

A History of our Nation

Historical Publications

U.S. Government
Information Division

Oklahoma
Department of Libraries



A Century of Service

Because Oklahoma's Territorial Library became a depository for publications from the U.S. government in 1893, we have received many interesting historical sources. We have also acquired many historical sources in either the original format or republished on microfiche. These are a few notable sources:

The Serial Set

The *Serial Set* is our most important source of historical materials. It contains more than 50,000 titles published by Congress from 1789 to the present. It includes the reports, documents, and administrative reports of Congressional committees; the *Journal of Senate* and *Journal of the House of Representatives*; reports to Congress from federal agencies, such as annual reports; messages from the President; and the *American State Papers*, 38 volumes of documents from the first thirteen congresses.

We have the complete *Serial Set* collection on microfiche, most of the paper volumes published since 1900, and many of the earlier years as well. Includes other titles, such as *Pentagon Papers*, the *Rebellion Records*, and reports about Watergate and Iran-Contra. Please ask for a separate brochure on the *Serial Set*.

The Congressional Record

The *Congressional Record* is a record of what is said on the floor of Congress. Published every day that Congress is in session, it cumulates in a permanent bound edition. There are four sections: the proceedings of the Senate and House; "Extensions of Remarks," which consists of previously published materials that members of Congress wish to include in the record; and a "Daily Digest." We have all of the *Congressional Record* and its predecessors -- the *Annals of Congress*, the *Register of Debates*, and the *Congressional Globe*.

Congressional Committee Hearings and Prints; Senate Documents and Reports

We have acquired microfiche copies of all known committee hearings and prints of Congress, and all Senate Executive Documents and Reports. The earliest hearing included in the set dates back to 1833. These include many primary sources for the study of American history, such as the "Hearing Before the Committee on Woman Suffrage" of February 21, 1894.

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The Rebellion Records

The *Rebellion Records*, with the official title of *Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, comprises 128 volumes. We also have the *Official Records of the Union and Confederate Navies in the War of Rebellion*, 30 volumes. Both collect the official records and documents of the armies and navies that fought in the Civil War. We also have the atlas volume that contains maps of the battles. *Note:* You will need patience working with these materials; the original indexing is not good.

Bureau of Ethnology Bulletins and Other Publications

The U.S. Bureau of Ethnology was created in 1879 to study the American Indian. During its 85-year history, the anthropologists who worked for the Bureau published materials that are still being used in researching the history of Native Americans. The bulletins were published separately, and many of them were also published in the *Serial Set*. They include such reports as *A Dictionary of the Osage Language*, and *Source Material on the History and Ethnology of the Caddo Indians*.

Hours of Operation

8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Monday - Friday

Indian Claims Commission Publications

The U.S. Indian Claims Commission was created in 1946 to serve as a tribunal for hearing and determining claims prior to 1946 against the U.S. by Indian tribes. Reports, all on microfiche, consist of the decisions of the Commission and copies of the testimony and documents of expert witnesses on behalf of the tribes. The expert testimony includes appraisals of Indian lands, histories of tribes, and studies of Indian areas.

Journals of the Continental Congress

These 34 volumes contain the documents of the Continental Congress, which existed from 1774 to 1789.

Warren Commission Report

Controversial since its publication, the 26 volumes of the report on the assassination of President Kennedy continues to be consulted. Only Adequately indexed.

Watergate

The congressional hearings and reports about Watergate are scattered throughout the *Serial Set* and hearings of the Senate Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities. We have an index to these materials and to the "Nixon Tapes."

Fun and Free

Because of the nature of these materials, we do not circulate most of them. If we have them on microfiche, we can make a microfiche copy for you. Most paper format publications may be photocopied, but volumes in poor physical shape can not be copied.

We encourage you to call us or send us an e-mail message with your questions. Our mission is to provide access to federal government information to the people of Oklahoma.

Contact us for more information about how you can use the primary texts that we have for researching American history.