

Hofstra University
Peter S. Kalikow Center for the Study of the American Presidency
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**ONLINE RESEARCH SOURCES IN THE LYNDON B. JOHNSON
PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM**

The Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum was dedicated in May 1971. Speaking at the dedication, former President Johnson described the library as “the story of our time with the bark off.” The Library spans thirty acres of the University of Texas at Austin, and contains some 45 million document pages, 650,000 photographs, and 5,000 recordings, including more than 600 hours of Johnson’s recorded telephone conversations about his life, political career, and presidency. The Museum contains more than 54,000 objects donated by the Johnson family, their friends and associates, and the American people.

The Library’s website includes a detailed biography about Johnson as well as an annotated timeline with photographs. The website also includes a “Getting It Done” page that discusses landmark legislation passed during the Johnson presidency. A link to key speeches by and videos about Johnson is available as well. The main page additionally provides links to information on conducting research at the library, library exhibits, and educational resources.

LBJ Presidential Library
<http://www.lbjlibrary.org/>

RESEARCH

The Research page of the Library website includes an online list of holdings, finding aids, and subject guides. Certain collections are available online, such as Johnson’s daily diary, digital clips of telephone conversations, selected photos, audio and video recordings, and oral histories, and National Security Action Memoranda (NSAM). Special collections that may be viewed fully online include the 1934 courtship letters between Johnson and Claudia Alta “Lady Bird” Taylor, and “November 22, 1963: Tragedy and Transition.”

The audiovisual collection contains still pictures, sound recording tapes, videotape recordings, and motion pictures (see Other Resources below for

information on digitized collection of motion pictures from the White House Naval Photographic Unit, 1963-1969, at Hofstra University). Short descriptions are available online, but most materials may be viewed onsite only at the library. Most audio-visual materials also may be reproduced for purchase.

The oral history collection compiles interviews from four projects: National Archives interviews, White House interviews during the Johnson administration, the University of Texas Oral History Project, and the LBJ Library Oral History Project. Selected oral histories are available online, and others may be borrowed from the library through the mail.

EXHIBITS

The Library website provides information on three types of exhibits: current, permanent, and online. Current exhibits include "Objects Within Our Collection," "Cornerstones of Civil Rights," and "Sixty from the 60s." A description of each exhibit is available online, along with selected images and, in some cases, video discussion.

Permanent exhibits include "The Vietnam Conflict," "Civil Rights," "The Legacy Gallery," "The Oval Office," and "LBJ's Presidential Limousine." Descriptions and images are available for each exhibit, along with special features such as "Then and Now," "Did You Know . . ." and "Topic Talk."

Online exhibits include "Tragedy and Transition," "The 1934 Courtship Letters," "Artifacts in the Oval Office," "Selected Interactive Daily Diary," and "Artifact of the Week." Each online exhibit includes a detailed description, images, and the special features identified above. The digitized Daily Diary dates back to 1959, during Johnson's tenure as Senate majority leader, and may be searched by keyword or date. Johnson's secretaries compiled the daily diary, and the Library has developed multi-media presentations for such significant dates as the 1964 presidential election (November 3, 1964) and the creation of Medicare (July 30, 1965).

EDUCATION

The Education page of the library contains many resources for elementary, secondary, and college classes. The library offers two-hour, onsite interactive

simulations for students on such topics as civil rights, Cold War spying, and Vietnam. Brief descriptions are available online. The Education page also includes links to the LBJ Museum in San Marcos, and the National Archives's "Presidential Timeline" page, which features exhibits, primary sources, and education activities for each U.S. president. Additionally, the Educational Resources link provides PDF worksheets for analyzing written documents, photos, artifacts, sound recordings, motion pictures, and more.

For a few topics, teachers have developed lesson plans with supporting documents that the LBJ Library makes available online. Including are foundational topics in American politics, such as the U.S. Constitution and Policymaking, as well as topics specific to the LBJ Presidency, such as LBJ's Great Society, the immigration law of 1965, and the Tet Offensive.

OTHER RESOURCES

As noted under Research, the Library has a collection of motion pictures from the White House Naval Photographic Unit (NPC) that cover special trips, visits, and events during the Johnson presidency from 1966-1969. Commander Thomas Atkins produced these films for the NPC, starting in 1963 in the John F. Kennedy administration and continuing through the Johnson years. About 43 films are available for viewing on the Library's YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL853F6EAB74B64D1D>.

Hofstra University's Peter S. Kalikow Center for the Study of the American Presidency has a full digitized set of the Atkins films, which are available for research in the Joan and Donald E. Axinn Library's Special Collections room. The Kalikow Center gratefully acknowledges the gift of this set from Commander Atkins's family as well as funding to transfer the original films into DVDs from the Atkins Foundation [CHECK]. More information on the films is available through the Kalikow Center website and a special website about Commander Atkins, both of which follow:

<http://www.hofstra.edu/academics/colleges/hclas/prssty/>

<http://eyesofthepresident.com/>