



Access to Archival Databases (AAD): Looking Down from Above to Look it Up!

John LeGloahec

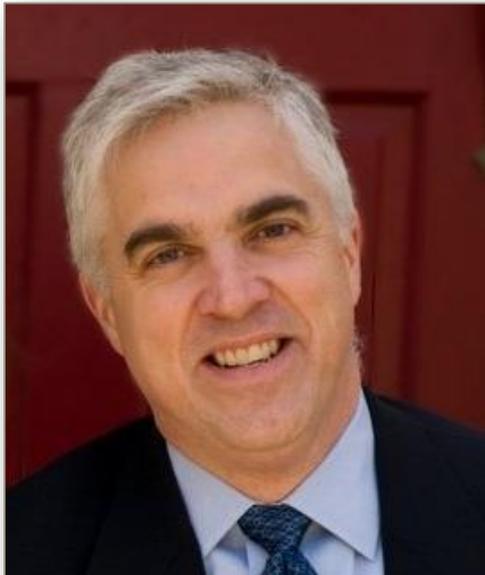
The Electronic Records Division of the National Archives maintains custody of thousands of genealogical records, helpful to those looking to fill in the gaps in their family histories.

In this presentation, John LeGloahec, an archives specialist with the Electronic Records division, will

highlight records and access tools for genealogists. John will also highlight NARA's Access to Archival Databases (AAD), which provides item-level records to researchers on a variety of subject areas.

Every year, the Electronic Records Reference Branch receives thousands

of inquiries about the unit's holdings. Many of these inquiries concern military information, which is what this office makes available most often. Within AAD are more than 100 million "stand-alone" records that are easily understood on their own and do not require supporting records.



John LeGloahec

Archives Specialist
National Archives
at College Park, MD

John LeGloahec joined the National Archives in June 2006, as an archives specialist in the Electronic Records Division. Since 2013, he has been a full-time member of the Electronic Records Reference Branch. He holds a Masters in Library Science (MLS) from the University at Albany and a Masters in Social Studies Education (MS) from Long Island University.

The Electronic Records Division

- **Collecting “born-digital” records of the federal government for nearly 50 years.**
- **Most of the records are raw statistical data**
- **Advantage: in many cases, records are made available more quickly than paper records**
- **Disadvantage: raw data can be “scary” to work with by the average researcher**

Access Tools

- Access to Archival Databases (AAD)
 - Sixty-four different series, in excess of 864 different files, and more than 120 million individual records
 - Nearly 2.5 million “hits” on AAD – daily average of about 9,000 in this fiscal year

The screenshot shows the National Archives' Access to Archival Databases (AAD) website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Archives.gov Home' and 'Contact Us'. The main header features the National Archives logo and the title 'Access to Archival Databases (AAD)'. Below this is a search bar with a 'Search' button and a link to 'Advanced Search'. To the right of the search bar is a 'Getting Started Guide' icon. The main content area is titled 'Browse by Category' and contains four columns of links: 'Genealogy/ Personal History' (including Casualties, Civilians, Military Personnel, Passenger Lists, Prisoners of War), 'Private Sector' (including Businesses, Foundations, Labor Unions, Securities), 'Wars/ International Relations' (including Civil War, World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War, Cold War, Diplomatic Records), and 'Time Spans' (including 1800-1900, 1900-1940, 1940-1955, 1955-1965, 1965-1975, 1975-1985, 1985-1995, 1995-present). There are also links for 'Indexes to' (Photographs, Textual Records) and 'Government Spending' (Contracts, Grants and Assistance). At the bottom, there is a 'What's New?' section with two entries, each featuring a small image and a brief description of newly added records.

Access Tools

- The National Archives Catalog (direct download)
 - More than 100 series, 5000 files and 11.8 billion records
 - All are available for viewing and/or downloading

The screenshot shows the National Archives Catalog website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for "Blogs", "Bookmark/Share", and "Contact Us". Below this is a search bar with the text "Search Archives.gov" and a "GO" button. The main navigation menu includes "Research Our Records", "Veterans Service Records", "Teachers' Resources", "Our Locations", and "Shop Online". The page title is "Research Our Records" and the breadcrumb trail is "Home > Research Our Records > The National Archives Catalog". The main content area is titled "The National Archives Catalog" and includes a search box with a "Search" button and a link to "Advanced Search". To the right, there are sections for "News and Notices" and "Most Requested".

