



# CATALOG

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## Searching for Something? Try the Catalog!

Have you tried your search in the [National Archives Catalog](#)? The Catalog is our online portal to the records held at the National Archives and information about those records.

With nearly 110 million digitized pages of records available (and thousands more added each week!), you are likely to find something new every time you search.



*Students Birdwatching, [National Archives Identifier 166703312](#)*

Here are a few strategies to ensure successful searching:

It is best to search the [Catalog](#) for a topic, name or phrase and then narrow down the search results using filters. If you are looking for a name or phrase, put those terms in quotations for the search, for example: “New York”

- [Search results](#) bring back all formats of records. Use the filters on the left side to narrow your results to a specific type of records if, for example, you only want to view textual records, or photographs, or moving images.

The screenshot shows the National Archives Catalog interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for ARCHIVES.GOV, LOGIN, REGISTER, VETERANS' SERVICE RECORDS, HELP, API, and CONTACT US. A search bar contains the text "new york" and an "Advanced Search" button. Below the search bar, it indicates "1 - 20 of 34,702 results in 1.26 seconds. Show expanded search terms".

On the left side, there are several filter categories:

- Refine By: Data Source**
  - Archival Descriptions with Digital Objects (34702)
- Refine By: Level of Description**
  - Item (34443)
  - File Unit (259)
- Refine By: Type of Materials**
  - Photographs and Other Graphic Materials (34702) (selected with a red star)
  - Textual Records (165)
  - Architectural and Engineering Drawings (1)
  - Maps and Charts (1)
- Refine By: File Format**
  - Image (JPG) (32477)
  - Image (GIF) (2317)
  - Portable Document File (PDF) (213)
  - Microsoft Word Document (5)
  - Image (TIFF) (2)
- Refine By: Location**
  - National Archives at College Park - Still Pictures (27113)

On the right side, there are tabs for "All", "Available Online" (highlighted in red), "Web Pages", "Documents", "Images", and "Videos". Below these tabs, the search results are displayed as a list of items, each with a thumbnail image and a brief description:

- Civil Defense Week in New York City**  
From RG: 304  
Civil Defense Photographs  
This photograph depicts new firefighting equipment acquired during New York City's Civil Defense Week. National Archives Identifier: 7385038 Container Identifier: PD-003  
Creators: Federal Civil Defense Administration. Region I. 1951-1958; Office of Civil and Defense Administration.
- A Popular New York Song**  
From RG: 46  
Berryman Political Cartoon Collection  
This illustration entitled, "A Popular New York Song", by cartoonist Clifford Berryman, which appeared in the Saturday Evening Post. National Archives Identifier: 6010485 Local Identifier: U-063  
Creator: U.S. Senate. Office of Senate Curator. ?-
- New York - Danskammer Point**  
From RG: 26  
Lighthouses  
Caption: Danskammer Point, New York. District: 3  
National Archives Identifier: 45692931 Local Identifier: 26-LG-11-45 Container Identifier: 0  
Creator: Department of Commerce. Bureau of Lighthouses. 1913-7/1/1939
- 911: New York City Views**  
From Collection: GWB-WHPO  
Photographs Related to the George W. Bush Administration  
Original caption: A highway sign reads, "All Crossings to New York Closed."  
National Archives Identifier: 5997251 Local Identifier: P7130-08  
Creator: President (2001-2009 : Bush). Office of Management and Administration. Office of White House Liaison.
- New York Politics Makes Strange Bedfellows**  
From RG: 46  
Berryman Political Cartoon Collection  
This illustration entitled "New York Politics Makes Strange Bedfellows", by cartoonist Clifford Berryman, shows a bed with several figures representing political figures.

Illustration of a [search](#) in the National Archives Catalog.

- Not all of the descriptions in the Catalog include digitized records. To see those that have digital images in the Catalog, after conducting a search, use the filter on the left side to narrow your results to Archival Descriptions with Digital Objects.
- If you find a record you'd like to use, you can download it. We have a video tutorial: [How to Download Records for the National Archives Catalog](#). If the downloaded record is not the resolution you require, please contact the office listed in the Contact(s) of the description.

Please note that there isn't a specific field for names in the Catalog; as a result you may need to try several different searches using different strategies when searching for a name or to find the records you are interested in. The [National Archives Catalog Guide for](#)

[Genealogists and Family Historians](#) can help you understand what is available and how to search for names in the Catalog. You can also review our [search tips](#) for even more options.



