

LITHUANIAN RESOURCES AT SELECTED LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES, AND MUSEUMS IN THE UNITED STATES

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This paper describes the development of the online Directory of Lithuanian Resources at Selected Libraries, Archives, and Museums in the United States. Eighty-six potential sources of information about scholarly and non-scholarly printed materials as well as archival collections, museum artifacts, and audio-visual materials were identified from references in publications, previous surveys, and information obtained from Web sites of organizations. Based on available information, draft descriptions of the holdings or collections were prepared for 84 organizations and sent to them for verification and correction. Revised records for the 82 sources constitute the content of the Directory. The 82 sources contain an extensive and wide variety of materials, including large collections of books, serials, newspapers, and other materials in Lithuanian; substantial university and public library collections of Lithuanian-related materials; hundreds of named archives related to individuals, families, and groups; special collections of Lithuanian coins, military-related items, folk art, and memorabilia; and oral histories and films based on the experiences of Lithuanian émigrés.

Key words: *Lithuanian resources, printed materials, archival collections, museum artifacts, audio-visual materials*

INTRODUCTION

This paper describes the development of the Web-based *Directory of Lithuanian Resources at Selected Libraries, Archives, and Museums in the United States*¹ and provides a brief

¹ The author is indebted to Dale Lukas for suggesting development of the *Directory* and for her invaluable assistance at all stages in its development.

analysis of the information contained in the *Directory*. Unlike previous studies of Lithuanian materials in the United States that primarily focused on scholarly resources, the present investigation included scholarly and non-scholarly printed and audio-visual materials as well museum artifacts. In addition, the present survey updates information provided by previous

studies of holdings of libraries and archives in the United States [1; 3–12]. However, neither this report nor the accompanying *Directory* provides the rich detail of Kantautas [8–10] or Balys [1], each of which listed individual titles of Lithuanian works in selected libraries, archives, and museums in the United States. Still, the information contained in the *Directory* provides current information about the content and variation among Lithuanian materials at 80 collections in the United States plus one collection that was transferred to Lithuania and another that is in the process of being transferred there.

METHOD

A modified form of the survey method was used to obtain information reported in the *Directory*. As with all surveys, the first task was to select the organizations to be included in the survey. This was done by:

- Identifying archives with Lithuanian materials listed in Archives USA, a database of archives held by organizations in the United States;
- Reviewing sources of Lithuanian materials identified in publications [4–6; 9; 12; 14];
- Conducting Web searches using Google as the search engine;
- Drawing on sources identified by the Lukas survey [13]; and
- Identifying libraries of member institutions of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS).

Selection of college or university libraries was first limited to those cited in previous surveys or those that are members of the AAASA. In addition, a minimum of 1,000 Lithuanian-related works was established as a further selection criterion. Otherwise, virtually all of the nearly 7,000 college and university libraries in the United States would have to be included, making the *Directory* far less useful. After potential sources were identified, information from publications, previous directories, Web pages, and the Lukas survey [13] was used to create draft descriptions of the sources and their collections. These descriptions formed the records included in the *Directory*. A full record consists of:

- The name of the source in Lithuanian, if applicable, and, in all cases, in English;
- Postal address;
- Web address;
- Brief description of holdings (the central content of the *Directory*);
- Percentage of titles in Lithuanian;
- Titles of rare or unique works;
- Date established;
- Accessibility – days and hours accessible; whether reference or loan service is provided;
- Contact information;
- A note describing additional features of the holdings or collection.

Librarians, archivists, or curators were asked to review the draft record for their organization, correct errors, and to provide missing information. Most reviews were completed in the form of email exchanges

with a librarian, archivist, or curator at the selected sources. In some cases, telephone interviews were used. Visits were used to obtain information from sources at the Library of Congress. For a few university libraries, information was obtained solely from the libraries' Web sites without further verification. Information was obtained during the period from March through July 2007.

