

Know your formats

The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is a Special Collections Library with a variety of different item types—you'll find manuscripts, artifacts, audio and video formats, visual materials, newspapers, maps, and more in our holdings. Learn to look for clues in the card catalog to be certain you know what you are requesting. Here are some examples of what you might see:

In the image below, we have an example of a **Book** record. Notice the format says "book."

Battle hymns : the power and popularity of music in the Civil War /

Main Author:	McWhirter, Christian, (Author)
Format:	Book
Language:	English
Published:	Chapel Hill : University of North Carolina Press, c2012.
Series:	Civil War America (Series)
Subjects:	Patriotic music > United States > History and criticism. Music > Social aspects > United States > History > 19th century. United States > History > Civil War, 1861-1865 > Songs and music.
Online Access:	ebrary Available to Stanford-affiliated users.
Tags:	No Tags, Be the first to tag this + Add Tag record!

Similar Items

- [Where comrades sleep : memorial hymn dedicated to the Grand Army of the Republic / by: Brown, Mrs. L. May., Published: \(1891\)](#)
- [The tattoo is ended / by: De Marbelle, Dion, 1818-1903, Published: \(1890\)](#)
- [The veteran's last song / by: Lozier, Horace Gillette, Published: \(1890\)](#)
- [All hail to the nation we cherish / by: Brown, L. M., Published: \(1891\)](#)
- [The Grand Army button : song and chorus / by: Brown, Mrs. L. May., Published: \(1891\)](#)

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Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Location: General Collection (Non-Circulating)

Call Number:	VV83 M177b
Notes:	Cutter Collection
Online Access:	ebrary Available to Stanford-affiliated users.
Related Information:	Request item for use at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Copy 1	Available

By clicking the Description tab, we can find out this book is 321 pages and includes references and an index. This information is good to know, as there are many pamphlet-sized resources in our collection—which is wonderful unless you were under the impression you had requested a full-length study on your topic and were met with only a 4 page fold-out.

Manuscripts are displayed in our catalog in two main ways: Small Collections and Box Collections. The Small Collections have an “SC” before their number identifier. Box collections typically only say “Box” in the call number field. If you find a box collection relevant to your research, email alplm.reference@illinois.gov to request a finding aid to determine which box / folder you might need. (Some box collections are vast and can have more than 15 boxes.) The format displays in our catalog as either “Manuscript” or “Mixed Material.” Examples of a Small Collection and Box Collection follow:


Papers,


Civil War letters written to his wife, Millicent Blanchard Allen, during his service in Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee describing camp life and medical care. Includes newspaper clippings, military papers and 2 musical scores.

Main Author:	Allen, William Anderson, 1830-1891.
Corporate Author:	United States. Army. Illinois Infantry Regiment, 9th (1861-1865)
Format:	Mixed Material
Language:	English
Subjects:	Greenville (Ill.) United States > History > Civil War, 1861-1865 > Medical care. United States > History > Civil War, 1861-1865 > Songs and music. Mississippi > History > Civil War, 1861-1865. Tennessee > History > Civil War, 1861-1865. Alabama > History > Civil War, 1861-1865.
Tags:	No Tags, Be the first to tag this Add Tag record!

Similar Items

-  [Papers,](#)
by: Brooks, Noah, 1830-1903.
Published: (1855)

-  [Papers,](#)
by: Bray, Edward M., 1830-
Published: (1856)

-  [Papers,](#)
by: Cromwell, John Nelson, 1830-1863.
Published: (1861)

-  [Papers,](#)
by: Snyder, John Francis, 1830-1921.
Published: (1799)

-  [Papers.](#)
by: Vance, Zebulon Baird, 1830-1894.
Published: (1963)

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Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Location: Manuscript (Non-Circulating)

Call Number:	SC 15
Related Information:	Request item for use at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Copy 1	Available

And a Box collection will look like this:

Holdings Description Staff View

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Location: Manuscript (Non-Circulating)

Call Number:	Box
Related Information:	Request item for use at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Copy 1	Available

One example of visual material in our collection are **Broadsides**. These are tricky to discern because they have been coded as “language material” in the catalog – which they are – but the shorthand display reads “Book.” These are not books, but rather more like posters. Here is an example of what a broadside record looks like:

Oh! 'Tis Abraham Lincoln marching song /

Corporate Author:	Young Men's Lincoln Club of Five Points.
Format:	Book
Language:	English
Published:	New York : Young Men's Lincoln Club, 1908.
Subjects:	Lincoln, Abraham, > 1809-1865 > Songs and music.
Tags:	No Tags, Be the first to tag this + Add Tag record!

