Reference Guide to Panama Materials at the Library of Congress

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PRELIMINARY NOTE

This guide is a product of cooperative and team work that took months to complete. Nancy Alfaro and I started working on this guide in the summer of 2010. We decided on the topics to cover and how to proceed in order to create a guide that would be useful for the researcher. As a cataloger, Nancy was instrumental in writing about search techniques and making the catalogue look simpler for the researcher. Her knowledge and years of experience at the Library and her dedication and enthusiasm made this guide possible. Her brother Christian joined us in the project and he was responsible for designing the final layout, took photographs for the illustrations, and annotated a work about Japanese immigrants (written in Japanese) in Panama. In November, thanks to a Billington Curatorial Award, Anne Arntson joined us for the completion of the project. We would like to thank Ms. Judy Henderson and Mr. Florentino Martinez for taking time out of their busy schedules to review the text and make suggestions. We would also like to thank Dr. Everette Larson, Head of the Hispanic Reading Room, for not only mounting the guide on the web, but for also editing, correcting errors and making suggestions for the final "look" on the Internet.

Juan Manuel Pérez

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Introduction

The present reference guide to Panama materials at the Library of Congress reviews in broad terms sources available about this country in the general collections as well as in the different custodial divisions. This guide’s main purpose is to assist researchers in order for them to find accurate results on their subjects targeted in their academic investigation.

Panama’s strategic geographic position has impacted the country’s history and development since the Spanish colonial period, when it became the launching platform for the conquest of South America and the cornerstone for the development of the American West. In fact, after the discovery of gold in California in 1848, Panama became a major transit route for Americans travelling to the mining camps, as the best alternative to reach the West. The first of two cheaper options, was to cross the vast plains and face the weather and hostile Native Americans. The second option was to travel by ship, around Cape Horn, in the southern tip of Latin America, in a trek that could last several months. Consequently, Panama became an important factor in the development of the American West, particularly after the Panama Railroad was completed in 1855, linking the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of Panama. Statistics show that 375,000 people crossed the Isthmus of Panama from the Atlantic to the Pacific and 225,000 from the Pacific to the Atlantic, between the years of 1848 and 1869.¹

Throughout the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, the histories of both countries became intertwined, even when Panama was still part of Colombia. After the Spanish-American War of 1898, the strategic importance of Panama became more apparent with the presence of U.S. naval forces in both oceans. Panama became independent of Colombia in 1903, with the help of the United States, and the American government undertook the financing and construction of the Isthmian Canal. The Canal became the focal point of U.S.-Panamanian relations with all that this entailed, including the use, occupation, and control of the Canal Zone by the U.S. and the gradual takeover by the Panamanian government under a treaty signed in 1977 that allowed Panamanians to gain full control on December 31, 1999.

The Library’s collections reflect the wide variety of issues that have impacted Panama’s history. From the earliest days of the colonial period, as the starting point for the conquest and colonization of South America, to becoming one of the most important trade routes of the 20th century and beyond, often surrounded by a strenuous relationship with the United States because of the Canal.

Researchers are encouraged to visit the Hispanic Division, where they can get specialized information, not only on Panamanian subjects, but on other issues related to the Hispanic world. The Division, founded in 1939 thanks to philanthropist Archer M. Huntington, is the reference point for Hispanic materials at LC and the United States as well. It is calculated that the Hispanic collections have between ten to twelve million items. Since 1939 the Division has compiled the *Handbook of Latin American Studies*, an annotated bibliography on the humanities and social sciences. *The Handbook* is the single most important bibliographic source in any language, on any subject relating to Latin America. Therefore, the *Handbook*, will be an invaluable source for anyone compiling a bibliography on a Panamanian subject.

The Division’s website can be accessed at: [http://www.loc.gov/rr/hispanic/](http://www.loc.gov/rr/hispanic/). In this webpage, the reader can link to the Kraus Collection of Sir Francis Drake, who sacked Panama in 1572-1573, at [http://international.loc.gov/intldl/drakehtml/](http://international.loc.gov/intldl/drakehtml/) and while there, have access to the digitized copy of Francisco Caro de Torres, *Relación de los servicios que hizo a su magestad del Rey don Felipe Segundo y Tercero, don Alonso de Sotomayor del abito de Santiago y comendador de Villamayor,*
General Collections

The starting point for any research is to consult scholarly prepared bibliographies available on a variety of subjects. Scholarly bibliographies are essential sources for guiding researchers to the best and more elusive materials. The *Handbook of Latin American Studies*, as previously referenced, as an extensive annotated bibliography, will be an indispensable tool. Although sorely outdated, the best bibliography of Panama in English is by Eleanor De Selms Langstaff, *Panama* (Oxford, England; Santa Barbara, CA: Cleo Press, 1982), LC CALL NUMBER: Z1500.L36 1982. This is an annotated bibliography of 641 titles on a variety of Panamanian subjects.

Researchers will find numerous bibliographies related to Panama in the Library of Congress general collections. Researchers may retrieve these fundamental sources by using The Library of Congress Online Public Access Catalog (LC OPAC).

Researchers may access the LC OPAC directly through http://catalog.loc.gov.

Panama bibliographies may be located in the online catalog by performing *Subject Browse* in the Basic Search box. The *Subject Browse* search method uses a controlled vocabulary mechanism that uses the Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH). A subject heading is a descriptive word(s) or phrase(s) that allows researchers to search the online catalog for materials on their particular topic. In the Basic Search, researchers will find the Subject Keyword and Subject Browse searching methods. Researchers may retrieve materials using the Subject Keyword which is used to "search for any word (in any order) or phrase found in one of the subject headings." The Subject Browse "search compares entered words or phrases to those found in a controlled vocabulary."  

In the Guided Search, researchers have different selections on searching subject headings such as subject: All (KSUB), Subject Authorized (SKEY), and Subject Geographic (KSGE). For a better search, it is recommended to read the "Basic Search Tips" or "Guided Search Tips" both are good tools in terms of search strategies, which include a help guide for all types of searches.

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2 Alonso de Sotomayor was governor of Panama between 1596 and 1602. He cleaned up the corruption of the local government and was considered an enlightened administrator.


Researchers may consult the “Basic Search Overview help page” at:
http://catalog.loc.gov/help/combinedsearch.htm

Researchers may search the online catalog for materials on a particular topic by using subject headings, which can be more productive than searching by simple keywords. Researchers may consult the multi-volume Library of Congress Subject Headings for a list of controlled terms and phrases. These volumes are well known as the “red books” because of their red binding. They are available at all reference desks of the Library.

The Library of Congress Online Public Access Catalog provides four displays about its records: [Brief record], [Subjects/Content], [Full Record], and [MARC Tags]. The [Subjects/Content] button is one of the essential displays because it provides subject headings in hypertext link (in greenish and underlined links) that relate to the particular topic researched. Researchers may click on the subject heading hypertext link which launches a search for related records. The Library of Congress subject heading system consists of a main heading and its subdivisions with the purpose to provide the results needed. The subject heading system of the Library of Congress is fundamental in searching Panama materials related to the following areas:

1. Bibliographies
2. Civilization and Culture
3. Description and Travel
4. Education
5. Foreign Relations
6. History
7. Immigration
8. Indigenous Cultures (Aborigines)
9. Literature
10. Music
11. Panama Canal
12. Politics and Government
13. Religion
14. Social and Economic Conditions
1 | Bibliographies

Researchers who are searching for academic bibliographies on Panama may perform a *Subject Browse* search under a geographic subject heading *Panama* with the subdivision *Bibliography*.

An important search tip while performing *Subject Browse*, please "omit all punctuation including the double dashes before subject subdivisions."\(^5\)

Panama bibliography

As a result of the above *Subject Browse* search, researchers may retrieve eight bibliographic records related to bibliographies about Panama materials. Researchers will need to click on the hypertext link *Panama* - *Bibliography* to display the LC records. Researchers may click on the [Subjects/Content] button on each of the records to view the related subject headings hypertext links. The subject headings hypertext links provide more narrow and specific terms such as *Panama* - *Maps* - *Bibliography*. The Library of Congress Online Public Access Catalog also provides a LC Classification hypertext link for each record. For example, the work of Doyle’s *A Tentative Bibliography of the Belles-Lettres of Panama* has a call number *Z1500.D75* which researchers may click on to display other records with a similar class number. This mechanism allows the researcher to browse through other similarly classed records. In a closed-stacks library such as the Library of Congress, this mechanism provides a sense of browsing bookshelves to researchers. The class number *Z1500* indicates that it is a national bibliography about America specifically on Central America directly related to Panama.

Researchers may view The Library of Congress Classification Outline at this website:

[http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpso/lcco/](http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpso/lcco/)

Listed below are the results of Subject Browse of Panama bibliography:

LC CALL NUMBER: *Z6027.P17 C 37 1985*

LC CALL NUMBER: *Z1500.D75*

LC CALL NUMBER: *Z1437.M55 1990*


## 2 | Civilization and Culture

As mentioned earlier, nothing has impacted Panama more than its geographic position. Its culture, civilization, literature, and customs, reflect a blending of cultures and peoples throughout the centuries including, Indian, Spanish, West Indian, Chinese, Japanese, Hindu, North American, etc., in which its geographic position has played an important part in the country’s historical evolution. Panama has served as a transient point from one part of the world to another, but many people of these varied backgrounds have made it their home. Whether it is in literature, festivals, customs, education, music, or food, they all represent this blending of races, cultures, religions, etc. The general collections contain many sources that represent the richness and variety of Panamanian culture.

In the general collection of the Library of Congress, researchers may find vast sources on aspects of the culture, social life, and customs of Panama. Researchers may search these materials under *Subject Browse Panama -- Civilization and Panama -- Social life and customs*. The subdivision *Civilization* targets the history of civilization which emphasis the "culture, arts, intellectual life, manner and customs, etc." The subdivision *Social life and customs* focuses on "works on the customs, way of living, habits of people and place."  

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7 Library of Congress, [H2057]
Figure 3. *Carnaval de 1936*,
This poster shows a woman on a float during carnival. Below the float, people celebrating.
Prints & Photographs Division
LC-DIG-ppmsca-13392

As a general rule of subject headings, materials have “one or more subject headings that best summarize the overall content and provide access to its most important topics.” The subject heading assigned must consist at least of 20% of the content of work.

Some of the most important materials related to aspects of the civilization and culture of Panama are listed below:

LC CALL NUMBER: F1565.A57 1998

LC CALL NUMBER: GV1630.P2 A76 1984

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LC CALL NUMBER: ML400.C38 1994


LC CALL NUMBER: F1563.8.C43 1993


LC CALL NUMBER: F1563.8.C65 1986


LC CALL NUMBER: F1566.5.E88 1999


LC CALL NUMBER: GR118.P2 F34 2002

Guardia, Roberto de la. *Los habitantes del Istmo de Panamá*. Panamá: Editorial La Antigua, Universidad Santa María La Antigua, Universidad Santa María La Antigua, 1993.

LC CALL NUMBER: F1568.8.G83 1993


LC CALL NUMBER: KG703.H37 1992


LC CALL NUMBER: F1563.8.L35 1997


LC CALL NUMBER: GV1630.P2 L67 2002


LC CALL NUMBER: F1577.E37 M37 2003


___________. *Sobre el hombre cultural panameño*. Panamá: [s.n., 1971]
LC CALL NUMBER: F1563.8.M37

LC CALL NUMBER: KGH3533.A67 1983

LC CALL NUMBER: F1563.8.C7 1992

LC CALL NUMBER: F1563.8.M57

LC CALL NUMBER: F1567.M5

LC CALL NUMBER: F1563.8.O83 1994

LC CALL NUMBER: F1563.5.O95 1992

LC CALL NUMBER: F1563.8.C77 2006 FT MEADE

LC CALL NUMBER: F1563.8.P34 2004

*Panama Folklore*. Colón, Republic of Panama: The Club, 1948.
LC CALL NUMBER: GR118.P2 P35 1948

LC CALL NUMBER: F1563.8.P36 1994

LC CALL NUMBER: GR118.P2 P39 1998
LC CALL NUMBER: F1563.8.R47 1987

LC CALL NUMBER: MLCS 2006/42682 FT MEADE

LC CALL NUMBER: F1563.8.S44 2009 FT MEADE

LC CALL NUMBER: HC147.T68 2000

LC CALL NUMBER: F1567.T8

LC CALL NUMBER: F1563.8.V55 2004

LC CALL NUMBER: ML3572.Z37

3 | Description and Travel

Due to its geographic location, travelers flocked to Panama to cross from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and vice-versa, many of whom left beautiful descriptions of the country and its people. The Library possesses a notable collection of titles under the subject term - -Description and travel, including one from the late 17th century. In the 19th century, as Americans crossed the Isthmus to California and other places of the American West; many left their impressions of the land, the people, and the American-built railroad.

Lionel Wafer (1660?–1705?), an English ship surgeon, privateer, and pirate, left one of the first descriptions of Panama and its people. In 1681 during one of his trips, after a quarrel with members of his expedition, he was left marooned and wounded in the Isthmus of Darien, where he was nursed back to health by the Kuna Indians. During the four months he spent with them, Wafer gathered information about their culture, religion, customs, society, and also made note of the geography, climate, flora, fauna, etc. The result was a book he published in 1699 and to this
day it continues to be an important resource for historians, anthropologists, and naturalists alike. This book is kept in the Rare Book Division and its full bibliographic information is as follows:


Wafer’s rich detailed description of his voyage included the lives of Kuna Indians and the natural history of Panama. Wafer provided illustrations capturing the Kuna Indians performing their daily routines in their natural environment. Some of these illustrations are panoramic views which fold out from the book [Fig. 4].

Wafer’s descriptive experience of his travel to Panama may be drawn out in the subdivision: - -Description and travel. The subject headings that appear on the record of Wafer’s *A New Voyage and Description of the Isthmus of America* are:

- Panama - - Description and travel - - Early works to 1800
- Indians of Central America - - Panama - - Early works to 1800
- Natural history - - Panama - - Early works to 1800

*Figure 4.* Close detail of the illustration of Lacenta with his lady and attendants

The Indians marching upon a Vilt, or to Fealt, p. 140

Wafer’s *A New Voyage and Description of the Isthmus of America*, 1699.

Rare Book and Special Collections Division
Wafer’s work has the subdivision - - Early works to 1800 which indicate that the work consists of a first person account and contains unique illustrations and early visuals from the seventeenth century. Wafer’s work provides information about the Kuna Indians and the natural beauty of Panama which is reflected in the main subject headings: Indians of Central America and Natural history. Wafer’s Panama voyage experience is one of the finest treasures that the Library of Congress proudly owns. Researchers may consult this material in the Rare Book & Special Collections Division. Researchers may retrieve a wealth of materials with the subject heading and subdivision:

Panama - - Description and travel

Another example of a valuable source under this subject heading string is by Fessenden N. Otis, History of the Panama Railroad; and of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company. Together with a Traveler’s Guide and Business Man’s Hand-Book for the Panama Railroad, and the Lines of Steamships Connecting it with Europe, the United States, the North and South Atlantic and Pacific Coasts, China, Australia, and Japan (New York: Harper & Brothers Publishers, 1867). LC CALL NUMBER: F1563.O89

Otis provides his travel experience in Panama. He also includes a detailed description and travel guide with illustrations and distances in miles from point X, via Panama. He also adds schedules of the railroad, tariffs and import restrictions providing useful and valuable information for businessmen in Panama, at that time.
Another significant source related to this subject heading string: Panama - Description and travel, is Robert Tomes, *Panama in 1855. An Account of the Panama Rail-Road, of the Cities of Panama and Aspinwall, with Sketches of the Life and Character on the Isthmus* (New York: Harper & Brothers Publishers, 1855). LC CALL NUMBER: F1564.T65

A very important source for anyone researching diaries, personal histories, memoirs, etc., of the many travelers that went through Panama during the 19th century is Michael LaRosa and Germán R. Mejía, ed., *The United States Discovers Panama. The Writings of Soldiers, Scholars, Scientists, and Scoundrels, 1850-1905* (Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 2004) LC CALL NUMBER: F1569.C2 U75 2004. LaRosa and Mejía divide the book in five topics: The Panama Railroad, The Search for a Route, Choosing the Route, Diplomacy and Strategy of the Isthmian Region, and After Separation, providing first a short biographical sketch of the writers, and an analysis of their works.

With the United States taking over the construction of the Panama Canal from the French Canal Company in the early 20th century, after Panama's independence from Colombia in 1903, many travelers and visitors during and after the construction period left their impressions and many guides were written about the Canal, Panama and its people. For example, one of the first written was by Charles H. A. Forbes-Lindsay, *Panama, the Isthmus and the Canal* (Philadelphia, PA: J. C. Winston Co., 1906) LC CALL NUMBER: F1564.F69. Forbes-Lindsay's work has two subject headings that describe the content of his work. The first subject heading is Panama - Description and travel which indicates his first account experience. The second subject heading is Panama Canal (Panama) which reflects his writings about the Panama Canal.
Researchers may access many materials under these subject heading strings:

As an important search tip while performing Subject Browse, "omit all punctuation including the double dashes before subject subdivisions."  

Panama Canal (Panama) - - Description and travel.
Panama Canal (Panama) - - Pictorial works

The subdivision - -Pictorial works indicates that "more than 50% of the work is pictorial and stresses the importance of illustrations." This subdivision conveys primarily illustrations which is very helpful for researchers who need materials that provide images of place, people, on their particular topic. These illustrations may be displayed in various mediums such as drawings, photographs, engraving, etc… to mention a few. Another subdivision that researchers may use to find earliest visual illustrations is - -Discovery and exploration. Researchers should perform a Subject Browse search under the subject heading string:

Panama - - Pictorial works
Panama - - Discovery and exploration
Panama Canal (Panama) - - Discovery and exploration

A source that is considered one of the first guide books to Panama is William C. Haskins, Canal Zone Pilot, Guide to the Republic of Panama (Panama: The Star & Herald Co., 1908) LC CALL NUMER: F1561.H35, which basically provides tidbits of Panama and is primarily geared towards Americans. Of course, one has to consider the period in which it was written, as far as its objectivity is concerned. But, nevertheless, it is an important source.

Researchers, who are interested in materials that directly target travelers or sightseers to Panama, should use the subdivision - -Guidebooks. This subdivision indicates that "these materials contain information about routes, facilities, accommodations, and items of interest." Another related subdivision is - -Tours which provides materials dealing with tourist attractions and provides information about the particular place. Researchers should perform a Subject Browse search under subject heading string:

Panama - - Guidebooks
Panama - - Tours
Panama Canal (Panama) - - Guidebooks
Panama Canal (Panama) - - Tours

11 Library of Congress 2008a, H1564.

*Figure 7.* An early postcard from Panama. Two parrots on branch in foreground, and ship in background. Prints and Photographs Division LC-USZC4-2314

Researchers may acquire about 140 volumes of materials related to first-person accounts and history of travel of Panama. Listed below are some examples of the results of the *Subject Browse search*:

**Panama - Description and Travel.**


More than 90% of Panamanians are literate and education has been an important goal for all Panamanian governments since independence, with the first national educational conference held as early as 1913. Jeptha Brauwner Duncan (1885-1977) has long been considered one of the country's top educators and became a role model for many that came after him. He was the son of an American living in Panama, Brazil B. Duncan, and a Panamanian woman, María Teresa Guillén. He studied in the United States and in the Sorbonne, in Paris. Throughout his long public life he had many positions, but the most important and dear to him were Under-Secretary of Public Education (1912-14) and Secretary of Public Education (1918-1919, 1920-1923, 1931-1932). During his tenure as Secretary of Education, he undertook many reforms and shaped the Panamanian education system. The Library of Congress general collections, include the following about Duncan:

LC CALL NUMBER: LB41.D85

LC CALL NUMBER: LB41.D86

LC CALL NUMBER: LB775.D83

Researchers may have glanced at the vast amount of materials that The Library of Congress offers in terms of the educational scope related to Panama. Researchers may perform a Subject Keyword search under the main subject heading Education and subdivision - - Panama. The materials related to aspects of education in Panama may be found under narrower subject heading strings:

- Education - - Panama
- Education - - Panama - - history
- Education and state - - Panama - - History
- Education - - Panama - - History - - 20th century
- Education - - Curricula - - Panama
- Educational planning - - Panama
- Education, Higher - - Education
- Education, Higher - - Aims and objectives - - Panama
- Education, Higher - - Political aspects - - Panama
- Education, Rural - - Panama - - Case Studies
- Education - - Panama - - Statistics
- Education - - Panama - - Canal Zone
- Education - - Panama - - Bibliography
- Multicultural education - - Panama
- Public Schools - - Panama - - Canal Zone
- Privatization in education - - Panama
- Adult education - - Panama
- Business and education - - Panama
- Children with disabilities - - Education - - Panama
- Educational change - - Panama

The Library of Congress Classification number: LA466 is assigned to materials that are related to education in Panama. Researchers may perform a LC Call Number Browse search in the online catalog.

