

## LOCATING ARCHIVAL MATERIALS

There are numerous online resources available to locate primary sources throughout the world. The most important gateways to this information are listed below. Records may be duplicated from one database to the next. However, no one database covers all of the information available; so for a thorough search you should consult more than one. It should be noted that there are many small archives collections, in such agencies as local historical societies, libraries, and private organizations that may not be in these databases listed below. Some of these smaller collections may be found at the bottom of this page under Other Resources.

## FINDING ARCHIVAL MATERIALS NATIONWIDE

**ArchivesGrid:** <http://archivegrid.org/web/index.jsp>

Entries from thousands of libraries, museums, and archives make up nearly a million collection descriptions within the ArchiveGrid database. Each collection record contains a link to archives that possesses material so the researcher may arrange a visit or order copies.

**ArchivesUSA:** <http://archives.chadwyck.com/>

ArchivesUSA contains records from over 5,500 repositories and more than 161,000 collections of primary source material throughout the United States. Each entry is linked to a repository entry that helps researchers gain information about the repository's holdings, contact information, hours, location, and the home page URL when available.

**National Union Catalog of Manuscript Materials - WorldCat/OCLC:**  
<http://lcweb.loc.gov/coll/nucmc/oclcsearch.html>]

This database contains nearly 1.5 million catalog records that describe archival and manuscript collections and individual manuscripts in public, college and university, and special libraries located throughout North America and around the world.

**NARA (National Archives & Records Administration):** (homepage) <http://www.archives.gov/>  
Basic search: [http://arcweb.archives.gov/arc/basic\\_search.jsp](http://arcweb.archives.gov/arc/basic_search.jsp)

The National Archives and Records Administration serves American democracy by safeguarding and preserving the records of our Government, ensuring that the people can discover, use, and learn from this documentary heritage. We ensure continuing access to the essential documentation of the rights of American citizens and the actions of their government. We support democracy, promote civic education, and facilitate historical understanding of our national experience.

**Online Searchable Death Indexes for the USA** <http://home.att.net/~wee-monster/deathrecords.html>

A list of links to a variety of sources both on a national and state level.

## **WORLDWIDE ACCESS TO ARCHIVAL MATERIALS**

**UNESCO International Archives Portal:** [http://www.unesco.org/webworld/portal\\_archives/](http://www.unesco.org/webworld/portal_archives/)

This is an international gateway to information for archivists and archive users; giving access to primary sources worldwide. In addition to links to specific archives around the world, it includes links to internet resources for primary sources online, archival education, preservation and conservation, international cooperation, associations, conferences and meetings, etc.

**Repositories of Primary Resources:** <http://www.uidaho.edu/special-collections/Other.Repositories.html>

Terry Abraham's listing of over 5000 websites describing holdings of manuscripts, archives, rare books, historical photographs, and other primary sources for the research scholar

## **LOCAL ARCHIVAL MATERIALS**

**Purdue Libraries Catalog**  
<http://www.lib.purdue.edu/>

**Indiana Historical Society**  
<http://www.indianahistory.org/library/>

**Indiana State Archives**  
<http://www.in.gov/icpr/archives/>

**Indiana State Library**  
<http://www.in.gov/library/>

**Indiana University Archives**  
<http://www.libraries.iub.edu/index.php?pageId=93>

**Tippecanoe County Historical Association**  
<http://www.tcha.mus.in.us/library.htm>

## **OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

Organizations, associations and groups related to or of interest to the archival profession.

### [Directory of Archival Organizations in the United States and Canada](#)

This directory lists national, regional, state, local and provincial archival associations in the United States and Canada.

### [International Archival Organizations](#)

A listing of archival organizations outside of the United States.

### [Associated Professional Organizations](#)

A listing of organizations whose members share similar professional interests and job responsibilities to those of archivists.

### [Official Representatives and Coalitions](#)

The SAA President or Council appoints members to serve as representatives to a number of important committees and bodies outside of the Society of American Archivists.

### [Repository of Primary Sources \(maintained by Terry Abraham\)](#)

A listing of over 3400 websites describing holdings of manuscripts, archives, rare books, historical photographs, and other primary sources for the research scholar.

### [United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization \(UNESCO\) Archives Portal](#)

An international gateway for archivists and archives users.

## **OTHER RESOURCES**

Not all archival resources are available on the Internet and not all archives may have web sites. Some of the other means of discovery are:

- 1) Looking at the bibliography of books and articles about your topic. These may contain references to archival material used by the author.
- 2) Contacting the libraries, historical societies, churches, and county and parish court houses in the communities the individual lived or the event occurred.
- 3) Contact the organizations the individual was associated.

**Sources that maybe of help are:**

**Associations Unlimited**

<http://galenet.galegroup.com/servlet/AU;jsessionid=4ED3E6374F4B5BE893FB318C371A619C?locID=purdue>

This database contains information for more than 450,000 international and U.S. national, regional, state, and local nonprofit organizations in all fields, including IRS data on U.S. 501(c) nonprofit organizations.

**The Library of Congress State and Local Government Information page:**

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/news/stategov/stategov.html>

This web site contains links to state and local government web sites.

**U.S. State Historical Societies & State Archives Directory.** Compiled by Joe Ryan

<http://web.syr.edu/~jryan/infopro/hs.html>

This is a large list of web sites that varies in length from state to state.

**State Library web sites:** Compiled by the Library of Congress

[http://www.publiclibraries.com/state\\_library.htm](http://www.publiclibraries.com/state_library.htm)

Many of these sites link to local public libraries.

**Public Libraries web sites:** Compiled by PublicLibraries.com

<http://www.publiclibraries.com/>

This is a comprehensive listing of local public libraries.

**Historical Museum Guide for the United States:** from Census Finder.com

[http://www.censusfinder.com/guide\\_to\\_historical\\_museums.htm](http://www.censusfinder.com/guide_to_historical_museums.htm)

This is a directory of historical museums in the United States, categorized by state and county.