Introduction
This guide will introduce you to how to use Chronicling America to find newspaper articles and images for school projects, genealogy research and more. Chronicling America is a free, digital newspaper resource that provides access to historic newspapers from all over the nation, as well as information about American newspapers published from 1690 to present. Millions of full-text, keyword-searchable newspaper pages published between 1836 and 1922 are available at this Library of Congress website.

Chronicling America is made possible through the National Digital Newspaper Program, a partnership between the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Library of Congress and state projects to provide enhanced access to United States newspapers published between 1836 and 1922. NEH awards support state projects to select and digitize historically significant titles that are aggregated and permanently maintained by the Library of Congress at Chronicling America.

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How to Access Chronicling America
Chronicling America is freely available to users all over the world. All you need is an Internet connection and the following URL:

http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov

The front page of Chronicling America features:

- Search bar with three tabs: Search Pages, Advanced Search, All Digitized Newspapers 1836-1922.
- Link to the US Newspaper Directory, 1690-present, a searchable database that contains information about American newspapers and links to other digital newspaper resources.
- **100 Years Ago Today**, featuring newspaper pages that were published exactly 100 years ago.
- Links to other pages and websites related to Chronicling America, the National Digital Newspaper Program and other newspaper resources.
Newspapers Available on Chronicling America

When doing a search, it’s important to know that not every newspaper ever published in the United States between 1836 and 1922 is available. To see exactly what’s available on the site, select the All Digitized Newspapers 1836-1922 option from the blue search bar, located in the middle of the home page. This list provides the title and date range of each paper currently available on Chronicling America.

You can choose to view a complete list of all digitized newspapers, or you can choose to view a list of papers by state, ethnicity or language by selecting one of the options in the drop-down boxes and left-clicking on Go. The image below shows a portion of the Ohio newspapers currently available:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Newspaper</th>
<th>Browse Issues</th>
<th>No. of Issues</th>
<th>Earliest Issue</th>
<th>Latest Issue</th>
<th>More Info</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>Akron daily Democrat.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1898-02-01</td>
<td>1902-12-11</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>American Lancaster gazette.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1858-02-15</td>
<td>1860-02-22</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>Anti-slavery bugle.</td>
<td></td>
<td>809</td>
<td>1845-06-20</td>
<td>1861-05-24</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>The Ashland Union.</td>
<td></td>
<td>535</td>
<td>1854-08-07</td>
<td>1867-12-25</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>Ashtabula telegraph.</td>
<td></td>
<td>314</td>
<td>1874-01-03</td>
<td>1880-02-20</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>Ashtabula weekly telegraph.</td>
<td></td>
<td>789</td>
<td>1858-07-03</td>
<td>1873-12-27</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>Ashtabula weekly telegraph.</td>
<td></td>
<td>42</td>
<td>1880-02-24</td>
<td>1880-12-24</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>The Belmont chronicle, and farmers, mechanics and manufacturers</td>
<td></td>
<td>84</td>
<td>1853-01-07</td>
<td>1855-01-12</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>Belmont chronicle.</td>
<td></td>
<td>1976</td>
<td>1855-02-01</td>
<td>1895-12-12</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
For each available newspaper, the following links are provided:

- **State**: Location of institution that has contributed the paper.
- **Newspaper**: Title. Clicking on the title will provide additional information about the newspaper from the [US Newspaper Directory](#). (For an example of what this looks like, see next page.) Under the title, place and dates of publication are provided.
- **Browse Issues**: A calendar view of issues currently available. Links to available issues are provided. You can change which year you want to view using the **Issues for** drop-down menu or choose to show all front pages.

![Browse Issues: American Lancaster gazette.](image)

- **No. of Issues**: Total number of issues available digitally for that paper.
- **Earliest Issue & Latest Issue**: Links directly to all pages of the earliest issue or latest issue available digitally on Chronicling America.
- **More Info**: Provides additional information about the newspaper from the [US Newspaper Directory](#). (For an example of what this looks like, see next page.)

You can sort this list by **Newspaper**, **No. of Issues**, **Earliest Issue** or **Latest Issue** using the arrows next to those options. The default sort is **Newspaper** (alphabetical by title).
US Newspaper Directory, 1690-Present
The US Newspaper Directory provides information on over 150,000 newspapers published in the United States. For each newspaper, you will find information such as Title, Place of Publication, Geographic Coverage, Publisher, Dates of Publication, Frequency, and Preceding, Succeeding, and Related Titles. This resource can be helpful when trying to learn about a particular newspaper. If you click on the Libraries the Have It link, you can learn where to find a physical (paper or microfilm) copy of the newspaper.

