

Government Information for Everyone

Ways to Increase Accessibility
of Federal Depository Library Collections

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October 24, 2018

“Knowledge will forever govern ignorance: And a people who mean to be their own Governors, must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives.”

-James Madison



Flickr photo by tedeytan CC BY-SA 2.0

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
CONGRESS,

Held at PHILADELPHIA,
September 5, 1774.



PHILADELPHIA:

Printed by WILLIAM and THOMAS BRADFORD,
at the *London Coffee House.*

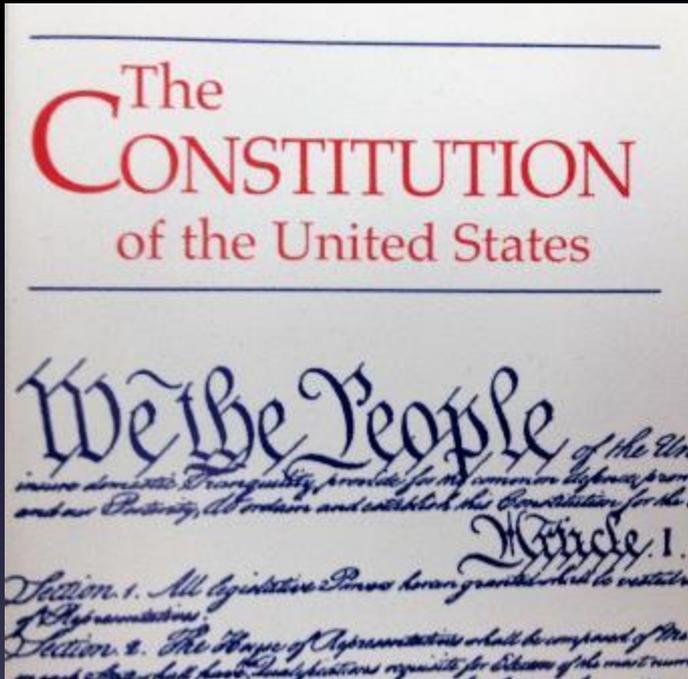
M,DC C,LXXI V.

“The people have a right to know what their agents are doing or have done, and it should not be in the option of the legislature to conceal their proceedings.”

-James Wilson of Pennsylvania

U.S. Constitution Article 1, Section 5

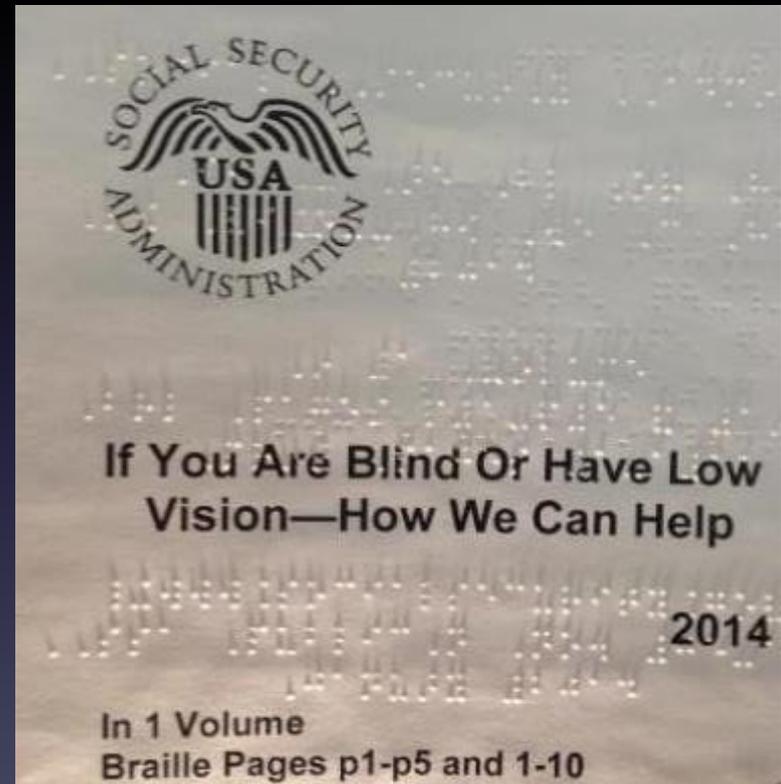
Government Printing Office established 1861



