THE LINDBERGH KIDNAPPING – A GUIDE

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The Lindbergh Kidnapping – a Guide

On March 1, 1932, Charles A. Lindbergh, Jr., the 20-month old son of Charles Augustus and Anne Morrow Lindbergh was kidnapped from their home near Hopewell, New Jersey. Due to the incredible popularity of Lindbergh, the world-renowned American flyer, the subsequent trial of Bruno Richard Hauptmann, an illegal German immigrant attracted unprecedented public interest. At the time of the child’s disappearance, kidnapping itself was not a federal crime. Quickly escalating into the most celebrated crime of the decade, the abduction galvanized a major public protest. This public outcry induced the federal government to enact the Federal Kidnap Statute – nicknamed the Lindbergh Law – that deems kidnapping a federal offense when a kidnapped victim is transported across state lines or if ransom demands are made through the mail.

Initially, the Federal Bureau of Investigation was shackled in the investigation. Given the new law, however, the FBI could intervene if the person kidnapped had not been returned after a week, as it could then be assumed that the victim had out been taken out of state. The penalty was life imprisonment. An amendment was passed a year later that stated that if the victim were harmed, the jury could recommend capital punishment. This amendment also allowed the FBI to start investigating within twenty-four hours of the crime. During the Lindbergh case, however, the New Jersey State Police performed the main Investigation with FBI assistance.

On May 12, 1932, the badly decomposed body of the missing boy was found in a shallow grave near the Lindbergh home near Hopewell, Mercer County, New Jersey. The dramatic six-week trial that ensued created a circus-like atmosphere in tiny Flemington, NJ and caused a major media frenzy of international proportions. In March 1935, having been convicted of first-degree murder, Hauptmann’s first appeal was rejected. New Jersey Governor Harold
Hoffman, had reservations about Hauptmann’s guilt and granted a thirty-day reprieve. However, the subsequent appeal was rejected and on April 3, 1936 Bruno Hauptmann was electrocuted at the New Jersey State Prison in Trenton, NJ. Harold Hoffman had committed political suicide.

It is almost 65 years later and the world has changed dramatically. Lindbergh’s phenomenal feat - the first nonstop air flight between New York and Paris, a 33-½ hour trip - has been completely overshadowed by the speed of the Concorde. Flemington is no longer a tiny country burg, sinking back into obscurity after the great notoriety and attention generated by these events. News is no longer dependent on reporters and radio announcers huddled in court rooms, running to telegram offices with each new bulletin; news flashes speed across the world almost instantaneously with their occurrence.

So just what explains the ongoing interest in the Lindbergh case and the “Trial of the Century”? Books, articles, and treatises are still published. An annual “Trial of the Century” Re-enactment is performed at the original Hunterdon County Courthouse for 3 weekends every October; it is a overwhelmingly popular event. There is a display relating to the trial in the front hall of the courthouse. Given the enduring fascination with the Lindbergh Kidnapping, a comprehensive resource tool has invaluable significance. This paper will attempt to do so with most of the concentration on government and official sources.
GENERAL RESOURCES

To fully explore all the essential qualities and circumstances of this landmark series of events, it is of great value to begin with an overview of the subject.

BACKGROUND


A succinct and charming history of Hunterdon County provides an insightful glance into the atmosphere and situation inherent to the Lindbergh kidnapping and Hauptmann trial. This is an excellent starting point for the research.

● Encyclopaedia Britannica (online)


A brief encapsulation of Hauptmann’s life


A brief encapsulation of Lindbergh’s life.

● Google.com


Utilization of this search engine discloses sources for investigation. Searches using “Charles Lindbergh” yielded the following sites:


    (Available from PBS: http://www.shop.pbs.org/cust/cdeploy)

The videorecording includes archival footage, photos, and interviews, and presents a candid biography of a complex and controversial American icon. Also included on the website are a
synopsis and complete transcript of the recording; extended interviews with program
participants, including historian Max Lerner on the kidnapping; brief summation of Lindbergh’s
life in general and of the kidnapping in particular.

   trial.*  http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/Hauptmann/Hauptmann.htm/ (19
   Nov. 2000).

   This website, sponsored by The School of Law at the University of Missouri – Kansas City, is
   maintained by Doug Linder, Professor of Law as part of coursework in his “Seminar in Famous
   Trials” course. The Lindbergh kidnapping, a key component of this legal course, is well
   represented. Prof. Linder provides an excellent summation of the trial. Also provided are
   photographs of trial events and key people, places and things; key prosecution evidence; ransom
   notes and responses; the New York Times cover story of the kidnapping and the verdict; and the
   10/9/35 court decision pertaining to Hauptmann’s unsuccessful appeal.

