

## Federal Government Information

Updated 2017 by Jennifer Davison & Rebecca Forbes

The State Library of North Carolina's Government & Heritage Library (GHL) has belonged to the [Federal Depository Library Program FDLP](#) since 1886. The FDLP's purpose is to provide free access to U.S. federal government publications. The federal documents collection is made up of more than 400,000 items in a variety of formats. The primary areas of focus in GHL's profile include: U.S. Census & demographics, military history, statistical data, politics & law, people & cultures, environment, and business & economy. Reference staff are available to provide assistance to users in finding and using government publications in all formats, including online resources, fiche, and paper.

### General Information

#### [Government Printing Office](#) : (GPO)

The Federal Government's official, digital, secure resource for producing, procuring, cataloging, indexing, authenticating, disseminating, and preserving the official information products of the U.S. Government; free public access

#### [FDsys](#): (Federal Digital System)

Part of the GPO; provides free public access to official publications from all three branches of the Federal Government; browse by collection, Congressional committee, date, and Government author

#### [Ben's Guide to the U.S. Government](#) : (ages 4-14+, teachers, parents)

A service of the Government Publishing Office (GPO); designed to inform students, parents, and educators about the Federal Government

#### [Kids.gov](#) : (grades K-8, teachers, parents)

Official kids' website for the U.S. Government, bringing information and services on the web from government agencies, schools, and educational organizations to one site for kids; provides activities, games, videos, and other learning opportunities parents and teachers can use, as well as interactive fun for kids

#### [The White House](#)

Official website for the White House; includes history of the White House and former Presidents, the latest blogs from the White House, popular topics in the news, and information for ongoing issues, such as Civil Rights or Education

#### [USA.gov](#)

Online guide to government information and services; provides an A-Z index to U.S. Government agencies, as well as information concerning the following topics: financial help, health, housing, unemployment, money, and travel; website available in Spanish and English

### [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov)

Official website for U.S. federal legislative information; provides access to accurate, timely, and complete legislative information for Members of Congress, legislative agencies, and the public; usually updated the morning after a session adjourns

## **History**

### [Library of Congress](https://www.loc.gov) : (LOC)

Nation's first established cultural institution and the largest library in the world, with millions of items including books, recordings, photographs, maps and manuscripts in its collections; includes great resources like the American Folklife Center and current and past exhibitions

### [National Archives](https://www.archives.gov) : (NARA)

Provides public access to the important and historical documents and materials created by the United States Federal Government; offers resources for history buffs, veterans, and teachers

### [The Charters of Freedom \(NARA\)](https://www.archives.gov/founding-docs)

National Archives provides a detailed look into the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, and the Bill of Rights; includes interactive signing of the Declaration, biographical information of America's Founding Fathers, and changes and additions to these important historical documents

### [The Avalon Project: The American Constitution – A Documentary Record](https://avalon.libraries.yale.edu)

Offered by the Yale Law School, Lillian Goldman Law Library; offers documents on the roots of the Constitution, Revolution and Independence, Credentials of the Members of the Federal Convention, The Constitutional Convention, and Ratification and Formation of the Government

## **Laws & Regulations**

### [A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation: U.S. Congressional Documents and Debates, 1774-1875](https://www.loc.gov/congressional)

Offered by the Library of Congress; includes the American State Papers (legislative and executive documents of Congress 1789-1838), statutes, journals of Congress, debates of Congress, Continental Congress and the Constitutional Convention

### [United States Senate](https://www.senate.gov)

Official website of the U.S. Senate; provides information on current and former senators; includes a link to watch the proceedings Live; informs the public on current bills and reports, as well as the votes cast for particular bills

### [United States House of Representatives](https://www.house.gov)

Official website of the U.S. House of Representatives; provides a short description of the Representatives from each state in the House; includes a link to watch the proceedings Live; informs the public on current bills and reports, as well as the votes cast for specific bills

### **General Publications**

[U.S. Code](#) : (Available online only)

First published in 1926; it is the codification by subject matter of the general and permanent laws of the United States; published every six years; between editions, annual cumulative supplements are published in order to present the most current information

[Code of Federal Regulations](#): (Available online)

annual edition is the codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the departments and agencies of the Federal Government; is divided into 50 titles that represent broad areas subject to Federal regulation

[Constitution of the United States of America: Analysis and Interpretation](#)

Popularly known as the Constitution Annotated; contains legal analysis and interpretation of the United States Constitution, based primarily on Supreme Court case law

[Public papers of the Presidents of the United States](#)

(call number GS 4.113: covers 1929-1983; call number AE 2.114: covers 1984-present)

Compiled and published by the Office of the Federal Register, National Archives and Records Administration; began in 1957; official series in which Presidential writings, addresses, and remarks of a public nature are available; FDsys online includes George H. W. Bush through Barack H. Obama

[Congressional Record](#)

(call number X 1.1: - GHL has 1789-current)

Previously known as the Annals of Congress (1789-1824), the Register of Debates (1824-1837), and the Congressional Globe (1833-1873); contains the official record of proceedings and debates of the United States Congress; published daily when Congress is in session

[United States Statutes at Large](#)

(call number S7.9: GHL has 1789-current)

Typically referred to as the Statutes at Large; contains permanent collection of all laws and resolutions enacted during each session of Congress

[U.S. Congressional Serial Set](#)

(GHL has 1817 to current)

Previously known as the American State Papers (before 1817); contains House and Senate Documents and the House and Senate Reports

## [Survey of Current Business](#)

(call number C 59.11: - GHL has 1921 – current)

Contains national income and product statistics, including the Gross National Product (GNP)

## **Military**

### [The All-Volunteer Military: Issues and performance](#) : (Available online only)

July 2007; study conducted by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO); provides a history of the draft, arguments for and against the draft, and the all-volunteer military force

### [Army History: The Professional Bulletin of Army History](#) : (Available online for 1983-current)

(GHL has 2010-2015)

Published by the U.S. Army Center of Military History

## **Print Publications Only**

*Beyond horizons: a history of the Air Force in space, 1947-2007.* (call number D 301.2:H 78/2007)

*Records relating to personal participation in World War II: "the American soldier" surveys.*  
(call number AE 1.124: - GHL has 1997 and 2007)

*Records relating to personal participation in World War II: American prisoners of war and civilian internees.* (call number AE 1.124: -GHL has 1999 and 2008)

*Records relating to personal participation in World War II: American military casualties and burials.*  
(call number AE 1.124: - GHL has 1993 and 2009)

*Records relating to personal participation in World War II: military awards and decorations.*  
(call number AE 1.124: - GHL has 2000 and 2007)

## **Historical Maps in Print Publications**

Civil war in the southeast.  
(call number I 29.2:C49/10 – GHL has 2012)

Fort Raleigh: Fort Raleigh National Historic Site, North Carolina.  
(call number I 29.6/6:F77R/2010 – GHL has 2010)