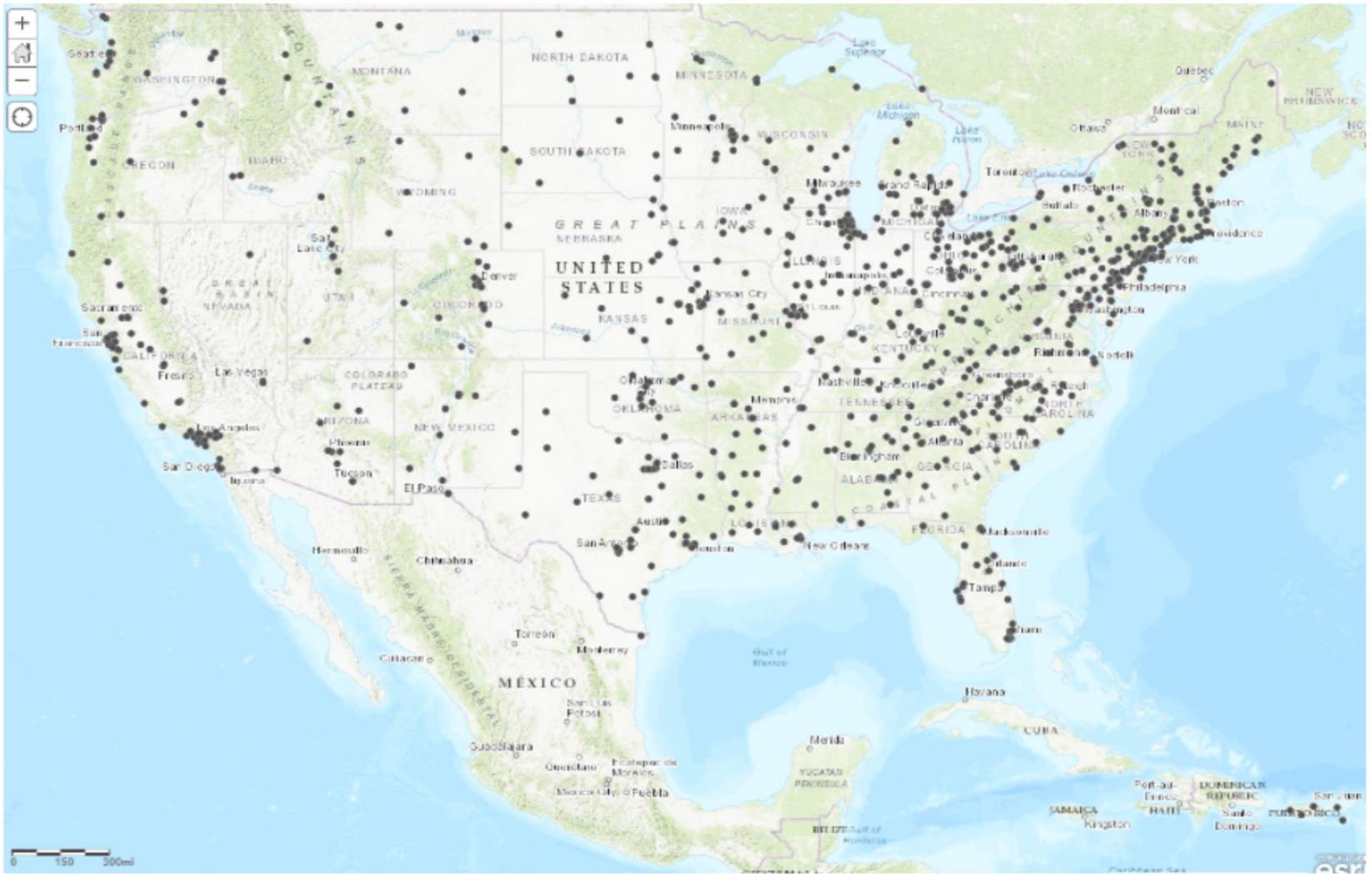
GPO Façade. Source: <http://bit.ly/GPOMediaKit>

History of Access

Distribute government information in a variety of formats



Source: A Visit to the Government Printing Office, 1956



Federal Depository Libraries, 2018. Source: <https://arcg.is/1rS48o>

Recent Progress

- 1994
 - GPO Access Act
- 2010
 - ASERL Centers of Excellence
- 2018
 - HR 5305 - FDL P Modernization Act

