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101 Independence Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20540
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The Library of Congress is the national library of the United States, offering diverse materials for research including the world's most extensive collections in many areas such as American history, music, and law.

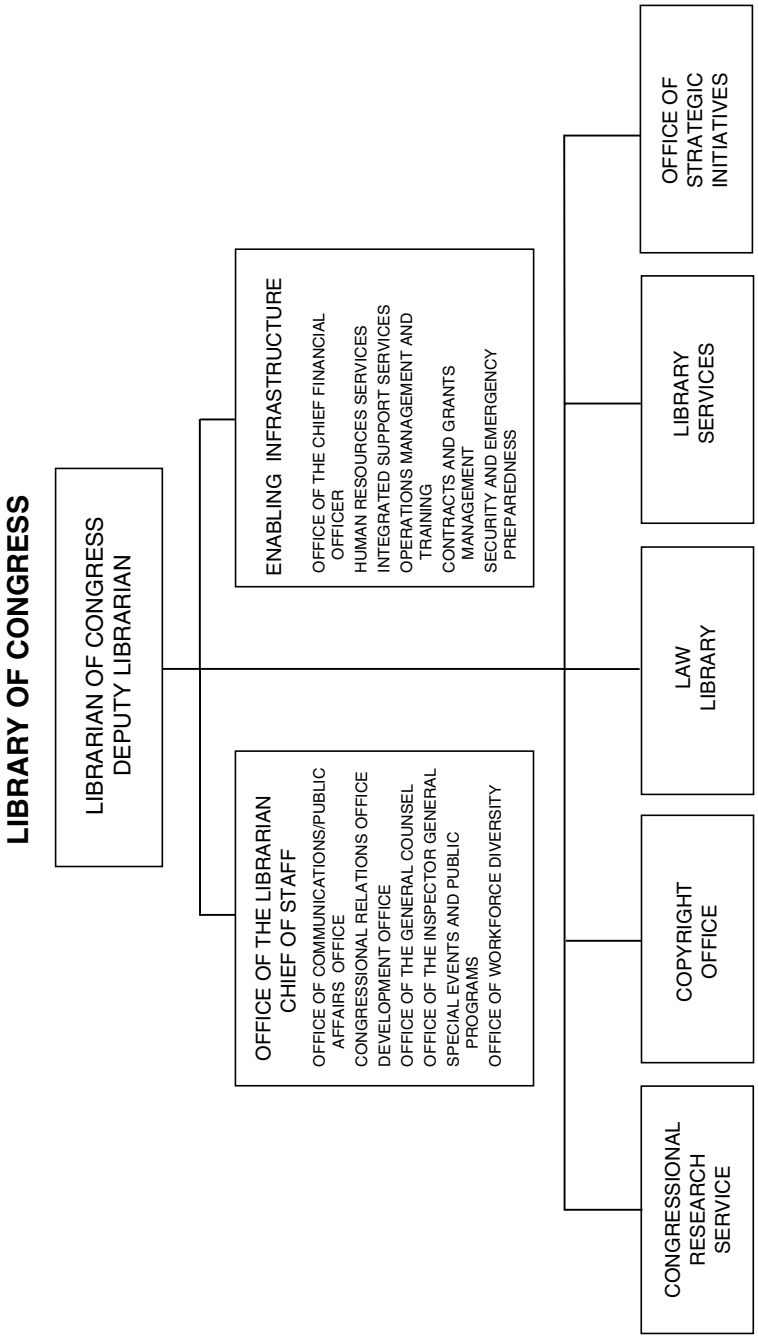
The Library of Congress was established by act of April 24, 1800 (2 Stat. 56), appropriating $5,000 ''for the purchase of such books as may be necessary for the use of Congress . . . .'' The Library's scope of responsibility has been widened by subsequent legislation (2 U.S.C. 131–168d). The Librarian, appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate, directs the Library.

The Library's first responsibility is service to Congress. As the Library has developed, its range of service has come to include the entire governmental establishment and the public at large, making it a national library for the United States.

Activities

Collections The Library's extensive collections are universal in scope. They include books, serials, and pamphlets on every subject and in a multitude of languages, and research materials in many formats, including maps, photographs, manuscripts, motion pictures, and sound recordings. Among them are the most comprehensive collections of Chinese, Japanese, and Russian language books outside Asia and the former Soviet Union; volumes relating to science and legal materials outstanding for American and foreign law; the world's largest collection of published aeronautical literature; and the most extensive collection in the Western Hemisphere of books printed before 1501 A.D.

