The Stacks Platform

A System for Onsite Access to Rights Restricted Digital Content at the Library of Congress

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What is Stacks?

• An access system for rights-restricted Library of Congress digital collections
  • Content the Library has custody/ownership of—not rental/subscription service
  • Content can be made available to all Stacks terminals and staff
  • Users can search, view, and print portions of works but cannot download or export content
  • Stacks is a Python/Flask/Elasticsearch application
Digital Collections Strategy

• Access to rights restricted content is a key part of our overall Digital Collections Strategy
• Future work in this area focused on working to ensure the broadest access to rights restricted content

Digital Collections Strategy Objectives

1. Expand Access

1.1) Expand and routinize acquisition and access of openly licensed and openly available digital works: Few library organizations are prioritizing acquiring and hosting copies of openly licensed digital works. As a result, large amounts of openly licensed works are at risk of being lost. In line with the Collections Policy Statements, the Library will play a key role in enabling enduring access to this content. In the case of openly licensed content, given the terms of the licenses, acquiring and making available this content is in direct accord with the wishes of content creators. In contrast, acquiring and enabling access to openly available content without open licenses requires considerable effort and time to secure rights to acquire individual works.

1.2) Pursue a coordinated program of policy and IT infrastructure development to enable the broadest possible access to rights restricted content: Major progress has been made in enabling access to rights restricted content in the Library’s collection. This is an essential component of building a robust collection of contemporary works in accord with the rights of content creators. However, there are substantial areas of policy and digital infrastructure that are still needed to enable the broadest usability of this content. Areas to explore include: interlibrary loan of digital content and other circulation of content; remote access to content for short periods of time; enabling non-consumptive use; providing portions of works as part of reference services; and enabling remote full text search but not fully rendering works.

1.3) Develop and implement an integrated strategy for discovery of digital and analog collections materials: Discovery of digital collections content currently requires use of multiple independent systems including the Library of Congress website, the Library of Congress Catalog, the E-Resources Online Catalog, and a range of other systems and APIs. Along with this, there are inconsistencies in practices for cataloging and metadata for digital collections. As the Library works to implement a new Library Collections Access Platform, it will be necessary to pursue parallel efforts to standardize practices and develop a coherent overall strategy for the creation, management, and integration of metadata for digital collections content.
Why Stacks

Significant quantities of digital collection materials acquired through copyright deposit, purchase, gift, transfer and exchange can only be made available onsite.

As preservation reformatting shifts away from microfilming to digitization the Library is beginning to produce extensive sets of digitized items that require a secure access method.
Terminals available to registered patrons in the…

- African and Middle Eastern Reading Room
- Asian Reading Room
- Folklife Reading Room
- European Reading Room
- Geography & Map Reading Room
- Hispanic Reading Room
- La Follette Congressional Reading Room
- Law Library Reading Room
- Manuscript Reading Room
- Microform and Electronic Resources Center (MERC)

- Moving Image Research Center
- Newspaper and Current Periodical Reading Room
- Performing Arts Reading Room
- Recorded Sound Research Center
- Science and Business Reading Room
Stacks: Discovery

• All Stacks content is discoverable in the LC Online Catalog
• Links to Stacks are added to holdings records at the title or collection level

Item Availability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call Number</th>
<th>Electronic Resource</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sommer, Carl, 1930-</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ugly caterpillar /</td>
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<td></td>
<td>by Carl Sommer ;</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Onsite Access Only</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Request in

Onsite Access Only

Links available

Available onsite via Stacks. v.61 (2018)-v.63 (2020) All issues within this range might not be available. https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gdc/edepo.2021207250
Stacks: What’s There Now

- ~510,000 newspaper and legal gazette issues including, copyright deposits, international newspapers, and legal gazettes
- ~172,000 books, mostly from cataloging-in-publication
- ~759,000 journal articles and ~108,000 journal issues received through copyright deposit and purchase from 1,021 titles
- 1,613 music scores
- 17 moving images and 171 audio recordings
- 244 map sets totaling over 65,000 images
- 16 microfilm sets totaling over 1.8 million images
- Born-digital manuscript content from the Manuscript Division
- 1,571 CD-ROMs and Disks from the general collections totaling over 1.1 million files