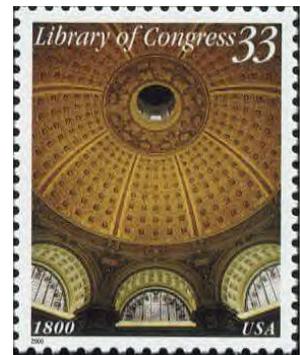


GENTREK: Genealogical Research at the Library of Congress

by **Dae Powell**

presented by **Jayne McCormick**



Have you ever been to the Library of Congress? Have you ever done genealogical research there? Did the maze of buildings and stacks of books overwhelm you? I can answer "Yes" to all these questions, so it obviously really helps to go there PREPARED.

Researchers go to Salt Lake City or even local Family History Centers prepared for their searches. The Library of Congress (LoC) should be no different. We take our forms and list of needed information (which applies to ALL research), but the LoC has its own peculiar organization. We can prepare for that, too.

I'll share with you what I found at the Library of Congress – in person and online.

In Person: A Few Areas of General Genealogical Interest

Thanks to certain twisted individuals, both foreign and domestic, we cannot enter a government building without a search of our person and belongings. The LoC will not disappoint you in that regard. Oh! Your briefcase, purse, bag and other carrying devices will be inspected when you depart the buildings, too.

The hours of operation vary by season and by location. You can always access the current hours online at <http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/hours.html>

Library of Congress consists of three buildings:

1- Thomas Jefferson Building is directly east of the Capitol Bldg. This is where you will find the following:

- a. Genealogy
- b. Local History
- c. African and Middle Eastern
- d. Asian
- e. European
- f. Hispanic
- g. Folklife
- h. Microform
- i. Computer Catalog Services
- j. Children's Literature

I spent 80% of my genealogical research time in here. Room G20 on first floor is the Genealogy Room, but I recommend you go to the second floor first (main reception desk) and get a researcher's card and (separate) copy card. The researcher's card speeds up book

requests. You only need a picture ID. The copy card is used at more machines and the price of copies with the card is less than without it.

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2- John Adams Building is directly east of the Jefferson Bldg. This is where you will find the following:

- a. Geography and Maps
- b. Photoduplication Services
- c. Business Reference Services
- d. Science

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I spent 10% of my genealogical research time in here (and 90% of my money), and it wasn't just the maps, either. The Photoduplication Services were outstanding. Yes, they charge for their services, but the fees are reasonable and vary with the materials and quantities requested. I made paper copies of microfilm and microfiche. They've added a service since I was there last. Now they can be put on CD-ROM! I suggest caution, however, because the minimum charge per order is \$20. The main advantage is obvious -- once on CD-ROM, it can be printed any number of times! Oh! For printed books in English, Optical Character Recognition is available, too. This allows you to copy, paste and quote text into your family histories, not just an image of text from a book.

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3- James Madison Building is on Independence Ave., directly south of the Jefferson Building. This is where you will find the following:

- a. Newspaper and Current Periodical
- b. Prints and Photographs
- c. Manuscript
- d. Copyright Office
- e. Motion Picture and Television
- f. Performing Arts – Music
- g. Law Library

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It was in the Jefferson Bldg., on the ground floor near the gift shop, that I found the Orientation Theatre. The presentation took about 15 mins and was well worth it. It was here I learned that the LoC does not have every book published in the U.S. – not even every copyrighted publication.

• **On-line: A Few Areas of General Genealogical Interest**

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Online, you find the LoC at: <http://LOC.gov>

• **Boolean Searching**

Use Boolean operators and nesting to search for combinations of words or phrases. Enter Boolean operators (*i.e.*, AND, OR, NOT) in either uppercase or lowercase. Searches are NOT case sensitive.

Note: Boolean operators and nesting (using parentheses) may not be used in **Basic Search** types: Author/Creator, Title, Subject, LCCN-ISBN-ISSN, Call Number or Keyword.