An important search tip to be aware of is that punctuation and space in the call number do matter in the search. Please consult the basic search tips at http://catalog.loc.gov/help/call.htm

Other titles available in the general collections relative to education:

LC CALL NUMBER: L45.A63 1917

LC CALL NUMBER: LA466.A73 1985

LC CALL NUMBER: LA466.T44

LC CALL NUMBER: LB880.D5813

LC CALL NUMBER: LA466.C3

LC CALL NUMBER: LA466.C4 1991

LC CALL NUMBER: LA466.C85 1992

LC CALL NUMBER: LA466.E38 1999

LC CALL NUMBER: LA465.P3

LC CALL NUMBER: L111.A6 1948, no. 12
LC CALL NUMBER: LA466.L64 2001

LC CALL NUMBER: LA466.M39 1974

LC CALL NUMBER: LA466.M4

_____________________. *La Universidad Americana y la Universidad bolivariana de Panamá*. Panamá: Imprenta Nacional, 1925.
LC CALL NUMBER: LE11.P42 M4

Moscote, José Dolores. *Páginas idealistas (colección de artículos y discursos)*. Panamá: Tripografía Moderna, 1917.
LC CALL NUMBER: LB775.M9

LC CALL NUMBER: LA466.C66 1993

LC CALL NUMBER: MLCS 93/12271 (L) FT MEADE

LC CALL NUMBER: L106.1913 .P3

LC CALL NUMBER: LB880.R587 C66 1984

LC CALL NUMBER: LA466.S25 1990

LC CALL NUMBER: LA466.V45 1965
Foreign Relations

The Canal, as mentioned earlier, has dominated all aspects of Panamanian life, whether foreign relations, politics, economics, etc. It too has dominated US-Panamanian relations, and this is reflected in the Library’s collections. The greatest number of books on Panamanian foreign relations relate to the U.S.

This wealth of materials may be retrieved by performing a Subject Browse search under the following subject heading strings:

- Panama - - Foreign relations - - United States
- United States - - Foreign relations - - Panama
- Panama - - Relations - - United States
- Panama - - Foreign relations
- Panama Canal (Panama) - - International Status
- Panama Canal (Panama)

The subdivision: - - Foreign relations is “used under names of countries (or regions) for works that discuss the diplomatic relations between these countries and other sovereign states.” For example, Panama’s diplomatic relations between Unites States would be found under the subject heading strings: Panama - - Foreign relations - - United States and vice versa United States - - Foreign relations - - Panama. “For a general relationship between one region or jurisdiction and another,” the subdivision that researchers should use is - - Relations. For example, the general relationship between Panama and United States (how they are getting along?) would be found in under Panama - - Relations - - United States and vice versa United States - - Relations - - Panama.

The Library of Congress Classification number assigned for Panama’s foreign relations with United States is F1566. The class number used for works related to the United States relations with Panama is E183.8P2. Researchers may perform a LC Call Number Browse in the online catalog to find a wealth of information on this particular topic.

An important search tip to be aware of is that punctuation and space in the call number do matter in the search. Please consult the basic search tips at http://catalog.loc.gov/help/call.htm

There are a number of books that will give the researcher the basic ideas on the nature of U.S.-Panamanian relations. One of the first books on the diplomacy of the Canal was written by Harmodio Arias Madrid, president of Panama.

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16 Harmodio Arias Madrid (1886-1963) and his brother Arnulfo Arias Madrid (1901-1988) were very influential in the Panamanian political landscape for most of the 20th century. Arnulfo’s widow, Mireya Moscoso, was elected president in 1999 in the Arnulfista ticket, thus, becoming the first Panamanian woman president.

Listed below are other basic titles related to the foreign relations of Panama:

Anguizola, Gustave A. *The Panama Canal: Isthmian Political Instability from 1821 to 1977.*
LC CALL NUMBER: F1566.3.A53 1977

Araúz, Virgilio, ed. *Textos básicos para el estudio de las relaciones Panamá-EE.UU.*
LC CALL NUMBER: E183.8.P2 T49 1993

LC CALL NUMBER: E183.8.P2 C3 1953

Conniff, Michael L. *Panama and the United States: the Forced Alliance.* 2nd ed.
LC CALL NUMBER: E183.8.P2 C65 2001

LC CALL NUMBER: E183.8.P2 L384 1993

LC CALL NUMBER: E183.8.P2 L475 2003
6 | History

The history of Panama is represented in the general collections with approximately 490 volumes. By using the subject heading strings: Panama - - History or Panama Canal (Panama) - - History researchers may browse some of these materials. These resources cover different aspects and periods of Panamanian history. The subdivision: - -History refers to works related to "chronological account of specific events, emphasizing political, diplomatic, military, and economic developments."\(^{17}\) The Library of Congress uses subdivisions extensively to bring together a number of different concepts on a particular topic. There are four main categories of subdivisions: topical (ideas, concepts, objects, activities, classes of people, academic subjects, etc), form, chronological (time period), and geographic (political, geographic, and celestial entities, such as planets, countries, states, provinces, counties, cities, towns, etc), and each follows a set of guidelines.\(^{18}\) Researchers may use subdivisions by chronological time period. For example, Panama’s history during the period of the 17th century, search under subject heading string: Panama - - history - -17th century. Researchers may narrow their search using the following specific subject heading strings:

- Panama - - History - - To 1903
- Panama - - History - - 1903-1946
- Panama - - History - - 1946-1981
- Panama - - History - - 1981
- Panama - - History - - 19th century
- Panama - - History - - 20th century
- Panama - - History - - Chronology

Researchers need to be aware of the subdivision –Juvenile literature. This subdivision is used on materials written for young audiences. For example, Panama - - History - - 20th century - - Juvenile literature refers to works written for young adults, but they do provide excellent illustrations.

The Library of Congress possesses the first general history of Panama written after the country’s independence from Colombia in 1903, written by Juan B. Sosa and Enrique J. Arce, *Compendio de Historia de Panamá* (Panamá: Morales & Rodríguez, 1911) LC CALL NUMBER: F1566. S71.


In recent years, a new generation of Panamanian historians has published new general histories which have proved to be invaluable reference works. The husband and wife team of Celestino Andrés Araúz and Patricia Pizzurno Gelós is an example. Their three-volume work is among the very best:

*El Panamá hispano, 1501-1821*  
LC CALL NUMBER: F1566.45.A737 1991  
SUBJECT HEADING: Panama - History - To 1903
El Panamá colombiano (1821-1903)
Panamá: Primer Banco de Ahorros y Diario La Prensa de Panamá, 1993.
LC CALL NUMBER: F1566.45.A735 1993
SUBJECT HEADING: Panama - History - To 1903
Colombia - History - 19th century

Estudios sobre el Panamá republicano: 1903-1989
Panamá: Manfer, 1996.
LC CALL NUMBER: F1566.5.P57 1996.
SUBJECT HEADING: Panama - Politics and government - 20th century

The Library of Congress Classification number: F1566.45 is assigned to materials that are related to Panama’s history from 1501-1903 which includes the end of Spanish rule, 1821; part of Greater Colombia (Colombian Federation), 1821-1831; under New Granada (later Colombia), 1831-1903; independent in 1841 and 1857; secessionist revolts in 1830, 1831, 1840, 1895, 1898-1903; Massacre of 1856; Panama expeditions, 1741, 1875, 1885. Researchers may perform a LC Call Number Browse in the online catalog.

An important search tip to be aware of is that punctuation and space in the call number do matter in the search. Please consult the basic search tips at http://catalog.loc.gov/help/call.htm

Araúz and Pizzurno Gelós three-volume extraordinary work has proven to be an indispensable tool for anyone researching Panamanian history, and so are the three volumes edited by another prominent historian, Alfredo Castillero Calvo, as part of the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of Panama’s independence: Historia general de Panamá (Panamá: Comité Nacional del Centenario de la República, 2004) LC CALL NUMBER: F1566.H57 2004. Finally, the late Jorge Conte Porras and Eduardo E. Castillero L., published another very important work: Historia de Panamá y sus protagonistas: una visión de la historia nacional desde el Período Precolombino hasta finales del siglo XX (Panama City: Lewis, 1998) LC CALL NUMBER: F1566.C73 1998.

Historical figures and events can be searched under their names, which will provide the researchers with additional materials. A personal name heading provides access to autobiographies, biographies, genealogies, comments on the literary, work of a person, collections of letters, and diaries. "The Library of Congress ensures that

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the same form of a personal name is used for both author and subject entries. “Historical events are identified by specific names which are under their name usually accompanied by dates.”

Researchers are welcome to search the Library of Congress Authorities [http://authorities.loc.gov/] to find the correct form of names. Please note The Library of Congress Authorities record is “a tool used by librarians to establish forms of names (for persons, places, meetings, and organizations), titles, and subjects.” It provides clear identification of authors and subject headings.

The Library of Congress has designed its own Subject Headings (LCSH) and its own Name Authority Lists which are used by many large public libraries, college and university libraries, as well as special libraries. Researchers may search personal name headings for an individual who is responsible for the work or some portion of the work. The Library of Congress online catalog provides Author/Creator and Name/Title search methods. The Author/Creator “search for any word in established name heading such as persons, corporate bodies, and meeting responsible for the work.” The Name/Title search for any word or phrase in established name/title headings.

Vasco Núñez de Balboa (1475-1519), the discoverer of the Pacific Ocean in 1513, yields many titles under his name. Researchers may search under the personal name subject heading Balboa, Vasco Núñez de, 145-1519 for Vasco Núñez de Balboa. Of unknown authorship is one of the earliest works on the discovery of the Pacific the Library holds: The Discovery of Golden Castle (London: n.p., 1762-90) LC CALL NUMBER: G160.W93. The earliest work in English about Balboa in the Library’s collections is a translation of the work by Manuel José Quintana, Lives of Vasco Nuñez de Balboa, and Francisco Pizarro (Edinburgh: W. Blackwood, 1832) LC CALL NUMBER: E125.B2 Q7. The most recent biography of the discoverer in the collections is by Frutos Asenjo García, Vasco Núñez de Balboa: el Descubrimiento del Mar del Sur (Madrid: Silex, 1991) LC CALL NUMBER: E125.B2 A84 1991.

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21 Ibid.
The Library of Congress also has in its holdings works relating to Pedro Arias de Ávila (c. 1440-1531), better known to history as Pedrarias Dávila, one of the cruelest Spanish conquistadores. He founded Panama City in 1519 and later had Balboa executed out of petty jealousy. The earliest title on Pedrarias Dávila the Library has is an 1865 memorial written by Pascual de Andagoya (d. 1548), *Narrative of the Proceedings of Pedrarias Davila in the Provinces of Tierra Firme or Castilla del Oro: and of the Discovery of the South Sea and the Coasts of Peru and Nicaragua* (London: Printed for the Hakluyt Society, 1865) LC CALL NUMBER: G161.H2 no. 34. Researchers may search under the personal name subject heading Pedrarias, ca. 1440-1530 for Padrarias Dávila. The Adelantado Pascual de Andagoya is known in history for having been the first person to suggest the construction of a canal through the Isthmus of Panama to Emperor Charles V. A current biography of Pedrarias has been written by María del Carmen Mena García, perhaps the leading Spanish scholar on Panamanian colonial history, *Pedrarias Dávila* (Sevilla: Servicio de Publicaciones, Universidad de Sevilla, 1992) LC CALL NUMBER: F1437.P33 M46 1992.

The Library also has works on one of the leading experts on colonial law, the Panamanian legal scholar Manuel José de Ayala (1726-1805), such as a facsimile edition of his classic, *Notas a la Recopilación de Indias, origen e historia ilustrada de las Leyes de Indias* 2 v. (Madrid: Ediciones Cultura Hispánica, 1945-46) LC CALL NUMBER: F1410.A89. Researchers may search under the personal name subject heading Ayala, Manuel José de, 1726-1805 for Manuel José de Ayala. The best analysis of his work was done by the late Spanish historian Juan Manzano Manzano (1911-2004), *Manuel José de Ayala, compilador y consejero de Indias, 1728-1805* (Panamá: n.p.,

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The greatest Panamanian intellectual and political thinker of 19th century Panama is without a doubt, Justo Arosemena (1817-1896). During his public life as a legislator he worked tirelessly for Panamanian independence. He wrote many books and articles, but his most important one is the *Estado Federal de Panamá*, which he published in 1856 and where he argued brilliantly for autonomy and independence. The roots of the Panamanian independence movement can be traced to him. Arosemena was also a harsh critic of the Mexican-American war of 1846 and was perhaps one of the first Latin Americans to voice concern about what he considered the aggressiveness of the United States toward Latin America. Researchers may search under the personal name subject heading *Arosemena, Justo, 1817-1896* for Justo Arosemena.

Some of the books by Arosemena in the general collections include:

LC CALL NUMBER: H81.A7 1968

LC CALL NUMBER: KGH3230.A291869 A52 1973

_____________. *Escritos de Justo Arosemena: estudio introductorio y antología*. Panamá: Universidad de Panamá, 1985) LC CALL NUMBER: MLCS 90/05364 (P) FT MEADE

LC CALL NUMBER: JL1633 1855 .A8 1974

_____________. *Estudio sobre la idea de una liga Americana*. Panamá: Ediciones de la Revista Tareas, 1974.
LC CALL NUMBER: F1412.A76 1974

_____________. *Estudios constitucionales sobre los gobiernos de la América Latina.*
LC CALL NUMBER: KG545.A97 1888

LC CALL NUMBER: F1566.45.A754

LC CALL NUMBER: JL1635.A76 1981
Studies about Arosemena include the following:

LC CALL NUMBER: F1566.45.A75 A32 1997

LC CALL NUMBER: F1566.45.A75 C43 1997

LC CALL NUMBER: F1566.45.A75 C5 1997

LC CALL NUMBER: KGH304.A76 C84 1991

LC CALL NUMBER: F1566.45.A75 G37 1997

LC CALL NUMBER: F1566.45.A75 M6

LC CALL NUMBER: F1566.45.A75 S6

Panama’s history is linked to pirates who were attracted by the gold shipped from Panama to Spain. Works on the pirates Francis Drake and Henry Morgan, "the scourge of Panama", are numerous in the Library.

On Drake, the researchers are directed to the Kraus Collection of Sir Francis Drake at:
http://international.loc.gov/intldl/drakehtml/

This collection comprises important primary and secondary materials accumulated about Drake’s voyages throughout the then Spanish territory of the Americas. Texts are in English, Latin, German, Dutch, Italian, Spanish and French. Drake can also be searched under his name in the general catalog. The adventures of the pirate Henry Morgan and his sack of Panama are also present in the Library’s holdings.
One of the earliest accounts is a Spanish translation of Alexandre Olivier Exquemelin, *Piratas de la America, y la luz a la defensa de las costas de Indias Occidentales. Dedicado a Don Bernardino Antonio de Pardiñas, Villar-de Francos ... Por el zelo y cuidado de Don Antonio Freyre ... Tr. De la lengua flamenco en española, por el Dor. Alonso de Buena-Maison* (Colonia Agrípina: En casa de L. Struickman, 1681) LC CALL NUMBER: F2161.E93 Rare Book Room

![The Hondius Portrait of Drake, C. 1583.](image)

**Figure 10.** The Hondius Portrait of Drake, C. 1583.

Drake was 43 years when he was portrayed "with the coat of arms conferred on him on April 4, 1581, after he was knighted at Deptford, on the deck of The Golden Hind, the first English ship to go around the world."

Kraus Collection of Sir Francis Drake

The subdivision - - Early works to 1800 consists of a first person account and contains unique illustrations and early visuals from 17th century. The first person accounts of materials about pirates may be found under the main subject headings and subdivisions:

- Pirates - - Early works to 1800
- Pirates - - Caribbean Area - - History
- Caribbean Area - - History - - To 1800
- Buccaneers - - Early works to 1800
- Buccaneers - - History
- West Indies - - Early works to 1800

Figure 11. An engraving of the battle between Drake’s Golden Hind and the Spanish ship called “Caca Fogo,” from Levinus Hulsius, 1626. Kraus Collection of Sir Francis Drake

One of the biggest prizes pirates were after were the Spanish treasure ships. Many of these ships sailed under what was known as the Flota de Indias, a protected convoy. Spanish ships would leave South America for Panama; the treasure was then unloaded and carried to Portobelo on the Atlantic side, where an annual fair was held; from there to Cuba and from Cuba to Seville, Spain. The fair was the most important event in Panama during the colonial period until the fleet system was ended in the mid-18th century. The Flota de Indias started with the Real Cédula of July 10, 1561, and ended on October 12, 1778, with the Reglamento de Libre Comercio Para América. During that period of time, there were two flotas, the Flota de Nueva España, which included de galeón de Manila (Manila-Acapulco), which was discontinued in 1740, and the Flota de Tierra Firme, for the commerce and treasure from Peru and South America.
The first attempts at organizing a convoy system date from as early as 1522 due to the depredations of French privateers. In 1526, the Crown insisted that all Spanish ships in commerce with the Indies travel in convoys. By the mid-1530s treasures were carrying an average of 1.1 million pesos per year. By the early 1540s, the average was 2 million pesos per year. In 1537, for the first time, Spanish warships escorted treasure ships back to Spain. Spanish historian, Manuel Lucena Salmoral, has written extensively on this subject:

Manuel Lucena Salmoral, *La flota de Indias*

http://www.almendron.com/historia/moderna/flota_indias/flota_00.htm  

An early description of Portobelo is by Domingo González Carranza, *A geographical description of the coasts, harbours, and sea ports of the Spanish West-Indies; particularly of Porto Bello, Cartagena, and the island of Cuba. With Observations of the Currents and the Variations of the Compass in the Bay of Mexico, and the North-Sea of America. Tr. From a curious and authentic manuscript written in Spanish by Domingo Gonzales Carranza, His Catholick Majesty's pilot of the flota in New Spain, anno 1718. To which is added, an appendix, containing Capt. Parker’s own account of his taking the town of Porto Bello, in the year 1601. With an index, and anew correct chart of the whole; as also plans of the Havannah, Porto-Bello, Caratgena, and La Vera Cruz* (London: The editor, C. Smith, 1740) LC CALL NUMBER: E143.G64.