The initial literature search produced 86 potential sources. Initial information collection, however, revealed that 2 collections, The Marian Fathers Library, Chicago, IL, and the Marian Fathers Library, Thompson, CT, are being relocated at new, and, at the time of the survey, unknown locations. Lack of response led to the deletion of additional 2 sources, each of which held few materials related to Lithuania. After these sources were deleted, 82 sources remained². Records developed for each of the remaining sources appear in the *Directory*. These records include references to the Ausrininko Dr. Jono Sliup Archyvas, now being transferred to Siaulai University, and the Jesuit Fathers of Della Strada Library, that was distributed among Jesuit secondary schools in Vilnius and Kaunas. The latter two collections are cited in the *Directory* because the original collections were developed in the United States.

Although most descriptions of holdings were verified by sources, some of the

² Various collections at the Library of Congress are described as separate collections as each is a unique set of materials.

records are less than complete. The most frequent forms of non-response occurred for either or both of two of fields; namely, the percentage of titles in Lithuanian and the titles of rare or unique works: each was difficult for most university libraries to estimate. When information was not obtained for a field, the field was deleted in preparing the record for that source. Appendix A provides an illustrative record.

RESULTS

Two sets of results are presented: (1) the description of the *Directory*; and (2) a brief analysis of the holdings of the sources included in the present survey.

The *Directory*

The *Directory* is assessable online at: <www.lithuanian-american.org>. This will open the home page of the site. On the right side of the page is a list of links to additional pages on the site. One of these links opens "Lithuanian Archives in the US". Clicking on this link reveals a list of names of libraries, archives, and museums holding Lithuanian materials. As described earlier, records are presented in alphabetical order, based on the name of the source. For organizations having a Lithuanian name, the Lithuanian name is used; for others, the English name is used. Each source is listed by its name and address. At right side of this page, there is a link, "Annotated Directory". Clicking on this link opens the set of alphabetically listed records with descriptive and other information about each source.

Analyses

Analyses are limited to describing a few of the salient features of the diverse set of records contained in the *Directory*. Information contained in the “Descriptions” field of records was used to classify sources as:

- Libraries with substantial holdings in Lithuanian;
- Libraries with substantial holdings related to Lithuania or Lithuanian topics; or
- Other sets of holdings

Libraries with substantial holdings in Lithuanian

Table 1 shows the number and percentages of titles in Lithuanian held by libraries with a substantial portion of their titles in Lithuanian. Numbers of volumes ranged from 113,000 for the Lithuanian World Archives to 200 held by the Newberry Library. Three of the 6 libraries with at least 9,000 volumes, the Lithuanian World Archives, the Jonas Dainaukas Library of Lithuanian History, and the Lithuanian Institute of Education, are divisions of the Lithuanian Research and Studies Center (LRSC), Chicago, IL. Other large collections of works in Lithuanian include ALKA, the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture, and the Library of Congress. Five libraries, with smaller collections, primarily serve local Lithuanian-American communities in their respective cities. These are the American Lithuanian Club Library, St Petersburg, FL; Lithuanian National Library, Baltimore, MD; the

Lithuanian Cultural Center, Philadelphia, PA; Chicago Lithuanian School, Chicago, IL; and the Sv. Kazimiero Lituaništosios Mokymosi Biblioteka, Los Angeles, CA. Three other libraries with substantial holdings in Lithuanian are the Immaculate Conception Convent Library, the Sisters of St. Casimir Library, and the Zilevicius-Kreivenas Musicology Archive of the LRSC. The other libraries The Newberry Library is included, even though it has a relatively small number of volumes in Lithuanian, because most of its holdings consist of unique or rare works from the 19th century or early Lithuanian grammars and pastoral or devotional literature. Information was not obtained about use or users of the libraries and archives listed in Table 1.

Libraries listed in Table 1 with known unique or rare titles are [8]:

- ALKA
- The Balzekas Library of Lithuanian Culture
- The Immaculate Conception Convent Library
- The Lithuanian World Archive
- The Sisters of St. Casimir Library and Museum

The Lithuanian World Archives also has a collection of 2,300 Lithuanian periodicals. The Lithuanian Cultural Center has a much smaller collection, but many of the titles in this collection are out-of-print editions.