• **Concept Search Examples Retrieval Formula**

• **AND**

Retrieves only records containing both terms. "AND" limits the number of "hits."

• Dae AND Jayne
"Civil War" AND Virginia

• **OR**

Retrieves records containing either one or more terms. "OR" expands the number of "hits."

• sixties OR 60s OR 1960s
labor OR labour
roots OR genealogy OR "family history"

• **NOT**

Excludes records containing the second term. "NOT" limits the number of "hits."

• "southern states" NOT mississippi
"civil war" NOT american

• **Boolean Searching – Advanced**

Use parentheses () to group portions of Boolean queries for more complex searches.

• ((color OR colour) AND (slave OR bonded)) NOT (alabama OR florida)

• powell AND (canright OR ferguson)
(women OR woman) AND genealogy

• Many of you are familiar with wildcards for characters such as ? or %. The Library of Congress does not recognize these, however it does recognize "contained in."

• **Online Resources from the Library of Congress**

• **A. Genealogical Guides and Handbooks**

~ Guides to Genealogical Research (Library of Congress)
List of **guides** to genealogical research at the Library of Congress.
http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/guideres/ - 3.3KB
as of 16 May 02

~ Guides to Genealogical Research (Library of Congress)
List of **bibliographies** on genealogical research at the Library of Congress.
http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/guideres/bibliog.html - 4.6KB
as of 16 May 02

~ Guides to Genealogical Research (Library of Congress)
List of **handbooks** for genealogical research at the Library of Congress.
http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/guideres/handbook.html - 7.5KB
as of 16 May 02

~ Guides to Genealogical Research (Library of Congress)
List of **published directories** for genealogical research
http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/guideres/director.html - 3.7KB
as of 16 May 02

~ Guides to Genealogical Research (Library of Congress)
List of **published catalogs** and **guides to genealogy collections**
http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/guideres/catalog.html - 8.1KB
as of 16 May 02

~ Genealogical Research at the Library of Congress
Library of Congress and the Local History and Genealogy Reading Room.
http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/guideo.html - 19.5KB
as of 16 May 02

~ **Handbooks for Foreign** Genealogical Research
This bibliography helps readers at the Library of Congress who seek guidance on how to approach the research in a foreign country.
http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/foreign.html - 66.7KB
as of 16 May 02

~ Library of Congress: Local History and Genealogy Reading Room: **Bibliographies and Guides**
http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/ - 4.0KB
as of 19 Apr 02

~ **Bibliographies, Research Guides and Finding Aids** (Library of Congress)
A listing of all electronically available bibliographies, research guides, and finding aids to Library of Congress collections.
<http://www.loc.gov/rr/bibguide.html> - 33.9KB
as of 13 May 02

~ Genealogical **Research Source** Book July 20, 1998
<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/1998/98-108> - 2.8KB
as of 14 Jan 99

~ Library of Congress: Local History and Genealogy Reading Room: **Before You Begin**
<http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/begin.html> - 8.4KB
as of 19 Apr 02

~ Library of Congress, **Collections Policy Statements**, Genealogy
The Collections Policy Statements (CPS) govern the Library's collections development and acquisition efforts.
<http://lcweb.loc.gov/acq/devpol/genealogy.html> - 10.7KB
as of 22 Feb 02

~ **Local History** and Genealogy Reading Room, Library of Congress
A description of the collections and policies of the Local History and Genealogy Reading Room at the Library of Congress
<http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/> - 4.6KB
as of 19 Apr 02

~ **Local History** and Genealogy Reading Room: The Collections
Library of Congress: Local History and Genealogy Reading Room: The Collections
<http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/lhgcoll.html> - 8.1KB
as of 19 Apr 02

~ **Folklife Resources** in the Library of Congress: Genealogy
Thomas Jefferson Building, room LJ G-20; telephone (202) 707-5537 The Local History and Genealogy Reading Room, a part of the Humanities and Social Sciences
http://lcweb.loc.gov/folklife/fr/fr_gene.html - 3.3KB
as of 15 Apr 02