3. UNITED STATES of America v. Brady Lavick ADAMS, United States Court of Appeals,


   Searching the Find Law under *Laws: Cases and Codes* furnishes the first reference found to
   “Lindbergh Act” or “Lindbergh Law”. The site is a copy of the May 29, 1996 U. S. Court of
   Appeals, 11th Circuit, between the USA v. Brady Lavick. Noted in the brief is the following:

   All in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1201. The original version of §
   1201, enacted into law in 1932 and known as the "**Lindbergh Act**," punished only those
   who kidnapped another person "for ransom or reward." *See* 18 U.S.C. § 408a (1932),
L.Ed. 522 (1936). Section 408a was amended on May 18, 1934, to include within its sweep those who kidnap "for ransom or reward or otherwise".

This is the first reference to the U. S. Code inspired by the Lindbergh kidnapping, 18 USC 1201 and will assist in later research.

**CHRONOLOGY**

A guide to the chronology of events is a strategic research tool and some outstanding examples are available.


A linear chronology from March 1, 1932, when the kidnapping was first announced, to May 2, 1936 when Hauptmann’s posthumous article, “Why did you kill me?” appeared in *Liberty* magazine.


Simultaneous time line of Lindbergh and Hauptmann from 1899, the birth year of both men through and including April 3, 1936, the date of Hauptmann’s execution.


The Law School at the University of Missouri – Kansas City offers an online chronology from November 1924, the date of Hauptmann’s entry in the US, to 1981, the date of Anna Hauptmann’s appeal to the NJ courts for the release of secret evidence.
MEDIA COVERAGE

The public was insatiable in its demand for news and the media obliged in an overwhelming manner. Articles in newspapers and periodicals were plentiful. During the trial, top radio commentators Lowell Thomas, Walter Winchel, and Gabriel Heatter, along with a swarm of journalists, overwhelmed the Union Hotel for living quarters to cover the events.

Particular attention should be given to the Hunterdon County Democrat, the hometown newspaper, and the New York Times, the most recognized and respected national paper at that time.


The Hunterdon County Democrat, then and now the county’s weekly newspaper, covered the trial in its entirety and is an invaluable source of local coverage. An extensive archive is available which includes original photographs, newspaper clippings, and memorabilia. Photographically reissued newspapers for the issues covering the initial kidnapping news and all weeks of the trial and conviction are also accessible at http://www.lindberghtrial.com/html/details.htm#Feb21,1935.


230 articles cited from 1/6/32 – 12/30/32. This extensive scope of information attests to the media enthusiasm. As further research can be found in subsequent annual indexes, it is not necessary to pursue those at this point.


London: Keesing’s Publications, Ltd.

This chronicle of world current events, published weekly, includes references to 4 articles pertaining to the kidnapping and murder.

7 articles, pertaining to Hauptmann’s arrest and trial, are cited for this time period.
GOVERNMENT RESOURCES – FEDERAL

LAWS

Initial research into Federal Public Laws begins with examining the Cumulative Subject index to the Monthly Catalog of US Government Publications for the period of time under investigation. Searching under “Lindbergh” offers no information; however, using “Kidnapping” as a subject does.


Washington, DC: Carrollton Press, Inc.

1932: hearing
   - law
   - reports
   p. 715
   p. 1070
   pp. 1087, 1095, 1110.
1934: forbidding transportation
   pp. 810, 1052, 1055, 1079
1934: laws, compilation
   p. 365
1935: ransom or reward, crime to receive, etc.
   pp. 674, 915

Resarching the 1932 entries (the following years are for further research):

For further information on the 1932 reports:


Searching under Kidnapping:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S1525</th>
<th>S.Rp. 765</th>
<th>9488</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HR 5657</td>
<td>H.Rp. 1493</td>
<td>9493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRes 250</td>
<td>H.Rp. 1507</td>
<td>9497</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Checking into each specific listing from the Cumulative index (items are quoted verbatim):

“Kidnapping, hearing, 72nd Congress, 1st Session, on H. R. 5657. Y4.J89/1: K54”.


Additional information on this hearing is obtainable through Congressional Information Services, as follows.


“Kidnapping. S1525, act forbidding transportation of any person in interstate or foreign commerce, kidnapped, or otherwise unlawfully detained, and making such act felony. Approved June 22, 1932. 1 p. (Public 189)”.

This denotes the law known as the Federal Kidnapping Law, AKA the Lindbergh Law, is 72-189.

“Kidnapping. Antikidnapping, report to accompany H.R. 5657; submitted by Mr. Sumners of Texas. June 3, 1932. 2 p. (H. rp. 1493, 72nd Cong 1st sess.)”.


