

# Keeper of the Collections Series, Library of Congress Archives

## A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress  
Washington, D.C.  
2021**

Contact information: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/lca.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm2021086423>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadlca.lc021005>

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

Finding aid encoded by Manuscript Division staff, 2021

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Keeper of the Collections Series, Library of Congress Archives

**Inclusive Dates:** 1900-1971

**Bulk Dates:** 1941-1963

**ID no.:** MSS86423

**Creator:** Library of Congress. Keeper of the Collections.

**Extent:** 4,800 items

**Extent:** 62 containers

**Extent:** 15 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

**Location:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm2021086423>

**Summary:** Keeper of the Collections, Library of Congress, an office responsible for the physical custody, security, and preservation of all Library of Congress collections. Correspondence, memoranda, reports, bound volumes, statements, photographs, articles, and card files relating to the office of the Keeper of the Collections, and including a few files from its successor the Office of Collections Maintenance and Preservation and early recording books from the Binding Division.

## Acquisition Information

The records of the Keeper of the Collections came to the Library of Congress Archives in a transfer from the Rare Book and Special Collections Division in 1987 and three transfers from the Central Services Division, two in March 1988 and one in 1991.

## Processing History

The records of the Keeper of the Collections were arranged and described in 1991 by John D. Knowlton. The finding aid was revised and encoded in 2021 by Melinda K. Friend.

## Additional Description

A finding aid for the Library of Congress Archives is available at <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadlca.lc017001>.

## Copyright Status

Materials from the Keeper of the Collections Series, Library of Congress Archives, are governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.) and other applicable international copyright laws.

## Access and Restrictions

The Keeper of the Collections Series, Library of Congress Archives, is open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Division prior to visiting in order to determine whether the desired materials will be available at that time.

## Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or digital ID number, Keeper of the Collections Series, Library of Congress Archives, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Administrative History

Date	Event
1940	Keeper of the Collections position created under the Reference Department with the custodial responsibilities of the department and its various divisions assigned to the position in response to the destruction of historical collections and libraries throughout Europe during the early years of World War II
1940-1963 circa 1942	Alvin W. Kremer served as Keeper of the Collections Keeper of the Collections placed under the Administrative Department with responsibilities for the physical custody, security, and preservation of all Library of Congress collections
1963	The office of the Keeper of the Collections was reorganized and renamed the Office of Collections Maintenance and Preservation
1963-1965	Paul Edlund served as Collections Maintenance and Preservation Officer
1965-1967	August S. Domer served as Collections Maintenance and Preservation Officer
1967	Office of Collections Maintenance and Preservation renamed the Preservation Office with Frazer G. Poole appointed Preservation Officer

## Scope and Content Note

The records of the Keeper of the Collections Series, Library of Congress Archives, span the years 1900-1970, with the bulk of the collection dating from 1941 to 1963. These records also include early recording books of the Binding Division and a few later files from the Office of Collections Maintenance and Preservation. The collection is organized into four series: [Administrative File](#); [Keeper of the Collections, Index to Diary](#); [Evacuation Records, Card Files](#); and [Letterbooks](#).

The collection's series are listed and briefly described below. A fuller description of each series and a list of its contents can be accessed in the series descriptions within the container list.

The [Administrative File](#) contains files relating to the operations and duties of the office of the Keeper of the Collections, a few later files from its successor the Office of Collections Maintenance and Preservation, and early recording books of the Binding Division.

The [Keeper of the Collections, Index to Diary](#) contains card files providing a subject index to the diary of the Keeper of the Collections.

The [Evacuation Records, Card Files](#) contain card files listing books to be removed from the Library of Congress in the event an evacuation is required.

The [Letterbooks](#) contain bound volumes of the outgoing correspondence and reports of Keeper of the Collections Alvin W. Kremer.

## Arrangement of the Collection

This collection is arranged in four series:

- [Administrative File, 1900-1971](#)
- [Keeper of the Collections, Index to Diary, 1948-1957](#)
- [Evacuation Records, Card Files, 1941-1942](#)
- [Letterbooks, 1946-1947](#)

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

### People

Kremer, Alvin W. (Alvin Webster), 1904-1990. Alvin W. Kremer, Keeper of the Collections, correspondence and reports. 1946-1947.

