Visit Us!

NATIONAL ARCHIVES at NEW YORK CITY
201 Varick Street, 12th Floor, New York City, NY 10014-4811

Directions
The facility is in downtown Manhattan, 4 blocks north of the Holland Tunnel, on the 12th floor at 201 Varick Street. Please note the entrance is on Houston Street.

By PATH Train: 33rd Street train to Christopher Street. Walk south on Hudson Street to Houston Street.

By Subway: #1 train to Houston Street (corner of Houston and Varick). C or E trains to Spring Street (corner of Spring and 6th Avenue). A, B, C, D, E, F (not all run full-time) to West 4th Street (corner of West 4th and 6th Avenues).

By Bus: M5, M6, and M21 buses stop on W. Houston near Varick. M10 bus (7th and 8th Avenues) uptown on Hudson to near Houston. Some, not all, M10s downtown go as far south as Houston. M15 bus connects with the M5 and M21 at E. Houston. Take M21 bus to Varick, or M5 bus to 6th Avenue.

By Car: The facility is 4 blocks north of the Holland Tunnel and just off the West Side Highway between Canal and Christopher Streets.

Contact Us!
Research hours: Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.
Hours subject to change due to holidays, special programs, and weather. Please check our web site for current hours. We are closed on all Federal holidays.

Telephone: 866-840-1752
Fax: 212-401-1638
E-mail: newyork.archives@nara.gov
Web site: www.archives.gov/northeast/nyc/

General Information Leaflet 45, Revised 2011
At the National Archives location in New York City you can see original historical documents, photographs, maps, drawings, artifacts, and much more, from over 100 Federal agencies. By law, we preserve and provide access to permanently valuable, non-current Federal records with historical, legal, or fiscal value.

- We provide access to the records that document our nation's history.
- We sponsor programs that educate the public about archives, history, genealogy, and related subjects.
- We partner with colleges and universities, historical and genealogical societies, veterans organizations, museums, and other archives.
- We recruit and train volunteers, docents, and interns who want to learn more about history while helping researchers.

Access is free—to documents, displays and exhibits, online genealogy subscription services, workshops, events, and more.
At the National Archives you can…

Explore Our Records
History resides in the documents, photographs, illustrations and artifacts of the National Archives. Take a moment to discover your heritage and conduct your own search in our research room.

Curious about history? Writing a school paper? Searching for information about the impact of Federal programs? Anyone who needs historical information created or received by the Federal Government—historians, genealogists, lawyers, scholars, Government officials, environmentalists, students, teachers, veterans—may search our holdings for answers.

Did you ever wonder what happened after the Titanic sank? How a person secured their copyright or patent from infringement? Or how a person’s daily life was affected during wartime? Records at the National Archives at New York City can answer these and other questions. Our records are diverse in form and content, including correspondence, name lists, reports, contracts, case files, photographs, maps, posters, and drawings which document the actions and reactions of the Government and the American people as they dealt with issues and events such as immigration and naturalization, the environment, technological change, the Great Depression, war, and the evolution of a multicultural nation.

Two public research areas are available to you—the research room, for use of original documents from our holdings, and the computer search room, for use of online and microfilmed materials.

“The staff is wonderful and attentive, extremely helpful and generous, you really made our day helping us find a difficult to locate record”
—Gail A., Brooklyn, NY
At the National Archives you can...

**Look for Your Family History**
We can assist as you search for information about your family. We provide access to the Federal population censuses for all states, 1790–1930 (the 1940 census will be released on April 2, 2012); passenger arrival lists, and select naturalization records, Revolutionary War service and pension records, World War I draft registration cards for New York, New Jersey, and Puerto Rico; and World War II concentration camp records.

Free computer access is available for researchers wanting to view Ancestry, Heritage Quest, or Footnote for family history.

**Consult Our Expert Staff**
We are here to help you with your questions. In fact, we encourage you to ask us questions. If you have a specific need or just need help, our staff is here to guide you to your answers as you get started and throughout your exploration. If during your search you do not find the needle in the haystack you are seeking, you will find something unexpected, unique, and fascinating.

There is no substitute for the experience of holding an authentic historical record, for being on-site as you learn from professionals how to search documents while you discover your own connections to our nation’s past.
Discover Our Education Programs

For Educators
We assist teachers in the use of primary source documents useful in K-16 curriculum. Resources permitting, we:
- teach professional development workshops for educators at our facility and in schools.
- provide primary source documents tied to state teaching standards, in New Jersey and New York, for use in the classroom and lesson plans.
- provide copies or facsimiles of primary sources suitable for use in the classroom.
- co-sponsor workshops with educator associations
- co-sponsor workshops with recipients of Teaching American History grants.

Refresh your teaching objectives with professional development sessions. Work with our education staff to custom-design an interactive, hands-on learning experience that includes a tour of our facilities with our staff.

Primary records can support school curriculum and cover a wide scope of topics including: immigration and citizenship, the evolution of the Federal courts and their impact on everyday life, the alien and sedition acts, constitutional and civil rights, economic development, antitrust prosecutions, the environment, invention and technology, organized crime, the labor movement, 17th and 18th century admiralty cases, the arts, censorship, the New Deal, the Cold War, African Americans, Native Americans, Chinese exclusion, the Civil War, war and the home front, maritime, and so much more.

For Students
Looking for materials to use for reports in class or to support your National History Day project? Use our records:
- as primary sources for your research project,
- to demonstrate or illustrate the questions or answers in your paper,
- to enhance your presentation, or
- as research for National History Day projects.

Field Trips and On-Site Visits
Refresh your classroom activities with customized field trips. Work with our education staff to custom-design interactive, hands-on learning experience that includes a tour of our archival repository. Educators will also receive pre-visit and post-visit curriculum materials. All programs are standards based and emphasize cross-curricular connections.

Become A Docent, Volunteer or Intern
Interested in history or genealogy? As a volunteer you will help generations of people learn about their history, and you will play a vital role in the success of our programs. Whether you are between careers or working, a college or graduate student, or a retiree, a satisfying volunteer experience awaits you!
- Genealogy research assistants help patrons research their family history.
- Docents guide visitors through our facility and exhibits and answer questions about the archives.
- Preservation volunteer and interns perform various tasks including the preparation of original records for public use and data entry.

Please ask us for more information!
Make an Appointment to Use Original Records

Our staff is here and ready to assist you. Because research is time-consuming, you may need to visit more than once. Please call 866-840-1752 before visiting to assure that records are available.

Please bring identification such as a driver’s license, passport, or student ID so that we can issue you a researcher’s card.

Please plan on leaving your personal belongings in a locker. Laptop computers and digital cameras without the flash are permitted.

Get Copies of Records
For a fee, our staff will make or arrange for copies of records and provide certified copies for legal use.

You can use self-service copiers for a fee to make paper copies from microfilm.

Self-service copying of originals records may be allowed depending on the condition of the records.

National Archives and Records Administration

Anyone who has cleaned out a family attic knows the importance of keeping family records. You may have military records from relatives who served in one of the World Wars—or even the Civil War. Or pictures of your great-great grandparents on the day they became American citizens. Now imagine the task of the National Archives and Records Administration—record keepers for all historically valuable records created by agencies of your Federal Government.

From one building on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, DC, the National Archives has grown to 13 archives locations nationwide, from Atlanta to Anchorage.

“Our students really connected to the immigrants that you taught about during their field trip. They still talk about that trip and all that they learned. Thanks so much.”

—Kathleen A., Seaford, NY,