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Finding Grandpa's Patent: Using Patent Information for Historical or Genealogical Research

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Finding Grandpa's Patent:

Using Patent Information for Historical or Genealogical Research

SUMMARY: Hardly a week goes by without a phone call, an e-mail message, or a visit from a patron who is looking for a patent issued to a family member. Often, the patron does not have complete information, and sometimes has nothing more than a name and a notion that Grandpa once invented something. This article describes some strategies that can be used by Librarians to assist patrons in historical patent research. It, additionally, includes a list of sources and highlights special materials that are available at Patent and Trademark Depository Libraries.

KEYWORDS:

INTRODUCTION: BUT IT'S ALL ON THE INTERNET, RIGHT?

One of the most important things to remember when beginning a search for historical patents is that not everything is available in electronic format. The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) maintains a database of every patent issued, from 1790 to the present. It is available at <http://www.uspto.gov/patft/index.html>. There are some limitations to keep in mind, however. Patents from 1790 to 1975 are only searchable by patent number and current US Classification. For these patents the typical keyword or inventor's name search is not possible. However, the searcher with only Grandpa's name generally does not know the patent number or the current US Classification. Most often all they know is the name of the inventor, where they lived, and a range of years that they might have been inventing. Finding the patent number with just this information can be challenging.

Determining the current classification of a historic patent can be equally as challenging.

All patents have been assigned to a class (or more likely an even more specific class and subclass) based on the use or function of the invention. A classic example is that cement mixers and washing machines could both be assigned to class 209 (Classifying, Separating, and Assorting Solids) because they both agitate. Determining the class and subclass is not always a simple thing. Very few sources of information about older inventions list classification information. Those that do will list the class and subclass to which the invention was assigned at the time of issue. If the patent in question is more than a few years old, it is conceivable that the class and subclass numbers have changed. They may even have changed more than once. Every time such changes are made, the information is recorded in the patent database, and only the current classification information is retained. Clearly it is going to take some investigating to uncover Grandpa's patent.

THE GOAL OF EVERY PATENT SEARCH

Regardless of what information is provided, the goal of every patent search is the same: to determine the patent number. When the patent number is found, so is the patent. But how does one find the patent number? Like most library research projects, the simplest way is to consult an index or a published list. The bibliography for this article lists many such indexes. It is arranged by access point, so with only the name of the inventor, or the subject matter of the invention, the searcher can check the sources that are listed in the appropriate section. Those two sections are arranged with the most useful sources listed first. Every index will lead to the patent number, along with other useful information.

Working with patent numbers can be challenging as well. The first United States patent was issued on July 31, 1790. However, the early Patent Board did not think to assign numbers to

the patents. It was not until July 13, 1836 that patents began to be numbered. Patents issued before this date are often referred to as Name and Date patents. As a further complication, on December 15, 1836 there was a disastrous fire at the Patent Office, and all of the patents -- nearly 10,000 -- were destroyed. Luckily, a list of issued patents survived, and at this point the Name and Date patents were numbered. To avoid confusion, the numbers were preceded with an X (i.e. the first patent ever issued is numbered X1). Many efforts were made to recover the lost patents, and as copies were received, they were recorded, so there is information about many of these patents in the patent database on the USPTO web page.

WHAT DO I DO IF I DON'T FIND ANYTHING?

But what if you don't find anything? Again, some traditional library research methods might prove to be helpful.

- *Try alternate spellings.* In the 18th and 19th centuries, people were much less concerned about proper or standardized spelling, even of surnames.
- *Expand the dates you are searching.* Life spans were shorter, and people were more likely to work up until the time of their death. If you know that a person lived from 1820 - 1865, search indexes from 1835 - 1870. (Occasionally patent rights were assigned to surviving family members.)
- *Try to determine if grandpa worked with another inventor, or with a company.* Sometimes a patent is assigned to a company. Perhaps the inventor worked for this company and his work on the invention was part of his job, so his name may or may not be listed as inventor. Or

perhaps the inventor sold (assigned) his patent rights to a company or another individual. If Grandpa assigned these rights at the time that the patent issued, Grandpa's name should be listed in the Index of Patents, along with a cross-reference to the name of the company or individual. Because of the way the indexes are formatted, sometimes the assignee name is easier to spot.