“Kidnapping. Antikidnapping, report to accompany H. Res. 250; submitted by Mr. O’Connor. June 6, 1932. (H. rp. 1507, 72d Cong. 1st sess.)”.

Unable to locate House Report 1507, so the US Serial Set Index has been referenced

Looking under Serial # 9497 indicates it to be a private bill; this information is unavailable at Alexander Library.


“Kidnapping. Forbidding transportation of any kidnapped person in interstate or foreign commerce, report to accompany S. 1525 [forbidding transportation of any person in interstate or foreign commerce, kidnapped, or otherwise unlawfully detained, and making such act felony]; submitted by Mr. Walsh of Montana. June 1, calendar day June 3, 1932. 2 p. (S. rp. 765, 72d Cong. 1st sess.)”.

- U. S. Congress. Senate. Forbidding the transportation of any kidnapped person in interstate or foreign commerce: Report to accompany S. 1525. Senate reports, 72nd Congress, 2nd

Checking the Catalog of the Public Documents of the 72nd Congress adds a small bit of data that would become a mainstay of this case. Searching under “Kidnapping” just reiterates the previous information ascertained. However, checking “Lindbergh” contributes the details of the broadside that would be widely distributed and reproduced in a large majority of widely distributed reward broadside.


“Engraving and Printing Bureau: $25,000 reward! For information resulting in apprehension and conviction of kidnapers of Charles A. Lindbergh, Jr.; List of currency paid as ransom. 1932. 1 page folio”. (Also listed under Engraving and Printing Bureau, page 817.)

The Congressional Record is exactly that: a record of all proceedings and debates held within each session of the US Congress. As such, it is an important instrument for accessing and verifying the events of any given congress. Beginning with the index volume of the Congressional Record of the 72nd Congress:


1. Bills forbidding transportation of kidnapped persons in interstate or foreign commerce.

   See S1525; H.R. 5657. (See page 14).

2. Radio broadcast over the Columbia Broadcasting System commenting on kidnaping of the Lindbergh baby, (page) 5385.
3. Editorial appearing in the St. Louis Star commenting on kidnapping of the Lindbergh baby, 5406.

4. Remarks in Senate relative to the kidnapping of Charles A. Lindbergh, Jr., 5075.

5. Remarks in House relative to the kidnapping of Charles A. Lindbergh, Jr., 5116, 5118, 5384, 5557.

- Ibid. (House Bills – p. 870).

H. R. 5657 – Forbidding the transportation of any person or persons in interstate of foreign commerce kidnaped or otherwise unlawfully detained.

6. Mr. Cochran of Missouri: Committee on the Judiciary, 491.

7. Reported with amendment (H. Rept. 1493), 11942.

8. Laid on the table (S. 1525 passed in lieu), 13282-13304.

Item numbers 2 – 5 are accessible on the indicated page numbers in:


  Item 3. Page 5406. Editorial of Mr. Fulbright of Missouri in the St. Louis Star. March 3, 1932

  Item 4. Page 5075-5076. Remarks in Senate relative to the kidnapping of Charles A. Lindbergh, Jr. 3/2/32

  Items 5. Page 5116, 5118. Remarks in House relative to the kidnapping of Charles A. Lindbergh, Jr. 3/2/32

  Page 5384. Remarks in House relative to the kidnapping of Charles A. Lindbergh, Jr. 3/7/32
Remarks in House relative to the kidnapping of Charles A. Lindbergh, Jr. 3/9/32

Item 6:


Bills introduced: By Mr. Cochran of Missouri: A bill (H.R. 5657) forbidding the transportation of any person or persons in interstate of foreign commerce kidnapped or otherwise unlawfully detained; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Item 7:


Mr. Sumners of TX: Committee of the Judiciary, H.R.5657 with amendment (Report #1493) referred to House Calendar.

Item 8:


June 17, 1932. Antikidnaping. Mr. O’Connor calls up House Resolution 250, which is sent to the desk and read. The text of this debate includes recognition of the Lindbergh kidnapping and subsequent murder of Charles A. Lindbergh Jr., correlating House Resolution 5657 to a need for stronger Federal legislation to “meet the heartless advance of those who would kidnap and kill”.

An interesting note to this House debate: Representative Black made a most prophetic comment regarding the legislature that the Lindbergh case was generating: “Mr. Chairman, to my mind this whole legislation is a piece of hysterical legislation. It arises out of one crime that is destined to become a classic in this country” (13304).

