

Hello Library Patron,

Your chat transcript with a librarian at New York Public Library - ASK NYPL

Qwidget: I'm doing research on the legislative history of copyright in our country.

[Library Patron 12:48:54]: Specifically any congressional reports, hearings, debates around the clause in our constitution, the 1790 Act, the 1831 & 1870 Revisions, and the major revision in 1909.

[Library Patron 12:49:42]: I took a quick look at the catalog, but it seemed all the available copies of the congressional records did not cover the 19th century or the first decade of the 20th.

[Librarian 12:50:38]: Librarian 'Trish (24/7 Librarian)' has joined the session.

[Librarian 12:50:49]: Hello! I'm Trish and I'm a librarian helping to answer questions for your library. I am reading your question now to see how I can help you, it will be just a moment?

[Library Patron 12:51:25]: Sure. Thanks so much.

[Librarian 12:52:42]: So to clarify in essence you are searching for the copies of the Congressional Record for the 19th century?

[Library Patron 12:52:55]: Yes.

[Library Patron 12:54:16]: And any other associated records.

[Librarian 12:55:31]: What associated records are you asking for, in other words, are you searching for particular periodicals or journals written during that time, or do you want books or memoirs that discuss this topic and if so do you have an author in mind?

[Librarian 12:56:59]: Because some of these historical documents, articles or discussion may be found online

[Librarian 12:57:14]: Are you referring to anything about the 1790 Naturalization Act?

[Librarian 12:57:30]: I'll also need your email to reply with information

[Librarian 12:57:33]: *information

[Library Patron 12:58:16]: Haven't got that far yet. I'll start with just the congressional record. Email is User@some-email.com

[Librarian 12:58:55]: http://library.uwb.edu/guides/usimmigration/1790_naturalization_act.html

[Library Patron 12:58:56]: Not the Naturalization Act

[Library Patron 12:59:00]: The Copyright Act of 1790, An Act for the Encouragement of Learning, by Securing the Copies of Maps, Charts, and Books to the Authors and Proprietors of Such Copies

[Librarian 12:59:04]: I see ok

[Librarian 12:59:06]: Just a moment

[Library Patron 12:59:19]: Referenced here: <http://www.arl.org/focus-areas/copyright-ip/2486-copyright-timeline>

Copyright Timeline: A History of Copyright in the United States | Association of Research Libraries速 | ARL速

[Library Patron 12:59:33]: Do you need my library card number?

[Librarian 12:59:56]: <http://digital-law-online.info/patry/patry5.html>

[Librarian 13:00:00]: No that's ok

[Librarian 13:00:25]: There are some documents / articles online via the internet that you may have already seen?

[Library Patron 13:01:34]: That's great.

[Librarian 13:01:37]: I also have a page from the National Paralegal Society with historical information

[Librarian 13:01:38]:

http://nationalparalegal.edu/public_documents/courseware_asp_files/patents/Copyrights1/Concept.asp

[Librarian 13:01:51]: A lot of documents especially federal are in the public domain

[Librarian 13:02:45]: There are related links on that page as well

[Library Patron 13:02:58]: Yes, I've found a a lot from the copyright office and congressional hearings for the 1976 act.

[Librarian 13:03:08]: I also have primary source docs for the Constitution that includes some imagery/text

[Librarian 13:03:33]: Ok

[Librarian 13:03:40]: Well here are earlier acts

[Librarian 13:03:41]: http://copy.law.cam.ac.uk/cam/tools/request/showRecord.php?id=record_us_1790

[Library Patron 13:03:43]: As well as discussions around the Berne convention. Specifically the 1908 and 1923 revisions.

[Librarian 13:03:57]: hang on sorry

[Librarian 13:03:59]: This is the UK

[Librarian 13:04:01]: just a moment

[Librarian 13:04:41]: Oh it's ok, the site is from the UK but it's about the US

[Librarian 13:05:17]: The first federal copyright act. The act created for the first time a national, general copyright regime in the United States. The commentary describes the legislative history of the act, the main features of the regime it created and its close similarity to the British Statute of Anne

[Library Patron 13:06:02]: That last one is really great.

[Librarian 13:06:26]: <http://www.copyright.gov/circs/circ1a.html>

[Librarian 13:06:37]: Here is another with details on copyright legislation in our country

[Librarian 13:06:54]: There is a timeline there that may prove helpful?

[Librarian 13:07:39]: Ok did you give us your email to reply further?

[Library Patron 13:08:12]: I haven't had a chance to look at the links closely, but I'd also love to look at the primary sources.

[Librarian 13:08:43]: Ok

[Library Patron 13:08:56]: The timeline is a great supplement to the one I found earlier (which also has judicial rulings from the 19th cen)

[Librarian 13:09:01]: There are some docs about the conflict btw the Copyright law and the 1st Amend:

[Librarian 13:09:02]: <http://www.lawandarts.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/2-Cronin.pdf>

[Librarian 13:09:14]: Not sure if you're interested?

[Library Patron 13:09:18]: My email is User@some-email.com (also given above)

[Librarian 13:10:07]: Ok

[Librarian 13:10:12]: Also 1909 primary source:

[Librarian 13:10:19]: <http://www.copyright.gov/history/1909act.pdf>

[Library Patron 13:10:21]: That looks great too. For sources for the first part of my piece. And I plan to offer a critique after.

[Librarian 13:10:29]: Ok

[Librarian 13:10:41]: so at this point, what would you like us to focus our search on?

[Librarian 13:11:03]: Documents at NYPL online and in-house for what exactly?

[Librarian 13:11:24]: News articles?

[Library Patron 13:11:49]: That pdf is coming up blank on my ipad

[Library Patron 13:12:34]: Records of congressional debates and hearings first.

[Librarian 13:12:42]: (you might be able to open the pdf later when I disconnect)

[Librarian 13:12:51]: Ok

[Library Patron 13:12:54]: Sounds good

[Librarian 13:13:06]: We will be happy to forward your question for more suggestions or research, but it may be a day or two before you get an email back, is that alright?

[Library Patron 13:14:09]: And, if it's not too much to ask, news articles or opinion pieces written by members of congress during the sessions in which they were considering the act and revision.

[Library Patron 13:14:23]: That sounds great.

[Librarian 13:14:40]: If you provided your email address along with your question, a transcript will be automatically sent to your email address containing the links and information discussed.

[Library Patron 13:14:56]: "Written by members of congress" above not "my members of congress"

[Librarian 13:15:20]: Ok

[Library Patron 13:15:35]: The transcript would be great too. I've connected via mobile chat and it did not ask for my email.

[Librarian 13:15:54]: Ok

[Library Patron 13:16:00]: Never mind. Found the link.

[Librarian 13:16:04]: Ok good

[Librarian 13:16:11]: Sorry that wasn't clear

[Librarian 13:16:17]: We will check further for you and reply via email usually within a day or so.

Goodbye and thanks for using our 24/7 reference service!

[Librarian 13:16:38]: Librarian ended chat session.