- *Could it have been a patent issued by a state or a colony?* Before the United States Patent system was formally organized, many of the colonies had their own systems in place. Limited information exists about the patents issued to colonies. However, many states continue to issue patents - with rights that extend only within the borders of their state. There is no central database of these patents, and each state handles things in a different way. Often the Department of State issues these patents. Contact the Department of State of the state in question for information.
- *Could it have been a patent issued by another country?* The United States of America is a relatively new country, made up of people who came from many places. Perhaps Grandpa patented his invention in the old country. Many different countries issue patents, and the amount of available information on older patents varies greatly. See the following bibliography for several international sources of information.
- *Was the Invention ever Patented?* There are many reasons why an invention may never have been patented. Even in the early days, getting a patent was expensive and time-consuming, and often involved trips to lawyers or to Washington, D.C. This may have put it out of inventor Grandpa's reach. It is also entirely possible that Grandpa did invent something, but

he just used it himself, or made several to share or sell on a limited basis. Unfortunately, this would probably be impossible to verify without further information.

- *But I have an object with a patent number (or "Patent Pending") stamped on it!* Sometimes what looks like a patent number is not a patent number. It could be any number of things - a manufacturer's model number, for example. A good way to verify the patent number is to consult the list of patent numbers by year from the USPTO web page:

<http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/ac/ido/oeip/taff/issuyear.htm>. Keep in mind that decorative objects could have been protected by design patents, so pay close attention to those patent numbers that start with a "D". If an object is stamped with "Patent Pending", there are several reasons why a patent may never have been granted. It is possible that it was applied for but rejected for some reason. Maybe the company merged with another company, or shut down altogether. Or perhaps the individual or company never got around to applying for the patent. There were fewer laws about these kinds of things in the old days, and it was apparently fairly common to use "Patent Pending" or even bogus patent numbers.

OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION

If you have gone through all of the above steps and have come up empty, there are still a few things that you (or your patron) can do:

- *Consult local or county histories.* If an inventor or invention played a prominent role, it is possible that either would have been included in a published history of the area. It might be a little difficult to uncover these sources, especially if the inventor is from a different state. At this point the search might be extended to OCLC (Online Computer Library Center) or another global catalog of library holdings; to an Internet search engine or database such as *Amazon.com* or *Google*; and/or to online catalogs for large libraries in the area. Keep in mind that many older or specialized sources, especially government documents, might not be listed in a library's online catalog. If a patron can identify a particular book Interlibrary Loan could be an option.
- *Local historical societies may also be helpful.* Many of them have book collections which may or may not be publicly accessible.
- *Consult a book about the specific area of technology.* There are so many collectors out there these days, and for every type of collection there are books. Consult a book on the history of eggbeaters, and you may just find the information that you need.

CONCLUSION

There are as many strategies for researching historical patents as there are historical patents. The Bibliography that follows lists a few of the most important resources that can be the basis of a successful search. But perhaps the best strategy of all is to consult your local Patent and Trademark Depository Library (PTDL) Librarian. Not only do these librarians have access to a wealth of printed and electronic tools; they are experts in patent searching. Whether using old printed indexes that are crumbling into dust, or the latest update on the USPTO web page, PTDL Librarians are committed to excellent service, and most also have a deep interest in history and the persistence to work on a search until something is found. There is at least one PTDL in every state. (See Appendix or http://www.uspto.gov/go/ptdl/ptdlib_1.html for a complete list.) Call ahead before referring a patron, as collections vary from library to library, and each has its own policies. A phone call can verify library holdings, special locations or limited hours, and the level of assistance available. Sometimes the PTDL Librarian can even locate the patent and either send it or explain how it can be obtained. With a little bit of luck and a little persistence, you can preserve history and make your patron's day.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Historical Inventors: A Selected Bibliography of Sources

1. Inventors Listed by Subject Matter of Invention

Books and Articles

Subject Matter Index of Patents for Inventions Issued by the United States Patent Office from 1790 to 1873, Inclusive. [Reprint.] Series Title: America in Two Centuries, An Inventory. North Stratford, NH: Ayer Company Publishers, Incorporated, 2000.

