

FDLP Libraries Feature Interesting and Historic Collections

This is the third in a series of articles to highlight the collections featuring weird and wonderful Government resources around the country. We head out west to focus on two of our Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP) libraries.

Boise State University's Albertsons Library collects important material on volcanic activity and the impacts on the region, which is helpful to residents since they live between the earthquake fault lines along the west coast and the volcanic activity of Yellowstone National Park. The New Mexico Supreme Court Law Library has a unique legislative history that features legislative documents written in both English and Spanish to reflect its cultural history.

The Boise State University's Albertsons Library serves the doctoral research university and the surrounding community in Idaho. The library has been a member of the FDLP since 1966. With 1,466 earthquakes hitting statewide during the last year alone, it's essential that the residents of Idaho have access to these important resources on earthquake preparation. The library collections include hundreds of publications on this topic, providing information on topics such as regional earthquake faults, building safety, and lessons from large events worldwide.

Although less frequent, volcanic activity is also prevalent and tracked in the state. Less than 25 days after the Mount St. Helens eruption on May 18, 1980, a forum was held to discuss the impact of the eruption on water resources. The forum findings were documented in *The effects of the Mount St. Helens eruption on water resources: a forum held June 12, 1980, Vancouver, Washington* (<https://purl.fdlp.gov/GPO/gpo177584>).

Of particular interest are the *Yellowstone Volcano Observatory* annual reports (<https://purl.fdlp.gov/GPO/gpo140664>), with 2021 being the latest. Yellowstone Volcano Observatory (YVO) monitors volcanic activity and issues timely warnings and guidance related to potential future geologic hazards. In addition, the Yellowstone Caldera



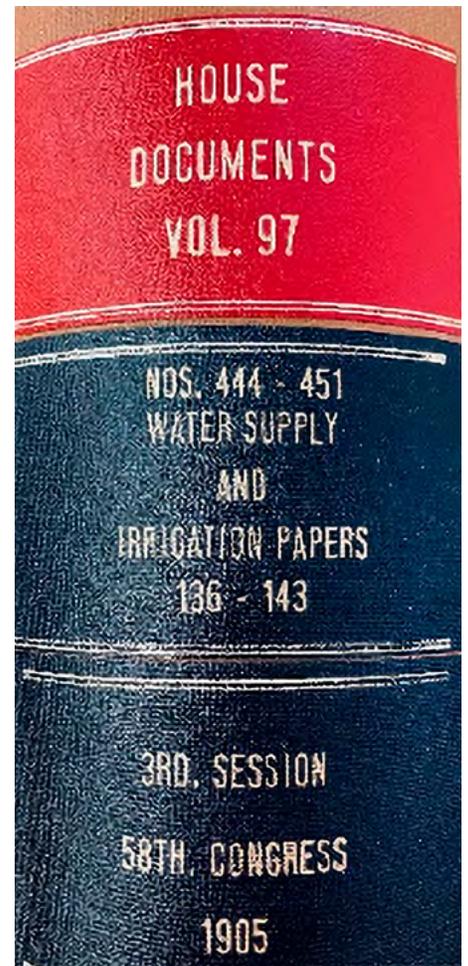
The Boise State University's Albertsons Library.

Chronicles is a weekly column written by scientists and collaborators of the YVO. The issue for November 29, 2021 featured a pertinent article entitled "*Why have there been so many earthquakes in Central Idaho?*" (<https://www.usgs.gov/observatories/yvo/news/why-have-there-been-so-many-earthquakes-central-idaho>).

According to Librarian Nancy Donahoo, "Getting key materials into GovInfo allows Geosciences faculty to identify related research completed by others that helps grow the understanding necessary for dealing with climate change and the increase in earthquakes and volcanic activity."

The New Mexico Supreme Court Law Library has a unique legislative history and documents. Located in Santa Fe, the library was established by the first territorial legislature in 1851.

As was common in the territorial period of New Mexico, laws were written in both English and Spanish. As an example, the earliest New Mexico or territorial Government documents held by the library are a pair of reports to the United States Congress from the Territory of New Mexico dating from 1852. *Letter from the Secretary of the Territory of New Mexico transmitting copies of the acts, resolutions, &c. of that Territory* is a House



Spine of House Documents - 1905.



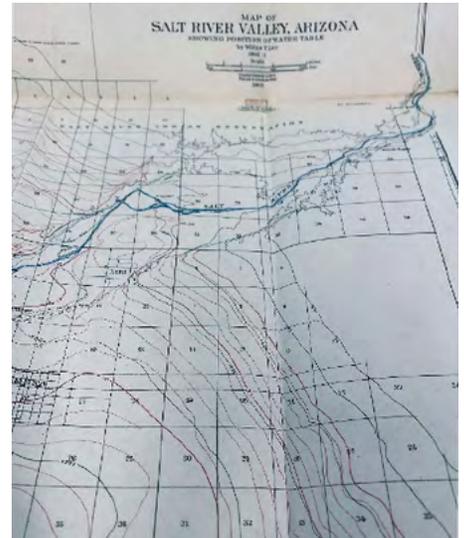
New Mexico Supreme Court Law Library. Pictured from back, Michael Poulson (Librarian), Kathryn Brazee (GPO Outreach Librarian), Lynne S. Rhys (State Law Librarian), and Stephanie Wilson (Senior Law Librarian and Depository Coordinator).

Document, and *Letter from the Secretary of the Territory of New Mexico communicating a copy of the acts, resolutions, and memorials of the legislative assembly of that Territory* is a Senate Document. Both are from the 32nd Congress. These documents were printed in January 1852 and cover the acts, resolutions, and other legislative matters of the Territory of New Mexico passed on June 2, 1851.

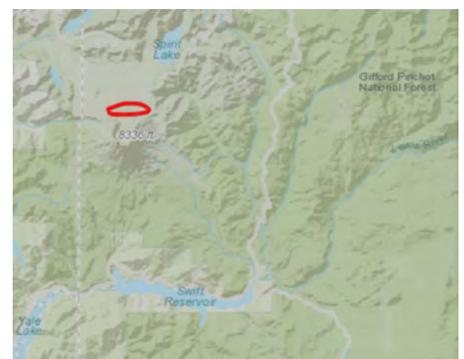
Because of New Mexico's hot climate and arid landscape, the New Mexico Supreme Court Law Library offers resources such as water supply maps. One example of this is a bound

volume from 1905 that includes House Documents from the Third Session of the 58th Congress. The picture below shows the water table of Salt River Valley in Arizona. This volume also includes various maps of Southern California water supply, including underground water, hydrology, and irrigation practices, other central Arizona water supply maps, and Rio Grande Valley ground water observations.

With more than 1,100 Federal depository libraries nationwide, each is unique in their collections and services.



Maps of Salt River Valley, AZ



Map showing location of Mount St. Helens in Washington state.