The manuscript collections relate to manifold aspects of American history and civilization, and include the personal papers of most of the Presidents from George Washington through Calvin Coolidge. The music collections contain volumes and pieces—manuscript and published—from classic works to the newest popular compositions. Other materials available for research include maps and views; photographic records from the daguerreotype to the latest news photo; recordings, including folksongs and other music, speeches, and poetry readings; prints, drawings, and posters; government documents,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newspapers, and periodicals from all over the world; and motion pictures, microforms, and audio and video tapes.

Reference Resources Admission to the various research facilities of the Library is free. No introduction or credentials are required for persons over high school age. Readers must register by presenting valid photo identification with a current address, and for certain collections there are additional requirements. As demands for service to Congress and Federal Government agencies increase, reference service available through correspondence has become limited. The Library must decline some requests and refer correspondents to a library within their area that can provide satisfactory assistance. While priority is given to inquiries pertaining to its holdings of special materials or to subjects in which its resources are unique, the Library does attempt to provide helpful responses to all inquirers. Online reference service is also available through the ''Ask a Librarian'' site, at www.loc.gov/rr/askalib.

Copyrights With the enactment of the second general revision of the U.S. copyright law by Act of July 8, 1870 (16 Stat. 212–217), all activities relating to copyright, including deposit and registration, were centralized in the Library of Congress. The Copyright Act of 1976 (90 Stat. 2541) brought all forms of copyrightable authorship, both published and unpublished, under a single statutory system which gives authors protection immediately upon creation of their works. Exclusive rights granted to authors under the statute include the right to reproduce and prepare derivative works, distribute copies or phonorecords, perform and display the work publicly, and in the case of sound recordings, to perform the work publicly by means of a digital audio transmission. Works eligible for copyright include literary works (books and periodicals), musical works, dramatic works, pantomimes and choreographic works, pictorial, graphic, and sculptural works, motion pictures, sound recordings, vessel hull designs, mask works, and architectural works. Serving in its capacity as a national registry for creative works, the Copyright Office registers more than 500,000 claims to copyright annually (representing more than 800,000 works) and is a major source of acquisitions for the universal collections of the Library of Congress. Most of the information available on paper is also accessible online, at www.loc.gov/copyright.

Extension of Service The Library extends its service through the following:

—an interlibrary loan system;

—the photoduplication, at reasonable cost, of books, manuscripts, maps, newspapers, and prints in its collections;

—the sale of sound recordings, which are released by its Recording Laboratory;

—the exchange of duplicates with other institutions;

—the sale of CD–ROM cataloging tools and magnetic tapes and the publication in book format or microform of cumulative catalogs, which make available the results of the expert bibliographical and cataloging work of its technical personnel;

—a centralized cataloging program whereby the Library of Congress acquires material published all over the world, catalogs it promptly, and distributes cataloging information in machine-readable form and other means to the Nation's libraries;

—a cooperative cataloging program whereby the cataloging of data, by name authority and bibliographic records, prepared by other libraries becomes part of the Library of Congress database and is distributed through the Catologing Distribution Service;

—a cataloging-in-publication program in cooperation with American publishers for printing cataloging information in current books;

—the National Serials Data Program, a national center that maintains a record of serial titles to which International Standard Serial Numbers have been assigned and serves, with this file, as the United States Register; and

—the development of general schemes of classification (Library of Congress and Dewey Decimal), subject headings, and cataloging, embracing the entire field of printed matter.

Furthermore, the Library provides for the following:

—the preparation of bibliographical lists responsive to the needs of Government and research;

—the maintenance and the publication of cooperative publications;

—the publication of catalogs, bibliographical guides, and lists, and of texts of original manuscripts and rare books in the Library of Congress;

—the circulation in traveling exhibitions of items from the Library's collections;

—the provision of books in braille, electronic access to braille books on the Internet, ''talking books,'' and books on tape for the blind and the physically handicapped through 140 cooperating libraries throughout the Nation;

—the distribution of its electronic materials via the Internet; and

—the provision of research and analytical services on a fee-for-service basis to agencies in the executive and judicial branches.

Congressional Research Service Congress created the Congressional Research Service (CRS) to serve its needs for nonpartisan and objective research and analysis of legislative policy issues. CRS provides timely, confidential, and authoritative research and analysis to Members, committees, and their staff. The Service provides comprehensive support in foreign, economic, science, and social policy and law. CRS also covers the operations and procedures of both Chambers, legislative processes for the Federal budget and appropriations, and constitutional issues on separation of powers, war powers, impeachment, and electoral procedures.