This is one of several reprints of the 1874 ed. published by the Government Printing Office, Washington D.C. (SuDoc no. I 23.7: 874/1-3. See Alphabetic List, Below). It is a three-volume set, arranged alphabetically by subject of invention. Each entry lists inventor's name, inventor's city and state of residence, date of patent grant, and patent number. Unfortunately, there is no index by inventor's last name. However, this is still the very best source for identifying historic inventors and inventions, and it is available at nearly every PTDL, as well as many large public, academic, or special libraries. It is also included as a part of the 19th Century Masterfile Database, see entry under *Electronic Databases*, below.

United States Patent Office. *Annual Report of the Commissioner of Patents.* Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office. 1843 – 1919.

Also known as the Patent Office Report, the arrangement of this report varies from year to year. Early reports were also included in the Congressional Serial Set. It usually consists of two parts: Agriculture and Mechanics. From 1853 – 1868, the Mechanics part was published in two volumes. The first volume contains a list of patents by subject and patentee, and the second volume contains very brief abstracts of the patents: about 5-10 abstracts per page. This volume

is arranged by subject of invention from 1854-1858, and numerically for the remaining years. The Annual Report was published until 1965, but in 1920 the index portion began being published under the title of Index of Patents Issued from the United States Patent and Trademark Office (see below.) In addition to the indexes, the front matter of this report contains a wealth of interesting historical information, such as number of patent applications filed and patents granted, and number of patents issued in foreign countries.

United States Patent Office. *Index of Patents Issued from the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Part II: Index to Subject of Inventions.* Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office.

The Index of Patents is a cumulative index which lists patents granted in a given year. This section is arranged alphabetically by class and subclass. Entries also list the inventor's name and any assignment information that was known at the time of issue, patent title, patent number, and date of issue. From 1843 – 1919 the index is actually part of the Annual Report of the Commissioner of Patents (also known as the Patent Office Report). Often it is bound separately—particularly from 1872, when it began listing references to volume and page numbers of the Official Gazette. (See next entry). Beginning in 1966, the two sections of this publication are bound in two separate volumes - Part I (Index to Patentees), and Part II (Index to Subject of Inventions.)

United States Patent and Office. *Official Gazette of the United States Patent Office.* Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office. 1872 –

The Official Gazette has been printed every Tuesday since 1872. Numerical entries are organized by class and subclass before they are numbered, therefore this source has a general subject arrangement as well. Each issue has two indexes – one an alphabetical list of inventions, and the other an alphabetic list of inventors. Index entries also contain the patent number, date of issue, inventor's city and state of residence, and any assignment information that was known. The major drawback of this publication is that unless you have an exact date to go by, it involves a lot of searching, since it is issued weekly. There is some monthly and quarterly indexing, but not consistently. Beginning with May 18, 1965 there is also an index listing patent numbers by state. Unfortunately, this geographic index is not picked up in the annual Index of Patents. The Official Gazette contains bibliographic information, a drawing (if one was submitted), and at least one claim reprinted from the patent document.

International Index of Patents: Chemical and Allied Arts, 1790 - 1960. New York: The Interdex Corporation, 1964.

This is a 6 volume "Guide to the Chemical and Allied Patents Granted by the United States During this Period Grouped in the Classes and Subclasses of the United States Patent Office." Volume 5 contains the index, which includes the Manual of Classification, Standard Industrial Classification Index, Subject Index, and Numerical Index (#16 to 1,904,406). There is also a companion volume for the "Electrical and Allied Arts." Both of these are updated by the yearly *National Catalog of Patents*.

2. Alphabetic Lists of Inventors

Books and Articles

United States Patent and Trademark Office. *Index of Patents Issued from the United States Patent and Trademark Office*. Part I: List of Patentees. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office.

This section is arranged alphabetically by name of inventor (and assignee, if that was known at the time of issue.) Entries also list the patent title, patent number, date of issue, and class/subclass. Beginning in 1872, there are also references to the volume and page number in the Official Gazette, where drawings and specifications can be found.