For digitized newspapers, links to the digital edition of the newspaper and an essay about the newspaper’s history is also provided. Descriptions of newspapers’ contents and political viewpoints may be found in these essays.

About American Lancaster gazette. (Lancaster, Ohio) 1855-1860
Lancaster, Ohio (1855-1860)

Title:
American Lancaster gazette. (Lancaster, Ohio) 1855-1860

Alternative Titles:
- Lancaster American gazette

Place of publication:
Lancaster, Ohio

Geographic coverage:
- Lancaster, Fairfield, Ohio | View more titles from this: City County, State

Publisher:
Tom S. Slaughter

Dates of publication:
1855-1860

Description:
- New ser., v. 2, no. 41 (Feb. 15, 1855)-new ser., v. 7, no. 48 (Mar. 29, 1860).

Frequency:
Weekly

Language:
- English

LCCN:
sn 85026105

OCLC:
12036241

Preceding Titles:
- The Weekly Lancaster gazette. (Lancaster, Ohio) 1852-1855

Succeeding Titles:
- The Gazette and Democrat, (Lancaster, Ohio) 1860-1860

Holdings:
- View complete holdings information

View:
- First Issue | Last Issue
You can also browse (by newspaper title) and search the US Newspaper Directory by clicking on the link in on the far right of the search bar.

Search options include where and when the newspaper was published or by its Frequency, Language, Ethnicity Press or Labor Press. Use the keywords option to search by title, publisher name or other words that describe the newspaper.
Searching for Newspaper Pages

The website has two search options available from the blue search bar: Search Pages and Advanced Search. The search bar stays with you as you move throughout the site, so that no matter where you are, you can start a new search.

Search Pages (Basic Search)

Type your search terms into the white search box and left-click on GO or press enter to search. You can limit your search results to newspapers from a particular state or year range using the limiters in the light blue drop-down boxes.

Advanced Search

Click on the Advanced Search tab for more ways to limit your search and exclude results from states, papers and time periods that are irrelevant to your search from the very beginning.

- **Select State(s):** Select all states, one state or more than one but fewer than all (use CTRL + left-click to highlight more than one state).
- **Or Select Newspaper(s):** Select all newspapers, one newspaper, or more than one but fewer than all (use CTRL + left-click to highlight more than one newspaper title).
- **Select Year(s):** Use the drop-down menus to select a single year or year range.
- **Or Date Range:** Input MM/DD/YYYY to limit your results to a specific day, month, etc.
- **Limit Search:** Select to view results from only front pages or a specific page number.
- **Language:** Select an option from the drop-down menu.
The search boxes at the bottom of the Advanced Search let you ask the search engine to look for your terms in different ways.

- **with any of the words**: type *dog cat*, and retrieve page results with the word dog, cat or both words
- **with all of the words**: type *dog cat*, and only retrieve pages on which both words appear
- **with the phrase** (helpful for looking for specific quotations, sayings, place names and people names): type *dog cat*, and only retrieve pages on which both words appear together in that order
- **with the words...within 5/10/50/100 words of each other** (proximity searches are helpful for finding articles about a particular topic when you aren’t sure of the word order): type *dog cat* and choose “5” from the drop-down menu, and only retrieve pages on which both words appear within 5 or fewer words of each other

**Note:** When selecting your search terms, it’s important to be aware of historical vocabulary differences: often, words we use today to describe people, places and events of the past are not the same as the ones people living during that time – those people who were reading and writing the news – would have used. For example, the country we know today as Thailand was called Siam until 1939. If you did a search for Thailand in Chronicling America, you would get few or no relevant results. Use the search term Siam to get the results you want.

Other search tips to keep in mind to get the most out of this resource:

- use limiters such as state and date
- use many words to characterize the topic you are searching
- too many results? use more specific terms
- too few results? use alternate terms or broader subjects and relax limits

After you decide what you want to search for, what sort of limiters you want to use and how you want the search engine to find your words, type your search term into the appropriate box and hit the enter key or left-click on the **Search** button.
Search Results

Your search results will appear as a gallery of mini-newspaper pages (thumbnails), sorted by Relevance. Your search terms will be highlighted in pink and remain highlighted when viewing a larger version of the image. A search result’s relevancy is determined by how often your search terms appear on a page and how close those search terms are to one another.

You have the option to sort your results by State, Title and Date, and you can also view your results as a List. The list view takes out the images and provides the title of the paper, date of issue and image (page) number on which your search terms appear. Switch between views by selecting the Gallery (thumbnail) and List links in the top right corner of your results.
You can also check the box next to "Show only front pages" once your search results appear to help you see when your search terms made front page news.
Using the Image-Viewing Screen
Once you’ve found a newspaper page you would like to look at more closely, click on the thumbnail or link below the image to open the image-viewing screen. This screen provides the name of the paper, issue date and page number for the issue you are viewing above the image. From this screen, you can scroll through search results by selecting the previous and next options above the citation information.

