

*A Selection of Electronic Resources for the Study of Colonial and Early National
North America*

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I. Full-Text Resources, grouped by publisher/provider and/or series

Alexander Street Press

North American Women's Letters and Diaries. Colonial to 1950 (NWLD)
[http://turing.library.northwestern.edu/login?url=http://www.alexanderstreet2.com/
NWLDLive/](http://turing.library.northwestern.edu/login?url=http://www.alexanderstreet2.com/NWLDLive/)

Early Encounters in North America: People, Cultures, and the Environment
(EENA)
<http://er.library.northwestern.edu/brief.php?arg=early+encounters+in+north&st=quick>

Collections of fully-searchable text, chiefly published materials. Extremely powerful search engines, and innovative search capabilities make these products unique. User Guide is available online. NWLD contains the letters and diaries of over 1,300 women; contains some facsimile manuscripts. EENA currently contains 1,482 authors and over 100,000 pages of letters, diaries, memoirs and accounts of early encounters. Employs PhiloLogic software developed at University of Chicago.

Archive of Americana/Readex. This series includes the three databases listed below.

Early American Imprints, Series I: Evans, 1639-1800. [Evans Digital Edition]
<http://er.library.northwestern.edu/brief.php?arg=evans+digital+&st=quick>

Early American Imprints, Series II: Shaw-Shoemaker, 1801-1819
<http://er.library.northwestern.edu/brief.php?arg=early+american+imprints+series+ii&st=quick>

Early American Newspapers, Series I: 1690-1876
<http://er.library.northwestern.edu/brief.php?arg=early+american+newspapers&st=quick>

Early American Imprints, Series I: Evans, 1639-1800, more commonly known as *Evans Digital Edition*, is a collection of searchable full-text images of the works listed in Charles Evans' *American Bibliography; a chronological dictionary of all books, pamphlets, and periodical publications printed in the United States of America from the genesis of printing in 1639 down to and including the year 1820* (Chicago, 1903-1959; 14 volumes; available in Main Reference L 015.73 E92). Evans, however, only reached the year 1800, but his work was continued by Ralph R. Shaw and Richard Shoemaker, in *American bibliography, a preliminary checklist for 1801-1819* (New York, 1958-65; 20 volumes; available in Main Reference 015.73 S535a), as well as other supplements. Digital facsimiles of the works listed by Shaw and Shoemaker are now available as *Early American Imprint, Series II: 1801-1819*. The library's third holding in the Archive of Americana collection is *Early American Newspaper. Series I*, which provides the full-

text of many of the papers listed in Clarence Brigham's *History and Bibliography of American Newspapers, 1690-1820* (Worcester, Mass., 1947; additions and corrections, 1961; 2 volumes; available in Main Reference L 016.071 B855h).

LexisNexis

LexisNexis U.S. Serial Set Digital Collection.

Covers the period 1789 to the present. Includes House and Senate reports and documents. Accessible via

<http://er.library.northwestern.edu/details.php?rid=34349&pn=1>

Guides available online at:

<http://www.library.northwestern.edu/govpub/resource/federal/serialset.html> and by clicking on the "How Do I?" button, located on the upper right side of the basic screen.

Advanced Search mode allows users to search for material by date, or to search the "Serial Set Only" option. For more information about this resource, inquire in the Government and Geographic Information and Data Services Department

<http://www.library.northwestern.edu/govpub/index.html>

Gale Group/Thomson-Gale

ECCO: Eighteenth-Century Collections Online.

<http://er.library.northwestern.edu/brief.php?arg=ecco&st=quick>

Making of the Modern Economy: The Goldsmiths-Kress Library of Economic Literature 1450-1850.

<http://er.library.northwestern.edu/brief.php?arg=making+of+the+modern+economy&st=quick&search=GO>

Making of Modern Law: Legal Treatises, 1800-1926 .