United States Patent Office. *List of Patents for Inventions and Designs, Issued by the United States from 1790 – 1847, with the Patent Laws and Notes of Decisions of the Courts of the United States for the Same Period: Compiled Under the Direction of Edmund Burke, Commissioner of Patents*. Washington, D.C.: J & S Gideon, 1847.

United States Patent Office. *A Digest of Patents Issued by the United States, from 1790 – January 1, 1839, Published by Act of Congress Under the Superintendence of the Commissioner of Patents, Henry L. Ellsworth, To Which is Added the Present Law Relating to Patents*. Washington, D.C.: Peter Force, 1840.

United States Congress. *Letter from the Secretary of State Transmitting a List of All Patents Granted by the United States, The Acts of Congress Relating Thereto, and the Decisions of Courts of the United States Under the Same*. Document No. 50, 21st Congress, 2d Session, January 13, 1831. Serial Set No. 207. Washington, D.C.: Duff Green, 1831.

Each of these three reports arranges patents alphabetically by “class,” although the classes are not numbered as is customary, so it is actually a subject arrangement. At the end of each of the “class” sections there is an index by inventor’s name. Because of this, these original reports can be more useful than the reprints.

The New American State Papers 1789 - 1860: Science and Technology. Prof. Thomas C. Cochran, ed. Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resources, Inc., 1973.

This is a fourteen volume series drawing together materials from the original American State Papers (published between 1832 and 1861); U.S. Congressional Serial Set volumes (published continuously since 1817); and documents from the Legislative Section of the National Archives. Volumes 4 and 5 relate to patents, and reprint many interesting reports. In particular, volume 4 has a reprint of Document No. 50 (see above).

3. Inventors Listed by Geographic Region

Books and Articles

Calkin, Homer L. and Corrine Calkin. "Iowa Inventors and Inventions Part One." *The Palimpsest* L (1969): 369 - 432.

Calkin, Homer L. and Corrine Calkin. "Iowa Inventors and Inventions 1843 - 1873 Part Two." *The Palimpsest* L (1969): 433 - 481.

Comfort, Jan. "South Carolina Inventors and Inventions 1790 - 1873." *The South Carolina Magazine of Ancestral Research* XXV (1997): 123 - 136.

Fulghum, R. Neil. *North Carolina Patents, 1790 - 1873*. Raleigh, North Carolina: North Carolina Museum of History, 1979.

Holsclaw, Birdie. "Early Colorado Inventors: Colorado Patent Models in the Cliff Peterson Collection 1852 - 1890." *The Colorado Genealogist* 49 (1988): 34-36.

Marhenke, Chris. "Florida Inventors." [Electronic Resource]. Not yet available to the public. (Printouts distributed to Florida PTDLS). 2002.

Sharrer, Terry G. "Patents by Marylanders, 1790 - 1830." *Maryland Historical Magazine* 71(1976): 50 - 59.

Walston, Mark. "Maryland Inventors and Inventions 1830 - 1860." *Maryland Historical Magazine* 80 (1985): 66 - 93.

"Wisconsin Inventors." *Badger History (Special Issue)*.23(1970): 2 - 64, plus Teacher's Supplement.

Woodcroft, Bennet. *Alphabetical Index of Patentees of Inventions: from March 2, 1617 (14 James I.) to October 1, 1852 (16 Victoriae)*. New York: Augustus M. Kelley, 1969.

Reprint of 1854 edition covering British patents.

4. Electronic Databases

(Can be searched by inventor's name, geographic region, or subject matter of invention)

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. *From Air Brakes to Zinc Furnaces: Pittsburgh and Allegheny City Patentees 1790 – 1879*. [Electronic Resource]. Retrieved June 28, 2002, from <http://www.clpgh.org/clp/Scitech/invent/>.

The European Patent Office. *Espacenet*. [Electronic Resource]. Retrieved February 20, 2003 <http://ep.espacenet.com/>

Search by keyword from the opening screen. Or click on the link *Worldwide - 30 million documents* to reach the search screen that permits searching by inventor, date, or classification.

This database does not have complete coverage of older patents. A search of the dates of coverage shows that the earliest U.S. patent included is 23,045 dated February 22, 1859.