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Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Location: Lincoln Collection (Non-Circulating)

Call Number:	LB-1014
Related Information:	Request item for use at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Copy 1	Available

It's not until we click into the description tab that we can see more about how this object is physically described. Try to remember to take a quick peek at this part of the record to better inform your requests.

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General Notes:	Five stanzas and chorus. Portrait of Lincoln.
Physical Description:	1 broadside : port. ; 22 x 14 cm.
Specific Notes:	ALPL copy 2 is signed by John A. Shedd (as per archivist at Berea College where his papers are housed), and was part of the Jane Hamand collection.

ALPLM has an amazing **Map** collection, which you are encouraged to use. A great way to find maps in our card catalog is to limit your search results to “Map” format. Here is an example of what a map record looks like.

Kentucky.

Main Author:	Melish, John, 1771-1822.
Corporate Author:	University Press of Kentucky.
Other Authors:	Clark, Thomas Dionysius, 1903-2005.
Format:	Map
Language:	English
Published:	[Lexington] : University Press of Kentucky, 1979.
Series:	Historic maps of Kentucky ; no. 5
Subjects:	Maps > Facsimiles. Kentucky > Maps.
Tags:	No Tags, Be the first to tag this  Add Tag record!

Holdings

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Staff View

Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Location: Map Drawers (Non-Circulating)

Call Number:	GZ883 (1979) C595h
Notes:	In pam binder on flat shelf.
Related Information:	Request item for use at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Don't forget the ALPLM has a fantastic Audio/Visual collection which includes movies, audio of oral history interviews, and more. If you plan to bring students for a research visit to see some of these items, please communicate with the library (alplm.reference@illinois.gov) to arrange for the necessary technology to be available to view or listen to your requested media.

Lincoln "I, too, am a Kentuckian" /

"Though Abraham Lincoln left Kentucky as a boy, he maintained close ties to the state of his birth throughout his life ... Lincoln: "I, too, am a Kentuckian," a special expanded edition of Kentucky Life, follows the trail that took Lincoln from his birth in a log cabin on the Kentucky...

[Full description](#)

Corporate Author:	Kentucky Educational Television.
Other Authors:	Flynn, Joy. Hellard, Marsha Cooper. Shuffett, Dave.
Format:	Movie, DVD
Language:	English
Published:	Lexington, KY : KET, c2008
Subjects:	Lincoln, Abraham, > 1809-1865. Lincoln, Mary Todd, > 1818-1882. Presidents > United States > Biography. Politicians > Kentucky > Biography. Video recordings for the hearing impaired.
Tags:	No Tags, Be the first to tag this  Add Tag record!

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Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Location: Audio-Visual Room (Non-Circulating)


Call Number:	L2 DVD-21
Related Information:	Request item for use at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Copy 1	Available

The Oral Histories available at ALPLM are large in number. Some contain links to view the transcriptions, listen to the audio, or watch the video. If you find these in our catalog, it may be a better use of your library visit to view these items from home or school so that you can spend more time with the rest of your research requests.

An interview with Mark Janus

An interview with Mark Janus conducted by Mark DePue for the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library.

Corporate Author:	Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum.
Other Authors:	DePue, Mark R., (Interviewer)
Format:	Movie, DVD
Language:	English
Series:	Illinois statecraft oral history project.
Subjects:	Janus, Mark. Illinois. > Department of Healthcare and Family Services. AFSCME. Union dues. Government employee unions > Illinois. Government employee unions > Law and legislation > Illinois. Oral tradition. Oral histories > Illinois. Interviews > Illinois.
Online Access:	https://www2.illinois.gov/alplm/library/collections/OralHistory/illinoisstatecraft/general/Pages/Janus.-Mark.aspx

Tags: No Tags, Be the first to tag this  **Add Tag** record!

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Description

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Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Location: Audio-Visual Room (Non-Circulating)

Call Number:	Illinois Statecraft Janus,M.
Related Information:	Request item for use at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library.