*Searching for a Christmas Tree, 12/15/1944. [National Archives Identifier 138926749](#)*

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Check out some of our Newsletters that explore searching the Catalog:

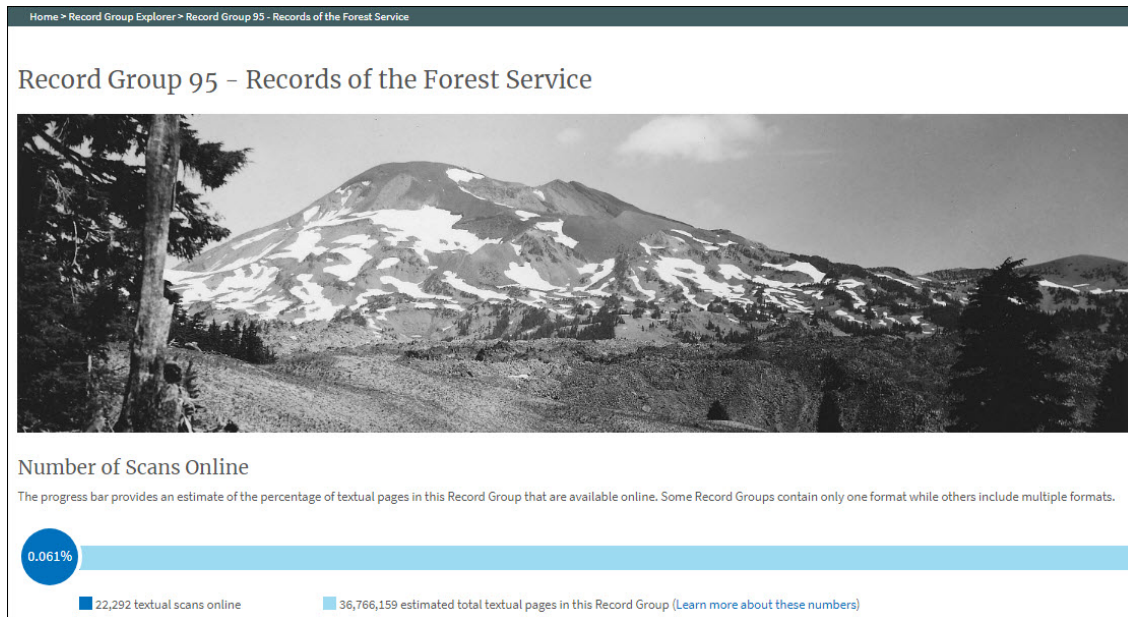
- [Refine By Record Group or Collection](#)
- [Search Within a Series or File Unit](#)

While we have nearly 110 million digitized pages in the Catalog, this represents only a small percentage of the total holdings at the National Archives. Not all records have been digitized and made available in our Catalog, and some records have been described without digital images added. If you find a description without digitized images attached, reach out to the reference staff listed at the bottom of the description in the Contact(s) section.

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**Record Group Explorer**

Looking for records from a specific government agency? Give the [Record Group Explorer](#) a try!



The [Record Group Explorer](#) is a new pathway to view and explore our records. This data visualization allows you to browse NARA's holdings by Record Group. You can use it to get a sense of the scale and organization of records at the National Archives and to explore what is available online via the [National Archives Catalog](#).

The Record Group Explorer provides an overview of the scans available online within that Record Group, including textual records, photographs, maps and charts, electronic records, and more.

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## Citizen Archivist Missions

We know this is an uncertain time for many. While National Archives locations and events are cancelled nationwide, we invite you to stay connected with us online, and join us as a Citizen Archivist. Check out our [Citizen Archivist dashboard](#) for our latest tagging and transcription missions.

**Get started contributing!**

New to the citizen archivist program? [Learn how to register and get started](#).

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You can also explore [History Hub](#), our crowdsourced history research platform, for answers from NARA staff, other agencies, and a community of citizen experts. The History Hub homepage features current blog posts, recently asked questions, and a list of the subject area [communities](#), including: [Military Records](#), [Genealogy](#), [Researchers Help](#), [African American Records](#), [American Indian Records](#), [Citizen Archivists](#) and more.

Feel free to take a look at some of the recent questions and explore the communities that interest you.

## COVID-19 Update

The National Archives is committed to the health and safety of our visitors and staff. We are closely monitoring the situation regarding COVID-19, and we are working with public health officials and our counterpart agencies to monitor and respond to the evolving conditions and following CDC guidelines.

### **Closed Facilities**

As a public health precaution, due to COVID-19, the following changes are effective close of business Friday, March 13:

- All National Archives research rooms nationwide, including those at Presidential Libraries, will be closed to the public until further notice.
- All museums, including those at Presidential Libraries, will be closed to the public until further notice.

- All public events in National Archives facilities nationwide are cancelled until further notice. This includes in-person public programs, tours, school group visits, public meetings, external conferences, and facility rentals. Where possible, we will conduct public events and outreach activities online and through virtual meetings.

National Archives staff will continue to serve the public remotely by responding to emailed requests for records and [History Hub](#) inquiries. While we are closed, we invite the public to explore our online resources by visiting [www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov) and viewing our [online exhibits](#) and [educational resources](#) and participating in our [Citizen Archivist Missions](#).

Follow the National Archives on Facebook ([USNationalArchives](#)) and on Twitter ([@USNatArchives](#)) for immediate updates.

For more information, visit <https://www.archives.gov/coronavirus>

Be well, and take care of yourselves!



World War II Posters, 1942 - 1945 "Wash Your Hands Often". [National Archives Identifier 514291](#)

Questions or comments? Email us at [catalog@nara.gov](mailto:catalog@nara.gov).



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