~ Helen Leary Discusses Sally Hemings
Noted genealogist Helen F.M. Leary will discuss her research in a lecture titled Sally Hemings' Children: A Genealogical **Analysis of the Evidence** at the Library of Congress.
<http://www.loc.gov/today/pr/2002/02-039.html> - 4.4KB
as of 02 Apr 02

~ Library of Congress, Collections Overviews: Humanities: Genealogy and **Heraldry**
Collections Overview of the Library of Congress: Humanities: Genealogy and Heraldry
<http://www.loc.gov/acq/devpol/collovers/genealogy.html> - 7.0KB
as of 22 Feb 02

~ Contents of Worldwide Family History 82003636
Table of Contents of Worldwide Family History, by Noel Currer-Briggs, published by Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1982
<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/toc/becites/genealogy/immigrant/82003636.toc.html> - 10.5KB
as of 22 May 02

B. African-American

~ Afro-American Genealogical Research (Library of Congress)

Every beginning genealogist at the Library of Congress is urged to read

http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/afro.html - 16.7KB

16 May 02

~ African American Family Histories in the Library of Congress

Bibliography of published African-American family histories in the Library of Congress

http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/aframer/ - 4.7KB

16 May 02

~ Slaves and the Courts: Related Resources

from The Nineteenth Century in Print Other Web Sites. The selected sites all relate in some way to Slaves and the Courts .

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/sthtml/strel.html> - 5.9KB

02 May 02

C. England and the UK

~ **Sources for Research** in English Genealogy (Library of Congress)

This guide has been prepared primarily as an aid to finding information about English genealogy at the Library of Congress.

http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/england.html - 50.1KB

16 May 02

~ Microform: **British Government** Documents (Library of Congress)

This finding aid contains selected microform collections in the Library of Congress Microform Reading Room that contain British government publications and documents.

http://www.loc.gov/rr/microform/brit_govt.html - 84.2KB

19 Apr 02

~ Sources for Research in **Irish** Genealogy

This guide has been prepared primarily as an aid for those who are researching Irish genealogy and local history at the Library of Congress.

http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/ireland.html - 50.0KB

16 May 02

~ Sources for Research in **Scottish** Genealogy

This guide has been prepared primarily as an aid for those who are researching Scottish genealogy and local history at the Library of Congress.

http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/scotland.html - 43.6KB

16 May 02

D. Immigration

~ Immigration Links

THE SECOND WAVE: **European Immigration from 1850-1920** Overview | Facilitator Framework | Exercise IMMIGRATION LINKS FOR YOUR RESEARCH General | **Ellis Island**

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpedu/educators/workshop/european/wimmlink.html> - 30.7KB
21 Dec 01

~ Immigrant Arrivals: A **Guide To Published Sources** (Library of Congress)

Library of Congress: Local History and Genealogy Reading Room: Bibliographies and Guides

<http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/business/guide/imm1.html> - 103.9KB

14 Mar 02

~ Sources cited in **They Came in Ships**, by John Philip Colletta, published by Ancestry, 1993

<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/toc/becites/genealogy/immigrant/93026835.refs.html> - 22.8KB

07 Mar 02

~ This page describes the European Americana and American Europeana at the found in the collections of the Library of Congress.

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/european/guide/europe.html> - 28.0KB

03 Apr 02

E. Hispanic

~ Handbooks / Hispanic Local History and Genealogy in the United States / Handbooks

Portion of a bibliography listing titles for research on two primary topics: histories of **American families of Hispanic origin**, and histories of **places**.

http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/hispanic/handbooks.html - 10.0KB

09 Apr 02

~ Louisiana / Hispanic Local History and Genealogy in the United States

Portion of a bibliography listing titles for research on two primary topics: histories of **American families of Hispanic origin**, and histories of **places**.

http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/hispanic/louisiana.html - 11.4KB

09 Apr 02

~ Hispanic Reading Room / Library of Congress

Luso-Hispanic materials may be found throughout the collections of the Library of Congress, in all of the Library's reading rooms. Visit the reading rooms online.