History of Access for the Blind and Visually Impaired

1830s

- Early State Institutions
 - Boston
 - New York
 - Philadelphia

1900s

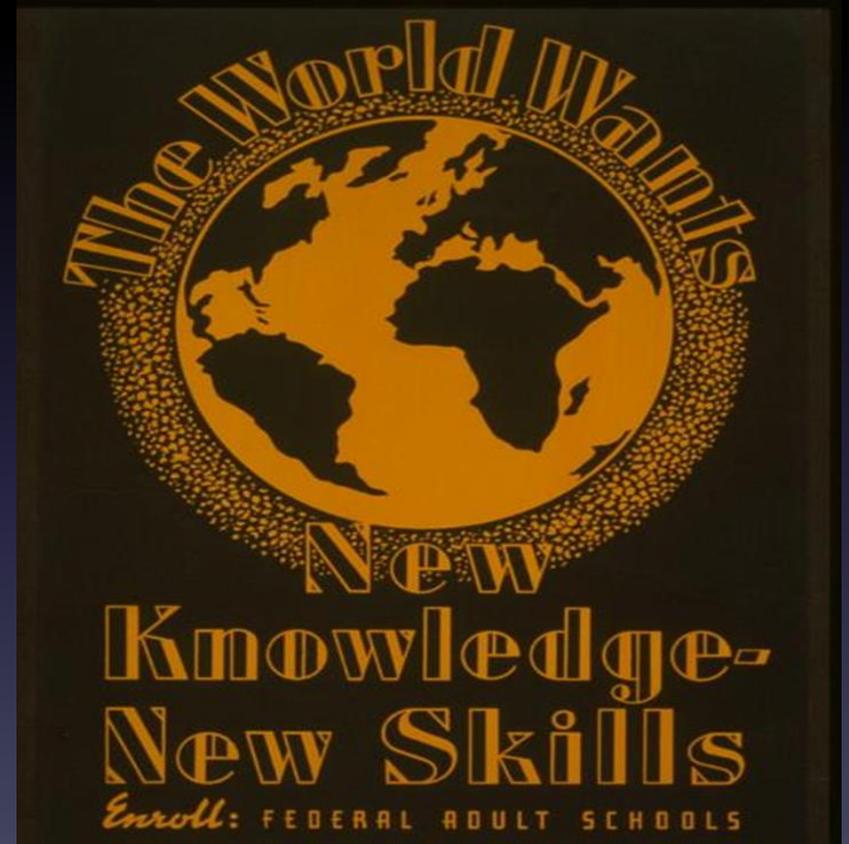
- Libraries with Tactile Print
 - Detroit
 - DC
 - Cincinnati

1930s

- Library of Congress National Library Service for the Blind & Physically Handicapped

Overcoming Barriers with Technology

- Tactile print – braille
- Large Print
- Talking books
- Magnifiers
- Screen readers



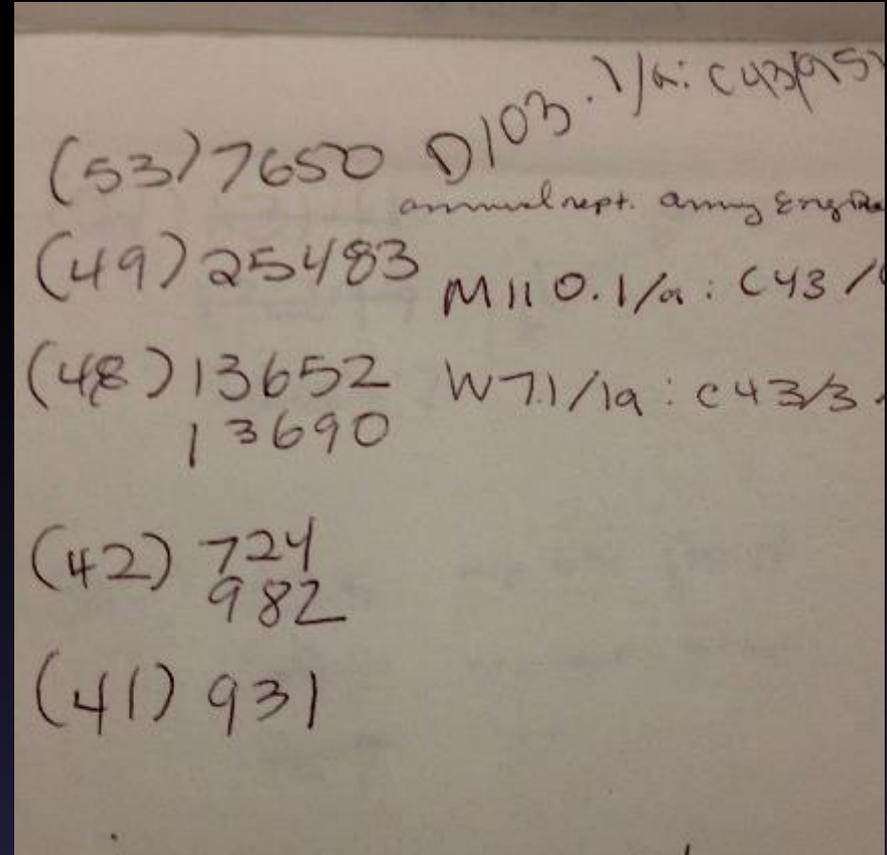
Library of Congress. Posters: WPA Posters.
<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/98517175/>