Hocker, Susan E. Miami University Library. *Index to Early Louisiana Patents, 1810-1890*. [Electronic Resource]. Retrieved February 20, 2002, from <http://adler.lib.muohio.edu/~shocker/LAPAT/index.html>.

Great Lakes Patent and Trademark Center. Detroit Public Library. *African-American Inventors Database*. [Electronic Resource]. Retrieved June 28, 2002 from <http://www.detroit.lib.mi.us/glptc/aaaid/index.asp>.

State Library of Iowa. *Iowa Inventions Database*. [Electronic Resource]. Retrieved February 20, 2002, from <http://www.silo.lib.ia.us/app/cgi-bin/patents/>.

Subject Matter Index of Patents Issued by the U.S. (1790 – 1873). [Electronic Resource]. Patent and Government Document Indices. 19th Century Masterfile. Reston, VA: Paratext, Inc., 1999 -

Wyoming State Library. *Wyoming Inventors Database*. [Electronic Resource]. Retrieved June 28, 2002, from <http://cowgirl.state.wy.us/inventors/>.

5. Special Materials Available at Patent and Trademark Depository Libraries

Books and Articles

Dobyns, Kenneth W. *The Patent Office Pony: A History of the Early Patent Office*. Fredericksburg, VA: Sergeant Kirkland's Museum and Historical Society, 1997.

This is a terrific book about the history of the Patent Office. In this context, of particular note is a list of all known patents issued to the Confederate Patent Office on p. 206 – 216.

Randall, Merle, and Evelyn Boelter Watson. *Finding List for United States Patent, Design, Trademark, Reissue, Label, Print, and Plant Patent Numbers*. Berkeley, CA: University of California Press, 1938.

United States Department of Commerce. Patent and Trademark Office. *Name and Date Patents July 31, 1790 – July 2, 1836*. Washington, D.C.: Patent and Trademark Depository Library Program, August 19, 1999.

This is actually a photocopy of a typed (and in some cases handwritten) card file used in the Public Search Room at the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Before the publication of the Subject Matter Index, it was the only access to the early unnumbered patents.

United States Department of Commerce. Patent and Trademark Office. *Patent and Trademark Office Collection of Historical and Interesting U.S. Patents in Celebration of Our Nation's Bicentennial. Microfilm Index*. Indexed by Bruce B. Cox and Amy K. England. Washington, D.C.: Patent and Trademark Depository Library Program, April 1987.

United States. National Archives and Records Service. *Additional Improvement Patents, 1837 – 1861*. Special List no. 39. Compiled by James A. Paulauskas. Washington, D.C.: General Services Administration, 1977.

United States. National Archives and Records Service. *Preliminary Inventory of the Records of the Patent Office (Record Group 41)*. Compiled by Forrest R. Holdcamper. Washington, D.C.: National Archives Editorial Division, November 1966.

United States Patent Office. "Historical Notices of Inventions from Archives of the States." *Report of the Commissioner of Patents for the Year 1849, Part 1: Arts and Manufactures*. Washington, D.C.: Office of Printers to the Senate, 1850.

United States Patent Office. "Papers and Abstracts Relating to Early American Inventors from

the Archives of States.” *Report of the Commissioner of Patents for the Year 1850, Part 1: Arts and Manufactures*. Washington, D.C.: Office of Printers to House of Reps., 1851.

Women Inventors

United States Department of Labor. Women's Bureau. *Women's Contributions in the Field of Invention: A Study of the Records of the United States Patent Office*. Bulletin of the Women's Bureau, No. 28. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1923.

United States Patent and Trademark Office. Technology Assessment and Forecast Program. *Buttons to Biotech 1996 Update Report: U.S. Patenting by Women, 1977 to 1996*. Washington, D.C.: United States Patent and Trademark Office, 1998.

United States Patent Office. *Women Inventors to whom Patents have been Granted by the United States Government 1790 - July 1, 1888*. Compiled under the Direction of the Commissioner of Patents. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1888.

United States Patent Office. *Women Inventors to whom Patents have been Granted by the United States Government: July 1, 1888 to October 1, 1892: Appendix No. 1*. Compiled under the Direction of the Commissioner of Patents. Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1892.