CRS analysts, attorneys, and information specialists work closely with Members and committees to explain policy problems, develop options and legislative proposals, conduct legal analysis of pending legislation, deliver testimony before congressional committees, prepare products on current legislative issues, write confidential memoranda, and provide personal consultations. The Service also conducts seminars on public policy and legal issues as well as training in the legislative and budget processes.

For further information, call 202–707–5700.

American Folklife Center The Center was established in the Library of Congress by Act of January 2, 1976 (20 U.S.C. 2102 *et seq.*). It supports, preserves, and presents American folklife by receiving and maintaining folklife collections, scholarly research, field projects, performances, exhibitions, festivals, workshops, publications, and audiovisual presentations. The Center has conducted projects in many locations across the country, such as the ethnic communities of Chicago, IL; southern Georgia; a ranching community in northern Nevada; the Blue Ridge Parkway in southern Virginia and northern North Carolina; and the States of New Jersey, Rhode Island, and Montana. The projects have provided large collections of recordings and photographs for the Archive of Folk Culture. The Center administers the Federal Cylinder Project, which is charged with preserving and disseminating music and oral traditions recorded on wax cylinders dating from the late 1800s to the early 1940s. A cultural conservation study was developed at the Center, in cooperation with the Department of the Interior, pursuant to a congressional mandate. Various conferences, workshops, and symposia are given throughout the year.

The *Folklife Center News,* a quarterly newsletter, and other informational publications are available upon request. Many Center publications and a number of collections are available online through the Internet, at www.loc.gov/folklife.

The American Folklife Center maintains and administers the Archive of Folk Culture, an extensive collection of ethnographic materials from this country and around the world. It is the national repository for folk-related recordings, manuscripts, and other unpublished materials. The Center's reading room contains over 3,500 books and periodicals; a sizable collection of magazines, newsletters, unpublished

theses, and dissertations; field notes; and many textual and some musical transcriptions and recordings. The American Folklife Center also administers the Veterans History Project. Established by Congress in 2000, the purpose of the Veterans History Project is to record and preserve for future generations the first-person accounts of war veterans, including Members of Congress.

For further information, call 202–707–5510.

Center for the Book The Center was established in the Library of Congress by an act of October 13, 1977 (2 U.S.C. 171 *et seq.*), to stimulate public interest in books, reading, and libraries, and to encourage the study of books and print culture. The Center is a catalyst for promoting and exploring the vital role of books, reading, and libraries—nationally and internationally. As a partnership between the Government and the private sector, the Center for the Book depends on tax-deductible contributions from individuals and corporations to support its programs.

The Center's activities are directed toward the general public and scholars. The overall program includes reading promotion projects with television and radio networks, symposia, lectures, exhibitions, special events, and publications. More than 90 national educational and civic organizations participate in the Center's annual reading promotion campaign.

All 50 States and the District of Columbia have established statewide book centers that are affiliated with the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress. State centers plan and fund their own projects, involving members of the State's ''community of the book,'' including authors, readers, prominent citizens, and public officials who serve as honorary advisers.

For further information, contact the Center for the Book. Phone, 202–707–5221. Fax, 202–707–0269. E-mail, cfbook@loc.gov.

National Film Preservation Board The National Film Preservation Board, presently authorized by the National Film Preservation Act of 1996 (2 U.S.C. 179), serves as a public advisory group to the Librarian of Congress. The Board works to ensure the survival, conservation, and increased public availability of America's film heritage, including advising the Librarian on the annual selection of films to the National Film Registry and counseling the Librarian on development and implementation of the national film preservation plan. Key publications are *Film Preservation 1993: A Study of the Current State of American Film Preservation*, *Redefining Film Preservation: A National Plan*, and *Television and Video Preservation 1997: A Study of the Current State of American Television and Video Preservation*.

For further information, call 202–707–5912.

National Sound Recording Preservation Board The National Sound Recording Preservation Board, established by the National Recording Preservation Act of 2000 (2 U.S.C. 1701 note), includes three major components: a National Recording Preservation Advisory Board, which brings together experts in the field, a National Recording Registry, and a fundraising foundation, all of which are conducted under the auspices of the Library of Congress. The purpose of the Board is to create and implement a national plan for the long-term preservation and accessibility of the Nation's audio heritage. It also advises the Librarian on the selection of culturally, aesthetically, or historically significant sound recordings to be included on the National Recording Registry. The national recording preservation program will set standards for future private and public preservation efforts and will be conducted in conjunction with the state-of-the-art National Audio-Visual Conservation Center the Library is developing in Culpeper, VA.

For further information, call 202–707–5856.