Item number 1:

S 1525 – Forbidding the transportation of any person in interstate of foreign commerce
kidnapped or otherwise unlawfully detained, and making such act a felony

1. Mr. Patterson: Committee on the Judiciary, 275.

2. Debated, Amended and passed Senate, 12318

3. Referred to House Committee on the Judiciary, 12651.


6. Examined and signed, 13334, 13337.

7. Presented to the President, 13335.

8. Approved [Public, No. 189], 13761.


H.Res 250 – Providing for the consideration of H. R. 5657.

(Note: H. Res. 250 is a rule to consider H.R. 5657, the “kidnapping bill” which included the death penalty for the crime of kidnaping. Before it could be passed, the Senate passed S.1525, an identical bill except it did not include punishment by death but rather left it to the judge’s discretion to impose as many years of imprisonment as he deemed fit).

1. Mr. Cochran of Missouri: Committee on Rules, 11942.

2. Reported back (H. Rept. 1507), 12114, 12128.

3. Debated, 13282.

4. Amended and agreed to (S. 1525 substituted for H. R. 5657), 13287.

Consulting the Journal of the House for the appropriate Congress enables investigation and verification of the progress of a public bill initially introduced in the House of Representatives. Doing so for HR 5657, involves checking the:

1. Presented: page 143.

2. Reported with amendment (Rept. 1493), 881.

3. Laid on table (see S. 1525). 946.

Page 143. December 12, 1931. Public bill H. R. 5657 introduced by Mr. Cochran of Missouri. Presented to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Page 881. Reports of Committees on Public Bills and Resolutions. Mr. Sumners of Texas: committee on the Judiciary. H. R. 5657. A bill forbidding the transportation of any person or persons in interstate of foreign commerce kidnapped or otherwise unlawfully detained; with amendment (Rept. No. 1493). Referred to the House Calendar.

Page 946. Antikidnaping. Mr. O’Connor called up H.Res. 250; and amended H. R. 5657 to be supplanted by S. 1525 which was read three times and passed. H. R. 5657, a similar House bill, was laid on the table by unanimous consent.

Public and private acts and resolutions, along with other documents, are published in the U. S. Statutes at Large. It is this resource which provides evidence of the disposition of Public Law 72-189.

An Act, forbidding the transportation of any person in interstate or foreign commerce, kidnaped, or otherwise unlawfully detained, and making such act a felony. Chapter 271.  S1525; Public Law 72 189.  Approved June 22, 1932.

Once a bill is passed into law, the codification of those laws is published in the United States Code, a publication updated every six years. This information is available in print format and online. Information using both formats follows herewith.


Entry: Title 18, Chapter 9, Section 408a. Kidnapped persons; transportation, etc., of persons unlawfully detained. Title 18 USC 408a. (June 22, 1932, c. 271, 47 Stat. 326).


Title 18, Chapter 9, Section 408a. Kidnapped persons; transportation, etc., of persons unlawfully detained. Title 18 USC 408b. (June 22, 1932, c. 271, 47 Stat. 326).


Title 18, Chapter 9, Section 408a. Kidnapped persons; transportation, etc., of persons unlawfully detained. Title 18 USC 408a. (June 22, 1932, ch. 271, 1, 47 Stat. 326; May 18, 1934, ch. 301, 48 Stat. 781).

Title 18, Chapter 9, Section 408b. Same; interstate or foreign commerce defined. Title 18 USC 408b. (June 22, 1932, ch. 271, 2, 47 Stat. 326; May 18, 1934, ch. 301, 48 Stat. 782).

Title 18, Chapter 9, Section 408c. Same; conspiracy. Title 18 USC 408c. (June 22, 1932, ch. 271, 3. 47 Stat. 326; May 18, 1934, ch. 301, 48 Stat. 782).

Title 18, Chapter 55, Section 1201. Transportation. Title 18 USC 1201. (June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 1, 62 Stat 60. eff. Sept. 1, 1948).


18USC1201. Laws in effect as of January 6, 1999. Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure; Part I, Crimes; Chapter 55 – Kidnapping.

Based on title 18, U.S.C., 1940 ED., Secs. 408a, 408c (June 22, 1932, ch. 271, Secs. 1, 3, 47 Stat. 326; May 18, 1934, ch. 301, 48 Stat. 781, 782).

Section consolidates sections 408a and 408c of title 18 U.S.C., 1940 ed.

Amendments listed with range from 1998 to 1956; not followed through at this time.

PRESIDENTIAL PAPERS:


LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Library of Congress, the oldest federal cultural institution in America, is the first and foremost repository of the nation's history. The collection numbers over 119 million items, of which more than two-thirds are in media other than books. The online catalog (OCLC) of the Library of Congress offers over 12 million items, also in a wide variety of mediums.