The median number of volumes at the 15 libraries is 4,700.

TABLE 1. Numbers and percentages of volumes in Lithuanian held by libraries in the United States with substantial holdings in Lithuanian, July 2007

Name of library	Number of volumes	Percentage in Lithuanian
Lithuanian World Archives (LRSC)	113,000	95
Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture	75,000	78
ALKA	60,000	80
Library of Congress, General Collection	24,000	60
Jonas Dainaukas Library of Lithuanian History (LRSC)	13,800	60
Lithuanian Institute of Education (LRSC)	9,000	90
Immaculate Conception Convent Library	5,000	33
American Lithuanian Club Library	4,700	98
Sisters of St. Casimir Library	4,100	94
Lithuanian National Library (Baltimore)	4,000	90
Lithuanian Cultural Center (Philadelphia)	3,000	99
Chicago Lithuanian School	3,000	100
Sv. Kazimiero Lituanistikos Mokyklos Biblioteka	2,000	95
Zilevicius-Kreivenas Musicology Archive	2,000	85
The Newberry Library	200	60–80

Libraries with substantial holdings related to Lithuania

The libraries listed in Table 2 have at least 1,000 volumes associated with the key work of “Lithuania”³. The number of volumes ranged from 24,000 for the general collection of the Library of Congress to 1,000 for the University of Texas. Of the 19 libraries listed, 15 are university libraries with collections selected for use by graduate and undergraduate students and fac-

³ There are, no doubt, additional academic and public libraries with at least 1,000 titles pertaining to Lithuania or Lithuanian topics. Selection criteria used in the present survey, that may have eliminated qualifying libraries, were described earlier. Also, counts for holdings are based on frequencies reported in catalogs accessible on the Web sites of libraries or provided in response to inquiries.

ulty; 2 are public libraries, the New York Public Library and the Cleveland Public Library; the remaining 2 libraries are the Library of Congress and the library of the Immigration Research Center at the University of Minnesota.

Based on Kantautas [8], libraries in this category with numbers of rare or unique titles related to Lithuania are:

- The Library of Congress
- Harvard Library
- Yale University Library
- University of Chicago Library
- Princeton University Library

The median number of volumes at the 19 university libraries listed in Table 2 is 3,337.

Academic and public libraries with substantial Lithuanian holdings also vary in

TABLE 2. University and public libraries with substantial holdings pertaining to Lithuania, numbers of volumes, July 2007

Name of library	Number of volumes
Library of Congress, General Collection	24,000
Harvard University Library (Widener Library)	10,000
New York Public Library	9,542
Kent State University Library	7,000
University of Wisconsin (Madison Libraries)	5,053
Yale University Library	4,500
Stanford University Library	4,712
University of Pennsylvania Libraries	4,500
University of Chicago Library	3,700
Columbia University Library	3,337
Cleveland Public Library	3,300
University of Washington Library	3,120
Ohio State University Library	2,782
Princeton University Library	2,200
University of Michigan Library	1,773
University of Illinois at Chicago Library	1,647
University of Kansas Library	1,391
Immigration History Research Center	1,250
University of Texas Library	1,000

terms of acquisition of Lithuanian imprints published since 1998. An unpublished report [2] indicated that the Library of Congress had acquired the largest number of these imprints; followed by the University of Washington Libraries, the New York Public Library, the Harvard University Libraries, and the Stanford University Libraries. Of the other libraries listed in Table 2, the University of Pennsylvania Libraries, University of Wisconsin-Madison Libraries,

Yale University Libraries, Kent State University Libraries, and the University of Pittsburgh Libraries have acquired relatively smaller numbers of Lithuanian imprints since 1998. See Figure.

The most dynamically growing collections of recent Lithuanian imprints are at the Library of Congress, the University of Washington Libraries, the New York Public Library, the Harvard University Libraries, and the Stanford University Libraries. Since the 1990s, the growth of some established collections, such as those at the University of Pennsylvania Libraries, the University of Wisconsin Libraries, and the Kent State University Libraries, has decelerated.