A map of Portobelo has been digitized from the Library’s collections and can be seen at:

http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/h?ammem/gmd:@field(NUMBER+@band(g4874p+lh000665))

Its bibliographic information is as follows: *Plano de Puerto Belo cituado en la costa N. de Trta. Firme en la latd. N. de 9 gs. 18ms y en longd. De 294 gs. 45 ms. Según el merido. de Tenerife* (17--?) LC CALL NUMBER: G4874.P6 17--. P5 Vault. Researchers may search the online catalog under the main subject heading Portobelo (Panama). These materials refer to works related Panama’s Portobelo. Researchers may narrow their search by using specific subject heading strings:

- Portobelo (Panama)
- Portobelo (Panama) - - Description and travel
- Portobelo (Panama) - - History
- Portobelo (Panama) - - Maps
- Portobelo (Panama) - - Maps - - Early works to 1800
- Portobelo (Panama) - - Maps - - To 1800
- Portobelo (Panama) - - Aerial views - - Facsimiles
Basic information on Portobelo can be found in the following titles in the general collections:


*Chame y Portobelo. Apuntes para su historia, estado de su progreso actual y su población* (Panamá: Tipografía “Diario de Panamá”, [1909?])
LC CALL NUMBER: F1576.P8 C4

McGehee, Patricia A. *Portobelo Chronicles* 3rd ed (Panama: Panama Canal Commission, 2005)
LC CALL NUMBER: F1576.P8 M44

Many other works have been written about Panama City, but two of them stand out for their comprehensiveness, one by well known Panamanian historian, Alfredo Castillero Calvo, *Sociedad, economía y cultura material: historia urbana de Panamá la vieja* (Panamá: Patronato de Panamá Viejo, 2006)
LC CALL NUMBER: F1576.P2 C295 2006 FT MEADE ; and the other the well known Spanish historian from the University of Seville, María del Carmen Mena García, *La ciudad en un cruce de caminos: Panamá y sus orígenes urbanos* (Sevilla: Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, Escuela de Estudios Hispano-Americanos, 1992)

![Figure 12](image)

**Figure 12.** Typical street scene, Panama (City) c. 1914
Man standing and three women walking on left.
Prints and Photographs Division
LC-USZ62-75706
In the Library's general collections, researchers may search the online catalog under the main subject heading Panama (Panama) and the subdivisions: - - History and - - Description and travel. Researchers may narrow their search by using more specific subject terms:

- Panama (Panama) - - History
- Panama (Panama) - - Description and travel
- Panama (Panama) - - Guidebook
- Panama (Panama) - - Pictorial works
- Panama (Panama) - - Buildings, structures, etc.
- Panama (Panama) - - Boundaries - - Canal Zone - - Map
- Panama (Panama) - - Maps
- Panama (Panama) - - Maps - - Early works to 1800
- Panama (Panama) - - Maps, Manuscripts - - To 1800

Other materials include the following:


LC CALL NUMBER: F1576.P2 A66


LC CALL NUMBER: NA5286.P3 C37 1981


LC CALL NUMBER: F1576.P2 C29 1999


LC CALL NUMBER: F1576.P2 C313 1999


LC CALL NUMBER: F1576.P2 D53 2001


LC CALL NUMBER: F1576.P2 M45 1997


LC CALL NUMBER: F1576.P2 P363 2007 FT MEADE
Immigration is a very important topic linked to the history of Panama because of its geographic position as a transient zone. As mentioned earlier, Panama has a multi-racial, multi-ethnic society. For obvious reasons, immigration studies have always been very important in Panama. One person stands out for his efforts in chronicling the life of West Indians in Panama, George W. Westerman, a Panamanian of West Indian descent. One of his most important works is part of the general collections at the Library of Congress. George W. Westerman, *Los inmigrantes antillanos en Panamá*. Panamá: G. W. Westerman, 1980. LC CALL NUMBER: F1577.B55 W4718 1980. But other groups are also represented in the Library’s collections as well, such as, Chinese, Japanese, Hindu, Spanish, etc.

The Library of Congress offers various materials on Panama, including some in foreign languages besides Spanish or English. One specific material offered by the Asian Division is by Atsuko Yamamoto, *パナマから消えた日本人* (Panama kara kieta Nihonjin). In the English language, the title means “the Japanese that faded away into Panama.” The book investigates the Japanese that migrated to Panama around 1910, how the Japanese got accustomed to the new culture and the communities they have established. The book also goes over the troubles they faced during the wars and imprisonment of the Japanese due to international relations. Yamamoto delves into the difficulty and hopes of the Japanese that emigrated from Japan and delivers an exceptional source for researchers interested in early Japanese and Panamanian immigration issues.

For those researchers who are working in Panama’s immigrant history, its government policy, its emigration and immigration may find help in subject headings. Researchers may narrow their search by using a specific subject heading listed below:

- Immigrants - Panama - History
- Immigrants - Panama - History - 20th century
- Immigrants - Government policy - Panama
- Immigrants - Panama - Biography
- Aliens - Panama - History
- Foreign workers, West Indian - Panama - History
- Panama - Emigration and immigration
- Panama - Emigration and immigration - Government policy
- Panama - Emigration and immigration - History
- Panama - Emigration and immigration
- Panama - Emigration and immigration - Statistics - Periodicals
- Panama - Race relations
The titles listed below are some examples of the materials that can be found by using some of the above subject heading strings that target the particular topic search.


Indigenous Cultures (Aborigines)

Panama also enjoys a diverse native population, comprising about 5% of the country’s total population. The indigenous peoples are found in the more remote northwest areas of the country, such as the Guaymí. The Kuna, famous for their decorative art, known as molas, are mainly in the San Blas archipelago, consisting of 365 islands off the Caribbean coast. Other smaller groups are to be found in the mountains of western Panama and in the interior of Darién.

The first Comarca Indígena (official indigenous territory) was created in 1938 in the San Blas archipelago for the Kuna. It is known as the Comarca de San Blas (also known as Comarca Kuna Yala) and it functions as a semi-independent region within Panama. The Kuna Indians revolted in 1925 for an independent state. This revolt took place in the same year as the Movimiento Inquilinario (Tenant's Revolt) in Panama City and Colón, which contributed to the highly unstable political situation in the country, prompting a U.S. military intervention.

The Library of Congress possesses in the general collections many titles relating to the native peoples of Panama. Researchers may narrow their search by using specific subject headings listed below:

- Indians of Central America - Panama
- Indians of Central America - Panama - History
- Indians of Central America - Anthropometry - Panama
- Indians of Central America - Panama - Antiquities
- Indians of Central America - Panama - Funeral customs and rites
- Indian art - Panama
The following titles are some examples of the wealth of sources found by performing Subject Browse search under the subject heading strings Indians of Central America- -Panama. This search method provides researchers with a quick and easy browse list of other related subject heading strings.


Contreras, José del C. *La importancia de los sitios arqueológicos y sus derivaciones culturales en la prehistoria de Panamá*. Bogotá, Colombia: Ediciones Guadalupe, 1971. LC CALL NUMBER: F1565.C64


Harris, Reginald G. *Los indios de Panamá: los indios Tule de San Blas*. Panamá: Imprenta Nacional, 1926. LC CALL NUMBER: F1565.2.C8 H2
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Call Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lothrop, Samuel K.</td>
<td>Coclé, an Archaeological Study of Central Panama.</td>
<td>Published by the Museum, 1937-1942</td>
<td>LC CALL NUMBER: F1565.1.C6 L3 fol.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shook, Edwin M.</td>
<td>Anthropological Bibliography of Aboriginal Panama.</td>
<td>Tropical Science Center, 1965</td>
<td>LC CALL NUMBER: Z1209.S52 1965</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Of all the indigenous peoples in Panama, the Kuna are the best organized and the most politically influential. As mentioned earlier, the Kuna have displayed a high degree of independence to the point of refusing to fly the Panamanian flag, organizing an armed rebellion in 1925, and even declaring independence. The revolt was put down by the government, but in 1938 it created the semi-autonomous Comarca de San Blas. In 1962, a short-lived rebellion was again put down by the Panamanian government. The Library’s holdings are very rich on the Kuna Indians because they have attracted the attention of historians, anthropologists, ethnographers, etc., and not only American, but also European, particularly Swedish. Basic information on the 1925 rebellion and the Kunas’ fight for their rights and their rich cultural traditions is available in the general collections of the Library.

Researchers may perform a simple Subject Browse search under the main subject heading: Cuna Indians to view a browse list with related subject headings and subdivisions that target the particular topic search. The following are some of the subject heading strings under Cuna Indians.

- Cuna Indians
- Cuna Indians - - Government relations
- Cuna Indians - - Government policy
- Cuna Indians - - History
- Cuna Indians - - Politics and government
- Cuna Indians - - Social conditions
- Cuna Indians - - Wars
- Indians, Treatment of - - Panama - - San Blas Coast
The following titles are some examples of sources found by performing Subject Browse search under the main subject heading Cuna Indians. This Subject Browse search method provides subject heading string list of related topics.


In the general collections, researchers will find a number of titles related to indigenous people of Panama known as Kuna or Cuna. The following titles list is a small portion of the collection’s scope.


Harris, Reginald Gordon. *Los indios de Panamá; los indios Tule de San Blas*. Panamá: Imprenta Nacional, 1926. LC CALL NUMBER: F1565.2.C8 H2


Keeler, Clyde E. *Cuna Indian Art; the Culture and Craft of Panama’s San Blas Islanders.* New York: Exposition Press, 1969. LC CALL NUMBER: F1565.2.C8 K39

____________. *Land of the Moon-Children; the Primitive San Blas Culture in Flux.* Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1956. LC CALL NUMBER: F1565.2.C8 K4


Many years ago, Spanish diplomat Antonio Serrano de Haro, while doing research at the Hispanic Society of America in New York, stumbled upon a manuscript of the book *Llanto de Panamá a la muerte de don Enrique Enríquez*, an anthology of poems published in Madrid in 1642 on the death of the governor Enrique Enríquez which had occurred in 1638. Because many of the poems were written by Panamanians, this is considered the first example of Panamanian literature. Haro himself edited the work: Antonio Serrano de Haro, ed., *Llanto de Panamá a la muerte de don Enrique Enríquez*. Panamá: Editorial Universitaria, Universidad de Panamá; Madrid: Ediciones Cultura Hispánica, Instituto de Cooperación Iberoamericana, 1984. LC CALL NUMBER: F1566.45.E57 L53 1984. There are other examples from the colonial period, but Panamanian literature did not explode until the 19th century. Since then, Panama has produced many good writers and poets.

The following subject heading strings provide a starting point to researchers who are interested in Panamanian literature and poetry.

- Panamanian literature - Bio-bibliography
- Panamanian literature - History and criticism
- Panamanian literature - Women authors - Bibliography
- Panamanian poetry - Bibliography
- Panamanian poetry - 19th century
Reference Guide to Panama Materials at the Library of Congress

Panamanian poetry - 20th century
Panamanian fiction - 20th century
Panamanian poetry - To 1800
Panamanian poetry - Women authors
Women and literature - Panama - Bibliography

The following titles provide an overview of the materials related to Panamanian poetry and literature in the Library's general collections.


*Bibliografía de Panamá 1938-*. Panamá: n.p., 1939. LC CALL NUMBER: Z1500.P18


Researchers who are conducting investigations on topics related to Panamanian poets and literary authors should not only search under their personal name, but also under subject heading. The *Author/Creator* search method retrieves materials of the particular authors as “the individual who is responsible for the creation of the intellectual content of the work.” The *Subject Keyword* search allows researchers to access materials about the
author and/or his works. For example, works by the prominent Panamanian poet Ricardo Miró can be found by performing an Author /Creator search and titles about Miró and/or interpretation about his work can be found by performing a Subject Keyword search.

An important search tip in performing an Author /Creator search is to enter the author’s last name followed by the first name such as Miró Ricardo. Researchers should consult the basic search tips at:

http://catalog.loc.gov/help/name.htm

The Library of Congress possesses in its collections many works by Ricardo Miró (1883-1940), considered by many people to be the national poet of Panama for the patriotism, national pride, the description of the landscape and its people that can be found in most of his poems. Panama’s most prestigious literary prize is named after him. Some of the basic sources about Miró, include the following:


Among the many works on Panamanian literature available in the general collections, some of the most important are:

_Antología panameña: verso y prosa_. Panamá: Editorial “La Moderna” Quijano & Hernandez, 1926. LC CALL NUMBER: PQ7525.A88 1926


## 10 | Music

The Library of Congress also possesses a rich variety of items on Panamanian music. Among them, of course, items on Rubén Blades, the most international of Panamanian performers who, at the same time, has contributed to and is a product of the richness and variety of Panamanian culture. His mother was a Cuban pianist, singer, and actress. His father was an athlete and a musician. His father’s side of the family is originally from the island of St. Lucia, and immigrated to Panama. He has taken salsa to new spheres and has, without a doubt, contributed to its popularity in the non-Hispanic world. He is a multi-talented, multi-faceted person, with law degrees from the University of Panama and Harvard Law School. He is also a community organizer, and a politician (he was a candidate for the 1994 Panamanian presidential elections). He was Minister of Tourism from 2004 to 2009. Some of the most important titles about him in the Library’s general collections are:


The Recorded Sound Reference Center has over 35 of his most prominent recordings, such as,

Researchers who are focusing their research topics on Panamanian music may perform a Subject Keyword search under the terms: Music - Panama. The search result is a subject Heading List that displays a number of specific subject headings string hypertext link. Researchers may click the subject heading strings hypertext link that closely describes their topic. The following subject heading strings can be used as the starting point to retrieve some of the great Panamanian music.

Folk dance music - Panama
Folk dance music - Panama - Azuero Peninsula
Folk dance music - Panama - History and criticism
Folk dance music - Panama - Los Santos
Folk music - Panama
Folk music - Panama - Azuero Peninsula
Folk music - Panama - History and criticism
Indians of Central American - Panama - Music - History and criticism
Music - Panama - Directories
Popular music - Panama
Popular music - Panama - 1970-1980
Popular music - Panama - 1981-1990
Popular music - Panama - 1991-2000
Popular music - Panama - 2001-2010
Popular music - Panama - History and criticism
Popular music - Panama - Texts
Rock music - Panama - 1981-1990

The subject headings strings can be helpful in narrowing a search to a specific topic. For example, the subject heading string Folk dance music - Panama - Los Santos provides related materials dealing with folkloric Panamanian dance music in the province of Los Santos. Panamanian folk music has a colorful flavor of cultures of Hispanic, African, and indigenous elements. Panamanian folklore is well-known in Los Santos, Coclé, and Herrera of the central province of Panama.
Nothing has impacted Panama more than the inter-oceanic Canal built by the United States between 1903 and 1914 and no subject in Panamanian history has been written about more. The Library of Congress possesses in its holdings a rich variety of materials dealing with the Panama Canal, which were enriched in the mid-1990s by the addition of the holdings of the former Panama Canal Zone Library-Museum. After the signing of the 1977 Panama Canal Treaty, the United States transferred all the materials held at the Canal Zone Library-Museum to the Library of Congress for safe-keeping and eventual integration into its holdings. These materials include not only books, but also maps, manuscripts, and photographs.

Researchers whose topics deal with the Panama Canal may perform a Subject Keyword search under terms: Panama Canal (Panama). The search result is a subject Heading List that displays a number of specific subject heading strings hypertext link. Researchers may click the subject heading strings hypertext link that closely describes their topic. The following subject heading strings can be useful to initiate a narrow search of a particular topic.

- Panama Canal (Panama)
- Panama Canal (Panama) - - Bibliography
- Panama Canal (Panama) - - Defense
- Panama Canal (Panama) - - Description and travel
- Panama Canal (Panama) - - Guidebooks
- Panama Canal (Panama) - - History
- Panama Canal (Panama) - - History - - 19th century
- Panama Canal (Panama) - - History - - 20th century
- Panama Canal (Panama) - - History - - 21st century
- Panama Canal (Panama) - - History - - Chronology
- Panama Canal (Panama) - - History - - Pictorial works
- Panama Canal (Panama) - - History - - Sources
- Panama Canal (Panama) - - In art - - Exhibitions
- Panama Canal (Panama) - - Maps, Manuscript
- Panama Canal (Panama) - - International status
- Panama Canal (Panama) - - Pictorial works
- Panama Canal (Panama) - - Politics and government
- Panama Canal (Panama) - - Rates and tolls

The Library of Congress Classification number assigned for Panama Canal is F1569.C2. Researchers may perform a LC Call Number Browse in the online catalog to find a wealth of information on this particular topic.
An important search tip to be aware of is that punctuation and space in the call number do matter in the search. Please consult the basic search tips at:  
http://catalog.loc.gov/help/call.htm

The Library has over 500 volumes dealing with the Panama Canal. General bibliographies include the following:


Bridgeport, CT, Public Library. *Panama and the Pacific; a Reading List on the Panama Canal, South and Central America, Mexico, California and the West and Alaska.* Bridgeport, CT: n.p., 1915. LC CALL NUMBER: Z881.B8503 P


The history of the Canal is well represented in the Library’s collections, from the first ideas during the Spanish colonial period, through the French attempts to build it in the late 19th century, and its final construction and opening in 1914 by the United States.

Among the very best histories of the greatest engineering feat of the 20th century are:
Juan Manuel Perez
Nancy G. Alfaro
Christian J. Alfaro
Anne L. Arnston

LC CALL NUMBER: TC774.P38 1972.

Miles P. DuVal, And the Mountains Will Move; the Story of the Building of the Panama Canal.

Gerstle Mack, The Land Divided; a History of the Panama Canal and Other Isthmian Canal Projects.
LC CALL NUMBER: TC773.M25 1974

F1569.C2 M33.

Another good source is The Panama Gateway. New York: C. Scribner's Sons, 1913. LC CALL NUMBER: TC774.B68, a semi-official history written by the secretary of the Isthmian Canal Commission, Joseph B. Bishop. Bishop was also the editor of the Canal Record (LC CALL NUMBER: TC774.A1 P3), a weekly newspaper published by the Isthmian Canal Commission during the construction period, making it a very important primary source material. Unfortunately, since it was geared towards the American workers, there is very little about the foreign workers and their conditions, unless there was a big accident.

Spanish labor is analyzed in Juan Manuel Pérez’, *Pro mundi beneficio: los trabajadores Gallegos en la construcción del Canal de Panamá, 1904-1914*. A Coruña, Spain: Fundación Pedro Barrié de la Maza; Centro da Cultura Galega, 2007. LC CALL NUMBER: F1577.G35 P47 2007. Both groups comprised the largest block of foreign workers during the construction period, with West Indian numbers at about 25,000 and Spaniards around 11,500. Dr. Pérez, one of the authors of this report, started research on his book as a result of three photographs he found in the Prints and Photographs Division identifying the people in them as “gallego workers.”

**Figure 15.** Group of Gallegos (between 1904 and 1914). Group of men (Galician workers) posed, seated outdoors, near tent and buildings.

Prints and Photographs Division
LC-USZ62-120538
There were three key people during the construction period that contributed greatly to the successful completion of the Canal: John Frank Stevens, who served as chief engineer between 1905 and 1907, who created the necessary conditions and infrastructure; Col. George Washington Goethals, who served as chief engineer between 1907 and 1914, and later as the first governor of the Panama Canal Zone; and Dr. William Crawford Gorgas, who served as chief sanitation officer during the entire construction period, and was able to eradicate malaria and yellow fever.

Researchers whose topics deal with the Panama Canal construction, design, and finance may perform a Subject Browse search under the following specific subject strings.

- Panama Canal (Panama) - Construction
- Panama Canal (Panama) - Design and construction
- Panama Canal (Panama) - Finance

Researchers who are focusing on the three key figures of the construction of the Panama Canal may research under the established personal name heading and subject heading that described the characteristics of their personas.

- Stevens, Johns F. (John Frank), 1853-1943
- Railroad engineers - United States - Biography
Railroad engineers - History

Figure 17. John F. Stevens, half-length portrait, seated, facing slightly left c. 1910.
Prints and Photographs Division
LC-USZ62-124261

Figure 18. George Washington Goethals, c1919.
Prints and Photographs Division
LC-USZ62-106238
Figure 19. GORGAS, WILLIAM CRAWFORD. SURGEON GENERAL, U.S.A. c.1914.
Prints and Photographs Division
LC-DIG-hec-03937

Goethals, George W. (George Washington), 1858-1928
Canals - Design and construction - Panama
Canal Zone - History

Gorgas, William Crawford, 1854-1920
Yellow Fever - History
Mosquito Control - History

An important search tip in performing an Author /Creator Browse search is to enter the author’s last name followed by the first name such as Stevens John Frank. Please consult the basic search tips at http://catalog.loc.gov/help/name.htm

The Library has in its holdings books and manuscripts about these historical figures:


_____________. *A Sketch of the Panama Canal; Its Past, Present and Possible Future, January 1908*. New Haven? CT: n. p., 1908. LC CALL NUMBER: Microfilm 65261 TC

In the Manuscript Division, the reader can have access to the following documents:

*John F. Stevens Papers, 1914-1942*. LC CALL NUMBER: MMC-3009. This collection contains only a small fraction of the Stevens Papers. The bulk of his papers are in the Miskimon Collection at Georgetown University Library, including an unpublished autobiography. However, unfortunately for the researcher, the chapters dealing with his stay in Panama are missing.

*George W. Goethals Papers, ca. 1890-1929*. LC CALL NUMBER: 0623JJ.. The collection consists of 15,000 items.

*William Crawford Gorgas Papers, 1885-1919 (bulk 1904-1913)*. LC CALL NUMBER: 0455I. The collection consists of 12,000 items.
The history of the Panama Canal includes the scheming Frenchman Phillippe Bunau-Varilla who greatly influenced the United States’ decision about the construction of the canal and later contributed to the circumstances under which Panama got its independence from Colombia and the signing of the 1903 Panama Canal Treaty. No guide to Panama would be complete if no mention of him were made.

Bunau-Varilla was a French engineer who had worked with Ferdinand de Lesseps and his French Canal Company. When the company went bankrupt, he was left stranded in Panama with a lot of worthless stock. When the New French Canal Company was created, he emerged as its most effective lobbyist and was very effective in convincing the American government to use the Panamanian route for an isthmian canal and the U.S. Senate to come up with $40 million dollars for the purchase of the building rights.