Search: keyword +Lindbergh +kidnapping: 48 sources
For this research project, The Library of Congress houses some worthwhile resources of a different nature than found elsewhere. While there is a selection of some of the more standard fare of monographs and periodical articles, there are also some very interesting records. These items have not been viewed.

- 24 Photographic prints, ranging from 1932 to 1935, covering the broad spectrum of events, from the archives of the New York World-Telegram staff photos.

- Archival manuscript material from prominent citizens
     Included in the archives of this prominent family renowned in Kentucky and US politics and government are the papers of Henry Breckinridge (1886-1960). An important part of his collection is documents pertaining to his role as legal counsel in the Lindbergh kidnapping case.
  2. Land, E. S. Papers of Emory Scott Land, 1879 – 1972.
     Cousin to Charles Lindbergh, Naval officer and government official, Emory Scott Land testified in the Lindbergh Kidnapping case; his testimony at the trial is included in his papers.
     Well-known Washington, DC socialite whose papers include documentation which registers her involvement in the Lindbergh kidnapping case.
     Attorney, diplomat, district attorney for New York County, and U. S. State Department Assistant Secretary for Cultural and Educational Affairs, Mr. Thayer served as assistant counsel to Charles Lindbergh during the Lindbergh Kidnapping case – records of this service are included in his papers. Some items are still classified; therefore, restrictions are imposed in part on this collection.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

A pivotal case for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the FBI provided excellent backup for the New Jersey State Police. While the bulk of their records have been transferred to the NJ State Police Museum, a search of the FBI website offers online articles of interest.


Brief overview of the FBI’s role in kidnapping cases and the role of the Lindbergh kidnapping case in the implementation of the FBI involvement in kidnap investigations.


On November 20, 1999, the FBI added a Lindbergh file to its Freedom of Information Act Electronic Reading Room. This file, regarding distrust of Colonel Lindbergh, includes letters from private citizens and various newspaper articles. It is categorized under the FOIA Historical Interest, Famous Persons, and Various Crimes location.


Brief description of items examined in the case.


Well-written synopsis of the case from the standpoint and involvement of the FBI. Includes images of the wanted poster, ransom notes and envelopes, the Lindbergh home, handwriting analysis samples, and the alleged ransom intermediary.

A series of graphic reproductions of related exhibits. (10 Dec. 20).


2. House with ladder propped to window.


**NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION**

As the official repository of Federal records, National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), an independent Federal agency, oversees their management in order to maintain the historical value of these records. To enable timely access to such documentation, NARA maintains a database of selected holdings. Known as NARA Archival Information Locator, or NAIL, this on-line information service maintains several resources germane to the Lindbergh Kidnapping. Not reviewed. http://www.nara.gov/nara/nail.html


Several principle characters are shown in various highlights of the ongoing trial and in interviews.

Newsreel publication covering several news topics; the first concerning the trial verdict.


The mainstay of this series are photographs related to kidnapping cases including the Lindbergh Kidnapping case, the first kidnapping case to be investigated by the FBI.


Documenting J. Edgar Hoover’s career as FBI Director, included in this display are the major crimes during his tenure, of which the Lindbergh Kidnapping was a major occurrence.


Photographs taken of a display of evidence collected during the Lindbergh Kidnapping case is part of this large collection of photographs.

**CONSTITUTION**

The Lindbergh Kidnapping’s magnitude in the United States is confirmed by its mention in the Constitution of the United States. Article I, the Legislative Department includes a citation to the Lindbergh Law and the US Code number, 18 USC 1201, as an example of Federal criminal statutes “punishing interstate transportation of kidnapped persons.”


GOVERNMENT RESOURCES – STATE OF NEW JERSEY

LAWS


An index and digest, produced every two years, of US legislation.

Part I, "Index to State Legislation" section, checking under Kidnapping for New Jersey, one learns that on May 24, 1932, NJ passed Law #264. See page 290-191 of Laws of New Jersey.

Part II, "Digest of Important Statutory Changes", under Kidnapping, NJ is again noted for passage of 164 in 1932.


Law 164 is presented in its entirety and noted as approved on May 24, 1932.

- Ibid. (pp. 738-739).

Also found, upon checking the index of this reference, is a proclamation by Governor A. H. Moore regarding this law and making specific reference of the Lindbergh Kidnapping.


Checking under Kidnapping: NJ:

Threat, penalty 1933 Je 26-p 846-847 c 322.

Penalties 1933 Sp 5 p 1057-1058 c 374.

Proposed Bills:


1. Senate Bill No. 344 - "A further supplement to an act entitled 'An act for the punishment of crimes' (Revision of 1898), approved June 14, 1898."