Preservation The Library provides technical information related to the preservation of library and archival material. A series of handouts on various preservation and conservation topics has been prepared by the Preservation

Office. Information and publications are available from the Office of the Director for Preservation, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540–4500. Phone, 202–707–1840.

Sources of Information

Books for the Blind and Physically Handicapped Talking and braille books and magazines are distributed through 140 regional and subregional libraries to blind and physically handicapped residents of the United States and its territories. Qualified users can also register for Web-Braille, an Internet-based service. Information is available at public libraries throughout the United States and from the headquarters office, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, 1291 Taylor Street NW., Washington, DC 20542–4960. Phone, 202–707–5100.

Cataloging Data Distribution Cataloging and bibliographic information in the form of microfiche catalogs, book catalogs, magnetic tapes, CD–ROM cataloging tools, bibliographies, and other technical publications is distributed to libraries and other institutions. Information about ordering materials is available from the Cataloging Distribution Service, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20541–4910. Phone, 202–707–6100. TDD, 202–707–0012. Fax, 202–707–1334. E-mail, cdsinfo@mail.loc.gov.

Library of Congress card numbers for new publications are assigned by the Cataloging in Publication Division. Direct inquiries to CIP Division, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540–4320. Phone, 202–707–6372.

Contracts Persons seeking to do business with the Library of Congress should contact the Contracts and Logistics Services, Room 325, John Adams Building, Washington, DC, 20540–9410. Phone, 202–707–0419.

Copyright Services Information about the copyright law (title 17 of the U.S. Code), the method of securing copyright, and copyright registration procedures may be obtained by writing to the Copyright Office, Library of Congress, 101 Independence Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20559–6000. Phone, 202–707–3000. Copyright information is also available through the Internet, at www.loc.gov/copyright. Registration application forms may be ordered by calling the forms hotline at 202–707–9100. Copyright records may be researched and reported by the Copyright Office for a fee; for an estimate, call 202–707–6850. Members of the public may use the copyright card catalog in the Copyright Office without charge. The database of Copyright Office records cataloged from January 1, 1978, to the present is available through the Internet, at www.loc.gov/copyright/rb.html. The Copyright Information Office is located in Room LM–401, James Madison Memorial Building, 101 Independence Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20559–6000, and is open to the public Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. e.s.t., except Federal holidays.

Employment Employment inquiries should be directed to Human Resources Services, Library of Congress, 101 Independence Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20540–2200. Vacancy announcements and applications are also available from the Employment Office, Room LM–107, 101 Independence Avenue SE. Phone, 202–707–4315. Internet, www.loc.gov/hr/employment.

Photoduplication Service Copies of manuscripts, prints, photographs, maps, and book material not subject to copyright and other restrictions are available for a fee. Order forms for photoreproduction and price schedules are available from the Photoduplication Service, Library of Congress, 101 Independence Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20540–4570. Phone, 202–707–5640.

Publications A list of Library of Congress publications, many of which are of interest to the general public, is available through the Internet, at www.loc.gov. A monthly *Calendar of Events,* listing programs and exhibitions at the Library of Congress, can be mailed regularly to persons within 100 miles of

Washington, DC. Make requests to Office Systems Services, Mail and Distribution Management Section, Library of Congress, 101 Independence Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20540–9441.

Reference and Bibliographic Services Guidance is offered to readers in identifying and using the material in the Library's collections, and reference service is provided to those with inquiries who have exhausted local, State, and regional resources. Persons requiring services that cannot be performed by the Library staff can be supplied with names of private researchers who work on a fee basis. Requests for information should be directed to the Reference Referral Service, Library of Congress, 101 Independence Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20540–4720. Phone, 202–707–5522. Fax, 202–707–1389.

Research and Reference Services in Science and Technology Reference specialists in the Science, Technology, and Business Division provide a free service in answering brief technical inquiries entailing a bibliographic response. Requests for reference services should be directed to the Science, Technology, and Business Division, Library of Congress, Science Reference Section, 101 Independence Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20540–4750. Phone, 202–707–5639. Internet, www.loc.gov/rr/scitech.

Research Services in General Topics Federal Government agencies can procure directed research and analytical products on foreign and domestic topics using the collections of the Library of Congress through the Federal Research Division. Science, technology, humanities, and social science topics of research are conducted by staff specialists exclusively on behalf of Federal agencies on a fee-for-service basis. Requests for service should be directed to the Federal Research Division, Marketing Office, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540–4840. Phone, 202–707–3909. Fax, 202–245–3920.

For further information, contact the Public Affairs Office, Library of Congress, 101 Independence Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20540–8610. Phone, 202–707–2905. Fax, 202–707–9199. Internet, www.loc.gov.

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