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# The Delaware Digital Newspaper Project (DDNP) and Chronicling America

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UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE  
**LIBRARY, MUSEUMS  
& PRESS**

# Overview

- National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP)
- Delaware Digital Newspaper Project (DDNP)
- Chronicling America (ChronAm)
  - Tutorial
  - Content limitations



# National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP)

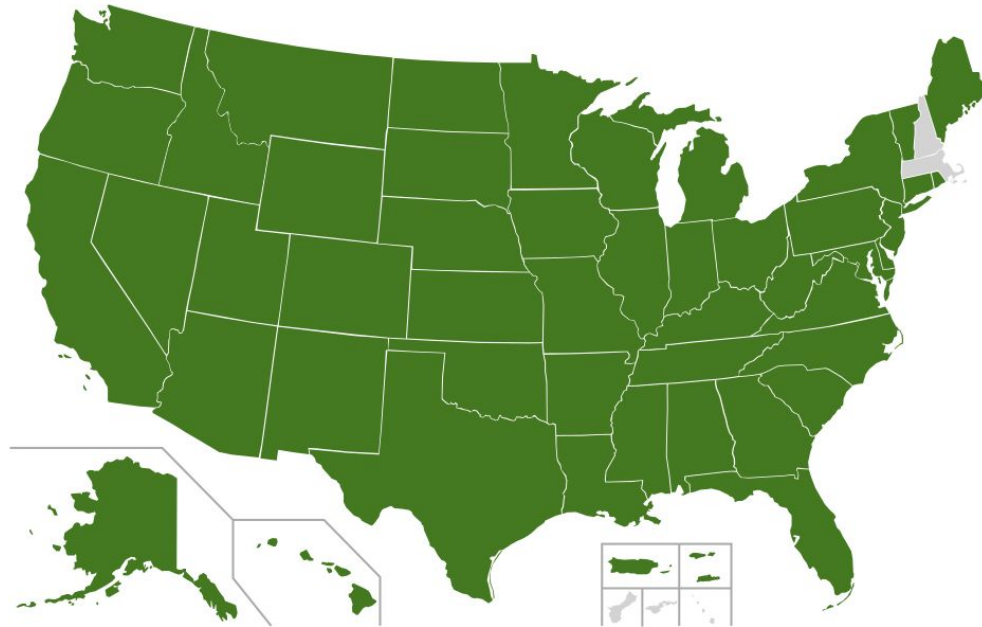
- Funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities
- Supported by the Library of Congress
- NDNP timeline: 2005 - present
- Includes digitized microfilm, 1690 - 1963
- 48 states, 2 U.S. territories, Washington, D.C.
- ~100K pages per grant phase
- Over 15 million pages included in Chronicling America database (and growing)

NDNP Website: <https://www.loc.gov/ndnp/>



# NDNP Spatial Coverage

National Digital Newspaper Program, 2005-2019



[https://www.loc.gov/ndnp/images/map\\_2019.png](https://www.loc.gov/ndnp/images/map_2019.png)



# Delaware Digital Newspaper Project (DDNP)

**2015-2017** -- Focus on newspapers with available master microfilm (1789-1922)

**2017-2019** -- Focus on long runs, titles of note (1888-1922)

**2019-2021** -- Proposed focus on Southern Delaware (including some post-1922 content)

## DE Progress

- ~195K pages
- 106 titles
- Primarily New Castle County

DDNP Website: <https://library.udel.edu/ddnp/>



# Chronicling America Database

## What is Chronicling America?

- Database that provides full-text searching of digitized historic newspapers
- Includes historic essay for each title
- Freely-accessible, no login required

The screenshot displays the Chronicling America website interface. At the top, it features the Library of Congress logo and navigation links for 'ASK A LIBRARIAN', 'DIGITAL COLLECTIONS', and 'LIBRARY CATALOGS'. A search bar is located on the right. Below the navigation, the site title 'CHRONICLING AMERICA Historic American Newspapers' is prominently displayed, along with a brief description and a 'Learn more' link. The main content area includes search filters for 'All states', 'from 1789 to 1963', and a search input field. A 'GO' button is positioned to the right of the search field. Below the search filters, there are links for 'Search Pages', 'Advanced Search', and 'All Digitized Newspapers 1789-1963'. A 'US Newspaper Directory, 1690-Present' link is also visible. The page indicates 'Pages Available: 15,273,703' and includes icons for 'Print', 'Subscribe', 'Share/Save', and 'Give Feedback'. A section titled '100 Years Ago Today: 11/4/1919 (105 issues)' is highlighted, showing three newspaper thumbnails: 'The Pensacola Journal', 'The Chattanooga news', and 'The Garden Island'. Each thumbnail includes a caption with the newspaper's name, volume information, and location.