Government Information in Print

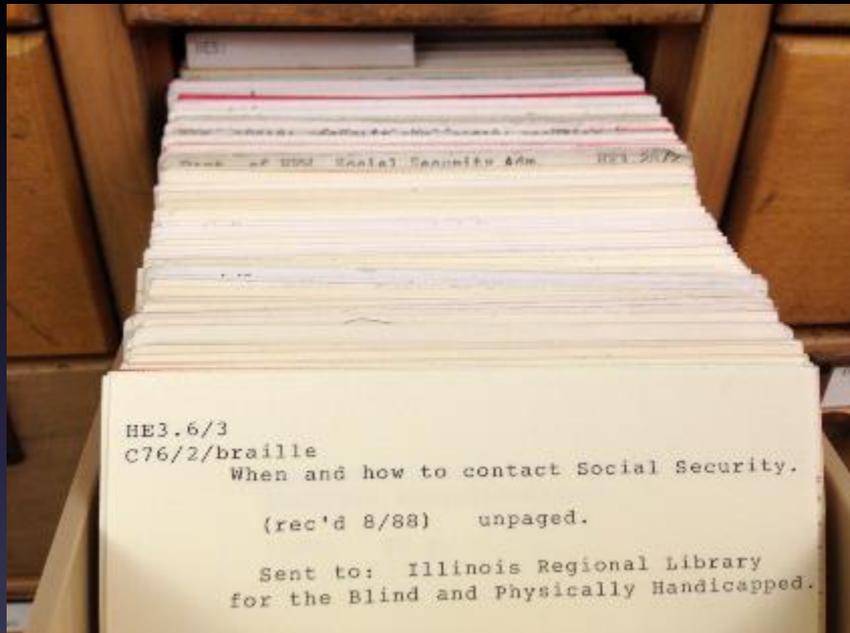


Reference in the Analog Era

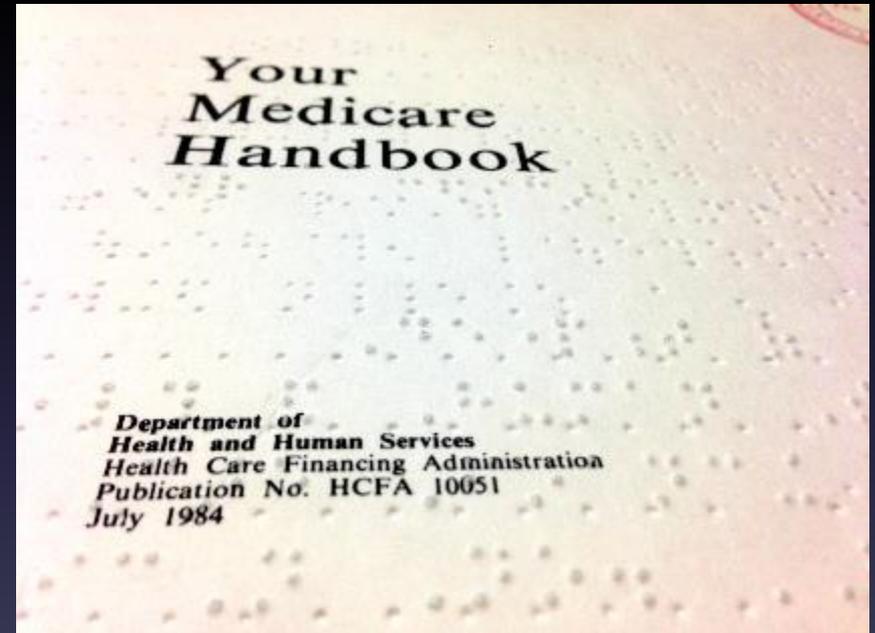
- Specialized indexes
- Monthly Catalog
- Shelflist
- Pulling from closed stacks