National Archives Catalog

Search National Archives Catalog

About National Archives Catalog

Using the National Archives Catalog

Search Tips

Accessibility

Lifecycle Data Requirements Guide

Contact Us

The National Archives Catalog

Search the online catalog and other National Archives resources at once for information about our records.

Search the National Archives Catalog

Advanced Search

News and Notices

- Help us transcribe our records in the National Archives Catalog. For more info, check out our Transcription Challenge page!

Most Requested

- The Constitution
- Declaration of Independence
- Bill of Rights

We're excited to announce that the National Archives Catalog now:

- handles the increasing number of digital images that we're making accessible online in **weekly updates**
- uses a new search engine to improve searchability — including **improved relevancy rankings and response times**
- allows users to **transcribe our records directly in the catalog**
- **indexes tags and transcriptions daily** — maximizing access all around

Reference Reports

<http://www.archives.gov/research/electronic-records/info-for-researchers.html>

- Census Data
- Digital Cartographic Data
- Federal Civilian Employees
- Federal Domestic Contracts, Grants, and Awards
- Housing and Mortgage Records
- Internal Revenue Service
- International Relations and Trade
- Military Conflicts
- Securities and Exchange Commission

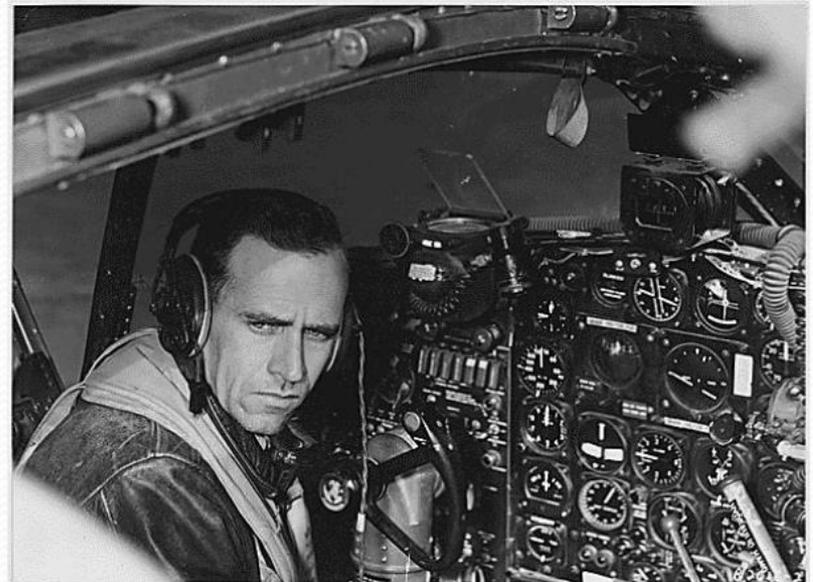
Genealogy Reference Report

- World War II
 - Japanese Americans Relocated During WWII (Internee files)
 - World War II Prisoners of War
 - World War II Prisoners of the Japanese



Genealogy Reference Report

- Korea
 - Repatriated Korean Conflict Prisoners of War
 - Korean War Data File of American Prisoners of War
 - Korean Conflict Casualty File (KCCF)
 - Korean War Casualty File (TAGOKOR)



Genealogy Reference Report

- Vietnam
 - Records on Military Personnel Who Died, Were Missing in Action or Prisoners of War as a Result of the Vietnam War
 - Casualty Information System
 - Awards and Decorations System (AWADS)
 - The Coffelt Database



Genealogy Reference Report

- Multiple Conflict
 - Defense Casualty Analysis System (DCAS) Extract Files
 - Defense Casualty Analysis System (DCAS) Files
- Awards Information Management System (AIMS)