Other sets of holdings

The *Directory* includes two kinds of archives: (1) named archives pertaining to a single individual, family, or group; and (2) those containing multiple collections of archives. Examples of archives pertaining to single entities include:

- The Senn papers at the Wisconsin Historical Society and at the University of Wisconsin Libraries; and
- The Jack Jatis collection at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Other archives contain dozens or even hundreds of separate collections related to various individuals, families, or organizations. Separate collections within these larger sets of collections are not identified in the *Directory*. Doing so would have produced an unnecessarily long document. Moreover, with the *Directory* available as a

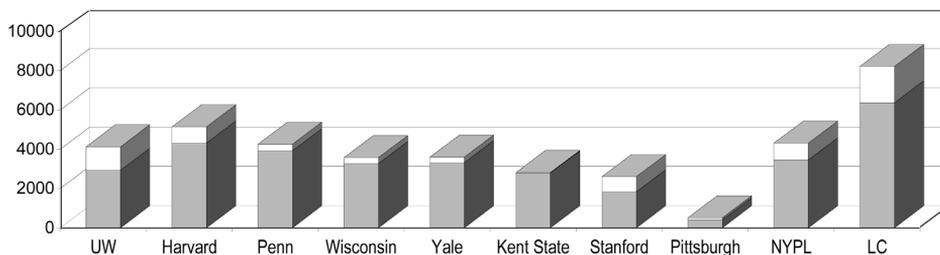


FIGURE. Lithuanian Studies Collections in North American University Libraries Growth Trends, 1990s-Present

Lower part = Lithuanian imprints (titles) published before 1998 and held by the library

Upper part = Lithuanian imprints (titles) published since 1998 and held by the library

Note: these counts are approximate only and do not include *Lituanica* – émigré materials published outside of Lithuania in Germany, the U.S. and elsewhere. Biggins [2].

Web site (www.lithuanian-american.org), the names of individual collections contained within most larger archives were deemed as unnecessary. Some of the archives and library collections are searchable on the Web sites of the host organizations; information about individual collections at other archives can be obtained by contacting the archive. Archives containing multiple collections include:

- ALKA, with 220 named collections;
- The Balch Collection, now at the Pennsylvania Historical Society;
- The Baltimore Lithuanian Hall and Museum;
- The Hoover Institution on War, Revolution, and Peace, Stanford University;
- The Immigration History Research Center [12];
- The Lithuanian Scouts Association; and

- The National Archives and Records Administration.

A number of sources contain special collections of Lithuanian materials. These include the:

- Anthracite Heritage Museum and Iron Furnaces, that highlights life in the mines, mills, factories, and communities of northeast Pennsylvania where many immigrants from Lithuania settled;
- Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture, which features “Lithuania Through the Ages” and contains collections of coins, currency, tokens, medals, military orders and decorations;
- Henry L. Gadis Military Collection, with thousands of Lithuanian military items from the medieval to present period; features guns, swords, uniforms, and decorations used or made for the Lithuanian military;

- Baltimore Lithuanian Hall Museum and Archive, displays folk art artifacts, wood carvings, artwork, amber jewelry and other cultural and historical exhibits;
- S. Burdrys Photo Archive, which includes hundreds of photographs of places and events in Lithuania and the United States (part of the Lithuanian Research and Studies Center); and the
- Zilevicius-Kreivenas Musicology Archive, with over 2,000 books and other materials about Lithuanian music (also part of the Lithuanian Research and Studies Center).

The DRAUGAS collection of bound issues of the newspaper since 1910 represents another unique source of information about Lithuania and Lithuanian-American activities. In addition, the following sources have extensive collections of Lithuanian or Lithuanian-related newspapers or serials:

- ALKA
- The Balch Ethic Studies Collection
- The Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture
- The Cleveland Public Library
- Harvard University (Widener) Library
- The Immaculate Conception Convent Library
- The Immigration History Research Center

- Kent State Libraries
- Library of Congress, European Division, General Collection
- The Lithuanian National Library (Baltimore, MD)
- The Lithuanian World Archives
- The New York Public Library
- The Sisters of St. Casimir Convent Library and Museum

Additional information from current serial articles pertaining to Lithuania and Lithuanian topics is available online through subscription from JSTORE, a full text, online service.

