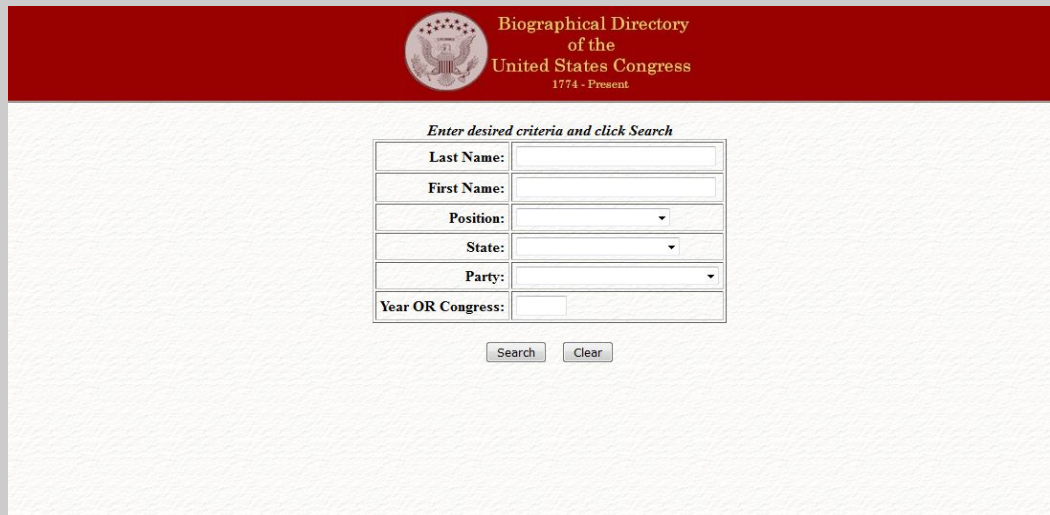


Home Page



Logo



URL

<http://bioguide.congress.gov/biosearch/biosearch.asp>

Subject

United States-Biography-Dictionaries

Accessibility

Free

Language

English

Publisher

U.S House

Brief History

Charles Lanman, author, journalist, and former secretary to Daniel Webster, gathered the first collection of biographies of former and sitting Members of Congress for his Dictionary of Congress, published by J. B. Lippincott & Co. in 1859. Lanman intended his Dictionary of the United States Congress to serve primarily as a guide

for sitting Members of Congress.

In 1864, the House of Representatives and the Senate approved the publication of an updated version of Lanman's Dictionary of Congress by the recently established Government Printing Office. In the late 1860s Congress offered Benjamin Perley Poore, a journalist and clerk of the Senate Committee on Printing and Records, the job of preparing a Congressional Directory with biographical sketches and the kind of reference information found in the Dictionary of Congress.

The survey of the 1920s yielded more detailed and consistent biographies than had been found in the nineteenth-century editions or in the earlier volumes compiled by congressional staff. The frequent reliance on family legends and personal recollections, however, introduced dubious information into the volume. Although Congress authorized updates that were published in 1950, 1961, and 1971, the entries from the 1928 edition remained virtually intact in the three subsequent editions. The creation of the Senate Historical Office in 1975 and the Office for the Bicentennial in the United States House of Representatives in 1983 provided the first opportunity for professional historians to revise and update the Biographical Directory. Earlier editions of the Biographical Directory and their nineteenth century predecessors offered little information on congressional careers other than terms of service. The bicentennial edition provided a more complete record of the individual Members' years in office. A 1996 edition was published by Congressional Quarterly, but did not achieve wide circulation due to the much higher cover price.

The development and growing use of the Internet in the 1990s led to the creation of websites for the House of Representatives and the Senate. The online version, accessible to the public, also has benefited from updated information provided to the House Office of History and Preservation and the Senate Historical Office from scholars, librarians, genealogists, and family members. Senate entries are accompanied by an image of the Senator, when available. Online House entries include images for women Members and Speakers with official oil portraits and members since the 109th United States Congress (2005).

The data is maintained by staff in the Office of the Clerk's Office of History and Preservation and the Office of the Historian of the United States Senate.