Identifying braille items

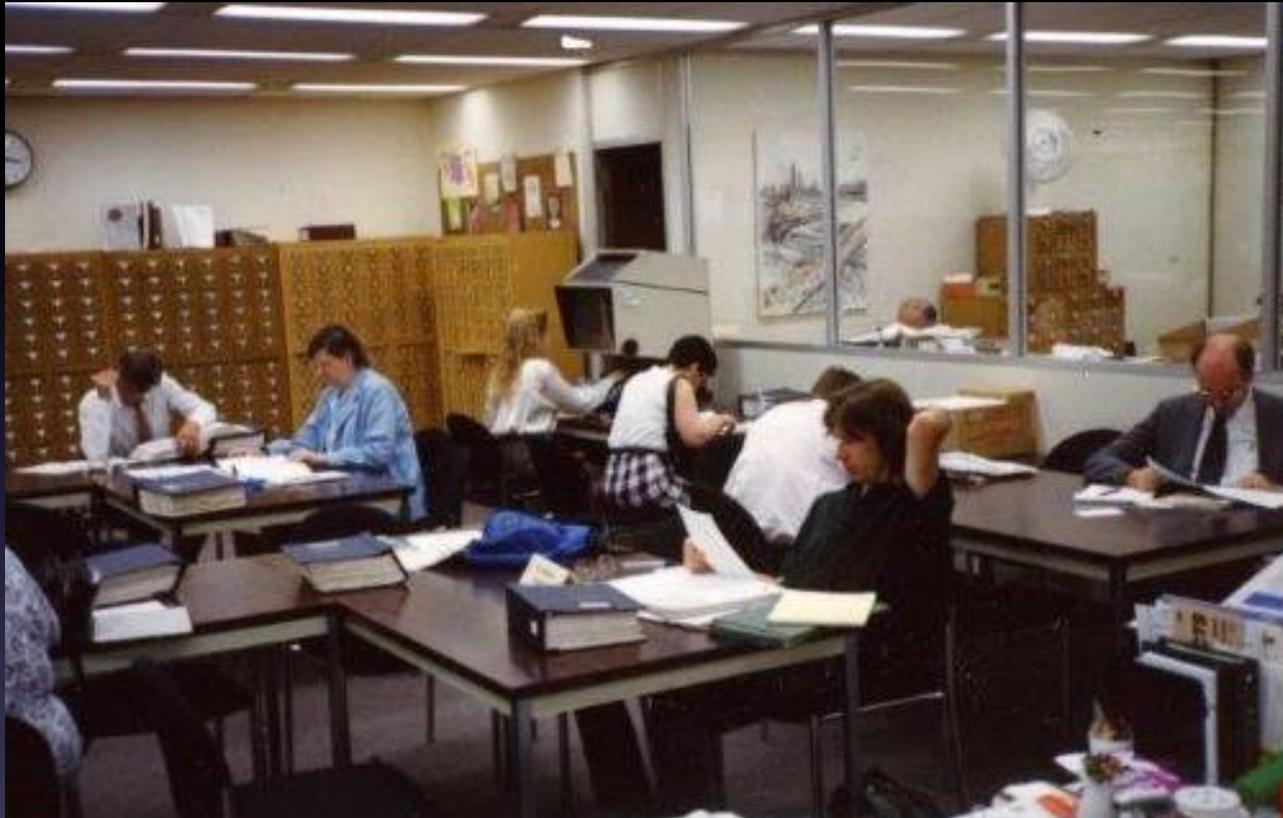


Shelflist card indicating shared housing



1984 braille document at UF

Government Information in the Print Era

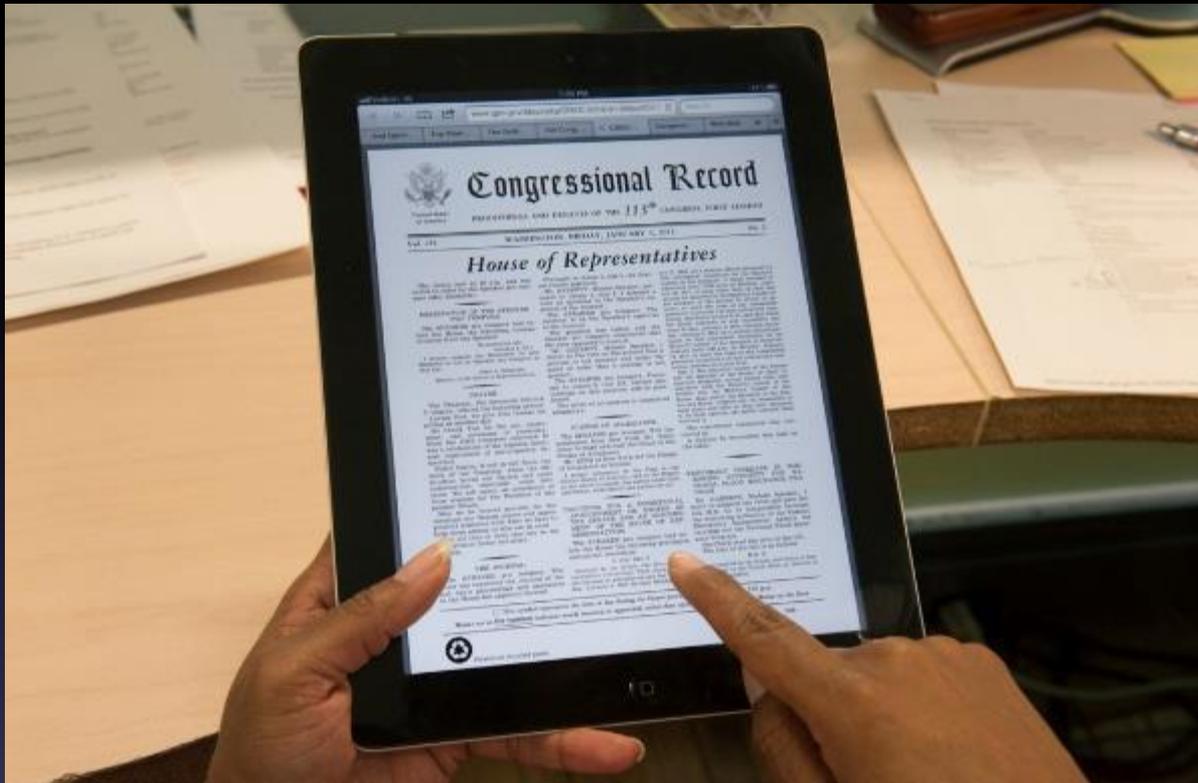


Municipal Reference Library, circa 1991. Chicago Public Library, Special Collections and Preservation Division, CPL Archives.

From Print to Electronic

Electronic versions

- Not physically inaccessible
- Not organized by SuDocs classification
- Keyword searching in full text



AUTHENTICATED
U.S. GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION
GPO



The Seal of Authenticity enables the viewer to verify the authentic nature of a particular document, ensuring that the content has remained unchanged since GPO first authenticated it.

Congressional Record downloaded to a tablet.
<http://bit.ly/GPOMediaKit>

Awareness



Photo by Max De Zutter

Styles No Styles Contrast

Details

Filter: Full

Errors (6)

3 X Missing form label



1 X Document language missing



1 X Page refreshes or redirects



1 X Empty table header



Alerts (2)

1 X Missing fieldset



1 X No heading structure



Features (17)

5 X Alternative text



5 X Null or empty alternative text



2 X Image button with alternative text



5 X Form label



The following apply to the entire page:



Results for Keywords= that all may read

Sort options: Year(d)/Title Year(a)/Title Title/Year(d) SuDoc (a)

Display options: Extended | Brief

Records 1 - 5 of 5 (maximum display and sort is 2000 records)

Jump to # "Jump to indicated document in list" Previous Page "No Previous Page" Next Page "No Next Page"

th#	th	thTitle	thYear	thAuthor	thSuDoc Number	thInternet Access
1		Russian security strategy under Putin [electronic resource] : U.S. and Russian perspectives.	2007	Nation, R. Craig.	D 101.146:SE 2/6	http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS88733
2	<input type="checkbox"/>	That all may read. Find a library.	20uu		LC 19.17:	http://purl.fdlp.gov/GPO/gpo58015
3	<input type="checkbox"/>	That all may read : library service for blind and physically handicapped people.	1983		LC 19.2:R 22/2/983	
4	<input type="checkbox"/>	Right to read, reading program assessment scale.	1974		HE 19.102:R 22	
5	<input type="checkbox"/>	That all may read.	1967		LC 19.2:R 22/2	

Previous Page "No Previous Page" Next Page "No Next Page"

You can revise your search:

WRD = (that all may read)

Select a Catalog:

National Bibliography of U.S. Government Publications Go Go



Screenshot of CGP in the web accessibility evaluation tool indicating areas that are barriers.