**Organizations**

Delta Collection (Library of Congress)

Library of Congress. Binding Division. Library of Congress. Binding Division records.

Library of Congress. Keeper of the Collections.

Library of Congress. Library of Congress archives.

Library of Congress. Office of Collections Maintenance and Preservation. Library of Congress. Office of Collections Maintenance and Preservation records.

Library of Congress. Reference Department.

**Subjects**

Libraries--Security measures.

Libraries--Special collections--Erotica.

Libraries--Special collections--Pornography.

Library materials--Conservation and restoration.

Library materials--Storage.

Preservation of materials.

**Titles**

*Library of Congress archives, Keeper of the Collections series*

## Description of Series

### Container

BOX 1-27

### Series

#### Administrative File, 1900-1971

The Administrative File series contains files relating to the operations of the office of the Keeper of the Collections including early recording books of the Binding Division and a few later files from the Office of Collections Maintenance and Preservation. Of interest also are files relating to the former Delta Collection comprised of erotica and material deemed pornographic that was seized by United States Bureau of Customs, United States Post Office Department or received by the Copyright Office of the Library. The Delta Collection was dispersed to the general collections in 1964.

Material types include correspondence, reports, memoranda, bound volumes, statements, photographs, and articles.

Arranged as received.

BOX 28-33

#### Keeper of the Collections, Index to Diary, 1948-1957

Card files providing a subject index to the diary of the Keeper of the Collections.

Arranged into two- or three-year increments and therein alphabetically by topic or person.

BOX 34-62

#### Evacuation Records, Card Files, 1941-1942

Card files listing books to be removed from the Library of Congress in the event an evacuation is required.

Arranged alphabetically by Library of Congress classification number.

BOX 63-64

#### Letterbooks, 1946-1947

Bound volumes of the outgoing correspondence and reports of Keeper of the Collections Alvin W. Kremer.

Arranged chronologically.

# Container List

<b>Container</b>	<b>Contents</b>
<b>BOX 1-27</b>	<b>Administrative File, 1900-1971</b> <p>The Administrative File series contains files relating to the operations of the office of the Keeper of the Collections including early recording books of the Binding Division and a few later files from the Office of Collections Maintenance and Preservation. Of interest also are files relating to the former Delta Collection comprised of erotica and material deemed pornographic that was seized by United States Bureau of Customs, United States Post Office Department or received by the Copyright Office of the Library. The Delta Collection was dispersed to the general collections in 1964.</p> <p>Material types include correspondence, reports, memoranda, bound volumes, statements, photographs, and articles.</p> <p>Arranged as received.</p>
<b>BOX 1</b>	Acquisitions Department, 1943-1945
<b>BOX 1</b>	Acquisitions, 1943-1945
<b>BOX 1</b>	Administration, Belmont Conference Center, Elkridge, Md., 1968
<b>BOX 1</b>	Administrative Department, 1947-1948
<b>BOX 1</b>	American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1948
<b>BOX 1</b>	Atmospheric readings, 1958-1961
<b>BOX 1</b>	Beaufort Library, Beaufort, S.C., 1941
<b>BOX 1</b>	Binding, operations, 1940-1943 (3 folders)
<b>BOX 2</b>	Binding, operations, 1944-1952 (8 folders)
<b>BOX 2</b>	Binding, specifications, 1947-1959
<b>BOX 3</b>	Binding, chronological file, 1900, Apr. 24-1903, July 3 (1 vol.)
<b>BOX 4</b>	Binding, chronological file, 1903, July 20-1909, May 5 (1 vol.)
<b>BOX 5</b>	Binding, chronological file, 1909, May 8-1930, Oct. 29 (1 vol.)
<b>BOX 6</b>	Annual reports and binding statements, 1903, June 30-1908, Dec. 31 (1 vol.)
<b>BOX 7</b>	Annual reports and binding statements, 1909, Feb. 2-1914, July 17 (1 vol.)
<b>BOX 8</b>	Annual reports and binding statements, 1914, Sept. 8-1920, July 7 (1 vol.)
<b>BOX 9</b>	Annual reports and binding statements, 1920, July 9-1927, May 3 (1 vol.)
<b>BOX 10</b>	Annual reports and binding statements, 1927, June 3-1933, Aug. 3 (1 vol.)
<b>BOX 11</b>	Annual reports and binding statements, 1933, Aug. 3-1939, May 31 (1 vol.)
<b>BOX 12</b>	Annual reports and binding statements, 1939, June 30-1940, July 31 (1 vol.)