<http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/hispanic/hisp4.html> - 9.2KB

05 May 02

~ Hispanic Local History and Genealogy in the United States
Bibliography listing titles for research on two primary topics: **histories of American families of Hispanic origin**, and **histories of places** in the United States.

http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/hispanic/ - 7.9KB

09 Apr 02

~ Genealogy / Hispanic Division / Library of Congress

This page offers an **online index**.

http://www.loc.gov/rr/hispanic/geneal/index_gc.html - 8.5KB

02 Apr 02

~ Hispanic Reading Room / Library of Congress

Go to: General Information | Guides and Reference Aids | The Collections | Exhibits | Explore **Luso-Hispanic** Internet Sources The reading room, named after the Hispanic Society ...

<http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/hispanic/hisptext.html> - 21.7KB

02 Apr 02

F. Religion

~ **Wesley Theological Seminary** Library: (Religion Collections in Libraries and Archives)

<http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/main/religion/wts.html> - 3.9KB

19 Apr 02

~ **Washington National Cathedral Rare Book** Library: (Religion Collections in Libraries and ...

Guide to materials on religion in the Washington National Cathedral Rare Book Library.

<http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/main/religion/crb.html> - 13.8KB

19 Apr 02

~ **Episcopal Diocese of Maryland** Archives (Religion Collections in Libraries and Archives) Guide to materials on religion in The Episcopal Diocese of Maryland Archives. Provides contact information, hours and policies.

<http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/main/religion/mddioces.html> - 18.4KB

19 Apr 02

G. Canada

~ SELECTED INTERNET RESOURCES: **Canada: Libraries and Archives** (Library of Congress)

Links to external web sites regarding Canadian libraries and archives

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/international/main/canada/library.html> - 6.3KB

09 May 02

~ Alcove 9--**Canada: Libraries and Archives**

Internet sites related to Canadian libraries and archives

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/main/alcove9/canada/library.html> - 4.7KB

09 May 02

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H. Denmark

~ **Danish Immigration** to America: An Annotated Bibliography of Resources (Library of Congress)

This bibliography contains titles that describe Scandinavian emigrations in general, both within Scandinavia and beyond.

http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/danish.html - 33.7KB

16 May 02

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I. Hebraic

~ About the **Hebraic Collections, African and Middle Eastern**

Information about the Hebraic collections, African Middle Eastern Reading Room, Library of Congress.

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/amed/hs/hscoll.html> - 11.5KB

04 Apr 02

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J. Iceland

~ **Icelandic and Faroese Collections** at the Library of Congress

This page provides a description of the highlights of the Icelandic collections at the Library of Congress

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/european/coll/icel.html> - 20.3KB

17 May 02

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K. Norway

~ A Select Bibliography of Works: **Norwegian-American Immigration** and Local History. Norwegian migration to North American began on July 4, 1825, with the sailing of the sloop Restauration from Stavanger bound for New York City.

http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/norway.html - 34.9KB

16 May 02

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L. Russia

~ Meeting of Frontiers: National Library of **Russia** Partners

<http://international.loc.gov/intldl/mtfhtml/mfprttrs/mfprtlnr.html> - 19.9KB

01 Feb 02

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M. Microform

~ A Guide to the Microform Collections: **B** (Library of Congress)

These vast collections represent global information ranging from human prehistory to unidentified flying objects. The formats are as diverse as newspaper clippings.

<http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/microform/guide/b.html> - 74.4KB

19 Apr 02

~ A Guide to the Microform Collections: **G** (Library of Congress)

These vast collections represent global information ranging from human prehistory to unidentified flying objects. The formats are as diverse as newspaper clippings.