[About](#)[Collections](#)[Help](#)[Feedback](#)

That all may read library service

[« Back to catalog record](#)

About this Book

That all may read : library service for blind and physically ...

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Partner login required

Text Only Views

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See the [HathiTrust Accessibility](#) page for more information.

Add to Collection

[Login](#) to make your personal collections permanent

Jump to



Search in this text



That All May Read

Library Service for Blind and
Physically Handicapped People



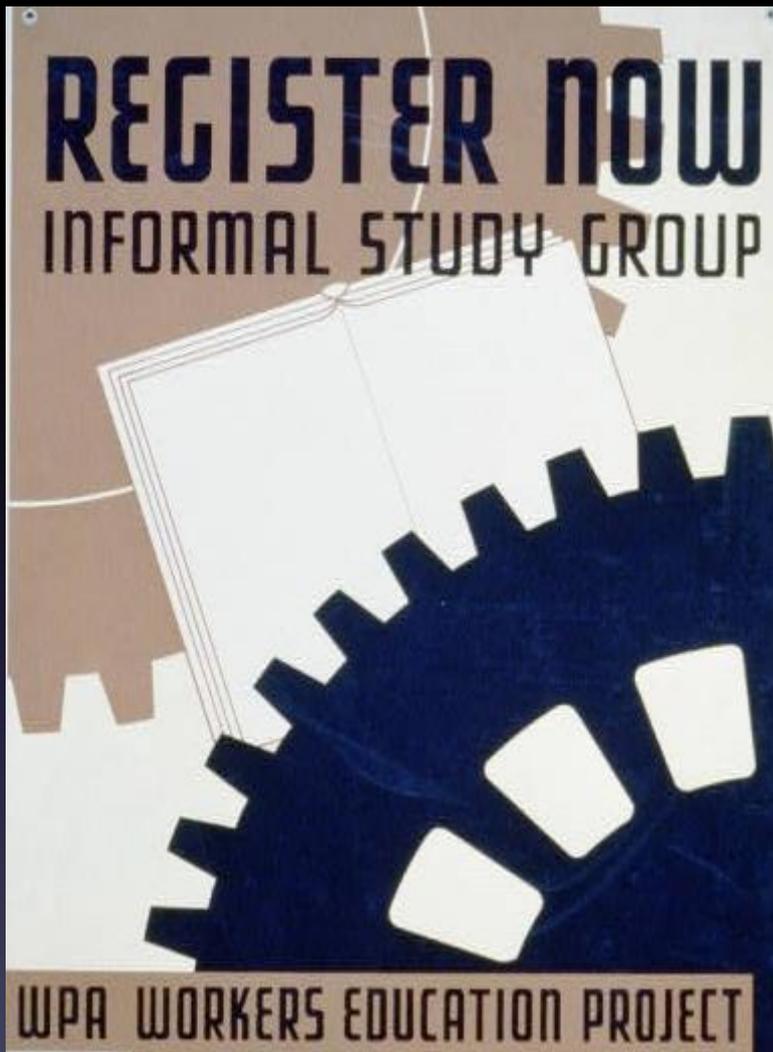
Screenshot of a document in the HathiTrust.

