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**ONLINE RESEARCH SOURCES IN THE HARRY S. TRUMAN
PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM**

The Harry S. Truman Presidential Museum & Library was dedicated in July 1957 in Independence, Missouri. It was the first Presidential Library created following passage of the 1955 Presidential Libraries Act. The Library contains archives, manuscripts, books, and audiovisual materials pertaining to the life and times of President Truman. It has approximately 15 million pages of manuscript materials (about 6.5 million of which are White House files) as well as some 112,000 pictures, 1,000 hours of audio and tape recordings, 400 motion pictures, and 75 hours of video tape recordings.

The files on President Truman focus primarily on his White House years, but also include papers from his pre-presidential career, including his work as farmer, soldier, businessman, Missouri politician, and U.S. Senator. The Library also has more than 450 manuscript collections of people who worked closely with Truman officially or personally throughout his career.

Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum

<https://www.trumanlibrary.org/>

Research

The Research page of the Truman Library website contains links to selected finding aids, documents, government records, audio-visual materials, and oral histories. The Harry S. Truman Papers contain more than 7 million pages, which focus primarily on his Presidential Papers.

Three online finding aids exist for Truman's Pre-Presidential Papers: Papers Pertaining to Family, Business and Personal Affairs, 1910-1959; Papers as Presiding Judge of the Jackson County, Missouri, Court, 1920-1950; and Papers as U.S. Senator and Vice President, 1934-1945. (Many of the papers from Truman's Senate years were destroyed in a fire after they were put in

storage in the Senate Office Building.) Some files are available online, such as the Family Correspondence File, 1910-1959, from 1910-1916.

The Presidential Papers contain online finding aids, with descriptions and folder titles, for several files, including the President's Secretary's Files, 1945-53, the Official File, 1945-53, Public Opinion Mail, Korean War File, 1947-52, Psychological Strategy Board Files, 1951-53, and more. Finding aids for files named for individual staff members, such as Clark M. Clifford, Special Counsel to the President, 1946-50, and George M. Elsey, Administrative Assistant to the President, 1949-51, also are available online. An online finding aid for Truman's Post-Presidential Papers, 1953-72, is available as well.

The Library also has approximately 500 oral history interviews officials in the Truman administration as well as the president's political associates and friends. Many transcripts are available in full online, and others may be borrowed through interlibrary loan.

The audio-visual section of the Library contains approximately 500 motion picture films of or about President Truman; audio recordings of selected addresses by or interviews with Truman (with printed texts available online); nearly 40,000 photographs, with an online searchable database; and selected sound recordings of Truman's speeches and remarks from 1934 to 1968. Detailed collection descriptions, selected transcripts, and thumbnail photographs are available online.

The Official Documents section of the Research webpage contains the full text of President Truman's executive orders, proclamations, and public papers from 1945-1953. Each database may be searched by keyword online.

The Research webpage also contains links to descriptive information on President Truman's Cabinet, Calendar, Travel Logs, and White House Staff. Links to related materials of interest in the National Archives are listed as well. The page additionally identifies recently declassified documents from the Truman archives, with File and Box number provided.

Museum

The Museum contains two permanent exhibitions, "Truman: The Presidential Years" and "Harry S. Truman: His Life and Times." Each exhibit has an online version that includes a teaching curriculum and descriptions of each part of the exhibit. Exhibit topics in "The Presidential Years," for example, include "Taking Office," "Decision to Drop the Bomb," "Recognition of Israel," "Upset of the Century," "Cold War Turns Hot," and more. The teaching curriculum contains MS Word files with descriptions and sample exercises on such topics as "The Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan," "Korean War: The General vs the President," and "The Burden of Command: The Banning Letter."

The Museum website also contains numerous other online exhibits, including "American Presidency: Glorious Burden," "Dear Bess: Love Letters from the President," and "NATO at 50." These exhibits contain detailed descriptions and pictures, and some (such as the letters from President to Mrs. Truman) contain images of original documents.

Education

The Education link on the Truman Library website contains numerous resources for students and educators, including a lesson plans database with HTML and PDF files, documents, speeches, cartoons, and photos. Student resources include PowerPoint presentations on the Truman family, a Truman Jeopardy game, a kids page, and elementary and secondary-school lessons. The Truman Library also lends videos about Truman for educational purposes only.