## Administrative File, 1900-1971

Container	Contents
BOX 13	Binding, books sent, 1941, Dec.-1943, Oct. (1 vol.)
BOX 14	Articles of Confederation, 1944-1949
BOX 14	Book replacements, 1941-1942
BOX 14	Books, special file from Verner W. Clapp, 1933-1956
BOX 14	Building Committee, 1946
BOX 14	California Centennial Exhibition, loan of documents, 1950
BOX 14	Captain of the Guard, 1943
BOX 14	Census Library Project, 1942-1944
BOX 14	Circulation Service, 1944
BOX 14	Collation Project, 1947
BOX 14	Collections, arrearages, 1939-1967
BOX 14	Collections, general, 1939-1967
BOX 15	Bill of Rights, 1941-1968 (2 folders)
BOX 15	Collections, Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, 1965-1967
BOX 15	Collections, crowded conditions, 1966
BOX 15	Declaration of Independence, Thomas Jefferson's rough draft, 1947-1951
BOX 16	Collections, equipment, 1958
BOX 16	Delta Collection, general, 1944-1965 (4 folders)
BOX 16	Delta Collection, mutilation, 1956
BOX 16	Delta Collection, record of users, 1951-1955
BOX 16	Dwight D. Eisenhower banner, 1965
BOX 16	Emancipation Proclamation, 1962
BOX 17	Collections, erotica, U.S. Bureau of Customs, 1964-1971
BOX 17	Collections, erotica, U.S. Post Office Department, 1953-1967
BOX 17	Collections, evacuation <a href="#">See Containers 34-62, Evacuation records, card files, series</a>
BOX 17	Collections, exhibits, devices, 1967
BOX 17	Collections, exhibits, general, 1941-1947
BOX 18	Collections, exhibits, alphabetical, 1940-1943
BOX 18	Collections, fire and water damage, 1944-1966
BOX 18	Collections, fumigation and extermination, 1942-1966
BOX 18	Collections, inventory, 1942-1968
BOX 18	Fell, Jesse W., Abraham Lincoln's autobiographical sketch for, 1952
BOX 18	Harris & Ewing Collection, negatives, 1955-1967
BOX 18	Hebrew Scrolls Exhibit, exhibit of ancient Hebrew scrolls discovered in 1947, [Dead Sea Scrolls], 1949
BOX 19	Collections, loans of Library of Congress material, 1963-1971
BOX 19	Collections, Main (Thomas Jefferson Building) and Annex (John Adams Building), 1968
BOX 19	Collections, marking and identification, general, 1940-1967
BOX 19	Laminating machine, 1954
BOX 19	Collections, laxities, photographs, 1957-1959
BOX 19	Lincoln, Abraham, ambrotypes and daguerreotypes, 1952-1966
BOX 19	Abraham Lincoln papers, opening of Robert Todd Lincoln collection of Lincoln papers, 1947
BOX 19	L'Enfant, Pierre Charles, Panoramic view of West Point, New York showing American encampments on the Hudson River, 1951