<http://er.library.northwestern.edu/brief.php?arg=making+of+modern+law&st=quick>

Times [of London] Digital Archive, 1785-1985

<https://turing.library.northwestern.edu/login?url=http://infotrac.galegroup.com/itw/eb/northwestern?db=TTDA>

These databases contain fully-searchable text; each has a slightly different content focus. ECCO is a comprehensive digital edition of *The Eighteenth Century*, said to be the world's largest microfilm library of the printed book. ECCO, when complete, will include digital versions of nearly 150,000 English-language titles and editions published between 1701 and 1800; it will ultimately include English and foreign-language titles printed in the United Kingdom, as well as important works from the Americas. *Making of the Modern Economy* provides digital facsimile images on every page of 61,000 works of literature on economics and business published from 1450 through 1850, with full-text searching on over 12 million pages. This latter database is based on the microfilm set, the Goldsmiths-Kress Library of Economic Literature. Finally, *Making of the Modern Law* provides digital images on every page of 22,000 legal treatises on U.S. and British law published from 1800 through 1926.

Geostat Center, University of Virginia.

<http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/collections/stats/histcensus/index.html>

Use to access **Historical Census Browser**, which includes material beginning in 1790. Direct link to Historical Census Browser is <http://fisher.lib.virginia.edu/collections/stats/histcensus/index.html>

Past Masters/Intelelex

Collection of fully-searchable classic texts in the humanities. Scholarly editions, in English and other languages. Vast array of texts includes works of Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, John Jay, Thomas Paine, major English-language political theorists. It is important to look at the collections as well as the individual names, as not all texts are listed by author's name (for example, Hamilton, Madison and Jay are to be found in the section entitled "Political Philosophy: Machiavelli to Mill.") URL for Past Masters:

<http://einstein.library.northwestern.edu/V/TC89KA27TSABXNGSLR73IG8AU62EP9L7S14J552GYI5HNA1C1S-13323?func=find-db-1-locate&mode=locate&F-WCL=past+masters&F-WPB=&F-WFL=&F-WRD=&F-WTY=&restricted=all>

ProQuest/UMI

American Periodical Series (APSONline), 1740-1900. .

<http://turing.library.northwestern.edu/login?url=http://proquest.umi.com/login?C OPT=SU5UPTAmVkVSPTImREJTPTE0NEQ@&clientId=30032>

Contains the full text of American periodicals which began publication between 1740/41 and 1900. The online collection is based on the microfilm collection of the same name. The complete microfilm collection is not available at Northwestern, though it is available in the Chicago area.

Early American Fiction, 1789-1875.

http://turing.library.northwestern.edu/login?url=http://collections.chadwyck.com/home/home_eaf2.jsp

Full-text over 700+ first editions of American novels and short stories. Sponsored by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the University of Virginia Library, published by ProQuest Information & Learning in conjunction with the University of Virginia.

U.S. Census Bureau

Visit the site below for Historical Census Reports at <http://www.census.gov/population/www/censusdata/hiscendata.html> including a PDF of the historical census reports for 1790-1860, and a PDF of the *Bicentennial Edition of Historical Statistics of the United States. Colonial Times to 1970*. The latter is also available as a networked CD, see *Historical Statistics of the United States on CD ROM: Colonial Times to 1970. Bicentennial Edition*, available <http://er.library.northwestern.edu/details.php?rid=42490> .

For information on using these resources, and other historical government materials, visit the Government and Geographic Information and Data Services Department at <http://www.library.northwestern.edu/govpub/index.html>

II. Selected Reference Resources, grouped by publisher/provider

ABC-Clio Information Services.

America: History and Life (AHL).

<http://er.library.northwestern.edu/brief.php?arg=america+history+and+life&st=quick>

Historical Abstracts.

<http://er.library.northwestern.edu/brief.php?arg=historical+abstracts&st=quick&search=GO>

AHL provides an index to and abstracts of articles, dissertations, and book/media reviews on topics in the history of the United States and Canada from prehistory to the present. The companion product, called *Historical Abstracts*, covers the history of the world (exclusive of the United States and Canada) for the period 1450 to the present.

EBSCO

MLA (Modern Language Association) International Bibliography

[http://turing.library.northwestern.edu/login?url=http://web5s.silverplatter.com/webbspirs/start.ws?customer=c99472&databases=S\(MLAD\)](http://turing.library.northwestern.edu/login?url=http://web5s.silverplatter.com/webbspirs/start.ws?customer=c99472&databases=S(MLAD))

Index to about 3,700 periodicals in language, literature, linguistics, and folklore.