2. June 8, 1932. Senate Bill No. 344 taken up, read a second time, considered by sections, agreed to, ordered to be printed, and to have a third reading. Page 651


Unable to do further research as the *New Jersey Legislative Guide* is unavailable in Alexander Library for the periods between 1920 and 1937 and an alternative reference, the *New Jersey Legislative Journal*, did not begin publication until 1935.

Although *New Jersey Legislative Index* volumes for the period of time being researched in this guide are unavailable, checking the first available volume does still offer some interesting information.

February 8, 1932. Assembly bill A191 presented by Assembly Haydn Proctor, Mercer County, to the Judiciary Committee for the appropriation of $25,000 for payment of Lindbergh ransom money.


March 1, 1937. A191 reported, read a second time, passed Assembly.


March 8, 1937. A191 received in Senate, presented to Judiciary Committee.


March 22, 1937. A191 reported, read a second time.


April 5, 1937. A191 passed Senate.


April 14, 1937. A191 approved, Ch. 19.

An important provision of the American legislative system is the use of precedent. This is utilized in a past and future methodology; that is, today’s case will cite previous cases that supports its premise. Likewise, future cases will draw upon today’s case to prove their point. Employing the Shepard’s Citations database supplies cases cited by the State vs. Hauptmann and those subsequent cases citing this case.

Inputting Hauptmann as a party name search for New Jersey Cases supplies information from *West’s Atlantic Reporter* (Vol. 180, case 809) and *New Jersey Law Reports* (Vol. 115, page 412) and a goodly number of cases cited. Further checking the Federal Supplement imparts information for Anna Hauptmann’s 1983 suit (Hauptmann vs. Wilentz) to reverse her husband’s guilty verdict. These citations are of great value for further research and are offered for those
pursuing such. For the purpose of this study, however, it is enough to understand the existence and purpose of this resource.

STATE AGENCIES

1. New Jersey State Archives
   225 West State Street, Dept of State Building – Level 2
   P. O. Box 307
   Trenton, NJ 08625-0307
   609-292-6260
   http://www.state.nj.us/state/darm/archives.html

The Division of Archives and Records Management (DARM), a subdivision of the N. J. Department of State, oversees the management of all New Jersey state, county and local governmental records. The records are stored at the New Jersey State Archives in Trenton. While much of the Lindbergh records are duplicates of the original information at the New Jersey State Police Museum and Learning Center, there are some exclusive items to be accessed at this site. These can be viewed only under the direction and supervision of an in-house archivist. Some items are especially valuable and are noted as such.

Unique items:

  
  Flemington, NJ: Hunterdon County Circuit Court.

  Actual court stenographer tapes from the trial, which can only be read by a court reporter machine.


  Flemington, NJ: Hunterdon County Circuit Court.

  Gregg Script stenographic notebooks taken during the trial as a backup for the court stenographic machine.

Special permission is needed to view due to fragile condition, historical significance, and one-of-a-kind stature.

- *Hunterdon County Democrat* from 1888-1982. [Microfilm].

Inclusive newspaper coverage of all Lindbergh years.


Prepared by Arthur Koehler, the wood specialist whose testimony regarding the ladder used to abduct the baby, this ephemeral record is quite unique. Special permission is needed to view due to fragile condition, historical significance, and one-of-a-kind stature.

Volume 1 documents Koehler’s extensive display of his analysis of the ladder and all aspects pertaining to his testimony thereof. Volume 2 documents handwriting analysis and testimony of document experts Albert S. Osborn, considered one of the foremost authorities in the field at that time.


Complete trial transcript of the State of NJ v Bruno Richard Hauptmann.


Duplicate:

Includes original typescript and photocopied transcripts of the trial proceedings.


24 8” x 10” black and white photographs of trial evidence.


Included are files of Anna Hauptmann v David T. Wilentz, et al, from Mrs. Hauptmann’s 1981 appeal on the behalf of her husband. Transcripts from the 32 days of the trial, copies of briefs and motions, correspondence, and research materials are all found in these files.

2. The New Jersey State Library
185 West State Street
Trenton NJ USA 08625
609-292-6220
[www.njstatelib.org](http://www.njstatelib.org)

online catalog available at [www.njstatelib.org.webclient.html](http://www.njstatelib.org.webclient.html)


A bibliography of resources specific to Charles Lindbergh, Bruno Hauptmann, and the kidnapping.

Compiled by the Archives and History department of the library, this collection of 11 periodical articles represents less well known pieces covering the topic and not as readily available as the more popularized articles.