The *Directory* also provides information in the form of oral histories or films based on the experiences of expatriate Lithuanians.

FINAL NOTE

The author hopes that the *Directory* developed from this investigation and the few analyses presented in this paper will be useful to scholars and others interested in Lithuanian materials in libraries, archives, and museums in the United States. Perhaps scholars with knowledge of the Lithuanian language and culture will augment information contained in the *Directory* and further increase its value for users.

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EXAMPLE OF RECORD IN THE DIRECTORY
OF LITHUANIAN MATERIALS
AT SELECTED LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES,
AND MUSEUMS IN THE UNITED STATES

Švč. Mergelės Marijos Nekalto Prasidėjimo Vienuolyno Biblioteka,
Immaculate Conception of the BVM Convent Library
600 Liberty Highway
Putnam CT 06260-2503

Description: Contains 15,000 books covering the fields of fiction, poetry, language, arts, history, political/social sciences, religion and philosophy, folklore/folk art, and reference works, including Lithuanian children's literature, Lithuanian art books, Lithuanian bibles, and a collection of Lithuanian journals.

Percentage of titles in Lithuanian:
33%

Titles of rare or unique works in collection: Collection of Lithuanian Bibles and publications of the Lithuanian Catholic Science Academy.

Date established: 1944

Accessibility

Days accessible: By appointment

Appointment necessary? Yes

Reference service provided? Yes

Loan service available? No

Contact

Ona Simaitiene cares for the Library. For reference and appointments – Sister Bernadera, 860 928 7955

Notes: Next to the Library is a small cultural museum, with displays of woodcarvings, amber, and other folk art objects.

LITUANIKOS ŠALTINIAI KAI KURIOSE
JAV BIBLIOTEKOSE, MUZIEJUOSE IR ARCHYVUOSE

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Santrauka

Straipsnyje nagrinėjamas internetinio žinyno *Directory of Lithuanian Resources at Selected Libraries, Archives, and Museums in the United States* (Lituanikos šaltinių kai kuriose bibliotekose, archyvuose ir muziejuose žinynas; prieiga per: www.lithuanian-american.org) kūrimas. Iš įvairių leidinių, apžvalgų ir organizacijų tinklo svetainių buvo surinkta informacija apie 86 potencialius šaltinius – apie mokslinę ir nemok-

linę spausdintą medžiagą, archyvų kolekcijas, muziejų eksponatus, vaizdo ir garso dokumentus. Du iš šių šaltinių buvo išbraukti iš sąrašo, nes archyvai buvo perkelti į naujas nežinomas vietas JAV. Likusios 84 organizacijos apibūdinotos remiantis turima informacija ir jų kolekcijų aprašais. Apibūdinimai buvo persiųsti patikrinti ir pataisyti. Į šį prašymą atsiliepė 82 organizacijos (arba 98 proc.) ir medžiaga apie jas buvo

įtraukta į žinyną. Šios organizacijos saugo daug įvairios medžiagos: didžiules knygų, tęstinių leidinių, laikraščių bei kitos medžiagos kolekcijas lietuvių kalba, reikšmingus universitetinių ir viešųjų bibliotekų fondus, susijusius su Lietuva, šimtus archyvinės medžiagos vienetų apie

asmenis, šeimas ar grupes, specialias lietuviškų monetų, kariškų daiktų, liaudies meno kūrinių, suvenyrų kolekcijas, žodinių istorijų įrašus ir filmus apie lietuvių emigrantų likimus. Tarp šių 82 aprašų – dvi JAV bibliotekos, kurios netrukus bus perkeltos į Lietuvą.

Įteikta 2007 m. lapkričio mėn.