Figure 20. Philippe Bunau-Varilla plans a strait across Panama c1924.
Prints and Photographs Division
LC-USZ62-6238

When negotiations between the American and the Colombian governments broke down, Bunau-Varilla was instrumental in convincing Panamanian leaders to declare independence. He even drafted the country’s constitution, designed the flag, and promised the leaders that he would personally finance a war with Colombia if it came to that.
Bunau-Varilla was appointed Panamanian ambassador to the United States by President Manuel Amador Guerrero and negotiated with Secretary of State John Hay the famous Hay-Bunau-Varilla Treaty in 1903, which gave the United States absolute control over the Canal and over a 10-mile wide strip of land on both sides of it. No Panamanian signed the treaty and it soon became a source of friction between Panama and the United States. The following books about Bunau-Varilla are found in the Library’s general collections:


Loizillom, Gabriel J. *The Bunau-Varilla Brothers and the Panama Canal*. Morrisville, NC: Lulu, 2008. LC CALL NUMBER: In Process

Searching the catalog under author, reveals the following titles by Bunau-Varilla:


____________. *How to Build the Panama Canal? : the High Level Lock Canal, the Straits of Panama: the Substance of a Lecture Made Before the Alliance Française in New York, November 17, 1905 and Before the National Geographic Society in Washington, November 29, 1905*. S.l. : s.n. ca. 1905. LC CALL NUMBER: YA 18768 YA Pam Rare Book/Special Collections

____________. *A Solution of the Problem of Panama; Locks First – Sea Level Afterwards, the Minimum of Difficulty for the Near Future, the Maximum of Perfection for the Distant Future*. Paris: s.n., 1905. LC CALL NUMBER: 4HE 420 FT MEADE

In the Manuscript Division the reader can have access to his papers, comprising 10,000 items:

*Philippe Bunau-Varilla Papers, 1877-1955*. LC CALL NUMBER: FT MEADE. This material is stored offsite. Advance notice of one to two business days is required for retrieval of materials.

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Researchers whose topics deal with the Panama Canal Treaties may perform a *Subject Browse* search under the following specific subject strings:

- Panama Canal - - Treaties (1977)
- Panama Canal - - Treaties (1977) - - History
- Panama Canal - - Treaties (1977) - - Press coverage
- Hay-Bunau-Varilla treaty, 1903

**Figure 21.** President Jimmy Carter speaking at a White House dinner celebrating the signing of the Panama Canal Treaty, Washington, D.C. c. 1977.  
Prints and Photographs Division  
LC-DIG-pmmsca-09785
The best reference work relating to the Panama Canal treaties and the diplomacy relating to them is:


On the 1903 Panama Canal Treaty, the following are available in the general collections:


On the 1977 Panama Canal Treaty, by which the Canal reverted to Panama on December 31, 1999, the following can be found in the Library's collections:


Consideraciones al tratado concerniente a la neutralidad permanente del Canal y al funcionamiento del Canal de Panamá. Panamá: [s.n.], 1994 LC CALL NUMBER: JX1398.73.C66 1994


Figure 23. U.S.S. Arizona in lock, Panama Canal c. 1921
Prints and Photographs Division
LC-USZ62-98338
The Library’s collections are also very rich with regards to Panamanian politics and political history, including some of the most important political figures in the country. The Library has a number of sources on Belisario Porras (1856-1942), president of Panama during the periods of 1912-1916, 1918-1920, 1920-1924. He is considered by many the builder of modern Panama. He organized a civil registry, the national archives, and the national bank, etc.

In 1913, Porras organized a commission for the drafting of a Panamanian legal code, which was adopted three years later. Prior to his election, Panama was still using Colombian law.


![Figure 24. Belisario Porras, Pres. of Panama](Prints and Photographs Division/LC-DIG-npcc-20415)

Researchers who are investigating aspects of Panama's politics and government may perform a Subject Browse search under terms: Panama - - Politics and government. The subdivision: - -Politics and government is assigned to materials that "discuss the theory, practice, and history of politics and government" (The Library of Congress 2008, H1942). This subdivision helps researchers retrieve a wealth of materials about political and government aspects. The subdivision: - -Politics and government guides the researchers "to history of political events of Panama or the history, description, or critical analysis of governmental and political institutions, parties, organization, etc. materials" [The Library of Congress 2008, H1942]. The search result is a subject Heading List that displays a number of specific subject heading strings hypertext link. Researchers may click the subject heading strings hypertext link that closely describe their topic. The following subject heading strings can be useful to initiate a narrow search of a particular topic.

Panama - - Politics and government
Panama - - Politics and government - - 1821-1903
Panama - - Politics and government - - 1903
Panama - - Politics and government - - 1903-1946
Panama - - Politics and government - - 1905-
Panama - - Politics and government - - 1946-
Panama - - Politics and government - - 1946-1981
Panama - - Politics and government - - 1981
Panama - - Politics and government - - 1981 - - Periodicals
Panama - - Politics and government - - 20th century
Panama Canal (Panama) - - Politics and government
Canal Zone - - Politics and government

Significant Panamanian political figures can be searched under their personal name, and under their subject heading. The Author/Creator search method retrieves materials of the particular authors as "the individual who responsible for the creation of the intellectual content of the work." The Subject Keyword search allows researchers to access materials about the author and/or his works. The examples of important Panamanian political figures:

Porras, Belisario, 1856-1942
Mendoza, Carlos Antonio, 1856-1916
Arias Madrid, Arnulfo, 1901-1988
Arias Madrid, Harmodio, 1886-1962

The political history of Panama, during a good period of the 20th century, was dominated by the brothers Arias Madrid. Harmodio Arias Madrid, a highly respected lawyer and newspaper editor, was president between 1932 and 1936. He and his brother Arnulfo led the 1931 revolution that overthrew the government of Florencio Harmodio Arosemena. This marked the first time that an elected government was overthrown in Panama. Both brothers were members of a patriotic organization called Acción Comunal, which represented a generation of young Panamanians that rejected the generation that made the 1903 Canal Treaty and the circumstances under which the country got its independence. Its motto was: “Speak Spanish and count in Balboas.” Arnulfo Arias Madrid, a Harvard-trained physician, was elected president three times and overthrown three times, 1940-1941, 1949-1951, and in 1968 (overthrown after just 11 days in office). However, his philosophy of Panameñismo, roughly meaning Panama for Panamanians, remained popular with the masses and they viewed him as their champion. Some of the titles found about Harmodio and Arnulfo Arias Madrid in the general collections are:


Contreras, José del C. *Elogio a tres aspectos básicos en la promoción y personalidad del Dr. Harmodio Arias M.*. David, Chiriquí, Panamá: [s.n.], 1993. LC CALL NUMBER: MLCS 94/02902 (F) FT MEADE


Another very important political figure in Panama is Omar Torrijos (1929-1981), who came to power after the 1968 coup and dominated Panamanian politics until his death in 1981. He never assumed the title of president, but he was the commander of the National Guard and, therefore, used it for his own political advantage. He promoted populist policies and was highly admired by the lower classes, and had almost absolute control over the country. Some of the basic sources the researcher may access in the general collections about Torrijos are:

Panama's most controversial political figure is General Manuel Antonio Noriega. Of the political leaders Panama has had throughout its history, the most disastrous for the country is the General. He held absolute control for six years, between 1983 and 1989. His links to Colombian drug cartels caused the United States to turn against him and ultimately led to the invasion to overthrow him. He was captured by U.S. forces and sent to Miami to serve a jail term on drug trafficking and money laundering. The general collections hold many items on Noriega and on Operation Just Cause, the U.S. invasion of Panama. Some of the most important sources on Noriega are:


Operation Just Cause can be searched in the general collections doing a subject browse, under the following terms: Panama - - History - - American Invasion, 1989:

Researchers who are investigating aspects of Panama's history of American invasion may perform a *Subject Browse* search under terms: Panama - - History - - American Invasion, 1989. The search result is a subject *Heading List* that displays a number of specific subjects heading strings hypertext link. Researchers may click the subject heading strings hypertext link that closely describes their topic. The following subject heading strings can be useful to initiate a narrow search of a particular topic.

Panama - - History - - American Invasion, 1989
Panama - - History - - American Invasion, 1989 - - Pictorial works
Panama - - History - - American Invasion, 1989 - - Causes
Panama - - History - - American Invasion, 1989 - - Destruction and pillage
Listed titles below are some example of materials related to Panama’s American invasion in the Library’s general collections:


Listed titles below are some examples of materials found in the Library’s general collections. Researchers may perform a Subject Browse search under the following subject heading strings to retrieve more material related to Panamanian politics and government, political parties, elections, military government, and relations between United States:

- Panama - Politics and government
- National security - Panama
- Elections - Panama - History
- Political parties - Panama - History
- Military government - Panama - History
- Panama - Armed Forces - Political activity - History
- Panama - Relations - United States
- Panama - Foreign relations


13 | Religion

Panamanian religious practices reflect the different backgrounds of the people that settled Panama from the pre-Columbian period to the present, although Roman Catholicism is the major religious faith in the country. But many of the practices prevalent in Panama, particularly in rural areas, reflect the syncretism that took place through the centuries. The holdings on religion available in the general collections reflect the rich variety of religious customs in the country.

*Figure 25.* Poster shows sights to visit in Panama including churches and missions.

Prints and Photographs Division

LC-DIG-prmsca-13393
Researchers who are investigating aspects of Panama’s religious practices may perform a Subject Browse search under terms: Catholic Church - - Panama. The search result is a subject Heading List that displays a number of specific subject heading strings hypertext link. Researchers may click the subject heading strings hypertext link that closely describes their topic. The following subject heading strings can be useful to initiate a narrow search of a particular topic.

Catholic Church - - Panama
Catholic Church - - Panama - - Clergy - - Biography
Catholic Church - - Panama - - History
Catholic Church - - Missions - - Panama
Catholic Church - - Panama - - San Miquelito
Catholic Church - - Panama - - Penonome - - History
Bishops - - Panama
Indians of Central America - - Missions - - Panama
Missionaries - - Panama - - Biography
Missions - - Panama
Religion and culture - - Central America
Religion and politics - - Central America
Religion and sociology - - Central America
Panama Canal (Panama) - - Church history
Penonome (Panama) - - Church history

Some of the most representative titles about materials related to Panama’s religion found in the Library’s general collections are listed below:


Jaén Arosemena, Agustín. *La Iglesia Católica en Penonómé: datos sobre el templo parroquial de San Juan Bautista en Penonómé, la ermita de San Antonio: catequesis cristiana en Penonómé, 209 años de gobierno eclesiástico y


Mega, Pedro. Compendio biográfico de los ilm. y excmos. monseñores obispos y arzobispos de Panamá; reseña histórica de los obispos que han ocupado la silla Episcopal en Panamá, según el Excmo. Monseñor Dr. D. Guillermo Rojas y Arrieta y los historiadores nacionales, don Juan B. Sosa, don Ernesto J. Castillero R., y don Juan Antonio Susto, aumentado considerablemente con nuevos documentos. Panamá: Ministerio de Educación, Departamento de Bellas Artes y Publicaciones, 1958. LC CALL NUMBER: BX1445.P3 M4


___________________. Santa María La Antigua: un viaje a la historia: número extraordinario en los XX años de la fundación de la Universidad Santa María La Antigua. Panamá: Editorial “La Antigua”, Universidad Santa María La Antigua, 1985. LC CALL NUMBER: BT652.S7 R48 1985

14 | Social and Economic Conditions

Panama has become a center of international banking and finance, with many of the largest banks and financial institutions in the world having offices there. Its economic advantage is due to the country’s liberal tax and banking privacy laws, as well as, monetary policy. The general collections provide researchers with information on the country’s banking and financial system, tax laws, foreign investments, etc.

Figure 26. 1st Pan American Financial conference, Washington, D.C., May 1915
Prints and Photographs Division
LC-DIG-hec-00658

Researchers may perform a Subject Browse search under the following subject headings:

Panama - - Commerce
Panama - - Economic policy
Among the many sources available, the following are some of the most important for anyone wanting to do research on this very important topic:


*Centro Financiero: órgano informativo de la Asociación Bancaria de Panamá.* Panamá: La Asociación, 199-. LC CALL NUMBER: HG2771.C46

This is a journal by the Panamanian Banking Association. Older issues are part of the general collections. More recent issues can be accessed in the Newspaper and Current Periodical Reading Room.


The book written by John and Mavis Biesanz The People of Panama. New York: Columbia University Press, 1955. LC CALL NUMBER: F1563.8.B5, continues to be one of the best socio-economic analyses of the country. The Biesanz’s, authors and sociologists, analyze different aspects of the economy, agriculture, and rural life. They focus on the impact of the canal on general aspects of the Panamanian economic and social conditions, health, and education for both urban and rural areas.

Panama’s economic and social conditions are the target of the Economist Intelligence Unit which publishes: Country Profile: Panama. London, UK: Economist Intelligence Unit, 1998. LC CALL NUMBER: HC147.A1 C668. Researchers can access this publication in the Hispanic Division.

Researchers who are searching for materials dealing with Panama’s social or economic conditions may perform a Subject Browse search under terms: Panama - - Social conditions or Panama - - Economic conditions. The subdivision: - - Social conditions is assigned to works discussing social history or sociology. The subdivision: - - Economic conditions is assigned for works discussing economic history or economic conditions in general.
The search result of this Subject Browse search is a subject Heading List that displays a number of specific subject heading strings hypertext link. Researchers may click the subject heading strings hypertext link that closely describes their topic. The following subject heading strings can be useful to initiate a narrow search of a particular topic.

Panama - - Social conditions  
Panama - - Social conditions - - 20th century  
Panama - - Social conditions - - Periodicals  
Panama - - Economic conditions  
Panama - - Economic conditions - - 1979  
Panama - - Economic conditions - - 1979 - - Periodicals  
Panama - - Economic policy  
Panama - - Social policy  
Panama - - Social policy - - Periodicals  
Panama - - Social life and customs  
Panama Canal (Panama) - - Economic aspects  
Panama Canal (Panama) - - Economic aspects - - United States  
Panama Canal (Panama) - - Economic conditions  
Economic indicators - - Panama  
Finance - - Panama

Listed titles below are some examples of materials about Panama’s social and economic conditions that can be found in the Library’s general collections:


As mentioned before, Biesanz’s book continues to be an important reference point for anyone doing research on the socio-economic conditions of Panama. Panamanian scholars themselves have been producing very good material on social conditions and the country’s social history. One of the top scholars is, without a doubt, Omar Jaén Suárez, and his works can be a good starting point for anybody interested in the subject. Some of his most important works are:


Researchers who are investigating aspects of Panama’s social conditions such as social classes, human ecology, poverty, etc may perform a Subject Keyword search under terms: Panama and a term (that closely describes their topic). Researchers may consult the multi-volume *Library of Congress Subject Heading* well known as the “red books.” The following subject heading strings can be useful to initiate a narrow search of a particular topic.

Poverty - - Panama
Panama - - Social conditions
Death - - Social aspects - - Panama - - History
Elite (Social sciences) - - Panama - - History
Environmental policy - - Panama
Other important works include the following:


Researchers are encouraged to browse the catalog to find additional titles in the categories mentioned, as well as in many others, which they may find interesting for their own particular research. However, it is important to mention that the general catalog will only give researchers a partial picture of what is available in the Library of Congress’ holdings. For this reason, it will be very important for anyone doing research at the Library of Congress to familiarize himself/herself with the different custodial divisions in the Library and see what Panamanian materials may be available there. Only in doing so, will the researcher be able to obtain a fuller picture of the richness of the Library’s holdings. For example, in the Geography and Map Division, the researcher will find many maps on Panama, some of which date back to the Spanish colonial period, but also the maps that were part of the Panama Canal Zone Library-Museum, and that were transferred to the Library of Congress as part of the 1977 Panama Canal Treaties, as mentioned in another part of this guide. A simple keyword search on Panamanian maps will yield more than 500 maps. Researchers should visit the different custodial divisions and talk to the curators to help them navigate through their collections.

Custodial Division Collections

1. American Folklife Center
2. Geography and Map Division
3. Law library
4. Manuscript Division
5. Newspaper and Current Periodical Reading Room (Serial and Government Publications Division)
6. Prints and Photographs Division
7. Rare Books and Special Collection Division

1 | The American Folklife Center (www.loc.gov/folklife/)

The American Folklife Center is a treasure trove of American life as recorded and collected by folklorists, ethnographers, and many others, in a variety of ways and formats. Much of this priceless documentation has been assembled and preserved in the American Folklife Center’s Archive of Folk Culture, founded in 1928 as the Archive of American Folk Song. In 1978 it became part of the American Folklife Center and was subsequently renamed the Archive of Folk Culture. Today the Archive includes over three million photographs, manuscripts, audio recordings, and moving images. It consists of documentation of traditional culture from all around the world including the earliest field recordings made in the 1890s on wax cylinder through recordings made using digital technology. It is America’s first national archive of traditional life, and one of the oldest and largest of such repositories in the world. The collections of the center not only include the United States, but also the other regions of the world, including Panama.

The Center’s administrative office and reading room are open 8:30am -5:00 pm, Monday through Friday (except federal holidays). The Folklife Reading Room is located on the ground floor of the Thomas Jefferson Building, room G53. The webpage includes an Ask A Librarian link where readers can contact the center with their questions or can visit the center in person.
The Panama Collection consists of the following:

**AFS 6893-6894: Myron B. Schaeffer Collection of Music from Panama**

**AFS 7318-7323: Myron B. Schaeffer Collection of Music from Panama**
Six 12-inch discs of music recorded in Panama by Myron Schaeffer, January and July, 1943. Includes decima, cumbia, suest, violin and guitar music, drum demonstrations, songs. The collection includes a song list. Finding aid available.

**AFS 7653-7720: Myron B. Schaeffer Collection of Music from Panama**
Twenty-six 10-inch and 42 12-inch discs of folk music of Panama. Recorded in Panama by Myron B. Schaeffer during 1943 and 1944. The collection includes a song list for AFS 7653-7697 (data sheets from the Instituto de Investigaciones Folklóricas, Archivo de la Discoteca, Universidad Interamericana, Panamá). Texts for some of the songs are transcribed in an article by Louise Cramer entitled "Songs of West Indian Negroes in the Canal Zone," *California Folklore Quarterly* V, no. 3 (July 1946): 243-272. Finding aid available.

**AFS 9998-10,001: Per Host / San Blas Indians of Panama**
Four wire spools of folk music of San Blas Indians off coast of Panama. Recorded by Per Host of Panama. (LWO 1322; RZA 2101; tape copy on LWO 25,707). Finding aid available.

**AFS 10,028: Per Host / Folk Music of Colombia, South America**
One 7-inch tape of music and other sounds from the rainforest region of Colombia and Panama, including Choco Indian children’s songs, a medicine man's song, and howler monkey noises. Recorded on the border of Colombia and Panama, by Per Host, 1949. (1 hour; LWO 1573). Finding aid available.

A guide to the recordings of the San Blas Indians of Panama or Kuna Indians—one of the treasures of the Center- is found in volume 5, Judith A. Gray Edwin J. Schupman, Jr, eds., *The Federal Cylinder Project. A Guide to Field Cylinder Collections in Federal Agencies* (Washington, DC: American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, 1990). It includes information on the Frances Densmore Collection, consisting of thirteen six-inch dictaphone cylinders of Kuna Indian music recorded by Frances Densmore in Washington, DC, during October-November 1924 and later transferred to the Library of Congress from the National Archives in 1948, and information on the John Peabody Harrington Collection, which consists of ten six-inch Kuna Indian music and spoken word recorded by John Peabody Harrington in Washington, DC, between October and December 1924, and which were later transferred to the Library from the Smithsonian Institution. These cylinders have not yet been copied on tape.
The Geography and Map Division of the Library of Congress provides cartographic and geographic information for all parts of the world to the Congress, federal agencies, state, and local governments, the scholarly community, and to the general public. It is the largest and most comprehensive cartographic collection in the world, numbering over 5.2 million maps, including 80,000 atlases, 6,000 reference works, numerous globes and three-dimensional plastic relief models, and a large number of cartographic materials in other formats, including electronic.

The Geography and Map Division is located on the basement level of the James Madison Building. The webpage includes an Ask A Librarian link where readers can contact the division with their questions, or they can visit its reading room in person and conduct their research there. Guides to the maps collection are available in the reading room and online. The reading room is open Monday through Friday 8:30am – 5:00pm, except federal holidays.