# DDNP / ChronAm Video

Shareable Link: <https://library.udel.edu/instruction/tutorials/chroniclingamerica/>  
[https://capture.udel.edu/media/Chronicling+America+Tutorial+-+%28Prize+Announcement%29/1\\_eazgzaki](https://capture.udel.edu/media/Chronicling+America+Tutorial+-+%28Prize+Announcement%29/1_eazgzaki)



# Coverage Limitations

## Be careful drawing conclusions

- Length of involvement by states
- Grant funding limitations
- Advisory board decisions
- Underrepresented minority papers
- Some content in other databases is behind a paywall
- Quality of originals, ability to save print

**Impossible to include everything!**





# Other Limitations

- Grant limitations on dates
- Copyright
- Inconsistent/mixed fonts
- Fading text
- Missing characters
- Page bleed-through
- Column confusion
- Tight gutters/missing text
- Poor-quality originals

**ChronAm cannot search everything!**

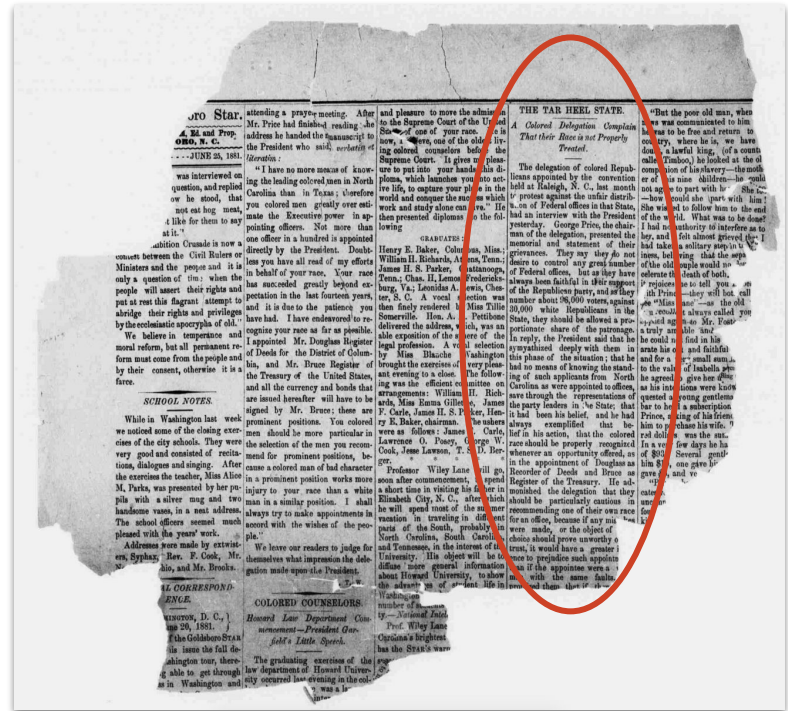


# Poor Quality Originals

Something is better than nothing.

The Goldsboro star. volume (Goldsboro, N.C.), 25 June 1881. *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress.

<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn91068338/1881-06-25/ed-1/seq-2/>



**THE STAR.**  
A. M. and Prop.  
O. B. C.  
JUNE 25, 1881.

... Mr. Price had finished reading the address he handed the manuscript to the President who said, certainly it is a fine speech, but it is a pity that you should have to go to the Supreme Court. I have no more means of knowing the leading colored men in North Carolina than in Texas; therefore you colored men greatly over estimate the Executive power in appointing officers. Not more than one office in a hundred is appointed directly by the President. Doubtless you have all read of my efforts in behalf of your race. Your race has succeeded greatly beyond expectation in the last fourteen years, and it is due to the patience you have had. I have endeavored to recognize your race as far as possible. I appointed Mr. Douglas Register of Deeds for the District of Columbia, and Mr. Bruce Register of the Treasury of the United States, and all the currency and bonds that are issued hereafter will have to be signed by Mr. Bruce; these are prominent positions. You colored men should be more particular in the selection of the man you recommend for prominent positions, because a colored man of bad character in a prominent position works more injury to your race than a white man in a similar position. I shall always try to make appointments in accord with the wishes of the people.

**SCHOOL NOTES.**  
While in Washington last week we noticed some of the closing exercises of the city schools. They were very good and consisted of recitations, dialogues and singing. After the exercises the teacher, Miss Alice M. Parks, was presented by her pupils with a silver mug and two handsome vases, in a neat address. The school officers seemed much pleased with the year's work. Addresses were made by extraneous, Syllax, F. Cook, Mr. Price, and Mr. Brooks.

**COLORED COUNSELLORS.**  
Honored Law Department Commencement—President Garfield's Little Speech.  
The graduating exercises of the law department of Howard University, opened last evening in the city. It was a fine affair.

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# Key Takeaways

- A lot of historical content available for full-text searching
- Valuable, free primary resource
- Content from the majority of the U.S. (lacking MA and NH)
- Be mindful of database / content / searching limitations
- We are available for questions about DDNP or Chronicling America



# Additional Resources

Chronicling America: About -- <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/about/>

Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers (Video Tutorial) --  
<https://library.udel.edu/instruction/tutorials/chroniclingamerica/>

Delaware Digital Newspaper Project -- <http://library.udel.edu/ddnp/>

Delaware Newspapers Research Guide -- <http://guides.lib.udel.edu/delawarenewspapers>

Extra! Extra! NDNP Extras! (Teaching Resources) -- <https://www.loc.gov/ndnp/extras/>

- Includes searching tips, lesson plans, videos, etc.

National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP) -- <https://www.loc.gov/ndnp/>

Teacher's Guide: Preparing for National History Day. EDSITEment! National Endowment for the Humanities. --  
<https://edsitement.neh.gov/teachers-guides/preparing-national-history-day>



# Contact Information

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