ATLA [American Theological Library Association] Religion Database with ATLA Serials

<https://turing.library.northwestern.edu/login?url=http://search.epnet.com/login.asp?custid=s8513679&profile=web&defaultdb=rfh>

Index to, and some full text of, journals representing all major religious faiths and denominations.

Oxford University Press

American National Biography (ANB Online) Updated quarterly

<https://turing.library.northwestern.edu/login?url=http://www.anb.org/>

Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (Oxford DNB Online). Updated three times a year.

<https://turing.library.northwestern.edu/login?url=http://www.oxforddnb.com/>

ANB Online is published by Oxford under the auspices of the American Council of Learned Societies; there is also a print version, but this contains fewer biographies (24 volumes, available Main Reference 920.073 A5127). The online edition includes over 18,300 biographies, including the 17,435 from the print edition. Over 900 articles from the *Oxford Companion to United States History* are available on the same site. Cross-references to the *DNB Online*. User guides available online. The *Oxford DNB Online* is a monumental work; it, too, has a print version (60 volumes, available in Main Reference 920.042 D554 2004; note that older versions of the DNB are available, search NUCat for call numbers). Included are (to quote the DNB web site) “people who were born and lived in the British Isles; people from the British Isles who achieved recognition in other countries; people who lived in territories formerly connected to the British Isles at a time when they were in contact with British rule; and people born elsewhere who settled in the British Isles for significant periods or whose visits enabled them to leave a mark on British life. The dictionary treats the nation very broadly: its earliest subjects lived long

before the nation state existed; its geographical range extends to all the changing national entities that have combined in varied ways at different stages to form Britain; and its coverage extends beyond the British Isles to consider subjects from imperial and commonwealth history.” Online introduction and guides are essential reading. Online DNB is updated on a regular basis.

LexisNexis

LexisNexis Congressional (see U.S. Serial Set, under LexisNexis in Section I above).

National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)

<http://www.archives.gov/research/>

This site includes The Archival Research Catalog (ARC) and NARA’s Microfilm Catalog, among other things.

ProQuest/UMI

ArchivesUSA.

<http://turing.library.northwestern.edu/login?url=http://archives.chadwyck.com/>

Current directory of 5,596 repositories and over 154,000 collections of primary source material housed across the United States.

Dissertation Abstracts/ProQuest Digital Dissertations.

<http://turing.library.northwestern.edu/login?url=http://www.lib.umi.com/dissertations/gateway>

The online version includes bibliographic citations to U.S. dissertations. Dissertations since 1997 have 24 page PDF previews available online. For abstracts of earlier dissertation, visit print volumes in Main lower level reference 378.7 M626.

III. Some general sources for locating journals

History Subject Page, section Electronic Journals, available

http://www.library.northwestern.edu/collections/history/e_journals.html

Provides links to JSTOR, Periodical Contents Index (PCI), and other sources. Users are also advised to check NUcat for journal titles.

IV. Catalogs of Other Area Libraries (selected)

Center for Research Libraries (CRL)

<http://crlcatalog.uchicago.edu/screens/mainmenu.html>

Extremely important source for primary source materials, including microfilm/fiche collections. Some CRL materials are cataloged in NUcat. To browse CRL’s holdings, visit the URL above. Note that not all of CRL’s materials are cataloged, so it is important to visit various parts of their web site for information on resources.

Chicago Historical Society <http://www.chicagohistory.org/collections/index.html>

The Newberry Library <http://www.newberry.org/>

The Newberry's online catalog includes records added since 1978, and contains about 30% of the library's holdings. To see the extent of the Newberry's holdings, visit the library and peruse their card catalog.

University of Chicago <http://libcat.uchicago.edu/ipac20/ipac.jsp?profile=ucpublic>

For other links to area libraries, and to **WorldCat**, click on <http://www.library.northwestern.edu/catalogs/index.html>

V. Microfilm/fiche

Online guide to microforms (film and fiche) for the study of history, exclusive of African history, at Northwestern University Library. Available <http://www.library.northwestern.edu/collections/history/microfilmguide.html>

Center for Research Libraries (CRL) See Section III above <http://crlcatalog.uchicago.edu/screens/mainmenu.html>

VI. Northwestern University Library Online Research Guides, by Subject <http://www.library.northwestern.edu/collections/>

Includes links to other library resources in English and American literatures; religion; etc.