## Administrative File, 1900-1971

Container	Contents
BOX 19	Magna Carta, exhibition of Lacock Abbey Magna Carta, 1948
BOX 20	Collections, marking and identification, book plates, 1946-1964
BOX 20	Collections, marking and identification, manuscripts, 1953-1954
BOX 20	Collections, marking and identification, maps and atlases, 1954-1959
BOX 20	Collections, marking and identification, Roberts Numbering Machines, 1945-1946
BOX 20	Collections, microfilm, 1943-1967
BOX 20	Collections, motion pictures, 1948-1967
BOX 20	Collections, mold on rare books, 1967
BOX 20	Collections, shifts, locations, and cleaning, 1940-1967 (2 folders)
BOX 20	Papyrus, demotic (Egyptian), 1957-1960
BOX 20	Prints and Photographs Division, collection posters, 1965
BOX 20	Queen Victoria's letter of condolence to Mary Todd Lincoln, 1954
BOX 21	The Shrine (display case holding the Declaration of Independence and U.S. Constitution), 1922-1963 (3 folders)
BOX 22	Collections, sound recordings, 1957-1967
BOX 22	Collections, storage conditions, 1951-1969 (7 folders)
BOX 22	Collections, thefts and mutilations, general, 1917-1958 (3 folders)
BOX 22	Technical Information Division, collections, 1958
BOX 23	Collections, thefts and mutilations, Delta Collection, 1953-1954
BOX 23	Collections, thefts and mutilations, special reports and investigations, 1959-1967
BOX 23	Commendations and complaints concerning staff and services, 1940-1962
BOX 23	Committee on Facilities, 1947
BOX 23	Commissions and councils, 1961
BOX 23	Deterioration of materials, 1940-1942
BOX 23	Documents Division, 1940-1941
BOX 23	Estimates for budgets, 1949-1962
BOX 23	Freedom Train (traveling exhibit), 1947-1949 (2 folders)
BOX 23	Government Services, Inc., cafeteria, 1962
BOX 23	Information and Publications Office, 1945-1958
BOX 23	Work Projects Administration, records survey, 1942-1949
BOX 23	Virginia Bill of Rights, 1953-1956
BOX 23	Washington, George, address and letter, 1952
BOX 23	George Washington Papers, 1957-1958
BOX 24	Administrative assistant, 1940-1943
BOX 24	Chief assistant librarian, 1940-1945
BOX 24	Executive assistant, 1944-1945
BOX 24	Law Library, 1944-1947
BOX 24	Legislative Reference Service, 1942-1948
BOX 24	Librarian of Congress, 1940-1945 (2 folders)
BOX 24	Loose leaf services, 1940-1943
BOX 24	Manuscript Division, 1940-1948



## Administrative File, 1900-1971

Container	Contents
BOX 24	Map Division, 1942-1970
BOX 24	Mimeographing, 1945
BOX 24	Motion Picture Section, 1943-1948 (4 folders)
BOX 24	Music Division, 1943
BOX 24	Non-book protection, 1950-1954
BOX 24	Office of Scientific Research and Development, 1946
BOX 24	Orientalia Division, 1942-1947 (2 folders)
BOX 24	Pass, all-hours, 1953-1958
BOX 25	Pass, all-hours, 1959-1962
BOX 25	Personnel, 1942-1951
BOX 25	Photoduplication Service, 1944
BOX 25	President's Conference on Industrial Safety, 1948-1949
BOX 25	Prints and Photographs Division, 1942-1943
BOX 25	Processing Department, 1943-1948
BOX 25	Radiocarbon dating, 1963
BOX 25	Rare Book Division, 1942-1946
BOX 25	Reading Room, 1913-1944
BOX 25	Receipts and purchase orders, 1967
BOX 25	Reference Department, 1943-1948 (2 folders)
BOX 26	Reference librarian, 1940-1943
BOX 26	Replacement program, 1947-1951
BOX 26	Secretary of the Library Office, 1940-1942
BOX 26	Semitic Division, 1940-1942
BOX 26	Serials Division, 1941-1943
BOX 26	Shelflists, 1948
BOX 26	Shipping containers, 1946-1947
BOX 26	Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., 1941-1942
BOX 26	Smoking, 1945-1964
BOX 27	Space administration, 1945-1951 (2 folders)
BOX 27	Special Information Division, 1942-1943
BOX 27	Stack and Reader Division, 1944-1948
BOX 27	Superintendent of Buildings, 1942-1943
BOX 28-33	<b>Keeper of the Collections, Index to Diary, 1948-1957</b> Card files providing a subject index to the diary of the Keeper of the Collections. Arranged into two- or three-year increments and therein alphabetically by topic or person.
BOX 34-62	<b>Evacuation Records, Card Files, 1941-1942</b> Card files listing books to be removed from the Library of Congress in the event an evacuation is required.

## Evacuation Records, Card Files, 1941-1942

<b>Container</b>	<b>Contents</b>
	Arranged alphabetically by Library of Congress classification number.
<b>BOX 63-64</b>	<b>Letterbooks, 1946-1947</b> Bound volumes of the outgoing correspondence and reports of Keeper of the Collections Alvin W. Kremer. Arranged chronologically.
<b>BOX 63</b>	Letterbooks, 1946 (1 vol.)
<b>BOX 64</b>	Letterbook, 1947 (1 vol.)