

Complete Periodical Literature of Law Librarianship

By Michael J. Slinger, retired law library director and Emeritus Professor of Law, and Sarah C. Slinger, Associate Director for Research Services at the University of Georgia School of Law

WINNER OF THE 2025 JOSEPH L. ANDREWS LEGAL LITERATURE AWARD

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The *Complete Periodical Literature of Law Librarianship* is a groundbreaking resource, **three decades in the making**, that bridges the historical depth and contemporary challenges of the profession. Curated by a father-daughter editorial team with unparalleled expertise, this searchable HeinOnline database **features over 5,000 meticulously annotated articles**, empowering researchers to navigate the evolution of law librarianship in the United States and Canada with ease. From its exhaustive annotations to its user-friendly platform, this transformative tool is designed to illuminate the profession's past, inform its present, and inspire its future.



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“ *The Complete Periodical Literature of Law Librarianship is a game-changing resource for anyone researching the field. Painstakingly compiled over decades by Michael J. Slinger and Sarah C. Slinger, this unparalleled tool distills and annotates over 5,000 articles spanning the history of the profession—covering every major author, topic, and era. With expertly crafted summaries, subject indexing, and evaluations of each article's significance, it dramatically simplifies the research process. As a law library historian, writer, and editor, I can't imagine tackling any issue in law librarianship without it. My only regret is that it wasn't available sooner.*

Frank G. Houdek

Emeritus Professor, Southern Illinois University Simmons Law School; Former Editor of Law Library Journal (1994–2007); Past President of AALL (1996–97)

1. SIGNIFICANCE

Significance is assigned to each article and an article may have more than one significance value assigned to it. Users can browse, search, and filter search results by Significance. The Significance is appended after the article publication year.

Articles are assigned at least one of the following:

- **Landmark** = of both great value and lasting importance.
- **Continuing Value** = useful for current readers
- **Historical Value** = of historical interest

2. LIBRARY TYPE

Each article has been assigned a designation indicating the primary law library audience to which the article is most directed. The Library Type Categories are:

- General Libraries (2,000+ articles)
- Academic Law Libraries (1,400+ articles)
- Canada (350+ articles)
- Law Firm Libraries (350+ articles)
- State & Municipal Law Libraries (100+ articles)
- Federal Libraries (100 articles)
- Public Law Libraries (90 articles)
- County Law Libraries (80 articles)
- Court Libraries (70+ articles)
- Foreign & International Law Libraries & Law Librarians (65 articles)
- Bar Association Libraries (60+ articles)
- Private Law Libraries (50+ articles)
- Prison Law Libraries (35+ articles)
- And many more!

3. SUBJECTS

The *Complete Periodical Literature on Law Librarianship* features 100 subjects, streamlining your research process. These subjects include:

- Academic Law Libraries (1,700+ articles)
- Legal Research (1,200+ articles)
- Law Librarians (1,200+ articles)
- Administration of Law Libraries (1,000+ articles)
- Collection Development & Use (1,000+ articles)
- Law Librarians--Duties (1,000+ articles)
- Careers (800+ articles)
- Computer Assisted Research (850+ articles)
- Technology (750+ articles)
- Statistics (750+ articles)
- Teachers & Teaching (700+ articles)
- And many more!

4. ANNOTATIONS

The Annotations were written by the editors to provide the reader with a detailed look inside each article. These Annotations highlight the major themes and topics included within the article.

Anonymous. *A Great Law Library, the Interesting and Valuable Collection of Congress*. 58 Alb. L.J. 95-96 (1898). (Landmark; Historical Value)

Library Type:

- Federal Libraries

Subjects:

- Collection Development & Use
- Federal Libraries
- History of Law Libraries
- Importance of Libraries
- Law Library of Congress
- Library Architecture & Space Planning

Annotation +

This article, one of the oldest written about law libraries, describes the collection of the Law Library of Congress, whose core was formed with 1,300-1,400 volumes from Thomas Jefferson's personal law library. The author pleads for Congress to appropriate an adequate physical space for the Law Library, which at the time of this article was being housed in a portion of the Capitol basement.

BIBLIOGRAPHIES & GUIDES

The database also includes several hundred bibliographies, identified by the editors as valuable resources for the field of law librarianship. While these bibliographies may lack the detailed metadata assigned to articles, they remain highly relevant and are fully integrated into the custom search index. For added convenience, they are also listed separately under a dedicated *Bibliography & Research Guides* tab.

Bibliographies & Research Guides																									
1	2	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X
Maximu, Charles. <i>A Bibliographic Essay of Selected Secondary Sources on the Common Law and Customary Law of English-Speaking Sub-Saharan Africa</i> . (Bibliography & Research Guide) 66 Law Lib. J. 241																									
Billings, Carol D. <i>A Bibliographic Survey of Sources for a Study of the Law of Colonial and Territorial Louisiana</i> . (Bibliography & Research Guide) 23 Legal Reference Servs. Q. 1 (2004).																									
Gammeter, John S. <i>A Bibliography of American Workers' Compensation Commission Reports and Opinions</i> . (Bibliography & Research Guide) 28 Law Lib. J. 42 (1935).																									
Watts, Tim J. <i>A Bibliography of Arthur Goldberg</i> . (Bibliography & Research Guide) 71 Law Lib. J. 307 (1984-85).																									
Stern, William. <i>A Bibliography of Books and Articles on Mohammedan Law in the English Language</i> . (Bibliography & Research Guide) 43 Law Lib. J. 16 (1950). (Continuing Value; Historical Value)																									
Not-Yet Listed																									
Greenwood, Jane L. <i>A Bibliography of Legal Treatises of the District of Columbia</i> . (Bibliography & Research Guide) 39 Law Lib. J. 13 (1946).																									

