research into records such as census schedules, military service and pension records, and passenger lists.

APRIL

April 1  Naturalization and Passenger Arrivals, Fort Worth, TX
April 14  Brick Wall Workshops, Seattle, WA
April 16  “Help! I’m Stuck” Genealogy Consultation, Washington, DC

MARCH

March 4  Fort Smith Court Records, Fort Worth, TX
March 10  Brick Wall Workshops, Seattle, WA
March 11  “Help! I’m Stuck” Genealogy Consultation, Washington, DC

MAY

May 12  Brick Wall Workshops, Seattle, WA
May 21  “Help! I’m Stuck” Genealogy Consultation, Washington, DC

JUNE

June 9  Brick Wall Workshops, Seattle, WA
June 18  “Help! I’m Stuck” Genealogy Consultation, Washington, DC

2015 Virtual Genealogy Fair Sessions Now Online!

October 2015, the National Archives hosted a live two-day virtual Genealogy Fair via webcast on YouTube. Revisit this popular event online. Speakers included genealogy experts from National Archives locations across the nation. The video recordings and handouts for all 10 sessions remain available on YouTube.
**Nationwide Network Of Archives Facilities**  
**Research Centers & Hours**

All facilities are closed on federal holidays. Please visit a location’s web page for additional and important information before arriving in-person.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Locations</th>
<th>Days Open</th>
<th>Hours Open</th>
<th>Closed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Archives in Washington, DC</td>
<td>Monday-Saturday</td>
<td>9 a.m.-5 p.m.</td>
<td>Sundays &amp; Federal holidays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Archives at Atlanta, GA</td>
<td>Monday-Friday</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.</td>
<td>Weekends &amp; Federal holidays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Archives at Boston, MA</td>
<td>Monday-Friday</td>
<td>9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Weekends &amp; Federal holidays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Archives at Chicago, IL</td>
<td>Monday-Friday</td>
<td>8 a.m.-4:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Weekends &amp; Federal holidays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Archives at College Park, MD</td>
<td>Monday-Saturday</td>
<td>9 a.m.-5 p.m.</td>
<td>Sundays &amp; Federal holidays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Archives at Denver, CO</td>
<td>Monday-Friday</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.</td>
<td>Weekends &amp; Federal holidays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Archives at Fort Worth, TX</td>
<td>Monday-Friday</td>
<td>8 a.m.-4 p.m.</td>
<td>Weekends &amp; Federal holidays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Archives at Kansas City, MO</td>
<td>Monday-Friday</td>
<td>8 a.m.-4 p.m.</td>
<td>Weekends &amp; Federal holidays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Archives at New York City, NY</td>
<td>Monday-Friday</td>
<td>10 a.m.-5 p.m.</td>
<td>Weekends &amp; Federal holidays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Archives at Philadelphia, PA</td>
<td>Monday-Friday</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Weekends &amp; Federal holidays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Archives at Riverside, CA</td>
<td>Monday-Friday</td>
<td>8 a.m.-4 p.m.</td>
<td>Weekends &amp; Federal holidays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Archives at San Francisco, CA</td>
<td>Monday-Friday</td>
<td>7:30 a.m.-4 p.m.</td>
<td>Weekends &amp; Federal holidays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Archives at Seattle, WA</td>
<td>Monday-Friday</td>
<td>7:45 a.m.-5:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Weekends &amp; Federal holidays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Archives at St. Louis, MO</td>
<td>Monday-Friday</td>
<td>8 a.m.-4 p.m.</td>
<td>Weekends &amp; Federal holidays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Register</td>
<td>Monday-Friday</td>
<td>8:45 a.m.-5:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Weekends &amp; Federal holidays</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington National Records Center</td>
<td>Monday-Friday</td>
<td>8 a.m.-4 p.m.</td>
<td>Weekends &amp; Federal holidays</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Presidential Libraries and Museums**

- Herbert Hoover Library
- Franklin D. Roosevelt Library
- Harry S. Truman Library
- Dwight D. Eisenhower Library
- John Fitzgerald Kennedy Library
- Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum
- Richard Nixon Library, California
- Richard Nixon Library, Maryland
- Gerald R. Ford Library
- Gerald R. Ford Museum
- Jimmy Carter Library
- Ronald Reagan Library
- George Bush Library
- William J. Clinton Library
- George W. Bush Presidential Library

---

**Subscribe to Researcher News**

Receive the newsletter by email, by sending a request to KYR@nara.gov.

---

**Contact Us & Feedback**

KYR@nara.gov • 202.357.5260

National Archives and Records Administration  
Research Customer Support Division  
700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20408-0001