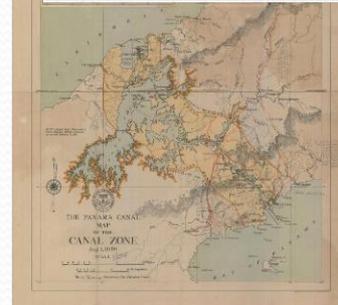
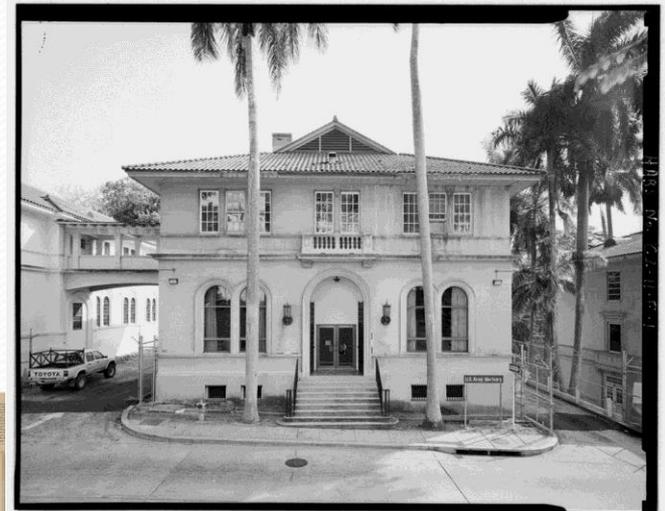
Genealogy Reference Report

- Immigration
 - Germans to America Passenger Data File, 1850–1897
 - Italians to America Passenger Data File, 1855–1900
 - Russians to America Passenger Data File, 1834–1897
 - Famine Irish Passenger Record Data File, 1846–1851



Genealogy Reference Report

- Additional Genealogy Series
 - Index to the Gorgas Hospital Mortuary Records, 1906–1991
 - Insider Trading information
 - National Science Foundation, Personnel Files, 1954–1970



Finding Records in the Access to Archival Databases (AAD)

- See associated handout for search terms and “how-to” guide



Downloading Records from the National Archives Catalog

- See associated handout for search terms and downloading FAQs



The screenshot displays the National Archives website's 'Research Our Records' section. At the top, the National Archives logo is on the left, and navigation links for 'Blogs', 'Bookmark/Share', and 'Contact Us' are on the right. A search bar with the text 'Search Archives.gov' and a 'GO' button is positioned in the top right. Below this is a horizontal menu with five items: 'Research Our Records', 'Veterans Service Records', 'Teachers' Resources', 'Our Locations', and 'Shop Online'. The main heading is 'Research Our Records', with a breadcrumb trail: 'Home > Research Our Records > The National Archives Catalog'. On the left side, there is a 'National Archives Catalog' sidebar with links to 'Search National Archives Catalog', 'About National Archives Catalog', 'Using the National Archives Catalog', 'Search Tips', 'Accessibility', 'Lifecycle Data Requirements Guide', and 'Contact Us'. The main content area features the title 'The National Archives Catalog' and a sub-headline: 'Search the online catalog and other National Archives resources at once for information about our records.' Below this is a search box with a 'Search' button and a link to 'Advanced Search'. To the right, under the heading 'Most Requested', there is a list of three items: 'The Constitution', 'Declaration of Independence', and 'Bill of Rights'. At the bottom, a text block states: 'We're excited to announce that the National Archives Catalog now:' followed by a bulleted list of four features: 'handles the increasing number of digital images that we're making accessible online in weekly updates', 'uses a new search engine to improve searchability --- including improved relevancy rankings and response times', 'allows users to transcribe our records directly in the catalog', and 'indexes tags and transcriptions daily --- maximizing access all around'.

Questions?

John LeGloahec
john.legloahec@nara.gov

RDER

cer@nara.gov



**Presenter didn't
get to your question?**

**You may email us at
*inquire@nara.gov***