Citizen Archivist

National Archives (Washington DC)

Register and Get Started at:

www.archives.gov/citizen-archivist/registerandgetstarted

Register

Citizen Archivists must register for a free user account in order to contribute to the National Archives Catalog. We encourage you to read our Citizen Contribution Policy.

How to Contribute

We recommend visiting our Resources page on our dashboard. This page contains step-by-step instructions, as well as video tutorials and guides to walk you through the process.

Watch our video to learn how to contribute: How to Tag and Transcribe Records

Ready to tag records? Please review our guide: What Makes a Good Tag?

Login

We recommend that you login into your National Archives Catalog account before navigating to our Citizen Archivist Missions, or before selecting a record from the Catalog.

Need help with your Catalog user account? Contact us at catalog@nara.gov

Types of Contributions

Tagging

Tagging is a fun and easy way for you to help make National Archives records more searchable in our catalog. By adding keywords, terms, and labels to a record, you can do your part to help the next person discover that record.

Transcription

All documents are unique and may contain various aspects such as stamps, tables, or charts. Type what you see and follow the order and layout as best you can. Type words exactly as they are written in the document; this includes capitalization, abbreviations, names, dates, and even misspelled words.