

Resource Sharing

The research resources of the New York State Library — digital, microform and print — are available via interlibrary loan to researchers across the State.

Interlibrary loan — An updated Interlibrary loan system, which includes e-mail delivery, speeds receipt of resources. The State Library is among more than 100 libraries throughout New York State participating in the LAND state-wide delivery service.

Borrower's Card — As New York State Government employees, SUNY faculty and staff statewide are eligible for a New York State Library 'P' (Privileged) Borrower's Card. The 'P' number card provides access to the Library's circulating print and microform collections and off-site access to nearly all the Research Library's online databases.

Other (non-State employed) faculty, staff, researchers and students who are New York State residents are eligible for a New York State Library 'R' (Resident) Borrower's Card. The 'R' card provides holders who are onsite with the ability to borrow material directly from the Library's circulating print and microform collections and access to online databases as well as remote access to **NOVELNY** online resources.

All New Yorkers may also access **NOVELNY** using their New York State Driver's License or valid non-driver ID.

For More Information

For information about the New York State Library or **NOVELNY**, go to www.nysl.nysed.gov.

For information on a New York State Library Borrower's Card, go to www.nysl.nysed.gov/apply.htm or send an email to Circ@mail.nysed.gov.

For information about Library collections, call the Reference Desk at (518)474-5355 or send an email by using the form at www.nysl.nysed.gov/refserv.htm.

For information about Manuscripts and Special Collections, call (518)474-6282 or send an email to mscolls@mail.nysed.gov.

For more information on the New York State Library or libraries in New York State, contact Bernard Margolis, New York State Librarian and Assistant Commissioner for Libraries, at (518)474-5930 or via email at

New York State Library

The New York State Library provides college and university faculty, researchers, professionals and students with access to scholarly and academic collections.



Collections – Online & Onsite

The State Library offers scholars access to a research collection of over 20 million items. With a focus on the culture and history of New York State, the New York State Library's collection is particularly strong in law, medicine, social sciences, education, American and New York State history, science, technology, and Federal and NY State documents. The State Library also subscribes to numerous online resources that complement our print and microform collections. The strengths of our online resources are in the areas of business, technology, law, health and medicine, humanities, science, grants, history and newspapers.

The State Library's participation as a founding member of *PORTICO*, an e-journal archiving service, ensures access to peer reviewed, scholarly journals over time.

Government Records

As the New York State regional depository for United States government publications, the State Library maintains a collection of every document distributed under the Government Printing Office Depository Library Program. The State Library also owns large microform collections of NTIS materials, ERIC documents and NASA documents. In addition, the State Library owns many commercially produced microform collections that complement and supplement the US government documents collection, such as *CIS US Serial Set*, *U.S. Executive Branch Documents, 1789—1932*, *Declassified Documents Reference System*, and *Unpublished U.S. Senate Committee Hearings*.

One of the highlights of the State Library's federal government documents collection is the decennial and non-decennial census publications since 1790 in print or microfiche. The collection includes census maps showing tracts, blocks, metropolitan areas, congressional districts and school districts. Census materials are available in print, microfiche, CD-ROM, data tape formats, as well as through the Internet.

Since its creation in 1818, the New York State Library has been a repository of official New York State Government publications including those of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of State government; State Commissions; and public authorities. The Library has the world's largest collection of New York State Government documents. Since 1995, the State Library has been scanning New York State government documents and providing free access to these digital versions through its online catalog at www.nysl.nysed.gov. In addition, non-operational web sites from former programs and initiatives of New York State Government are now accessible through a State Library program with the OCLC Web Archiving Services, in partnership with the New York State Archives.

Legacy Collections

The Library's Manuscripts and Special Collections unit provides access to and preservation of the Library's collections of archives and manuscripts, rare books, maps and atlases, prints and photographs, broadsides and posters, musical scores and ephemera dating from the early 17th century to the present.

Many of the collections are of national interest because of New York State's role in U.S. history, including the papers and records of individuals and organizations. Collection highlights include...

- President Abraham Lincoln's handwritten draft of the Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation issued on September 22, 1862.
- Small collection of Frederick Douglass letters from 1855 - 1857 .
- The Winnewisser collection documenting over two centuries of New York State gubernatorial campaigns and elections.

Digitizing Vulnerable Historic Resources

The Library's digitization program scans rare and original documents in the collection so that even the most fragile will be accessible for teaching and research. Digitized titles are freely available to all through the State Library's web site. Examples of titles that have been digitized include the statistical schedules of the *Census of New York State*, the *New York Red Book* (1892-1923) and the *Bulletin of the New York State Museum*. Recently, the State Library collaborated with the New York State French and Indian War 250th Anniversary Commemoration Commission to digitize transcriptions of the Library's Sir William Johnson papers as part of their celebration of the 250th anniversary of the French and Indian War. The papers will be available on a State Library sponsored web site.

Newspaper Collections

Records and accounts of current events from the present and from the historic past are preserved in the Library's extensive microfilm collection of more than two centuries of New York State newspapers. The State Library also owns two commercially produced newspaper microform collections: *American Newspapers, 1690-1820* and *Early English Newspapers* (1603—1818). Newspapers on microfilm are available for use onsite and through Interlibrary Loan.

The State Library subscribes to a number of online newspaper databases providing access to current and historical newspapers such as *African American Newspapers: the 19th Century*; *America's Historical Newspapers*; *The New York Times—Historical*; *Civil War: A Newspaper Perspective*; and *America's Newspapers: New York*.