General bibliographies and catalogs of Panama maps include the following:


Emphasis should be made of the fact that what the reader may find in the catalog relative to Panamanian maps at the Library is only a tiny fraction of what is to be found in the Geography and Map Division where its vault holds thousands of unprocessed and uncataloged maps. Researchers are encouraged to visit the reading room and talk to a reference specialist regarding Panama maps. Many treasures and unique items wait to be discovered in the vault of the Geography and Map Division.

The holdings of Panamanian maps increased dramatically after the signing of the 1977 Panama Canal Treaty, when the maps in the former Panama Canal Zone Library-Museum were transferred to the Library of Congress. These maps have been processed and appear in the online catalog.

Panama was a key strategic point during the Spanish colonial period. It was the launching point for the conquest of South America and it also became the center for the transfer of treasure to Spain. The annual fair in Portobelo, on the Atlantic coast, brought the treasures from the rest of the Spanish empire to be sold. From there it went to Havana and then to Spain in the fleet system. Until the fleet system was abolished in the XVIII century, Portobello was one of the most important cities in the empire. As a result of this strategic position, Panama became prey to pirates and buccaneers and a point of contention with other countries. Therefore, there are not only Spanish maps, but also maps drawn by Spain’s colonial rivals such as the British, Dutch and French. A sampling of the maps from the colonial period is the following list:

*Afbeeldingh van de stad ent landschap van Panama.* Amsterdam: Jan ten Horn, 1678. LC CALL NUMBER: G4872.P2 1678 .A3 Vault PCC


*Carte particuliere de Isthmus, ou Darien, qui comprend le Golfe de Panama &c., Cartagene et les isles aux environs.* Amsterdam: Chez P. Mortier, 1615? LC CALL NUMBER: G4872.P2 1615 .C3 Vault PCC

*Carta rappresentante l’Istmo di Darien o sia di Panama.* Livorno: M. Cottellini, 1763. LC CALL NUMBER: G4872.P2 1763 .C3 Vault PCC

*Celi, Francisco Mathias. Plano del Río Chagres.* [174-?] LC CALL NUMBER: Howe 30 Vault

*Description de l’Isthme de Darien, des proprietez du pais et de la ville de Panama, a la quelle on a joint une description curieuse des diverses plantes, oiseaux, poisons les plus rares qui se trouvent dans la Nouvelle Hollande.* [Amsterdam? : s.n., 1719] LC CALL NUMBER: G4872.P2 1719 .D4 Vault PCC


Hacke, William. *A New Map of ye Isthmus of Darien in America, the Bay of Panama, the Gulph of Vallona or St. Michael with its Islands & Countries Adjacent.* [S.l.: s.n., ca. 1690] LC CALL NUMBER: G4872.P2 1690 .H3 Vault PCC


*Isthmus of Panama from Cartagena to Nicaragua Showing Both Coasts.* [S.l.,: s.n.,1700?] LC CALL NUMBER: G4870 1700.I8 Vault. Web link: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g4870.ct000335


López, Juan. *Carta maritima del Reyno de Tierra Firme ú Castilla del Oro comprende el istmo y Provincia de Panamá, las provincias de Veragua, Darien y Biruguet/ por Don Juan López, geógrafo pensionista de S.M. Individuo de la Real Academia de Letras de Sevilla y de la Sociedad de Asturias.* [Seville? : s.n., 1785] LC CALL NUMBER: G4870 1785.L62 Vault PCC

*Mapa general de la costa qe intermedia entra las Razas de Cartag. y Portobelo y la de Panama y Golfo de Sn. Abguel para la inteligencia de sus situaciones, las de los ríos, islas, puertos y la del Golfo de Darien i Isthmo de este nome. quevne la America Meridional con la Septentrional.* [S.l.: s.n., 1761] LC CALL NUMBER: G4872.P2 1761 .M3 Vault PCC
PCC

NUMBER: G4872.C25 1699 .M6 Vault PCC

Ottens, Reiner. Nova Isthmi Americani, qui et Panamensis item Dariensis, tabula in qua urbes Porto Bello, Panama

Perspectivische Vorstellung des Hafen, Castels u. der Stadt Porto Belo, nebst der Ordnung… Nuremberg: homann
Erben, 1762. LC CALL NUMBER: G4874.P6P55 1762 .P4 Vault PCC

PCC

Vault PCC

http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g4874p.lh000667

Plano de Puerto Belo cituido en la costa del N. de Trra. Firme en la latd. N. de 9 gs. 18 ms. y en longd. De 294 gs.
45 ms. segun el merido. de Tenerife [17--?] LC CALL NUMBER: G4874.P6 17-- .P5 Vault. Web link:
http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g4874p.lh000665


Plano de la Ysla del Escudo de Beraguas situado en la latitud norte de 8 gs. y en la longitud de 305 gros. 50 ms.
meridiano del Cuerboz. [S.l.: s.n., 17--] LC CALL NUMBER: G4872.E8 17-- .P51 Vault. Web link:
http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g4872e.lh000675

Planta de la Provincia de Veragua, y de las Costas del mar que con ella confinan ansi por la mar del Norte como por
la del Sur y lo que tiene de ancho de uno mar á otra y ansi mismo desde la valida de Panama que desde donde
comienza hasta el gobierno de Costarrica que donde acaba su jurisdiccion--Hecha por el Governador Lorenzo del
Salto [S.l.: s.n., 1620] LC CALL NUMBER: G4870 1620 .S2 Vault PCC

R. T. An Exact Draught of the Castle of San Lorenzo, ye Village & River of Chagre with the Situation of Adml
Vernon’s Ships in ye Attack of the Fort, March 24, 1740. [S.l.: s.n., 1740?] LC CALL NUMBER: G4872.F6S1
1740.R8 Vault PCC

Roda. Copia del plano de la Antigua Panamá levantado en el año 1609 por el ingeniero Roda. [S.l.: s.n., 191-?] LC
CALL NUMBER: G4874.P3 1609 .R62 Vault PCC

Rodríguez, Nicolás. Plano geographico desde la ciudd. de Panamá hasta el rio Chagre … [S.l.: s.n., 1735] LC CALL NUMBER: G4872.P3 1735 .R6 Vault PCC


A Sequel to the Seat of War Containing (1) a Map of the Isthmus of Panama Exhibiting the Roads with the Course of the River Chagre thro the Same (2) Curious Perspective Views of the Harbour, Town, Castles of Puerto Bello as Sent Over by Commodore Brwon (3) the Appearance at Sea of San Juan de Puerto Rico with it’s [sic] Castles from Admiral Vernon’s Own Draught the Whole Illustrated with Remarks. [S.l.: s.n., 1740?]. LC CALL NUMBER: G4872.P2 1740 .S4 Vault PCC

Terra Firma cum Novo Regno Granatense et Popayan. Amsterdam: s.n., 1620. LC CALL NUMBER: G4870 1620.T4 Vault PCC


Panama’s strategic position continued to play a role in the country’s history and development in the 19th century as a transit point for other parts of the Americas. The British, the Americans, and the French all showed great interest in Panama and the possibility of a trans-isthmian route that would connect both coasts. Early 19th century maps include the following:


Luffman, John. The Isthmus of Panama. London: Luffman, 1802. LC CALL NUMBER: G4872.P2 1802 .L8 Vault PCC


Tiedemann, H. Plan of the City of Panama. New York: E. Autenrieth, engraved on stone by J. Schedler, 1850. LC CALL NUMBER: G4874.P3 1850 .T51 Vault PCC


During the period of the Panama Railroad Company, whose line linked both coasts starting in 1855, many detailed maps of the region were made. A partial list includes the following:


Map of the Panama Rail Road and Adjacent Country Exhibiting the Rio Chagres & Mule Roads from Gorgona to Panama and the Ports of Limon, or Navy Bay on the Atlantic & the Bay of Panama on the Pacific, Being Termini of the Road, Together with the Line for a Rail Road Approximately Laid Down by Col. Geo. W. Hughes from Gorgona to Panama. [S. l.: s. n., 1855]. LC CALL NUMBER: G4874.P3A1 1855 .H3 Vault PCC

Map of Panama Showing the Line of Railroad and Properties on Either Side of Line, Also Location of Hospital Central. [S. l.: s. n., 1882]. LC CALL NUMBER: G4874.P3G46 1882 .M3 Vault PCC
Panama Railroad Co. Plan Shoving [sic] Boundaries of Property Belonging to the P.RR. Co. Between Las Cascadas and Culebra Known as the Huertas u Honduras Property, Scale 1:20000, Oto [sic] 8, 1899. LC CALL NUMBER: G4872.E4G46 1899 .P3 Vault PCC

Part of Panama Railroad Lands, Santa Cruz in Detail. [S. l.: s. n., ca. 1880]. LC CALL NUMBER: G4874.P3: 2S2G46 1880 .P3 Vault PCC

Phelps, E. H. Plan Showing Property of the Panama Railroad Co., in and About the City of Panama. [S. l.: s. n., 1881]. LC CALL NUMBER: G4874.P3G46 1881 .P5 Vault PCC-Ov

The Geography and Map Division has a rich collection of maps dating from the French canal period, many of which were part of the collections of the former Panama Canal Zone Library-Museum. In 1904 the United States took over the construction of the Canal and the assets of the Compagnie Nouvelle du Canal de Panama, including cartographic materials, became the property of the Isthmian Canal Commission (commonly known as the ICC), the government agency created to oversee the construction of the canal. A small sample of those materials includes the following:

Achèvement du canal, projet definitive d’un canal a écluses avec plafond du bief de partage à la cote: deviation du P.R.R., partie comprise entre les km. 5k,500 et 6k,95167, plan d’ensemble, echelle ½.000. Paris: Compagnie Nouvelle du Canal de Panama, 1898. LC CALL NUMBER: G4872.P3 1898 .C6 Vault PCC

Arme, F. Plan general indiquant le trace du canal, les deviations du PRR et les derivations, échelle 1/50000. [S. l.: s. n., 1879?]. LC CALL NUMBER: G4872.P3 1885 .A7 Vault PCC


Carte générale du domaine, Culebra-Panama, échelle 1/20000. [S. l.: s. n., 1898?] LC CALL NUMBER: G4872.P3 1898 .C63 Vault PCC

Diagram Showing Location and Outline of Buildings of French Hospital at Ancon, Isthmus of Panama. [S. l.: s. n., ca. 1880]. LC CALL NUMBER: G4874.A5E58 1880 .C6 Vault PCC

Maps of Proposed Panama Canal Between Gorgona and Panama City. Panama? : s. n., 1895? LC CALL NUMBER: G4872.P3 s000 .M3 Vault PCC. Web links:

Section A http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g4872pm.gct00188a
Section B http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g4872pm.gct00188b
Section C http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g4872pm.gct00188c
The Isthmian Canal Commission was abolished in 1914 when the canal was completed, and later superseded by the Panama Canal Company, which in turn was superseded by the Panama Canal Commission in 1979. During the U.S. administration of the Canal and the Canal Zone, many maps were produced of the Panama Canal, the Canal Zone, and of Panama proper, by various U.S. government agencies and the Canal Zone government. A sample list of those maps includes the following:


*Map of Aspinwall Tract (United States Owned Property), Taboga Island, R. de P.* Balboa Heights, C.Z.: Panama Canal, Department of Operation and Maintenance, Office of Engineering Division, Section of Surveys, 1944. LC CALL NUMBER: G4872.T3G46 1944 .C3 Vault PCC


*Panama Route, Map Showing Location of Proposed Canal, scale 1: 100,000*. Balboa Heights, Canal Zone: Isthmian Canal Commission, 1901. LC CALL NUMBER: G4872.P2 1901 .I8 Vault PCC

*Panama and Ancon: scale 1/5000, Date Oct. 15, 1907*. Panama: Isthmian Canal Commission, Division of Municipal Engineering, 1907. LC CALL NUMBER: G4874.P3 1907 .I8 Vault PCC

Surveys of the Panama Canal. [S. I.]: Isthmian Canal Commission, 1908. LC CALL NUMBER: G4872.P3 1908 .I75 Vault PCC-Ov


A partial list of general 20th century Panama maps, many of which were published by the Instituto Geográfico Nacional Tommy Guardia, includes the following:


Americana Company. Panama. [S.l.]: [s.n.], 1904. LC CALL NUMBER: G4870 1904 .A4. Web link: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g4870.ct000481


Briesemeister, William A. Mapa de la República de Panamá. [Panama? : s.n.], 1925. LC CALL NUMBER: G4870 1925 .B7 Vault PCC


___________. República de Panamá, mapa político. Panamá: [s.n.], 1969. LC CALL NUMBER: G4870 1969 .I51

Map of the Republic of Panama. Panama, R.P.: Published by I. L. Maduro, Jr., [190?]. LC CALL NUMBER: G4870 190- .M3 Vault PCC
3 | Law Library (www.loc.gov/law/)

Created in 1832, the Law Library at the Library of Congress contains the largest legal collection in the world with an estimated 2.65 million volumes. Its collections span all periods of law, from the most ancient and primitive to the most contemporary. The Law Library is a repository for the complete record of American Law. Its international law collection includes practically all countries in the world and it strives to collect all of their major legal publications.

The Library is located on the second floor of the James Madison Memorial Building and it is open for research Monday through Saturday, 8:30am – 5:00pm, except federal holidays. Its webpage includes an Ask a Librarian link for researchers to send questions and a link that explains how to find legal resources: http://loc.gov/law/find/.

The Law Library has access to many online resources. The following may be particularly helpful when researching Panama materials:

The Guide to Law Online, prepared by the Law Library of Congress Public Services Division, is an annotated guide to sources of information on government and law available online, and may provide the first step when researching Panamanian materials. This is basically a portal for national and international legal materials online. The link to Panamanian legal materials available online is found at: http://www.loc.gov/law/help/guide/nations/panama.php

The Foreign Law Guide, prepared by Thomas H. Reynolds and Arturo A. Flores of the University of California, Berkeley, provides an extensive and detailed overview of Panamanian law with links to current codes and legislation
The Foreign Law Guide may only be accessed from the reading rooms at the Library of Congress. The link to the Panamanian materials available is: http://www.foreignlawguide.com/ip/flg/Panama.htm.

The Global Legal Information Network, or GLIN, is a public database of official legal documents including laws, legislative records, judicial decisions, and other sources shared by respective government agencies and international organizations. Panama has provided their texts in Spanish; however, each document is accompanied by a brief summary in English. Materials relating to Panama can be found by searching “Panama” at http://www.glin.gov/search.action. To limit legal materials to Panamanian jurisdiction, simply click the “More Search Options” link, and change the jurisdiction to Panama.

The Global Legal Information Catalog provides information about publications that reprint laws of multiple jurisdictions on a legal topic. Essentially, the database searches for the mention of “Panama” in compilation texts where “Panama” does not appear in the title. The catalog is searchable by keyword, jurisdiction, subject, and author. The Global Legal Information Catalog can be found at: http://www.loc.gov/lawweb/servlet/Glic?home.

The Constitutions of the Countries of the World provides access to full-text constitutions from over 192 countries with English translations and commentary. The Constitutions of the Countries of the World may only be accessed from the Library of Congress, and can be found by connecting via IP Access at: http://www.oceanalaw.com/default.asp. Also available on the site is Treaties and International Agreements Online which provides access to over 17,000 treaties and international agreements in over 40 categories. Similarly, Treaties and International Agreements Online may only be accessed at the Library of Congress.


Foreign Relations of the United States, maintained by the Office of the Historian of the U.S. Department of State presents official historical records of major United States foreign policy decisions and significant diplomatic activity, and may be quite useful when analyzing U.S. and Panama relations since 1903. Foreign Relations of the United States can be accessed at: http://history.state.gov/countries/panama.

CQ Online Editions: Historic Document Series is a database that provides access to primary sources of global events. Each primary source is preceded by an introduction that provides historical and intellectual context for the document, which may be useful for in-depth analysis of Panamanian materials. CQ Online Editions: Historic Document Series can be accessed at: http://library.cqpress.com/historicdocuments/. The website can only be accessed from the reading rooms at the Library of Congress.

NATLEX, maintained by the International Labour Organization’s International Labour Standards Department, provides over 80,000 records from more than 196 countries and territories on issues of national labor, social security,
and related human rights legislation. For Panamanian materials visit:  

The Law Library has a comprehensive collection of official gazettes in the Spanish language from Panama in paper and microfilm from 1903 to 2005. In order to view the official gazettes, see a reference librarian for help. For issues since 2005, consult the official gazette webpage, Gaceta Oficial Digital de la República de Panamá, maintained by the Secretary of the President for Government Innovation together with the Office of Gaceta in the Ministry of the President at: http://www.gacetaoficial.gob.pa.

Legispan y Gacetac Oficiales is a database maintained by the National Assembly of Panama that also provides current legislation from the Republic of Panama and a digital collection of the official gazettes from 1903 to the present in the Spanish language. The database can be accessed at:  

Finally, the Panama: Country Studies webpage, compiled by the Library of Congress, may be a useful general tool when beginning any research on Panama. The website provides a country profile including information on Panama’s geography, society, economy, government and politics, national security, and historical background. Visit the website at: http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/cs/patoc.html.

Books with GLOBAL in their call number can be found in the reference section of the Law Library Reading Room. All others can be found in the Law Library Reading Room.


Panama’s commercial code was drafted by the Costa Rican scholar Luis Anderson, and was a combination of commercial codes of the 19th century. The commercial code includes information on insurance, foreign and domestic investments, maritime commerce, negotiable instruments, partnership, and transportation and shipping. Samples of the Law Library’s materials on the commercial code, corporate and business are:


Panama’s fiscal code includes information about administrative proceedings in fiscal material, customs and tariffs, income taxation, general taxation, antitrust and trade regulation (unfair competition), and business associations. Samples of the Law Library’s materials pertaining to Panama’s fiscal codes are:


Gnazzo Lima, Edison. Legislación fiscal de la República de Panamá. Panama: [s.n.], 1975. LC CALL NUMBER: KGH4589 .G563 1975


Tax News Service. Amsterdam: IBFD, 1965-. LC CALL NUMBER: K4456.2 .I57


The shipping industry is very important due to Panama’s tax and labor laws, with many of the major shipping companies having ships under the Panamanian flag. Samples of the Law Library’s materials pertaining to Panama’s maritime laws are:


*Compilación de la legislación marítima de la República de Panamá* [recopilador Plinio F. Valdés F; editor Mario Ugarte Martín; asesoría y supervisión, Freddy E. Blanco M.; elaborado en el Centro de Investigación Jurídica de la Universidad de Panamá]. [Panama]: El Fénix, 1998. LC CALL NUMBER: KGH1400.A28 1998 GLOBAL


*Información general a los aplicantes de certificados de competencia de la marina mercante panameña=General Information to Applicants for Certificates of Competency of Panamanian Merchant Marine.* Panamá: Dirección General Consular y de Naves, Ministerio de Hacienda y Tesoro, República de Panamá, [199-?]. LC CALL NUMBER KGH1410.I54 1990Z GLOBAL


Panama has become an important international financial center due to the country’s liberal tax code, with many of the top international financial companies establishing offices in the country. Samples of the Law Library’s materials pertaining to Panama’s Banking Laws are:


*Agreements, Banking Commission of the Republic of Panama, Regulating Banking Legislation.* Panamá: Morgan y Morgan, 1986. LC CALL NUMBER: KGH1144.6 1986

*Almengor Echeverría, Abdel. Lo que hay que saber el lavado de dinero, el terrorismo y su financiamiento.* Panamá: Universal Books, 2009-. LC CALL NUMBER: KGH1166 .S42 A46 2009 GLOBAL


*Fernández Jiménez, Ricardo Alexis. La intervención bancaria dentro de nuestra legislación.* Panamá: [s. n.], 1984. LC CALL NUMBER: KGH1152. F47 1984


Código de la familia; ley de protección y fomento de lactancia maternal; delitos de violencia intrafamiliar, maltrato de menores, dependencias especializadas de atención a víctimas de estos delitos, reformas y adiciones al código penal y judicial; convención sobre los derechos del niño. [Panamá]: Asamblea Legislativa, 1996. LC CALL NUMBER: KGH480 .A28 1996 GLOBAL


Samples of the Law Library’s materials pertaining to Panama’s Constitution and constitutional laws are:

Panama's civil code was based on the Spanish civil code of 1889. The civil code includes information about animals and animal welfare, bankruptcy, business associations, contracts, copyright, corporations, inheritance and succession, notaries, obligations, land and regional property planning, and construction. Samples of the Law Library's materials pertaining to Panama's civil code are:


Código civil y Código de la familia. José Martín Moreno Pujol, Rina Mizrachi Lab, comp. 6 ed. [Panamá]: Editorial Mizrachi & Pujol, 1996. LC CALL NUMBER: KGH 404 1996

Panama’s labor codes include information about procedural rules, professional risks, as well as collective and individual relations. Samples of the Law Library’s materials pertaining to Panama’s labor codes are:


Ortega Durán, Oyden. *Curso de derecho del trabajo*. [Panama?: s. n.], 1998. LC CALL NUMBER: KGH1789.5 O78 1998 GLOBAL


Staff Wilson, Mariblanca. *Diccionario de términos laborales*. Panamá: [s. n.], 1993. LC CALL NUMBER: KGH1787.2 .W551993 GLOBAL
Panama’s administrative laws and procedures include information about citizenship, nationality, structure of government and the political system, public security, communication, copyright, etc. Samples of the Law Library’s materials pertaining to Panama’s administrative codes and procedures are:


______________. *Estudios de derecho público: derecho constitucional, derecho administrativo y derecho procesal administrativo (incluye citas y comentarios a la jurisprudencia consultada del pleno y la sala tercera de la Corte Suprema)*. [Panamá]: Editorial Cultural Portobelo, 2006. LC CALL NUMBER: KGH2900 .S54 2006 GLOBAL
Panama’s civil procedure includes information about notaries, land planning, regional property planning, administration of justice, domestic and international arbitration, bankruptcy, habeas corpus, evidence, execution and attachment, family, inheritance and succession, and judgments. Samples of the Law Library’s materials pertaining to Panama’s civil procedure are:


Panama’s original penal code was a copy of the Honduran penal code of 1907, but was replaced in 1922 by an Italian model. Panama’s penal code includes information about crimes against public security, public order, public trust, property, and people. Samples of the Law Library’s materials pertaining to Panama’s penal codes are:


Panama’s code of criminal procedure includes information about the enforcement of the criminal code. A sampling of the Law Library’s materials pertaining to Panama’s code of criminal procedure includes:


Samples of the Law Library’s materials pertaining to environmental laws are:


Samples of the Law Library’s materials pertaining to Panama’s agricultural laws are:


A sample of the Law Library’s materials pertaining to Panama’s petroleum law and legislation is:


Samples of the Law Library’s materials pertaining to Panama’s education laws are:


Samples of the Law Library’s materials pertaining to Panama’s anti-discrimination laws are:


The Manuscript Division was created in 1897 when the Library of Congress moved from the U.S. Capitol to its own building nearby. The collection consisted of twenty-five thousand manuscripts which the Library had accumulated in the 19th century. In 1903, by an act of Congress and an executive order, the State Department began transferring historical papers, including several presidential collections.