Citation information is listed beneath the newspaper page, including a persistent link. This link will always get you back to this same newspaper page (though any search terms that helped you find the image will no longer be highlighted).
Directly above the image, a gray menu bar provides navigation, image-viewing and other options.

- **Zoom**: See next section for information on how to zoom.
- **Navigation**:
  - **Image**: Use drop-down box to view pages of that issue in any order.
  - **Page**: Use directional arrows to view previous and next pages within that issue.
  - **All Pages**: View thumbnails of all pages of that issue.
  - **Issue**: Use directional arrows to view previous and next issues for that title.
  - **All Issues**: Calendar view of issues available online for that paper.
- **Text**: Provides the text interpretation of the words on that page. This is done by computer software, so it’s not always perfect, but these are the words the search engine tries to match up with your search terms in order to deliver relevant results to you.
- **PDF**: View, save or print the PDF version of that newspaper page.
- **JP2**: Download the image as a JPEG, which is a higher quality file type than PDF.
- **Scissors Icon (Clip Image/Print)**: Opens a new tab or window to print or save the image. Citation information (newspaper title, publisher location, dates of publication, issue date, page number) is provided above the image, including the persistent link. If you have zoomed in on any portion of the page prior to clicking on this link, only the zoomed in portion of the image will appear:

![Image](image.jpg)

*The Democratic banner. (Mt. Vernon, Ohio) 1898-1927, April 01, 1913, Image 1
Image provided by Ohio Historical Society, Columbus, OH
Persistent link: http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn80078751/1913-04-01/ed-1/seq-1/
Print this image | Download this image

$1.00 PER YEAR

THOUSANDS HOMELESS IN OHIO VALLEY

Great Damage Wrought Along The Ohio River

Swollen River Drives People to Hills.
Zooming
When on the image-viewing screen, you can zoom in on and out of portions of the image by:

- Using the scroll wheel on your mouse.
- Using the + and – buttons located to the top left of the newspaper page.
- Left-clicking on whatever portion of the image you want to see close-up.

Move the image around by holding down the left mouse button and moving your mouse. Click on the home button next to the zoom-out (−) button to reset the image to its original size and position. If the image-viewing screen still too small, click on the button to the right of the home key to view the image on a full screen. Just as in the regular image viewing screen, the gray menu bar provides zooming, navigation, view and print options. Depending on your browser, you can either exit the full screen mode by hitting ESC or using the back button.
Recommended Topics in Chronicling America

Chronicling America contains guides that showcase topics that were widely reported upon by the American press between 1836 and 1922, such as significant people, events and fads. For each topic, a timeline, search terms and strategies and sample articles are provided. The link to this section of the website is on the left side of the home page, underneath the search bar.

Recommended Topics is useful not only as a way to explore the site if you do not have a particular search query in mind, but it can help you learn how to use the site and overcome common problems such as historical language differences by showing you which terms to use in your search queries.
More Resources
The Ohio History Connection has developed several resources to help you learn how to search Chronicling America, including video tutorials and Ohio-focused topic guides.

Ohio History Connection Video Tutorials
All videos are freely available through the Ohio History Connection’s YouTube Channel (www.youtube.com/ohiohistory).

• Using Chronicling America Podcast Series
  o This eleven-episode series covers the basics for searching the website, from browsing to searching to printing. The final two videos cover advanced search tips including how to overcome historical language barriers and how to understand keyword searching.
  o For more information, and links to the videos, visit: http://www.ohiohistoryhost.org/ohiomemory/resources/tutorials/

• Chronicling America Search Strategy Videos
  o These videos build on the search skills covered in the Using Chronicling America Podcast Series by demonstrating specific search techniques and highlighting interesting topics in Chronicling America. These will provide ideas for ways you can use Chronicling America for your own research.
  o For more information and links to the videos, visit: http://www.ohiohistoryhost.org/ohiomemory/resources/tutorials/

Ohio History Connection Topic Guides
Topic Guides are modeled after Chronicling America's Recommended Topics, providing introductory information, important dates, search terms/strategies and links to sample articles on Chronicling America for specific topics that were widely reported on by the Ohio press of the time. Topics range from African Americans to Arts and Entertainment to Military Ohio to Science and Technology. To view the guides, visit: http://www.ohiohistoryhost.org/ohiomemory/resources/featured-topics/