

# Association of Research Libraries Records

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the  
Library of Congress

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff



Manuscript Division, Library of  
Congress

Washington, D.C.

2011

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Finding aid encoded by Library of  
Congress Manuscript Division, 2011

Finding aid URL: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms010279>

# Collection Summary

Title: Association of Research Libraries Records

Span Dates: 1932-1979

ID No.: MSS54718

Creator: Association of Research Libraries

Extent: 11,000 items; 44 containers; 17.6 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Abstract: Organization of research libraries in the United States and Canada. Correspondence, memoranda, minutes of meetings, reports, financial records, printed matter, and miscellaneous items relating to the association's membership and its assessment and evaluation projects and services on behalf of client institutions.

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### Organizations

Association of Research Libraries.

### Subjects

Research libraries.

## Administrative Information

### Provenance

The records of the Association of Research Libraries were given to the Library of Congress by the association between 1974 and 1982.

### Processing History

The records of the Association of Research Libraries were housed and listed circa 1985. The finding aid was revised in 2011.

### Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings in the Association of Research Libraries is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

### Access and Restrictions

The records of the Association of Research Libraries are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

### Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Association of Research Libraries Records, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Organizational History

The Association of Research Libraries was formed in 1932 for the purpose of improving the collections and services of its member libraries in support of higher education and research. Its membership consists of larger university libraries; research libraries in the United States and Canada, including the three national libraries of the United States: the Library of Congress, the National Agricultural Library, and the National Library of Medicine; and public and special libraries with large research collections.

The association undertakes a variety of activities, including serving as a representative for its members in matters relating to the federal government, international agencies, and other library associations, as well as engaging in cooperative projects and studies with other academic and research organizations. Among the more important projects sponsored or supported by the association are the Farmington Plan, the Public Law 480 program, the National Program for Acquisitions and Cataloging, the Foreign Newspaper Microfilm Project, the annual publication of *Dissertation Abstracts*, and the establishment of the Center for Chinese Research Materials and the Slavic Bibliographic and Documentation Center.

## Scope and Content Note

The records of the Association of Research Libraries span the years 1932-1979 and document the efforts of the association to improve the collections and services of member research libraries in North America. The collection consists of correspondence, memoranda, minutes of meetings, reports, financial records, printed matter, and miscellaneous items concerning the organizational structure and administration of the association. The records reflect on membership requirements and admittances, the deliberations of internal and cooperative committees, relationships with affiliated organizations, and various projects administered by the association, including the Farmington Plan, the Public law 480 program, the Foreign Newspaper Microfilm Project, and the publication of the first Library of Congress catalog initiated and sponsored by the association.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged by subject in the order as the items were originally described and housed.

# Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	General
BOX 1	1932-1944
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BOX 2	General correspondence
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BOX 7	1954-1955
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BOX 8	Sales
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BOX 8	Deposits
BOX 8	Financial statements
BOX 8	Orders sent
BOX 8	Clearinghouse forms, sale of
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BOX 9	Membership and representation
BOX 9	Digest, minutes of meetings
BOX 9	Weber, index to minutes
BOX 9	Use and distribution of minutes
BOX 9	Reorganization, 1946 ballot
BOX 10	Admission of John Crerar Library, Chicago, Ill.
BOX 10	Admission of Army Medical and Agriculture
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BOX 10	Old member
BOX 10	Reconstitution of membership, new nominees
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BOX 11	Membership, 1953-1957

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<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
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BOX 11	Membership, 1962
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BOX 12	Association list and general
BOX 12	Dix phone calls
BOX 12	Executive secretive
BOX 12	Candidates
BOX 12	General
BOX 12	Eugene Power, advisory committee concerning microfilming operation in Moscow, USSR
BOX 12	Press releases
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BOX 12	Incorporation, correspondence
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BOX 13	Chicago, Ill., 1932-1933 (2 folders)
BOX 13	Montreal, Canada, 1934, June
BOX 13	Washington, D.C., 1934, Dec.
BOX 13	Denver, Colo., 1935, July
BOX 13	Chicago, Ill., 1935, Dec.
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BOX 15	Miscellaneous projects
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BOX 15	Doctoral dissertation
BOX 15	List, 1939
BOX 15	Microfilming of master's thesis

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BOX 16	Association of Research Libraries
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BOX 17	Advisory Committee on the Publication and Recording of Dissertations
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BOX 29	Library Education Division newsletter
BOX 29	American Council of Learned Societies
BOX 29	General
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