(Note: See the Women Inventors Database for a pdf version of this document:
<http://adler.lib.muohio.edu/~shocker/FemInv/Women/feminv1.pdf>)

United States Patent Office. *Women Inventors to whom Patents have been Granted by the United States Government: October 1, 1892 to March 1, 1895: Arranged Chronologically and by Classes. Appendix No. 2*. Compiled under the Direction of the Commissioner of Patents. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1895.

(Note: See the Women Inventors Database for a pdf version of this document:
<http://adler.lib.muohio.edu/~shocker/FemInv/Women/feminv2.pdf>)

Electronic Resources

USAPat: Facsimile Images of United States Patents Issued 1790 to Present. [Electronic Resource]. Washington, D.C.: United States Patent and Trademark Office. Office for Patent and Trademark Information. 2000 –

The same patents that are published on the USPTO web site are also provided to PTDLs on DVD-ROM. They can be printed much more quickly than the patents on the Internet,

especially using the heavy-duty printer provided by the Patent Office. They are also available as a selection for Federal Depository Libraries.

CASSIS: Classification Information Files. [Electronic Resource]. Washington, D.C.: United States Patent and Trademark Office. Office of Electronic Information Products and Services.

This file contains class and subclass information on every United States Patent issued since 1790. It is only accessible by patent number. This is just one of a series of optical disk products called CASSIS, which are provided to all Patent and Trademark Depository Libraries.

APPENDIX

List of Patent and Trademark Depository Libraries, Alphabetical by State

City and State	Library Name	Phone number
Alabama		
Auburn	Ralph Brown Draghon Library, Auburn University	334) 844-1737
Birmingham	Birmingham Public Library	205) 226-3620
Alaska		
Anchorage	Z. J. Loussac Public Library, Anchorage Municipal Libraries	(907) 562-3620
Arizona		
Tempe	Noble Science and Engineering Library, Arizona State University	(480) 965-7010
Arkansas		
Little Rock	Arkansas State Library	(501) 682-2053

California

Los Angeles	Los Angeles Public Library	(213) 228-7220
Sacramento	California State Library, Library – Courts Building	(916) 654-0069
San Diego	San Diego Public Library	(619) 236-5813
San Francisco	San Francisco Public Library	(415) 557-4500
Sunnyvale	Sunnyvale Center for Innovation, Invention, and Ideas (SCI ³)	(408) 730-7300

Colorado

Denver	Denver Public Library	(720) 865-1711
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Connecticut

Hartford	Hartford Public Library	(860) 543-8628
New Haven	New Haven Free Public Library	(203) 946-7452

Delaware

Newark	University of Delaware Library	(302) 831-2965
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District of Columbia

Washington	Founders Library, Howard University	(202) 806-7252
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Florida

Ft. Lauderdale	Broward County Main Library	(954) 357-7444
Miami	Miami-Dade Public Library	(305) 375-2665
Orlando	University of Central Florida Libraries	(407) 823-2562
Tampa	University of South Florida, Tampa Campus	(813) 974-2726

Georgia

Atlanta	Georgia Institute of Technology	(404) 894-4508
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Hawaii

Honolulu	Hawaii State Library	(808) 586-3477
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Idaho

Moscow	University of Idaho Library	(208) 885-6235
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Illinois

Chicago	Chicago Public Library	(312) 747-4450
Springfield	Illinois State Library	(217) 782-5659

Indiana

Indianapolis	Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library	(317) 269-1741
West Lafayette	Siegesmund Engineering Library, Purdue University	(765) 494-2872

Iowa

Des Moines	State Library of Iowa	(515) 242-6541
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Kansas

Wichita	Ablah Library, Wichita State University	(316) 978-3155
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Kentucky

Louisville	Louisville Free Public Library	(502) 574-1611
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Louisiana

Baton Rouge	Troy H. Middleton Library, Louisiana State University	(225) 388-8875
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Maine

Orono	Raymond H. Fogler Library University of Maine	(207) 581-1678
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Maryland

College Park	Engineering and Physical Sciences Library University of Maryland	(301) 405-9157
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Massachusetts

Amherst	Physical Sciences and Engineering Library	(413) 545-1370
Boston	Boston Public Library	(617) 536-5400, ext. 2265