Without a doubt, some of the most important holdings in the Manuscript Division are the twenty-three groups of presidential papers, from George Washington to Calvin Coolidge. The Division’s holdings also include the papers of important government officials, from the 18th century to the present, as well as the papers of prominent historical figures and officials. Other holdings include a number of manuscript collections formed by individuals or institutions, such as, the Edward S. Harkness Collection of Mexican and Peruvian manuscripts, the Hans P. Kraus Spanish-American Documents Collection, etc.

An important collection is composed of copies of documents from foreign repositories. Since 1905 the Library has secured transcriptions, photocopies, or microfilm of manuscripts from foreign archives relating to American history from England, France, Germany, and Spain. There are approximately four million manuscripts in these formats in the Division’s holdings.

The Division’s reading room is open 8:30am – 5:00pm, Monday through Saturday (except federal holidays). The Manuscript Reading Room is located on the first floor of the James Madison Building, room LM101. The webpage includes an Ask A Librarian link where readers can contact the center with their questions or can visit the center in person.

Contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting as many collections are stored off site and advance notice, usually one to two business days, is needed to retrieve them.

When citing manuscripts include: container # or reel number, title of the collection, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**Carl Harms papers, 1940-1946, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.**

Seven items; 1 container. Collection includes a daily journal kept by Harms, who was a cartographer and cook on an expedition to the Galapagos Islands sponsored by the U.S. Navy and Pacific Development Company to select a site for a military base. Also includes a journal, photographs, a scrapbook, newsletters for the Chaumont, and a guidebook and map of Panama and the Panama Canal. Materials in English. Finding aid available: [http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009211](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009211)

**Charles Maass papers, 1912-1924, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.**

Eighteen items; 1 container. Maass was an assistant to the United States Special Panama Canal Commission. Collection includes a journal (documenting Maass’ tour of Panama, Puerto Rico, Costa Rica, and Cuba), writings,
Correspondence of M. Murillo, President of the United States of Colombia, and M. Samper, Minister of Foreign Affairs with M. Bourcier, formerly French Consul at Quito, respecting the Panama Canal, 1862-1864.

George W. Goethals papers, circa 1890-1929, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Fifteen thousand items; 50 containers; 1 oversize item; 1 microfilm reel. Goethals was chief engineer (1907-1914) during the construction period, Governor of the Canal Zone (1914-1917), United States army officer, and engineer. Collection includes diaries (1918-1919), correspondence (1890-1929), reports, memoranda, photos, clippings, and scrapbooks relating chiefly to construction of the Panama Canal, Goethal's term as Governor of the Canal Zone and his other public service positions.

James Houston Henderson papers, 1913-1920, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Twenty-three items; 1 container. Henderson was a surveyor and civil engineer. Collection includes correspondence, employment records, biographical notes, and photographs relating to Henderson's work as chief surveyor of the Panama Canal and as civil engineer for the Panama Railroad. Finding aid available: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009186

Fifty thousand items; 171 containers; 2 oversize items. Barrett was a journalist and diplomat. Collection includes family and general correspondence, diaries, journals, notebooks, subject files, speeches and writings, financial papers, reports, biographical materials, scrapbooks, clippings, and other papers relating principally to Barrett's career as a journalist in California, Washington, and Oregon, his appointments as United States minister to Argentina, Colombia, Panama, and Thailand...his duties as special advisor to Admiral George Dewey during the Venezuelan boundary dispute, the Panama Canal, and the general area of relations between the United States and Latin America. Finding aid and card index to correspondents available in the Manuscript Reading Room.

John Bigelow papers, 1866-1936, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Twenty-five thousand items; 76 containers; 1 oversize item. Bigelow was an army professor, author, and professor. Collection includes correspondence, manuscripts of articles, lecture notes, bibliographical material, photographs, photostats and blueprints of maps, clippings and pamphlets relating to the early history of Latin America with an emphasis on isthmian transit routes. The bulk of the collection pertains to canals, the Panama and the Suez Canals, in particular. Includes an extract from the diary of Bigelow's father, John Bigelow relating to Panama (1886-1911). Finding aid available in the Manuscript Reading Room.

Eighty items; 1 container. Stevens was a civil engineer, railroad official, and chief engineer of the Panama Canal from 1905 to 1907. Collection includes correspondence, clippings, reprints and biographical papers. The papers include
material concerning the building of the Great Northern Railway (1889-1903); the planning, organizing and equipping
for construction of the Panama Canal, etc. Correspondents include: William C. Gorgas, John W. Weeks, Paul
Miliukov, Charles Evans Hughes, and Ralph Budd.

Four hundred items; 3 containers; 1 oversize item. Colbert was a pathologist and physician. Collection includes
correspondence, diaries, speeches, lectures, articles, research materials, artwork, and other papers pertaining to
Colbert’s experiences researching tropical diseases primarily in Panama and Puerto Rico in the early 1900s.
Materials in English. Finding aid available in the Manuscript Reading Room and at:
http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms008076

Nine hundred items; 3 containers. Collection includes personal correspondence relating to life in the Canal Zone and
operations of the canal; printed material about Central American, Panama, the Panama Railroad Company, and the
canal. Finding aid available in the Manuscript Reading Room.

One hundred and twenty-eight items; 1 container. Beardslee was a naval officer. Collection includes an 1885 letter
from James E. Jouett relating to the restoration of order in Panama. Materials in English.

Nathan Appleton papers, 1843-1906, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Four hundred items; 4 containers. Appleton was an army officer and merchant. Collection includes correspondence,
notes, autobiography, speeches and writings, clippings, printed matter, and miscellany relating primarily to Appleton’s
connection with Ferdinand de Lesseps and to his work as American agent (1881-1888) for the Compagnie
Universelle du Canal Interocéanique de Panama, a French company attempting to build a canal across Panama. See
finding aid for list of correspondents. Finding aid available at Manuscript Reading Room.

Panama Collection of the Canal Zone Library-Museum, 1804-1977, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress,
Washington, D.C.
Twelve thousand seven hundred items; 38 containers; 18 oversize items; 8 microfilm reels. Includes correspondence,
diaries, memoirs, financial and legal papers, technical drawings of canal plans, photo prints, and other papers
collected by the library-museum concerning the planning and construction of the Panama Canal, as well as business
and cultural aspects of the Canal Zone. Materials in English, French, and Spanish. Finding aid available:
http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms006036

Philander C. Knox papers, 1893-1922, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Eight thousand four hundred and fifty items; 75 containers. Knox was a lawyer and public official. Collection includes
correspondence, scrapbooks, memoranda, clippings, cartoons, printed matter, speeches, articles, bills and
resolutions, drafts, biographical sketches, legal papers, notebooks, reports, and library catalog. Most detailed for the
years that Knox served as U.S. Attorney General under McKinley and Theodore Roosevelt, U.S. Secretary of State
under Taft, and U.S. Senator from Pennsylvania. Topics include the founding of the Department of Commerce and
Labor, railroad rate legislation, the Panama Canal and Panama toll revision, Latin American affairs, etc. See finding aid for list of correspondents. Finding aid available in the Manuscript Reading Room.

Ten thousand items; 41 cartons. Bunau-Varilla was a French engineer and prominent figure in the construction of the Panama Canal. Collection includes correspondence, typescripts of speeches, articles, books, legal papers, and newspaper clippings concerning Bunau-Varilla’s activities in the United States (1900-1907), his efforts to gain support for completion of the Panama Canal, his role in the Panamanian revolution, and as minister for the new government. Also includes documents selected and annotated by Bunau-Varilla, relating to the revolution and the Hay-Bunau-Varilla treaty, and the note sent to all members of the United States Congress in June 1902. Materials in French. See finding aid for list of correspondents. Finding aid available in the Manuscript Reading Room.

One item. Volume of documentation on the activities of the committee with regard to canal treaties with Panama.

One hundred and ninety-four thousand items; 638 containers; 16 oversize items; 3 classified items. Linowitz was a lawyer, businessman, diplomat, and consultant to United States presidents. Collection includes diaries, correspondence, speeches and writings, interviews, an oral history, organizational records, reports, photographs, printed matter, clippings, and travel files documenting Linowitz’s career as an attorney, executive for Xerox Corporation, ambassador to the Organization of American States, co-negotiator of Panama Canal treaties, and presidential representative to Middle East peace negotiations. Materials in English. See finding aid for list of correspondents. Finding aid available: [http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms008125](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms008125)

Two hundred and seventy-six thousand items; 964 containers; 7 oversize items; 485 microfilm reels. Roosevelt was the 26th President of the United States, Vice President, U.S. Civil Service Commissioner, Governor of New York, author, conservationist, and the force behind the construction and completion of the Panama Canal in 1914. Collection includes correspondence, diaries, speeches, articles, executive orders, family papers, press releases and proclamations, scrapbooks, and other material relating to the political, social, and cultural history of Roosevelt’s life and presidency. See finding aid for list of correspondents. Finding aid available in the Manuscript Reading Room and at: [http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009253](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009253).
One thousand nine hundred items; 8 containers. Selfridge was a naval officer and explorer. Collection includes correspondence, journals, logbooks, notebooks, scrapbooks, and miscellaneous papers relating primarily to the Darien expedition (1869-1874) headed by Selfridge whom surveyed the Isthmus of Darien as a site for an interoceanic canal. See finding aid for list of correspondents. Finding aid available (register published by the Library of Congress, 1969).

Twelve thousand items; 39 containers. Collection includes correspondence, reports, addresses, articles, financial and miscellaneous records, medical papers, charts, clippings, photos, and printed material dealing primarily with the fight against yellow fever in Cuba and Panama. He was the chief sanitation officer in the Canal Zone during the period of construction of the Panama Canal. Correspondents include Henry Rose Carter, William M. Doughty, Carlos J. Finlay, and William Keen. Finding aid available in the Manuscript Reading Room.

Fifty items; 2 folders. Collection includes correspondence, orders, and reports pertaining to a United States military force stationed in Panama to monitor the border between Colombia and Panama. Materials in English.

Six hundred and seventy-six thousand items; 1,562 containers; 8 oversize items; 658 microfilm reels. Taft was the 27th President of the United States and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. He also oversaw the beginning of construction on the Panama Canal in 1907. Collection includes correspondence including letterpress books, speeches and addresses, presidential and judicial files, legal files and notebooks, family papers and letters, business and estate papers, engagement calendars, guest lists, scrapbooks, clippings, printed matter, memorabilia, and photographs documenting Taft’s career. May look to correspondence for information on Panama. Materials in English. See finding aid for list of correspondents. Finding aid available at: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009245.

Two hundred seventy-eight thousand items; 1,160 containers; 35 oversize; 542 microfilm reels. Wilson was a lawyer, author, educator, president of Princeton University, governor of New Jersey, and the 28th President of the United States. The Panama Canal was completed in 1914 during his presidency. Collection includes personal, family, and official correspondence, drafts, and proofs of books, articles, speeches, academic lectures, scrapbooks, shorthand notes, and memorabilia relating to Wilson’s presidency. May look to correspondence for information on Panama. Materials in English. See finding aid for list of correspondents. Finding aid available: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009194.

5 | Newspaper and Current Periodical Reading Room
(Serial and Government Publications Division)
(www.loc.gov/rr/news/)

The Newspaper and Current Periodicals Reading Room of the Library of Congress retains one of the most extensive selections of foreign and domestic newspapers, current periodicals, and government publications in the world. The reading room is open 8:30am-9:30pm, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and 8:30am-5:00pm, Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday (except federal holidays). The Newspaper and Current Periodicals Reading Room is located on the first floor of the James Madison Building, room LM133. The webpage includes an Ask A Librarian link, as well as a Live Chat with a Librarian feature where readers can contact the reading room with their questions or can visit the center in person.

The following are several helpful reference books that can be found in the reference section of the Newspaper and Current Periodicals Reading Room, which may aid in the research of Panama events in newspapers and periodicals:

LC CALL NUMBER: Z6947 .L36

Fletcher, William I. Fletcher. Mary Poole. *Poole’s Index to Periodical Literature*. LC CALL NUMBER: AI3 .P7

Listed below are useful e-resources that may come in handy when researching topics pertaining to Panama in newspapers and periodicals. The following may only be accessed at the Library of Congress. For the full list of resources visit:


**America's Historical Newspapers, 1690-1922** is a database that contains full text reproductions of hundreds of historic newspapers from across the United States, and will be a fundamental tool for researching Panama events from a U.S. perspective.

**Financial Times Historical Archive, 1888-2006 by GALE** provides a historical archive of the Financial Times, a daily business newspaper that discusses global financial and economic issues.

**HarpWeek**, is an archive for Harper's Weekly from 1857-1912. Topics on Panama include the Panama Railroad, and the construction of the Panama Canal in the early 20th century. This database can be found at: http://eresources.loc.gov/search~S9/m?SEARCH=Historical+News, and is only accessible at the Library of Congress.

**Illustrated London News, 1842-2003 by GALE** is an archive of the Illustrated London News, the world’s first illustrated newspaper. The archive has a searchable text feature and provides full color illustrations. May be particularly useful when researching the Port of Panama, the Panama Railroad, and the Panama Canal.

**JSTOR** is a collection of full-text word-searchable academic journals that date back to the 17th century. Users can search for topics on Panama by performing a keyword search or by browsing disciplines such as anthropology, business, economics, finance, law, political science, etc.

**Library PressDisplay** provides online access to today’s newspapers from around the world in full-color and full-page format. Panama titles include *La Prensa* and *Mi Diario*.

**ProQuest Historical Newspapers** is a database that provides full text reproductions of every issue of more than a dozen historical U.S. and British newspapers, as well as hundreds of American periodicals. This is the go-to database for news about Panama- written outside of Panama.

**Times of London, 1785-1985 by GALE** is a searchable database of the Times of London. Entries pertaining to Panama begin in the 1790s with Spanish settlements in America, and later discuss the Panama Railroad, Panama Canal, Canal treaties, etc.

The Newspaper and Current Periodicals Room has also compiled an extensive list of valuable internet resources accessible outside of the Library of Congress. For a full list of the resources visit:
http://www.loc.gov/rr/news/othint.html. Two examples are listed below:

**Alcove 9**, compiled by the Humanities and Social Sciences Division of the Library of Congress, provides a list of reference websites for more than 25 subjects.

**Virtual Reference Desk**, compiled by the Library of Congress, provides selected online resources to aid researchers in about 30 subjects.

The following is a list of newspapers from Panama on microfilm in the Newspaper and Current Periodicals Reading Room:

- **The Canal** (Panama City, Panama), tw, MF#: 557
  - **Content**: Apr. 5-June 28, 1881; missing Apr. 2
  - **Note**: In English, Spanish, and French. Continued as *Panama Canal* (triweekly) June 30, 1881.

- **The Canal** (Panama City, Panama), w, MF#: 557
  - **Content**: June 1-22, 1881
  - **Note**: In English, Spanish, and French. Continued as *Panama Canal* (weekly) June 29, 1881.

- **El Centinela** (Panama City, Panama), sw, MF#: 563
  - **Content**: July 12, 1857-Dec. 26, 1858

- **The Colon Starlet** (Colon, Panama), MF #: 559

- **The Colon Telegram** (Colon, Panama), tw, MF#: 580
  - **Content**: Jan.-Dec.1902; Feb. 1904- Dec. 1907; May 26 1908-Dec. 1910; January, May 6-Dec. 1911
  - **Note**: Suspended with Jan. 31, 1911 issue; resumed with May 6, 1911 issue.

- **El Cronista** (Panama City, Panama), tw, MF#: 580
  - **Content**: Jan. 11, 1904-Oct. 20, 1908
  - **Note**: In Spanish and English, beginning Feb. 8, 1908.

- **The Daily Panama Star** (Panama City, Panama), d, MF#: 571
  - **Content**: Jan. 31-June 30, 1853. Missing May 10, 12, 28, 31; July 1-Apr. 30, 1853-1854
Panamá, introduced Feb. 2, 1853. Merged with The Panama Herald (tw) to form The Daily Panama Star and Herald May 2, 1854.

The Daily Panama Star & Herald (Panama City, Panama), d, MF#: 573
Content: Dec. 15-31, 1874; Jan. 1, 1875-May 6, 1885 (incomplete); July 1, 1885-Mar. 27, 1886 (incomplete); May 28-31, 1886; June 1, 1886-Feb. 23, 1901 (incomplete)

The Daily Panama Star and Herald (Panama City, Panama), d, MF#: 580
Content: May 2-Oct. 1, 1854
Note: Formed by the merger of The Daily Panama Star and The Panama Herald (tw) May 2, 1854. Continued as The Panama Star and Herald (tw) and later, The Panama Star & Herald Oct. 3, 1854.

Diario de Panama/Panama Journal (Panama City, Panama), d (except sun.), MF#: 2562
Content: April 14, 1905-Aug. 31, 1911; Oct. 2, 1911-June 29, 1912; Jan. 1, 1913-Sept. 9, 1914; Oct. 1, 1921-Oct. 11, 1933
Note: In Spanish and English.

El Diario Nacional (Panama City, Panama), d, MF#: 563
Content: June 16, 1920-Aug. 11, 1921

La Estrella de Panamá (Panama City, Panama), w, MF#: 562
Note: Suppressed Apr. 3-May 29, 1886 (El Telegrama-weekly was published Apr. 3-May 29, 1886); resumed publication June 5, 1886.

