



The Historic Maryland Newspapers Project.

--- DIGITAL MARYLAND STATE INITIATIVES MEETINGS ---

--- SUMMER 2015 ---



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What is the National Digital Newspaper Project (NDNP)?

- A joint effort by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and Library of Congress (LC) to digitize historic newspapers from all 50 states, the territories, and D.C.
- One institution/partnership per state can be awarded a grant
- During the two-year grant cycle, awardee institutions deliver 100,000 newspaper pages and associated metadata to LC
- Newspapers are digitized from a second-generation (2N) duplicate silver negative microfilm, made from the camera master
- Digitized content is accessible for free at [Chronicling America](https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/)



Project status to date

☞ 1st grant awarded September 1, 2012

- ☛ 107,414 pages digitized and available

- ☛ Pages span 1840-1913, 3 cities, 8 titles

☞ 2nd grant awarded September 1, 2014

- ☛ At least 100,000 additional pages by August 31, 2016

- ☛ Pages span 1841-1922, 10 cities, 10 titles

☞ 3rd grant (hopefully!) would extend project through August 2018



How are titles selected?

☞ Advisory board

- ☛ At the beginning of a two-year NDNP award, advisory board members recommend titles and prioritize them for digitization

☞ A title must meet these basic requirements:

- ☛ The newspaper must have been published in the state of Maryland
- ☛ The newspaper must reflect the political, economic, and cultural history of Maryland, with preference given to papers of record
- ☛ The newspaper must have been published between 1836 and 1922

☞ Project staff also evaluates the technical quality and completeness of the title on microfilm



Titles selected for digitization

Title	Publication Location	Years Digitized	Available on Chronicling America?
The Aegis & Intelligencer	Bel Air	1864-1922	Coming soon!
American Republican and Baltimore Daily Clipper	Baltimore	1844-1846	✓
Baltimore Commercial Journal, and Lyford's Price-Current	Baltimore	1847-1849	✓
Baltimore Daily Commercial	Baltimore	1865-1866	✓
Catoctin Clarion	Mechanicsville/ Thurmont	1871-1922	Coming soon!
Cecil Whig	Elkton	1841-1922	Coming soon!
Civilian & Telegraph	Cumberland	1859-1865	✓
The Daily Banner	Cambridge	1902-1922	Coming soon!
The Daily Exchange	Baltimore	1858-1861	✓
Democratic Advocate	Westminster	1865-1922	Coming soon!
Der Deutsche Correspondent	Baltimore	1858-1918	1858-1913: ✓ 1914-1918: Coming soon!
Maryland Free Press	Hagerstown	1862-1868	✓
Montgomery County Sentinel	Rockville	1856-1922	Coming soon!
The Pilot / The Pilot and Transcript	Baltimore	1840-1841	✓
Port Tobacco Times, and Charles County Advertiser	Port Tobacco	1845-1898	Coming soon!
Prince George's Enquirer and Southern Maryland Advertiser	Upper Marlboro	1882-1922	Coming soon!
Saint Mary's Gazette / Saint Mary's Beacon	Leonardtwn	1845-1922	Coming soon!

Summary of digitized content

Page

- Image files: TIFF, JPEG2000, PDF
- XML file that contains OCR (enables full-text searching)

Issue

- XML file that contains issue- and page-level metadata

Reel

- Image files for preservation targets and microfilm targets
- XML file that contains reel technical metadata and metadata for targets

Batch

- A batch manifest lists all reels and issues included in the batch



Future of the project

- ☞ Extending the project's scope beyond NDNP
 - ☛ Developing a digital repository for Maryland newspapers
 - ☛ Digitizing content not eligible for the NDNP
 - ☛ Offering services that increase access to newspapers:
 - ☞ Digitization
 - ☞ Hosting
 - ☞ Digital preservation
 - ☞ Grant writing assistance



Coming soon!

- ☞ A database that will allow users to search for digitized Maryland newspapers available online
- ☞ Search for a specific title, or find titles that were published during a specific time frame or in a geographic location
- ☞ Will include titles available for free and those available as part of commercial databases



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