<http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/microform/guide/g.html> - 31.8KB

19 Apr 02

~ A Guide to the Microform Collections: **K-L** (Library of Congress)

These vast collections represent global information ranging from human prehistory to unidentified flying objects. The formats are as diverse as newspaper clippings.

<http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/microform/guide/kl.html> - 49.3KB

19 Apr 02

~ A Guide to the Microform Collections: **S** (Library of Congress)

These vast collections represent global information ranging from human prehistory to unidentified flying objects. The formats are as diverse as newspaper clippings.

<http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/microform/guide/s.html> - 96.2KB

19 Apr 02

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N. Czechoslovakia

~ The Czechs in America

This page provides a chronology, bibliography, and illustrations concerning the **immigration of Czechs** to the United States.

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/european/imcz/ndl.html> - 31.6KB

03 Apr 02

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O. Employment Records

~ Sources cited in **Business and Employment Records**, by Kory L. Meyerink, published in Chapter 10 of *the Source: a guidebook of American ...*

<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/toc/becites/96041402.10.refs.html> - 25.1KB

07 Mar 02

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P. Surnames

~ Surnames: A Selected List of **References about Personal Names** (Library of Congress) Bibliographies, periodicals and surnames by country

http://www.loc.gov/rr/genealogy/bib_guid/surnames.html - 56.5KB

16 May 02

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I promised I'd share how to get around materials that the LoC won't send out via Inter-Library Loan (ILL). Here it is:

Many items requested on ILL are now being scanned and delivered as digital files. ILL customers can now download and print these items as soon as the citation appears on the Digital Interlibrary Loan link, shown below:

<http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/loan/illscanhome.html>

You can request that "your" items be scanned, too. The Library of Congress no longer accepts paper or fax ILL requests, but they will be accepted using an ISO protocol compliant email request form. To access the form, have your local library go to: **Interlibrary Loan Request Form** at the following address:

<http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/loan/illrequest.html>

Your **local librarian** must fill out the form (not you), and include all "mandatory" information, and as much other information as possible. She will click on "Submit," and your request will be received in the CALM (Collections Access, Loan and Management) Division at the Library of Congress. The mandatory information includes:

~ 1. Requesting Library Account Number (if your library does not have an account, they can call: 202-707-5441, from 9:00 - 5:00 EST M-F)

~ 2. ILL Request Number

~ 3. Requesting Library Name

~ 4. Book/Journal Title

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Photoduplication Services via the Internet

Unlike CALM, the good folks over in the Adams Building still accept faxes and mail, thus further justifying the postal rate increases, I suppose. I prefer email, and they accept that, too. Before you rush to order scans, prints and CD-ROMS, however, I suggest you check **three** things first:

~ 1. Search American Memory, or through the virtual reading rooms such as the Prints & Photographs Division or Geography and Maps Division to see if the images you want are available. Write the digital ID down for them to reference.

. American Memory: <http://memory.loc.gov/>

. Prints & Photographs: <http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/print/>

. Geography and Maps Division (1500 - 2002):

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/gmdhtml/gmdhome.html>

~ 2. Write down the item's title, type of material, the LoC Control Number and the Call Number on the Photoduplication Service order form. Services and pricing information can be found on the Digital Imaging Services Web page:

<http://lcweb.loc.gov/preserv/pds/digital.html>

~ 3. Check your wallet! These are not inexpensive. A digital color photographic print measuring 30" x 40" that meets archival standards costs \$203.00. Ok, that is the highest price I know of, but even 300 dpi images copied to CD-ROM run 75 cents each. One hundred of those on a CD-ROM would be \$75, with plenty room on the disk for more.

I hope this has whetted your appetite for the research at the Library of Congress. I've not gone in depth into any one subject and I've not discussed Surname studies and similar areas of interest at all, but they are there! Your tax dollars help pay for this resource – use it often. Use it well.

Thank you for your attention.