3. New Jersey State Police Museum  
P. O. Box 7068, River Road  
West Trenton, NJ 08628  
609-882-2000 ext. 6400

The New Jersey State Police Museum houses the largest collection of Lindbergh memorabilia available and maintains a extensive research library on the Lindbergh case. This is a veritable treasure trove of research material. Mark Falzini, the museum archivist is extremely knowledgeable and very helpful. Due to the 1981 release of all Lindbergh files, much of the original physical evidence is housed here, along with a plethora of relevant material.


Compiled by the museum’s archivist, this bibliography includes a comprehensive listing of materials produced and published on and about the subject.

- New Jersey Division of State Police. (1932). *$25,000 Reward!: for information resulting in the apprehension and conviction of the kidnappers of Charles A. Lindbergh, Jr.* [Broadside].  

Just the very fact that the US GPO produced this widely distributed 69 x 43 cm broadside attests to the extraordinary popularity on a national level of Charles Lindbergh. Reproduced in many publications covering the kidnapping and subsequent trial, an original is available for view at the New Jersey State Police Museum display. Ephemeral in nature while an iconic image of the era, it is no longer available from the GPO.
This recent publication, intended to enhance the experience of first-time visitors to the museum, includes a section on the Lindbergh Kidnapping. Succinct in its presentation, it nevertheless serves as an excellent prelude to a museum visit.

While too numerous to enumerate individually, a condensed listing of some of the resources must be included herewith.

   The daily log book for all station activity of the period.

2. Original New Jersey State Police Investigation Reports

   As summarized in the introduction, this report is “a compilation of all material presently contained in the files of the New York office” of the FBI.

   44 boxes of materials represent the case files of the FBI’s investigation. While the majority of information covers the period of 1932 to 1938, material continued to be added until 1982.

   Investigations regarding British subjects involved in the Lindbergh household at the time of the kidnapping.

6. Metropolitan Police. *Correspondence, statements and background checks.* (1932).
Includes reports from the Metropolitan Police (Scotland Yard, United Kingdom) into the backgrounds of Lindbergh servants Violet Sharp and Betty Gow.

7. Sachs Standasamt Leipzig (Bureau of Vital Statistics). Documents and translations. German Reich State of Saxony Consulate of USA @ Leipzig

Information regarding Hauptmann’s arrest in Leipzig, Germany.

8. Das Stadtarchiv Kamenz (city files of Kamenz).

Correspondence and articles from the Mayor’s office, Kamenz, Germany (Das Korrespondenzarchiv des Burgermeisters) – Hauptmann’s place of birth.

The inventory also includes the files of many principals involved, such as Colonel H. Norman Schwarzkopf (NJ State Police Director); David Wilentz (Attorney General); Harold Hoffman (NJ Governor); Violet Sharp (Lindbergh servant). Statements taken by the State Police, videotapes, cassette tapes, microfilm, photographs, negatives, microscope slides of evidence, and more are stored in these files.

Following his conviction, Hauptmann unsuccessfully appealed the guilty verdict to the Court of Errors and Appeals of the State of New Jersey. The report of this appeal is available at several different locations. Three of these are cited below.

  http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/Hauptmann/hauptmannappeal.html

The finding of the court is available at this site in its entirety.


Volumes One through Ten include the original court proceedings, Volume Eleven is an appendix, and Volume Twelve is the brief for the plaintiff in error. Available from Special Collections, Alexander Library, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ and from the Library of Congress, Washington, DC.


1. Hard Copy: NJ State Archives, Department of State Building, P. O. Box 307, Trenton, NJ 08625-0307 (609) 292-6260.


There is a fee for this service. It is, however, also available for view at the New Jersey State Police Museum.

GOVERNORS’ PAPERS


On October 9, 1981, NJ Governor Byrne ordered and directed the release of information relevant to the investigation of the kidnapping, making it available to the public. First discovered in Fisher’s monograph, copies of this order are available in several formats.


http://www.rci.rutgers.edu/~axellute/njfoieos.html#eo110

Online at Rutgers University Law Library, Newark, NJ.

Annotation to the order; however, the full text is not included.


This news release details the background behind the pending release by Governor Byrne after another appeal by Hauptmann’s widow, Anna Hauptmann.

In the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey: Hauptmann, plaintiff, v. David T. Wilentz, et al., defendants: plaintiff’s proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law, submitted prior to ruling on motion to discuss. (1982).

Anna Hauptmann’s proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law regarding the 1935 trial.


The brief of Civil action #81-3177 wherein the State requests a motion to dismiss an amended complaint against state defendants.

Both of these briefs are available at the New Jersey State Library. This attempt of Bruno Hauptmann’s widow to reverse the guilty verdict was unsuccessful. As her husband did before her, Anna Hauptmann would die defending his honor and protesting his innocence.