Michigan

Ann Arbor	Media Union Library University of Michigan	(734) 647-5735
Big Rapids	Abigail S. Timme Library Ferris State University	(231) 591-3500
Detroit	Great Lakes Patent and Trademark Center Detroit Public Library	(313) 833-3379

Minnesota

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Minneapolis	Minneapolis Public Library	(612) 630-6120
Mississippi		
Jackson	Mississippi Library Commission	(601) 961-4111
Missouri		
Kansas City	Linda Hall Library	(816) 363-4600
St. Louis	St. Louis Public Library	(314) 241-2288 ext. 390
Montana		
Butte	Montana Tech Library University of Montana	(406) 496-4281
Nebraska		
Lincoln	Engineering Library University of Nebraska – Lincoln	(402) 472-3411
Nevada		
Las Vegas	Clark County Library, Las Vegas	(702) 733-1165
Reno	University of Nevada	(775) 784-6500 ext. 257
New Hampshire		
Concord	New Hampshire State Library	(603) 271-2239
New Jersey		
Newark	Newark Public Library	(973) 733-7779
Piscataway	Library of Science and Medicine Rutgers University	(732) 445-2895
New Mexico		
Albuquerque	Centennial Science and Engineering Library University of New Mexico	(505) 277-4412
New York		
Albany	New York State Library	(518) 474-5355
Buffalo	Buffalo and Erie County Public Library	(716) 858-7101
Rochester	Central Library of Rochester and Monroe County	(716) 428-8110
Stony Brook	Melville Library SUNY at Stony Brook	(631) 632-7148
North Carolina		
Raleigh	D.H. Hill Library North Carolina State University	(919) 515-2935
North Dakota		
Grand Forks	Chester Fritz Library University of North Dakota	(701) 777-4888
Ohio		
Akron	Akron-Summit County Public Library	(330) 643-9075

Cincinnati	The Public Library of Cincinnati	(513) 369-6971
Cleveland	Cleveland Public Library	(216) 623-2870
Columbus	Ohio State University	(614) 292-3022
Dayton	Wright State University	(937) 775-3521
Toledo	Toledo/Lucas County Public Library	(419) 259-5209
Oklahoma		
Stillwater	Oklahoma State University	(405) 744-7086
Oregon		
Portland	Lewis & Clark College	(503) 768-6786
Pennsylvania		
Philadelphia	The Free Library of Philadelphia	(215) 686-5331
Pittsburgh	The Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh	(412) 622-3138
University Park	Business Library, Paterno Library, The Pennsylvania State University	(814) 865-6369
Puerto Rico		
Bayamon	General Library, Bayamon Campus, University of Puerto Rico	(787) 786-5225
Mayaguez	General Library, Mayaguez Campus, University of Puerto Rico	(787) 832-4040 ext. 2022
Rhode Island		
Providence	Providence Public Library	(401) 455-8027
South Carolina		
Clemson	R.M. Cooper Library, Clemson University	(864) 656-3024
South Dakota		
Rapid City	Devereaux Library, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology	(605) 394-1275
Tennessee		
Nashville	Stevenson Science and Engineering Library, Vanderbilt University	(615) 322-2717
Texas		
Austin	McKinney Engineering Library, The University of Texas at Austin	(512) 495-4500
College Station	Texas A&M University	(979) 845-5745
Houston	Fondren Library, Rice University	(713) 348-5483
Lubbock	Texas Tech University Library	(806) 742-2282
San Antonio	San Antonio Public Library	(210) 207-2500

Utah Salt Lake City	Marriott Library, University of Utah	(801) 581-8394
Vermont Burlington	Bailey/Howe Library University of Vermont	(802) 656-2542
Virginia Richmond	James Branch Cabell Library, Virginia Commonwealth University	(804) 828-1104
Washington Seattle	Engineering Library University of Washington	(206) 543-0740
West Virginia Morgantown	Evansdale Library West Virginia University	(304) 293-4695 ext. 5113
Wisconsin Madison	Kurt F. Wendt Library University of Wisconsin	(608) 262-6845
Milwaukee	Milwaukee Public Library	(414) 286-3051
Wyoming Cheyenne	Wyoming State Library	(307) 777-7281