La Estrella de Panamá (Panama City, Panama), steamer editions, MF#: 563
Content: Oct. 15, 1858-Dec. 25, 1865; Jan. 10, 1868-Dec. 31, 1875

The Evening Telegram (Panama City, Panama), d, MF#: 573
Content: Mar. 29-May 28, 1886; missing Mar. 29 (p.1.2)
Note: Established Mar. 29, 1886 because Daily Panama Star & Herald was suppressed Mar. 27, 1886. Discontinued publication May 28, 1886 when Daily Panama Star & Herald resumed publication May 28, 1886. In English, Spanish and French.

Los Hechos (Panama City, Panama), d (except sun.), MF#: 563
Content: June 7-July 13, 1912
Note: In Spanish and English.

The Independent (Colon, Panama), tw, MF#: 582

Content: July 22-Dec.23, 1904; July 19-Dec. 29, 1905; Jan.1-Nov. 16, 1906; July 8-Mar. 18, 1910; Aug. 20, 1913-June 19, 1914

Note: In English and Spanish.

Matutino (Panama City, Panama), d (except sun.), MF#: 2061


Note: Has occasional supplements.

The Mercantile Chronicle (Panama City, Panama), tw, MF#: 563

Content: Jan. 2, 1865 (v.2, no. 73)-Mar. 20, 1866

Note: In English and Spanish. Continued as The Panama Mercantile Chronicle April 1, 1866.

El Mundo (Panama City, Panama), d (except sun.), MF#: 2231

Content: Sept. 29, 1965-Dec. 31, 1967

The Nation (Panama City, Panama), d, MF#: 2523


Note: Reels for Jan.-June 1956 are filmed separately in English and Spanish.

El Observador (Panama City, Panama), sw, MF#: 580

Content: Mar. 26, 1890-Mar. 16, 1892

El Panamá América (Panama City, Panama), d, MF#: 3913


Note: In Spanish; also issued in English - The Panama American.

The Panama American (Panama City, Panama), d, MF#: 2469


Note: El Panamá América is under separate entry.

Panama Canal (Panama City, Panama), tw, MF#: 557

Content: June 30-Dec. 31, 1881; missing Nov. 5

Note: Continuation of The Canal (tw), beginning June 30, 1881. In English, Spanish, and French.

Panama Canal (Panama City, Panama), w, MF#: 557
Content: June 29-Dec. 28, 1881

Note: Continuation of *The Canal* (weekly) beginning June 29, 1881. In English, Spanish, and French.

*The Panama Herald* (Panama City, Panama), w, sw, tw, MF#: 569

Content: Apr. 14-Nov. 24, 1851; Dec. 1, 1851-Apr. 27, 1854; missing May 4, 8-17, 1852

Note: Periodicity varies-Apr. 14-July 3, 1851, weekly; July 7, 1851-May 20, 1853, semi-weekly, but irregular; May 24, 1853-, tri-weekly. Merged with *The Daily Panama Star* to form *The Daily Panama Star and Herald* May 2, 1854. In English.

*Panama Mercantile Chronicle* (Panama City, Panama), tw, MF#: 563


*Panama Morning Journal* (Panama City, Panama), d, MF# 2525

Content: Oct. 3, 1911-Aug. 31, 1915; Jan. 1, 1917-June 30, 1918; Nov. 7, 1918

*The Panama Star* (Panama City, Panama), w, sw, tw, MF#: 572

Content: Feb. 24-Mar. 3, 17, Aug. 4, 18, 25-27, Nov. 10 1849; Sept. 13, 1850-Dec. 23, 1851; missing Nov. 21-22, 1850; May 14-June 2, 1851

Note: Not published Dec. 6-15, 1850; reorganized Dec. 16, 1850; steamer editions Apr. 30, 1851.

Content: Feb., Apr. 17-20, June 17, 26, Nov. 2-27, Dec. 4-30 1852

Note: Issues of Nov. 2-13, 20-27, Dec. 14, 16, 25, 28 are single sheets with caption title only.

Content: Jan. 1-29, 1853; missing Jan. 13

Note: Continued as *The Daily Star* (later, *The Daily Panama Star*) Jan. 31, 1853


*The Panama Star & Herald* (Panama City, Panama), tw, MF#: 574


*The Panama Star & Herald* (Panama City, Panama), steamer editions, MF#: 576

Content: Jan. 3, 1856-Feb. 28, 1857; Mar. 2, 1857-Dec. 25, 1870; Jan. 1, 1871-Dec. 1, 1876; July 6-Oct. 21, 1877

Note: Beginning May 17, 1878, *The Weekly Panama Star & Herald*, which previously had been circulated in South and Central America only, was dispatched to all destinations, thus replacing the steamer editions.

*Panama Star & Herald* (Panama City, Panama), w, MF#: 575
Reference Guide to Panama Materials at the Library of Congress


_The Panama Star and Herald_ (Panama City, Panama), d, MF#: 577

Note: Title varies; _Star Herald_. Jan. 1960-Dec. 1964 are on two supplemental reels.

_The Panama Star and Herald/ La Estrella de Panamá_ (Panama City, Panama), d, MF#: 577
Content: May 16, 1901-July 31, 1914; Aug. 1, 1938-Dec. 31, 1974

Note: Title variation - _Star Herald_. Jan. 1960-Dec. 1963 is on two supplemental reels.

_The Panama Times_ (Panama City, Panama), w, MF#: 581
Content: March 21, 1925-Jan. 1, 1928

_The Panama Tribune_ (Panama City, Panama), w, MF#: 1885

_Panama Weekly News_ (Panama City, Panama), w, MF#: 580
Content: July 11, 1917-Oct. 26, 1918

_Star & Herald_ (Panama City, Panama), d, MF# 577
Content: Feb. 24-May 15, 1901; May 16, 1901-Dec. 31, 1914

Note: Continuation of _The Daily Panama Star & Herald_ beginning Feb. 24, 1901.

_La Prensa_ (Panama City, Panama), d (except sun.), MF#: 2973

Special editions of Panama newspapers, MF#: 560

Content:
_La Estrella de Panamá_ (Panama City, Panama), Aug. 15, 1939. Spanish language version of the newspaper listed above.
La Estrella de Panamá (Panama City, Panama), Nov. 3, 1953. Commemorates 50 years of Panama's independence.


El Panamá América (Panama City, Panama), Nov. 2, 1953. Commemorates 50 years of Panama's independence.

The Panama American (Panama City, Panama), Aug. 15, 1939. Commemorates the 25th anniversary of the official opening of traffic through the Panama Canal.

Panama Star (Panama City, Panama), Feb. 24, 1949. Commemorates 100 years of Panama Star.

Star & Herald (Panama City, Panama), Feb. 1, 1953. Commemorates 100 years of Star & Herald.

Star & Herald (Panama City, Panama), Aug. 15, 1939. Silver jubilee special edition on the 25th anniversary of the official opening of traffic through the Panama Canal.

Star & Herald (Panama City, Panama), afternoon edition, MF#: 575
Content: Sept. 14-Nov. 23, 1914

Star & Herald (Panama City, Panama), afternoon edition, MF#: 2405
Content: Aug. 1916-Apr. 1918

The Sun/El Sol (Panama City, Panama), tw, MF#: 582
Content: Dec. 17, 1874-Apr. 27, 1875
Note: Also issued in English.

La República (Panama City, Panama), d, MF#: 2480
Note: In Spanish and English.

El Telegrama (Panama City, Panama), w, MF# 562
Content: Apr. 3-May 29, 1886
Note: Established Apr. 3, 1886 because La Estrella de Panamá (weekly editions) was suppressed Mar. 27, 1886. Discontinued publication May 29, 1886. La Estrella de Panamá (weekly edition) resumed publication June 5, 1886.

La Tribuna (Panama City, Panama), d, w, MF#: 580
Content: Oct. 28, 1931-June 4, 1932, March 28-Oct. 28, 1933
Note: July 15, 1945-Dec. 9, 1961 (supplemental reel).

*United States-Panamanian Crisis* (Panama City, Panama), MF#: 563
Content: Jan. 11-22, 1965

*The Weekly Panama Star* (Panama City, Panama), w, MF#: 580
Content: Mar. 14, 1853-Jan. 30, 1854; Feb.6-May 1, 1854; May 8, 1854-Apr.30, 1855 (missing: Nov. 13, 1854, Mar. 19, 1855)

*The Workman* (Panama City, Panama), w, MF#: 3909
Content: Apr. 12, 1919-Dec. 24, 1930

In addition, the Newspaper and Current Periodical Reading Room currently receives the following newspapers from Panama:

*La Estrella de Panamá*, MF#: 0561 (major gaps-see staff for more information)

*La Prensa*, MF#: 2973 (major gaps-see staff for more information)

*La República*, MF#: 2973 (major gaps-see staff for more information)

The following databases in bold provide access to an extensive array of newspapers published outside of Panama, reporting on events in Panama:

**Chronicling America** is a free and searchable website that contains about three million digitized newspapers (and expanding!) from across the United States, covering the time period from 1860-1922. The website also lets you search information about hundreds of newspapers published in the United States from 1690 to the present. Chronicling America will be an invaluable resource when searching for news about Panama in the United States. The website is sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Library of Congress, as part of the National Digital Newspaper Program (NDNP). The website can be accessed outside of the Library of Congress at: [http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov](http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov).

When researching Panama in **Chronicling America**, one of the first stops should be the “Topics in Chronicling America” webpage. There you can find a variety of topics featured prominently in the American press at the time. Two of those topics include the Panama Canal (1889-1914) at: [http://loc.gov/rr/news/topics/panama.html](http://loc.gov/rr/news/topics/panama.html) and Roosevelt (1901-1912) at: [http://loc.gov/rr/news/topics/Roosevelt.html](http://loc.gov/rr/news/topics/Roosevelt.html). Each topics page provides a list of important dates relating to the topic, suggested search strategies for navigating Chronicling America, and sample articles from the Chronicling America database.
Listed below is a selection of newspapers from across the United States with articles pertaining to Panama (primarily Panama’s Independence from Colombia, as well as the construction and completion of the Panama Canal) found in the Chronicling America database:

*Bisbee Daily Review* (Bisbee, AZ), 1901-1971

*Coconino Sun* (Flagstaff, AZ), 1898-1978

*The Evening World* (New York, NY), 1887-1931

*Hawaiian Gazette* (Honolulu, HI), 1865-1918

*Houston Daily Post* (Houston, TX), 1886-1903

*Los Angeles Herald* (Los Angeles, CA), 1900-1911

*New York Tribune* (New York, NY), 1866-1924

*Saint Paul Globe* (St. Paul, MN), 1896-1905

*San Francisco Call* (San Francisco, CA), 1895-1913

*St. Louis Republic* (St. Louis, MO), 1888-1919

*The Washington Herald* (Washington, DC), 1906-1939

*Valentine Democrat* (Valentine, NE), 1900-1930

*Winchester News* (Winchester, KY), 1908-19??

Another important resource for researching news articles written outside of Panama is America's Historical Newspapers, 1690-1922. It is a database that contains full text reproductions of hundreds of historic newspapers from across the United States. The database can be searched during U.S. presidential eras (for example, T. Roosevelt), eras in American history, or a custom date range. The database can be accessed at the Library of Congress at: [http://eresources.loc.gov/search~S9/m?SEARCH=Newspaper+and+Current+Periodical](http://eresources.loc.gov/search~S9/m?SEARCH=Newspaper+and+Current+Periodical).

Like Chronicling America and America's Historical Newspapers, 1690-1922, ProQuest's Historical Newspapers and Periodicals is a database that provides full text reproductions of every issue, in its entirety, of more than a dozen historical U.S. and British newspapers, as well as hundreds of American periodicals including: American Periodicals Series, Atlanta Daily World, Baltimore Sun, Boston Globe, Chicago Tribune, Christian Science Monitor, Hartford Courant, Los Angeles Times, New York Times, Philadelphia Tribune, San Francisco Chronicle, Washington Post, etc.
The database can only be accessed at the Library of Congress at:


The following are several self-serve newspapers on microfilm in the Newspaper and Current Periodicals Reading Room with news articles on Panama:

If you want to view the following newspapers on microfilm and don’t know the dates of the articles, use the ProQuest Historical News and Periodicals or Gale’s Times Digital Archive (see below) databases to browse articles and find dates.

Baltimore Sun (May 17, 1837- )

Boston Globe (March 4, 1872- )

Chicago Tribune (April 23, 1849- )

London Times (January 1785- ) *use the Times Digital Archive, 1785-1985

London Sunday Times (November 3, 1822- ) *use the Times Digital Archive, 1785-1985

New York Times (September 1851- ), (2nd Set, available by request, control #2098, January 1975- )

San Francisco Chronicle (January 16, 1865- )

Wall Street Journal (July 1901- ), (2nd Set, available by request, control #3066, January 1965- )

Washington Post (December 6, 1877- ), (2nd Set, available by request, control #2099, January 1969- )

Two major newspapers to consider searching when first starting out at the reading room are the London Times/London Sunday Times and the New York Times. You can search the London Times/London Sunday Times in the Times Digital Archive, 1785-1985, and the New York Times in the ProQuest Historical Newspapers and Periodicals database. Both of these databases can be accessed at the Library of Congress at:

http://eresources.loc.gov/search~S9/m?SEARCH=Newspaper+and+Current+Periodical. In addition, reference librarians suggest using the print indexes of both papers located in the reference section of the reading room to ensure a comprehensive search.

The following are several examples of articles found in the New York Times print index and online database separated into three categories: independence in 1903, the beginning of construction of the Panama Canal in 1904, and the completion of the Panama Canal in 1914.
Independence, 1903:

“DIGGING THE PANAMA CANAL; United States Now Carrying on the Work – Chinese and Japanese Labor May Be Employed.” (Apr. 8, 1903)

“TREATY FOR CANAL MADE WITH PANAMA; Sovereignty Over Territory for United States. THE CONVENTION SIGNED Gives This Country Supervision over Panama and Colon Government – Panama Commission May Ratify It.” (Nov. 19, 1903)

Construction of the Panama Canal, 1904:

“UNITED STATES NOW OWNS PANAMA CANAL; Contract Finally Signed and Delivered in Paris. AN UNINCUMBERED TITLE Transfer Will Be Ratified at the Meeting of the Company’s Stockholders To-day.” (Apr. 23, 1904)

“PANAMA NOT COERCED; Bunau-Varilla Says She Consented to American Control.” (Sept. 13, 1904)

Completion of the Panama Canal, 1914:

“THE PANAMA CANAL OFFICIALY OPENED; Government Steamship Ancon, with Col. Goethals Aboard, Traverses the Route. SHE MAKES A RECORD TRIP Nine Hours from Ocean to Ocean; Many Local Dignitaries Guests of the Government.” (Aug. 16, 1914)

“CANAL AS AN AID TO WAR; Rights of Foreign Naval Ships to Use Panama Route.” (July 31, 1914)

The following are several examples of articles found in the London Times also separated into the same categories:

Independence, 1903:

“The Revolution in Colombia; Republic of Panama Constituted.” (Nov. 7, 1903)

“French Opinion on the Panama Revolution.” (Nov. 10, 1903)

Construction of the Panama Canal, 1904:

“Through the Panama Canal.” (May, 24, 1904)

“Mr. Roosevelt and Panama.” (Oct. 22, 1904)

Completion of the Panama Canal, 1914:

“Panama Canal Open This Year., President Wilson's Statement; Arbitration Treaties in the Senate.” (Feb. 20, 1914)

“Hygiene of the Tropics., Surgeon-General Gorgas's Panama Work., Debt to British Science.” (Mar. 18, 1914)
An exciting feature of the Newspaper and Current Periodicals Reading Room is the Comic Book Collection. For more than 60 years, the Library of Congress has been collecting comic books through copyright deposit. The current collection has about 6,000 titles, 100,000 pieces, and is still growing! Titles range from the late 1930s; however, the collection is most extensive from the 1950s to the present. For a full list of comic books available on microfiche in the Newspaper and Current Periodical Reading Room visit: http://www.loc.gov/rr/news/coll/comicfiche.html. To view the comic book microfiche, you will have to complete a comic book request form, providing the title issue number. Listed below are titles relating to Panama arranged by story name, title, publisher, issue number, and issue date:

“Biff Bannon of the US Marines—Now in Panama.” *Speed Comics* (Harvey) #4 (January 1940)

“Cliff Cornwall Special Agent—The Panama Canal Scheme.” *Flash Comics* (DC Comics) #2 (February 1940)

“Clip Carson—The Panama Canal.” *Action Comics* (DC Comics) #35 (April 1941)

“Detective Sergeant Carey—The Panama Plot.” *More Fun Comics* (DC Comics) #63 (January 1941)

“Dynamo—Attack on the Panama Canal.” *Science Comics* (Fox) #5 (June 1940)

“F-4 of the Air Intelligence—Landing in Panama, F-4 finds the field in…” *Wings Comics* (Fiction House) #12 (August 1941)

“Invisible Justice—Death at the Panama Canal.” *Smash Comics* (Quality Comics) #12 (July 1940)

“Lance O’Casey—Saves the Panama Canal.” *Whiz Comics* (Fawcett) #41 (April 1943)

“Lando Man of Magic—The Panama Canal Mystery.” *World’s Finest Comics* (DC Comics) #3 (Autumn 1941)

“The Lone Eagle in Panama.” *Thrilling Comics* (Standard) #7 (August 1940)

“Minute Man the One Man Army—Saving the Panama Canal.” (Fawcett) #2 (Winter 1941-1942)

“Spark Stevens of the Navy—Counterfeitors in Panama.” *Wonderworld Comics* (Fox) #23 (March 1941)

“Spy—Next—Stop—Panama!” *Detective Comics* (DC Comics) #59 (January 1942)

“Spy—Protecting the Panama Canal.” *Detective Comics* (DC Comics) #54 (August 1941)

“The Star Spangled Kid—Peril in Panama.” *Leading Comics* (DC Comics) #1 (Winter 1941-1942)

“Wings Over Panama part 1” *All-American Comics* (DC Comics) #20 (November 1940)
“Wings Over Panama part 2.” *All-American Comics (DC Comics)* #21 (December 1940)

“Wings Wendell-The Plot Against the Panama Canal.” *Smash Comics (Quality Comics)* #3 (October 1939)

This list of comic book titles relating to Panama was compiled by cross-referencing the Grand Comic Database with the titles available at the Newspaper and Current Periodical Reading Room. The Grand Comic Database is a helpful website for searching comic book titles, and can be found at: http://www.comics.org.

The Library of Congress acts as a depository library for the United Nations, retaining many printed UN publications. Many of the documents can be accessed through subscription databases (accessible only on-site) and other online resources. The Newspaper and Current Periodical Reading Room has compiled a list of these resources that can be found on the “Guide to United Nations Research Online” webpage at: http://www.loc.gov/rr/news/unGuideM.html. If you wish to view a document, search the databases for the document you wish to request, note the document number, and fill out a request form in the reading room.

6 | Prints and Photographs Division (www.loc.gov/rr/print/)

The Prints and Photographs Division has an extensive collection of images including photographs, fine prints, drawings, posters, architectural and engineering drawings, etc. that number more than 14 million, and growing. The collections are particularly extensive in materials pertaining to the United States, and interests of American people; however, the reading room has acquired a vast array of materials from across the globe, including Panama.

The Prints and Photographs Reading Room is located on the third floor of the James Madison Building, room LM337. The webpage includes an Ask A Librarian link where readers can contact the reading room with their questions. The reading room is open Monday through Friday 8:30am – 5:00pm, except federal holidays. Items are pulled until 4:00pm, Monday through Friday.

General orientation tours of services and collections available are also offered in the reading room every other month, October-April, and every month, June-August on the first Thursday of the designated month, from 10:30am-11:30am. Library of Congress registration cards are required to attend the tour.

The following is a list of catalogs, indexes, and finding aids that will help guide the search of Panama materials in the Prints and Photographs Reading Room:

The **Divisional Catalog** is the primary catalog for images cataloged as LOTs, or groups. The catalog is divided by subject and geographic region. To view a LOT, fill out a call slip. No new records are being added to the catalog; all new records are inputted in the “Prints and Photographs Online Catalog.”
The **Subject/Geographical Indexes** are indexes to subject and geographical items in the Prints and Photographs Division. No new records are being added to the catalog; all new records are inputted in the “Prints and Photographs Online Catalog.”

