Visit Us!
NATIONAL ARCHIVES at SEATTLE
6125 Sand Point Way NE Seattle, WA 98115-7999

Directions
From I-5: Exit I-5 at Highway 520 eastbound. Exit Highway 520 at the Montlake exit. Follow Montlake Boulevard north through the University of Washington. After about a mile, Montlake merges into NE 45th Street and then Sand Point Way NE. Follow the signs to Children's Hospital. The facility is located a mile north of Children's Hospital on the west side of Sand Point Way.

From the East: 1) Take I-90 westbound and then I-5 north and follow I-5 directions or 2) take SR 520 westbound and cross the Evergreen Point Floating Bridge (it is a toll bridge). Exit SR 520 at the Montlake exit. Follow Montlake Boulevard north through the University of Washington. After about a mile, Montlake merges into NE 45th Street and then Sand Point Way NE. Follow the signs to Children's Hospital. The facility is located a mile north of Children's Hospital on the west side of Sand Point Way.

By Bus: The facility can be reached on Metro bus routes 30, 74 and 75. Bus stops are within easy walking distance.

Contact Us!
Research hours: Monday–Friday, 7:45 a.m.–4:15 p.m.
Extended hours at the National Archives: Second Saturday, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Hours subject to change due to special programs and weather. Please check our web site for current hours. We are closed on all Federal holidays.

Telephone: 206-336-5115
Fax: 206-336-5112
E-mail: seattle.archives@nara.gov
Web site: www.archives.gov/pacific-alaska/seattle

General Information Leaflet 52, Revised 2012
At the National Archives location in Seattle you can see original historical documents, photographs, maps, drawings, artifacts, and much more, from nearly 100 Federal agencies. By law, we preserve and provide access to permanently valuable, noncurrent Federal records with historical, legal, or fiscal value.

- 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 host student interns, school groups, educators, and others who want to learn more about archives.
- We recruit and train volunteers and docents 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
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, veterans—may search our holdings for answers.

Our records are diverse in form and content, including correspondence, name lists, reports, contracts, case files, photographs, maps, posters, and drawings that 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.

“… thank you for the extraordinary service which you provided in assisting with my research request … You have achieved a high standard for great customer service and it is much appreciated!”

—Tim B., Colorado

“Your staff’s diligence and commitment have contributed significantly to our family’s legacy and we are forever grateful. I will take every opportunity to ‘spread the word’ about your uncommon capabilities!”

—Darrell D., Oregon
At the National Archives you can…

Look for Your Family History
We can assist as you search for information about your family. We have the Federal population censuses for all states, 1790–1940; censuses of Pacific Northwest Indian Tribes and the Five Civilized Tribes—Choctaw, Cherokee, Chickasaw, Seminole, and Creek; selected military service and pension indexes; selected records of the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands; passenger arrival lists and indexes; and naturalization records for the Pacific Northwest. Free computer access is available for researchers wanting to view Ancestry, Heritage Quest, or Fold3 for family history.

At the National Archives you can…

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 digital 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 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, or
- to enhance your presentation

Consult Our Expert Staff
We assist teachers and home-schooling parents in the use of primary-source documents with curriculum. Resources permitting, we

- teach workshops for educators at our facility, in schools, or via webinars
- provide copies or images of primary sources suitable for use in the classroom
- co-sponsor workshops with other organizations.

Field Trips and On-Site Visits
Refresh your learning objectives with customized field trips. Work with our education staff to custom-design an interactive, hands-on learning experience.

Primary records can support school curriculums and cover a wide scope of topics including: immigration, land use, westward expansion, Indian affairs, forestry, the Great Depression, maritime, Federal courts, World War I and World War II, and more.

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.
- Preservation volunteers perform various tasks including the preparation of original records for public use and data entry.
- Education volunteers assist in the preparation of public programs materials.

Please ask us for more information!

Become a Volunteer!
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 15 archives locations nationwide, from Atlanta to Anchorage.

Our staff is here and ready to assist you. Because research is time-consuming, you may need to visit more than once. Please call 206-336-5115 before visiting to assure that records are available or e-mail us at seattle.archives@nara.gov

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 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 original records may be allowed, depending on the condition of the records.