Scope and Coverage

This directory covers senators, representatives, and other elected officials from 1774 to the present. Biographical information can be searched by name, position, and/or state. Each entry consists of a short biography, including information about when the individual served. Research collections with the person's papers as well as a bibliography are also provided.

Kind of Information

Each entry covers biography, research collection, and bibliography. The biographical portion describes date of birth, year, educational background, career graph etc. Research collection describes about the research progress and how much documents preserved in different Library and University.

Biographical Directory
of the
United States Congress



1774 - Present

- ★ Biography
- ★ Research Collections
- ★ Bibliography
- ★ New Search
- ★ House History Page
- ★ Senate History Page
- ★ Copyright Information

LINCOLN, Abraham, (1809 - 1865)



Collection of the U.S. House of Representatives
[About this object](#)

LINCOLN, Abraham, a Representative from Illinois and 16th President of the United States; born in Hardin County, Ky., February 12, 1809; moved with his parents to a tract on Little Pigeon Creek, Ind., in 1816; attended a log-cabin school at short intervals and was self-instructed in elementary branches; moved with his father to Macon County, Ill., in 1830 and later to Coles County, Ill.; read the principles of law and works on surveying; during the Black Hawk War he volunteered in a company of Sangamon County Rifles organized April 21, 1832; was elected its captain and served until May 27, when the company was mustered out of service; reenlisted as a private and served until mustered out June 16, 1832; returned to New Salem, Ill., and was unsuccessful as a candidate for the State house of representatives; entered business as a general merchant in New Salem; postmaster of New Salem 1833-1836; deputy county surveyor 1834-1836; elected a member of the State house of representatives in 1834, 1836, 1838, and 1840; declined to be a candidate for renomination; admitted to the bar in 1836; moved to Springfield, Ill., in 1837 and engaged in the practice of law; elected as a Whig to the Thirtieth Congress (March 4, 1847-March 3, 1849); did not seek a renomination in 1848; an unsuccessful applicant for Commissioner of the General Land Office under President Taylor; tendered the Governorship of Oregon Territory, but declined; unsuccessful Whig candidate for election to the United States Senate before the legislature of 1855; unsuccessful Republican candidate for the United States Senate in 1858; elected as a Republican President of the United States in 1860; reelected in 1864 and served from March 4, 1861, until his death; shot by an assassin in Washington, D.C., April 14, 1865, and died the following day; lay in state in the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol, April 19-21, 1865; interment in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, Ill.

Bibliography

Donald, David H. *Lincoln*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1995; Findley, Paul A. *Lincoln: The Crucible of Congress*. New York: Crown Publishers, Inc., 1979; Riddle, Donald W. *Congressman Abraham Lincoln*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1957; Basler, Roy Prentice, ed. *The Collected Works of Abraham Lincoln*. 9 vols. New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 1953-1955.

Special Features

❖ First page covers

Biographical Directory
of the
United States Congress
1774 - Present

Enter desired criteria and click Search

Last Name:	<input type="text" value="Lincoln"/>
First Name:	<input type="text" value="Abraham"/>
Position:	<input type="text" value="President"/>
State:	<input type="text"/>
Party:	<input type="text"/>
Year OR Congress:	<input type="text"/>

- ❖ Each entry consists of [About this object](#) option. This clickable option opens a page with recommendation, citation, sharing and printing option and related links.
- ❖ Each entry presents biographical link also.

Arrangement Pattern No separated arrangement pattern is there but search option is attached with the first page of this site.

Remarks The **Biographical Directory of the United States Congress** is a biographical dictionary of all present and former members of the United States Congress. The online edition also includes a guide to research collections (a list of institutions where member's papers, letters, correspondence, and other items are archived) as well as an extended bibliography of published works concerning the member (a shorter bibliography is included with the member's biography). These additional resources when available can be accessed via links on the left side of the member's page on the website. But the limitation is no arranged biographical entries are there only entries can be retrieved by searching.

- Comparable Tools**
- Black women in Mathematics (<http://www.math.buffalo.edu/mad/wmad0.html>)
 - American President Life Portrait (<https://www.c-span.org/series/?presidents>)
 - POTUS Presidents of United States (<http://www.potus.com/>)

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