The **New York World-Telegram and Sun Finding Aid & Notebooks** consists of a multi-volume finding aid used to request images from the New York World Telegram and Sun photograph morgue. The aid is divided into two parts: biographical and subject/geographical. Images date from the 1890s to 1967, with the majority of photographs from the 1920s to 1967. The collection is stored off-site and requires five working days to retrieve materials. Search suggestions in the biographical aid include: **Theodore Roosevelt, Belisario Porras, William Crawford Gorgas, George Washington Goethals, Ferdinand De Lesseps, John F. Stevens, William Howard Taft, and Woodrow Wilson.** Search suggestions in the subject/geographical aid include: **Canals - Panama, and Panama.**

The first stop for those researching Panama materials in the Prints and Photographs Reading Room may be the **Prints and Photographs Online Catalog**, which provides access to 95% of the reading room’s holdings, as well as many digital images. The catalog can be accessed at: [http://www.loc.gov/pictures](http://www.loc.gov/pictures).

Listed below are several collections provided with a brief description and examples of each that are featured on the Prints and Photographs Online Catalog webpage. These collections may help focus a search on Panama materials in the reading room. Note that many of the photographs found in the following online collections, may also be found in the various collection files in the reading room (for example, a photograph listed in the George Grantham Bain Collection online, may be filed as in the Biographical File in the reading room). Use the reproduction number (ex: LC-DIG-ggbain-22810) or LOT number and search the online catalog to view the image.

![Figure 28: Taft at Panama](image)

George Grantham Bain Collection
Prints and Photographs Division LC-DIG-ggbain-08889
The George Grantham Bain Collection (http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/ggbain) contains images from the Bain News Service, one of America’s first news picture agencies. The image dates range from 1860 through the 1930s; however, the bulk of the collection is from 1900 through 1920. Examples include:


The Frank and Frances Carpenter Collection (http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/ffcarp) consists of images taken by Frank Carpenter and his daughter, Frances in the early twentieth century. The images helped compliment his writings on travel on world geography, and helped popularize anthropology and geography in the early twentieth century. Examples include:

Panama—Spraying oil on breeding places of mosquitoes. [between 1890 and 1925]. Prints and Photographs Division. LC-USZ62-125807.

Panama – San Blas—Native Indians at beach market. [between ca. 1890 and 1924]. Prints and Photographs Division. LC-USZ62-119657.

Figure 29: Panama—Spraying oil on breeding places of mosquitoes
Carpenter Collection
Prints and Photographs Division
LC-USZ62-125807
The Groups of Images/LOTs Collection ([link](http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/coll/)) includes more than 13,000 groups of visual images, providing access to 1.5 million items, ranging from the 1800s to the present. Images are gathered into a “LOT,” or group, based on their similarity in subject, creator, format, location, etc. Examples include:

*Panama and the Panama Canal.* John Barrett. ca. 1900-1914. Prints and Photographs Division. LOT 8972 (H) [P&P].

*Panama Canal construction, 1907-10.* 1907-1910. Prints and Photographs Division. LOT 8811 (G) [P&P].

Click “check for online images from this lot (group)” to view the digitized images of the LOT.

Visual materials from the Harris & Ewing Collection ([link](http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/hec)) consist of glass and film negatives taken by Harris & Ewing, Inc. during 1905-1945. A selection of the glass negatives is available online. Examples include:


Images from the Panoramic Photographs Collection ([link](http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/pan)) date from 1851 to 1991, feature cityscapes and landscapes from across America, and twenty foreign countries including Panama. Many of the photographs depict the Panama Canal (Gatun Locks, Culebra Cut, Miraflores Locks, Pedro Miguel Locks, etc.) Examples include:

*[Waterfront scene in Panama City].* ca. 1910. Prints and Photographs Division. LC-USZ62-128558.

*Bird’s eye view of Gatun Locks, Panama.* ca. 1913. Prints and Photographs Division. LC-USZ62-128562.

Stereographs Cards ([link](http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/stereo)) are two identical images that are juxtaposed to create a single three-dimensional image when using a stereoscope. The collection ranges from the 1850s to the 1940s; however, it is most comprehensive between 1870 and 1920. Roughly 15% of the stereograph holdings have been digitized. Examples include:

*Spanish laborers at work on the Panama Canal.* 1909. Prints and Photographs Division. LC-USZ62-111759.
Abandoned French machinery on bank of Panama Canal near Cristobal. 1906. Prints and Photographs Division. LC-USZ62-117402.

The National Photo Company ([http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/npco](http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/npco)) prepared images of popular subjects and took on special photo assignments for local businesses and government agencies. The collection numbers more than 80,000 images, dating from 1850-1945 with the majority of images between 1909 and 1932. Examples include:

* Panama Bay. Pearl fishers. ca. 1883. Prints and Photographs Division. LC-DIG-npcc-00342.

* Panama Canal. Dismantling Empire suspension bridge. [between 1909 and 1919]. Prints and Photographs Division. LC-DIG-npcc-19338.

The majority of Panama materials in the online catalog will be found in Misc. Items in High Demand Collection ([http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/cph](http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/cph)). The “Miscellaneous Items” collection contains more than 80,000 descriptions of visual material including architectural drawings, photographs, prints, etc. Items have been categorized into the “Miscellaneous Items” collection because copies of the materials were requested for publications and special projects. Examples include:

* [Marines (Panamanian?) blocking street in front of the American Consulate, using gatling gun. Panama, during Colombian revolution of 1886. 1886. Prints and Photographs Division. LC-USZ62-46221. LOT 2479 (item) [P&].

* Panama Canal construction: Patio of tenement house showing self-closing, fly-proof garbage can stand and concrete patio. Prints and Photographs Division. LC-USZ62-68582. LOT 8811 (item) [P&P].

The Fine Prints Collection ([http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/finepr/](http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/finepr/)) consists of more than 85,000 images dating from 1450 to the present. The majority of materials relating to Panama were created by American printmaker, Joseph Pennell. A limited sample of digitized Panama materials is available online; request non-digitized items in the reading room. Examples include:


The Cartoon Drawings Collection ([http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/acd](http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/acd)) contains more than 9,000 original drawings ranging from the late 1700s to the present. Most of the images were intended for publication in the American press, and thus, can be a helpful political and social indicator of relations between the United States and Panama. Examples include:

* The President in Panama. Clifford Kennedy Berryman. [1906]. Prints and Photographs Division. LC-DIG-acd-2a06890.
My, my, such possibilities. Clifford Kennedy Berryman. [ca.1913]. Prints and Photographs Division. LC-USZ62-34840.

**The Detroit Publishing Company Collection** ([http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/det](http://www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/det)) consists of more than 25,000 glass negatives and approximately 300 color photolithograph prints. Images of Panama primarily consist of city, tropical, and Panama Canal scenes. Examples include:

*Culebra Cut, deepest section, Panama Canal.* [between 1905 and 1914]. Prints and Photographs Division. LC-D4-73157.

*Steamship passing Chagres River crossing.* [between 1904 and 1920]. Prints and Photographs Division. LC-DIG-det-4a24820.

The **Panama Canal Collection** of the former Canal Zone Library-Museum is also housed in the Prints and Photographs Division. It dates between 1852 and 1971, and contains approximately 1,304 items, many of which are photographs. The collection is unprocessed, and requires fourteen days notice to view the materials. Few of the images have been digitized, including:


The Prints and Photographs Reading Room is divided into collections. Listed below are the collections that will be the most important for Panama materials and samples of materials that can be found in the reading room. Be sure to visit the reading room to ensure a comprehensive search of materials pertaining to Panama.

The **Biographical File** includes portraits and other images of notable people, their families, homes, activities, cartoons, and memorabilia. Images are arranged by name and consist of all time periods. Search suggestions include: William Crawford Gorgas, George Washington Goethals, Ferdinand De Lesseps, Philippe Bunau-Varilla, Belisario Porras, and John F. Stevens.

The **Presidential File** includes portraits and other images of U.S. presidents, their families, homes, activities, cartoons, and memorabilia arranged by name. Each presidential section is prefaced with a "guide card," or outline of the images provided. Search suggestions include: Theodore Roosevelt and William Howard Taft.
The **Stereograph Collection** consists of stereograph cards arranged by subject, state, country, biographical/presidential name, and LOT, dating from 1860-1930. The majority of materials pertaining to Panama can be found in the "country" and "LOTs" sections. The "country" section is divided into cities including **Ancon, Balboa, Bas Obispo, Chagres River, Chepo River, Colon, Cristobal, Cucuracha, Empire, Gaillard (Culebra) Cut, Miraflores, Panama City, Paraiso, Pedro Miguel, Portobelo, and Gatun**. Examples of materials found in the “LOTs” section include:

*Isthmus of Panama / illustrated by Muybridge, official photographer of the U.S. Government.* Eadweard Muybridge. [between 1873 and 1880]. LOT12067 (S) [P&P].

*Darien Expedition. Comd’r Selfridge, Comd’g.* Timothy O’Sullivan. [1869-1874]. LOT 11657 (S) [P&P].

The **Foreign Geographical File** contains images of foreign views and architecture arranged by country and then city, dating from 1880-1950. The majority of images found in the Foreign Geographical File pertain to the **Panama Canal and its construction**. Examples include:

*Gatun locks looking toward Atlantic entrance of canal, showing tugs, dredges, and barges ready for first lockage from sea level up into Lake Gatun.* c1913. LC-USZ62-117347

*I.C.C. (?) work train & stairs leading out of Culebra-cut.* c1910. LC-USZ62-117346

[A concrete mixer at work at Pedro Miguel Lock site, Panama Canal]. c1910. LC-USZ62-117348

Examples of other images include:

*American section of Empire, Canal Zone, Central America.* 1907. LC-USZ62-75660

*I.C.C. Hotel Tivoli.* c1910. LC-USZ62-121900

The **Specific Subjects (Graphics) File** consists of an array of visual material including: lithographs, engravings, etchings, cartoons, drawings, and painting reproductions. Materials are arranged by subject, geography, and historical event. Panama materials can be located under the "Panama" heading. A finding aid is available. A sampling of these images includes:

*Native village.* Joseph Pennell. 1912. LC-USZ62-3511

[Political cartoon showing Uncle Sam invoking the Monroe Doctrine in banning European governments from involvement in the Panama Canal project. A monument to De Lesseps and to workmen who died of Chagres fever is in the background.] Gillam in Judge. 1889. LC-USZ62-32534
The **U.S. News and World Report Collection** includes 35 mm contact photograph sheets depicting news-related events dating from the 1950s to the 1980s. Drawers are arranged by date. For example, search: **September, 1977** (signing of the Torrijos-Carter treaties). A card index, arranged by subject, is also available. A sampling of subjects from the card index includes:

U.S. Army Caribbean School for Latin Americans. Fort Gulick, Canal Zone. WKL 3-63

Panama City Street scenes folder; 11-63

Hawk Missile Defense for Panama Canal Ready Line. WKL 3-10-63

Series on Canal, maintenance works, trip up Canal, ships going through Canal, control tower interiors, guards, lighting fixtures for Canal. WKL 3-63

The **Historic American Building Survey/Engineering Record Photo data Notebooks** contain photographs, architectural drawings, and data pages (explaining background information, history, and extensive descriptions of exterior and interior) recording structures in the U.S. and territories made from 1933 to the present. Use the HABS/HALS collection in the Prints and Photographs Online Catalog to look up material and call numbers. Panama materials can be found in the "Canal Zone" notebooks. The structures listed in the "Canal Zone" notebooks are those constructed by the U.S. government. Some of these structures include: Gorgas Hospital, Fort Sherman, Quarry Heights, U.S. Naval Station Marine Barracks-Panama Canal, Albrook Air Force Station, Fort Amador, Fort San Lorenzo, Fort Davis, and Balboa School.

The **Archive of Hispanic Culture** is a photographic reference collection for the study of Latin American art and architecture. In general, materials from the Archive of Hispanic Culture have not been digitized. The collection is broken down into sub-categories including: Architecture, General Subjects, Graphic Arts, Minor Arts, Painting, and Sculpture. The majority of Panama materials can be found in the Architecture and General Subjects (i.e. dancing, religious processions, city scenes and tropical landscapes).

7 | Rare Books and Special Collections Division
(www.loc.gov/rr/rarebook/)

The Rare Books and Special Collections Division maintains approximately 800,000 books, broadsides, pamphlets, theater playbills, title pages, prints, posters, and manuscripts, in all areas and subjects. In addition, the division retains more than 100 separate collections including personal libraries of Theodore Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson, subject collections including materials of Sir Francis Drake, and more.

The Rare Books and Special Collections Reading Room is located on the second floor of the Thomas Jefferson Building, room LJ 239. The webpage includes an Ask a Librarian link where readers can contact the division with their questions. The reading room is open Monday through Friday 8:30am-5:00pm, except federal
holidays. Book requests are taken until 4:15pm, Monday through Friday. The titles provided below offer only a small sampling of materials available at the Rare Books and Special Collections Reading Room. Researchers are encouraged to visit the reading room and talk to a reference specialist in person.

Listed below is a selection of titles about antiquities of native Indians of Panama, including those of the Cocle tribe of central Panama, one of the earliest known native inhabitants in Panama:


*Reposssé Gold Breastplate, Cocle Culture, A.D. 500-1200*. J. I. Kislak Collection, Rare Books and Special Collections. Kislak PC 0090.

Panama's strategic geographic location led many to consider the development of a trans-isthmic canal route that would connect the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific. In 1880, France made the made first attempt to build a canal through Panama; however, it was abandoned soon after largely due to diseases and inadequate funding. In 1904, the United States, who previously proposed building a canal through Nicaragua, assumed control of the French project, and began construction soon after. The Panama Canal was completed in 1914. Listed below is a selection of titles about the Panama Canal:

Bunau-Varilla, Philippe. *How to Build the Panama Canal?: the High Level Lock Canal, the Straits of Panama: the Substance of a Lecture Made Before the Alliance Francaise in New York, November 17, 1905 and Before the National Geographic Society in Washington, November 29, 1905*. [S.I.: s.n., ca. 1905] LC CALL NUMBER: YA18768 YA Pam

*Notice to the Jamaican Labourers Under Contract with the Canal Company: I Have Been Requested by His Excellency the Governor of Jamaica to Warn the Undermentioned Men, Who Are Reported as Having Deserted the Works, that Unless They Present Themselves at the British Consulate at Panama … Within Thirty Days of This Notice, They Will Forfeit All Right to a Passage Back to Jamaica on Termination of Their Contract*. Panama: Star and Herald, 1898. LC CALL NUMBER: Portfolio 346, no. 47 Printed Ephemera Coll
Lured by its strategic geographic location, explorers like Christopher Columbus, Vasco Núñez de Balboa, and privateer Lionel Wafer arrived to Panama in the 16th and 17th centuries, gathering information about the land and its people. In 1538, the Spanish Empire claimed control over Panama, and conducted its conquest of South America, and transfer of gold and silver back to Spain. Later expeditions centered on the prospect of a trans-isthmian canal route. Listed below is a selection of titles pertaining to expeditions to and descriptions of Panama:

Colección de los viages y descubrimientos que hicieron por mar los españoles desde fines del siglo XV: con varios documentos inéditos concernientes á la historia de la marina castellana y de los establecimientos españoles en Indias. 5 vols. Madrid: Imprenta Real, 1825-1837. LC CALL NUMBER: Thacher A798 Thacher Coll, Additional LC CALL NUMBER: E123.N51

Gage, Thomas. A New Survey of the West India’s, or, the English America His Travail by Sea and Land: Containing a Journal of Three Thousand and Three Hundred Miles Within the Main Land of America…London: Printed by E. Cotes, and sold by John Sweeting, 1655. LC CALL NUMBER: F1211.G14 Kislak Coll


Vernon, Edward. Original Papers Relating to the Expedition of Panama. London: Printed for M. Cooper, 1744. LC CALL NUMBER: AC901 .M5 vol. 6, no. 4 Misc Pam

Throughout the Spanish colonial period, Panama was plagued with pirates and buccaneers, such as the infamous Henry Morgan, Sir Francis Drake, and Bartholomew Sharp. Listed below is a selection of titles pertaining to piracy in Panama:

[Aviendo entendido la materia que se controvierte sobre si se deben fortificar la boca del Río de la ensenada del Dariel, y el desembarcadero del Playon en el parage de los Cayos de las Cabeças, para estorvar à los Piratas el poder passar à las Costas del Perú ...] [Madrid : s.n., 1694?] LC CALL NUMBER: F2161 .A95 1694

Ayres, Philip. The Voyages and Adventures of Capt. Barth. Sharp and Others, in the South Sea: Being a Journal of the Same, also Capt. Van Horn with His Buccanieres Surprizing of La Vera Cruz. To Which is Added the True Relation of Sir Henry Morgan, His Expedition Against the Spaniards in the West-Indies, and His Taking Panama. Together with the President of Panama’s Account of the Same Expedition: Translated out of Spanish. And Col. Beeston’s Adjustment of the Peace Between the Spaniards and English in the West Indies. LC CALL NUMBER: F2161.A98 Pre-1801 Coll.

The Battel between the Spaniards and the Pyrats or Buccaniers Before the City of Panama (graphic). 1648. Rare Books and Special Collections Division. LC CALL NUMBER: Illus. in F2161.E751

Exquemelin, Alexandre Olivier. The History of the Bucaniers of America … Exhibiting a Particular Account and Description of Porto Bello, Chagre, Panama, Cuba, Havanna, and Most of the Spanish Possessions on the Coasts of the West-Indies, and also all Along the Coasts of the South-Sea; with the Manner in Which They Have Been Invaded, Attempted, or Taken by These Adventurers. The Whole Written in Several Languages by Persons Present at the Transactions. 4th ed. London: Printed by D. Midwinter (etc.), 1741. LC CALL NUMBER: F2161 .E768 Pre-1801 Coll.


In 1698, Scotland attempted to insert itself into international trade by establishing a colony in the Darien called, “New Caledonia.” Plagued by food shortages, disease, etc. the attempt, referred to as the “Darien disaster,” was hugely unsuccessful, and was abandoned in 1700. Listed below is a selection of materials about the Scottish colony in the Darien:

Borland, Francis. Memoirs of Darien, Giving a Short Description of that Countrey, with an Account of the Attempts of the Company of Scotland, to Settle a Colone in that Place. With a Relation of Some of the Many Tragical Disasters, Which Did Attend that Design. With Some Practical Reflections upon the Whole. Written Mostly in the Year 1700, While the Author was in American Regions…Glasgow, Printed by H. Brown, 1715. LC CALL NUMBER: F2281.D2 B72

Foyer, Archibald. A Defence of the Scots Settlement at Darien. With an Answer to the Spanish Memorial Against It. And Arguments to Prove, that It Is the Interest of England to Join with the Scots, and Protect It. To Which Is Added,
Description of the Countrey and a Particular Account of the Scots Colony. [n.p.] 1699. LC CALL NUMBER: F2281.D2 F78 1699a Pre-1801 Coll

Scotland’s Present Duty: or, A Call to the Nobility, Gentry, Ministry, and Commonality of This Land, to Be Duly Affected with, and Vigorously to Act for, Our Common Concern in Caledonia, as a Mean to Enlarge Christ’s Kingdom, to Benefit Our Selves, and Do Good to All Protestant Churches. [Edinburgh?] Printed in the year, 1700. LC CALL NUMBER: F2281.D2 F79 Pre-1801 Coll

Harris, Walter. A Short Vindication of Phil. Scot’s Defence of the Scots Abdicating Darien; Being an Answer to the Challenge of the Author of the Defence of that Settlement, to Prove the Spanish Title to Darien. London: Printed in the year, 1700. LC CALL NUMBER: F2281.D2 H38


The Congress of Panama was convened by Simón Bolívar in Panama City in 1826 to create a pan-Latin American union. Present-day nations in attendance included Peru, Bolivia, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Panama, Mexico, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Listed below is a selection of materials pertaining to the Congress of Panama:


Buckner, Richard A. Mission to Panama: Speech of Mr. Buckner, of Kentucky, in the House of Representatives of the U. States, on the Sixth Day of April, 1826, on the subject of sending ministers to Panama. Washington City: Way and Gideon, 1826. LC CALL NUMBER: KFK1334.5.R4 P66


United States Dept. of State. Congress at Panama: Message from the President of the United States, Transmitting the Information Required by a Resolution of the House of Representatives, of 5th Ult. In Relation to the Proposed Congress to Be Held at Panama. Washington: Printed by Gales & Seaton, 1826. LC CALL NUMBER: AC901 .M5 vol. 1071, no. 1 Misc Pam

Wood, Silas. Speeches of Mr.Wood, of N. York, on the Proposition to Amend the Constitution of the United States [Respecting the Election of President and Vice President] and on the Resolution Making an Appropriation for the