GOVERNMENT RESOURCES - LOCAL

- Hunterdon County Historical Society 114 Main Street, Flemington, NJ 08822. 908-782-1091.

Museum inventory, ranging from 1932 to 1985, includes but is not limited to:
1. Trial Transcript

2. 75 folders of assorted information

Articles:

- Daily Home News New Brunswick, NJ
- Easton Express Easton, PA
- Frenchtown Home News Frenchtown, NJ
- Hunterdon County Democrat Flemington, NJ
- Jersey Journal Jersey City, NJ
- London Times London, UK
- Sunday Times-Advertiser Trenton, NJ
- Upper Peninsula Times Upper Peninsula, MI
- Waterbury American Waterbury, CN

Broadsides

FBI correspondence, notes, memos

Lie detector test plea – Hauptmann

Photographs

Assorted memorabilia

Papers of James and Thomas Kelly, Independent investigators.


- County of Hunterdon Records Management Office, Robert L. Greene, Jr., Record Management Analyst. 9098-806-4150. Trial transcript bound copy.
METHODOLOGY

My mother spent her childhood and young adulthood in Flemington and managed to attend the Lindbergh trial daily. As a long time resident of Hunterdon county myself, the Lindbergh Kidnapping Case has held a prolonged fascination for me. It seemed logical to begin in a manner to educate the reader from a beginner’s view, making the first resource the home site for Hunterdon County. Following with a basic search engine, I explored as much general information as possible which seemed appropriate, overlooking the more lurid and less-reliable sources, such as http://www.crimelibrary.com and http://www.celebritymorgue.com. Also, some of the government agencies, such as the NJ State Library and the New Jersey State Archives, came to my attention via web searching.

Next came researching government sources, such as GPO Access, via the Internet. While there are certainly resources available via the web, it soon became clear that hands-on investigation was necessary. The Government Documents section of Alexander Library at Rutgers University was an invaluable repository for Legislative and Executive action, both at the Federal and State level. This searching was purely linear in nature from the beginning date of the tragedy in correlation with the manner of information flow of government action. Given the time frame of the major events, however, there was a bit of frustration at this point since some of the tools are missing or no longer available. These gaps have been presented in the text. The Special Collections Department of Alexander Library yielded quite a bit of information. While much of this is in the form of non-governmental monographs not cited herewith, these were helpful in establishing the range of theories which surround the case.

Interspersed with these library searches were visits to the various departments cited herewith. Materials available at the New Jersey State Library, New Jersey State Archives,
Hunterdon Historical Society, and Hunterdon Records Management Office were all viewed firsthand. While many of the State Police Museum exhibits were reviewed, the multitude made it impractical to see them all. Materials at the Library of Congress and National Archives and Records Administration were not reviewed.

Altogether, a wide range of materials and tools were accessed. Given the limited scope of this project, there are many more resources and avenues that were not pursued. The Lindbergh Kidnapping Case, a fascinating topic that is still enshrouded in mystery and controversy, invites this researcher to a more extensive and in-depth search. Given the breadth of published information in all manner of media, it is apparently a notion shared by many.
PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED

- **Autographics** – This government website has no information on the Lindbergh kidnapping; only on Lindbergh’s flight history and on San Diego airport

- **Congressional Record** – Index available but not the Daily Digest

- **Congressional Weekly** – Not available for the time period.

  Availability: 1948-1961 microprint; 1951 – print

- **Executive Orders** – found difficult to track.
  
  - **NJ Governor’s Executive Order Citator**. Thought this would list and describe executive orders. However, only a record of subsequent changes (ie: repealed, reversed, etc.) 1981 – 110 no comments so unchanged but no other information.

  - [http://www.state.nj.us/infobank/circular/eoindex.htm](http://www.state.nj.us/infobank/circular/eoindex.htm) – Only executive order information is from Governor Whitman’s administrative and some from recent administrations. Only one from Governor Byrne listed; however, it is not #110!

- **Facts on File** – Rutgers University Library system begins at 1940. Substituted Keening’s Contemporary Archives in its stead.


- **Guide to Popular Names** – no information available.


- **The Legal Information Institute at Cornell University Law School** – [http://www.law.cornell.edu](http://www.law.cornell.edu)

- **New Jersey Bills** – [http://www.njleg.state.nj.us](http://www.njleg.state.nj.us) – no help; only recent information


Lindbergh Law or Lindbergh Act – not found searching in GPO or Thomas

Nothing referenced under the name

- USSCAN - does not begin until 1941

- “Federal Kidnapping Law” – did not realize this was the actual name of the bill until late in research. This may have been a help in searching.

- *The public papers and addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt.* Very surprised that FDR makes no mention of the Lindbergh case or its impact on the laws and American society.