Observation

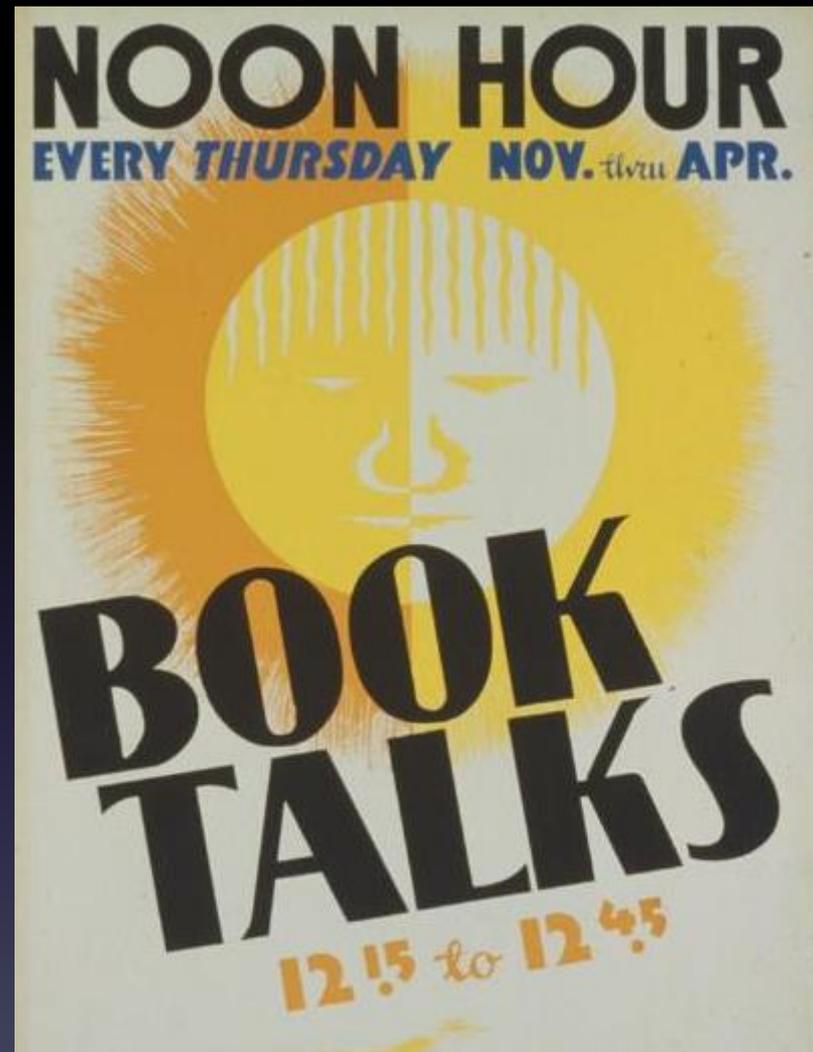
- Status Quo: accessible in general
 - Mobility issues within building
 - Access aids in disrepair
 - New technology adoption



Programming



Library of Congress. Posters: WPA Posters.
<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/98514515/>



Library of Congress. Posters: WPA Posters.
<http://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/92500870/>

Accessible Slides

- Limit words per line
- Large sans serif fonts
- High contrast graphics and color combinations
- Built in accessibility checkers

Inclusive Presentations

- Use a microphone
- Say everything on the slide out loud
- Prepare ahead of time

Partnerships and Outreach



Image courtesy of the Earth Science and Remote Sensing Unit, NASA Johnson Space Center, NASA Photo ID: ISSo41-E-74232.

- **Government Agencies**
 - Florida Bureau of Blind Services
 - Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities
- **Institutional Support**
 - Disability Resource Center
- **Nonprofit Organizations**

- Public Libraries
 - Braille resources – Depository copies
 - Bulk items – maps, etc. in large print or braille

Moving Forward



Florida Snapping Turtle. Source: NASA Image and Video Library, KSC-07PD-3037

Sources & Photo Credits:

- *That all may read: library service for blind and physically handicapped people.* Washington: National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, 1983.
- *Keeping America Informed: The U.S. Government Printing Office 150 years of Service to the Nation.* Washington: US GPO, 2011.
- *A Visit to the Government Printing Office.* Washington: US GPO, 1956.
- Ostergaard "Accessibility from Scratch: One Library's Journey to Prioritize the Accessibility of Electronic Information Resources" *The Serials Librarian* 69:155-168, 2015
- Lazar & Briggs "Improving Services for Patrons with Print Disabilities at Public Libraries" *The Library Quarterly: Information, Community Policy*, vol. 85 no 2, pp. 172-184
- Tatomir & Tatomir "Collection Accessibility: a best practices guide for libraries and librarians" *Library Technology Reports*, October 2012
- **Guidelines created by the World Blind Union (WBU) on how to make the use of PowerPoint and other visual presentations accessible.** IFLA Summary adapted by Minna von Zansen and Jenny (<https://www.ifla.org/publications/guidelines-created-by-the-world-blind-union-wbu-on-how-to-make-the-use-of-powerpoint-an>)
- Chris M Pinkoson, *Accessible Online Environments*, University of Florida course code UF_ITT216_ILT

Photographs by Sarah Erikson, except where noted.