HEINONLINE ARTICLE INTEGRATION

The full text of more than 90% of the articles in *Complete Periodical Literature of Law Librarianship* are available in HeinOnline. When an article is available in full text, it will appear as a hyperlink. Please note, a subscription to HeinOnline's Law Journal Library is required to access the full text.

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THE ALBANY LAW JOURNAL. 95

Addressing hard-head gray-beards like myself,
Flatter themselves that not with logic clear,
Or force of law do they compel our minds;
But that with wigs and gowns and tricks of art—
Parade dramatic—they attain their ends:
Yet we know better, or we think we know.
Shades of King John, and all ye stony lords
That forced the cowering King to sign the Scroll
Hight Magna Charta! shall we tear it up
Because it irks us? Throw away the shield
Because it chafes a little? Or since some few,
Either forewarned or stupid or over-wrought,
Forget their oaths, nor list to evidence,
And yield their senses to dramatic parade?
What is this life of ours—of which the law
Is but a part—but mere parade? It is
A never-ending play, tragic and comic
Entered inevitably, sometimes
And reason, laughter, tears, combine to form
The faces on multitudes humanity
And leave it what it is. But I must cease;
No sound of "challenge" rings across the court.
Methinks to-night I shall be late for tea;
My wife and little ones will nag along;
Whilst I with fellow-jurors, cheerfully
Gather round alien dishes. Never mind.
We must be home and warm and cozy.

and in our private capacities, it is true, we are insignificant men; we claim nothing out of this box above the common regard due to our humble, yet honest station; but, my lord, assembled here as a jury we cannot be insensible of the great importance of the office we now sustain. We feel afraid that we are appointed as you are, by the law and the Constitution, not only to act impartially between the king and his subjects, the offended and the offender, but to form the barrier of the people against the possible influence, prejudice or corruption of the bench, to which we do not wish to offer the smallest degree of disrespect, much less of insult. We say it the respect which one tribunal should pay to another for the common honor of both. This jury did not across the bench of partiality or oppression—no; we looked upon it as the sanctuary of truth and justice. Still, my lord, we cannot erase from our minds the records of our school books. By them we were taught that kings and judges are but fallible mortals, and that the seat of justice has been polluted by a Trevelyan, a Scroggs and a Jeffreys." The judge frowned at these words, but the intrepid juror thus proceeded: "My lord, I am but a poor man, yet I am a freeman subject and a member of the Constitution—may, I am now higher, for I am one of its representatives. I therefore claim, for myself,

ARTICLE SELECTION GUIDELINES

The following criteria were used to determine the articles included in the *Complete Periodical Literature of Law Librarianship*:

1. All scholarly articles on law librarianship topics with a United States and/or Canadian focus.
2. Non-scholarly law librarianship articles judged to be of practical use to law librarians, or articles that are of historical importance to law librarianship, with a United States and/or Canadian focus.
3. Articles on legal research or related instruction such as legal writing, authored by law librarians.
4. Articles on law librarianship or law library topics written by non-law librarians.
5. Articles on law librarianship in a foreign journal with a U.S. or Canadian focus.

Please note: Spanish-language articles that fit the above criteria, if authored by U.S. or Canadian law librarians, will be added in a future update.

Not included are:

1. Legal research, legal writing, or law school instruction articles written solely by non-law librarians.
2. Columns or regular features in non-scholarly law librarianship publications that, in the editors' judgement, are ephemeral.
3. Articles written by law librarians on non-law librarianship or non-legal research instruction topics.
4. Articles from regional law librarianship publications, such as AALL chapter publications.
5. Newsletter articles.
6. Articles on law librarianship that primarily have a foreign or international subject matter focus, unless they also have a significant comparative nexus with U.S. and/or Canadian law librarianship.
7. Books or book chapters.
8. Reports or proceedings from professional meetings unless they discuss substantive law librarianship topics.
9. Annotations or bibliographies or research guides are not provided.

Please note: the editors attempted to find and include every article on law librarianship that met the above criteria. Readers should contact the editors concerning any article not included that they believe meets the selection criteria.

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- Updates will be made to the HeinOnline database on an annual basis. No future print editions are planned.
- Subscribers of Spinelli's Law Library Reference Shelf receive a first-year 10% discount to the database.

ABOUT THE EDITORS

The *Complete Periodical Literature of Law Librarianship* represents 30 years of collaboration, and expertise from its editors, a father-daughter duo whose shared mission provides a unique multigenerational perspective on the profession.

Michael J. Slinger, a retired law library director and Emeritus Professor of Law, brings 38 years of professional experience, including leadership roles at renowned institutions like Notre Dame, Suffolk University, Cleveland State University, and Widener University. A seasoned educator and scholar, he has authored numerous articles and is a two-time recipient of the AALL Call for Papers Competition award.

Sarah C. Slinger, Associate Director for Research Services at the University of Georgia School of Law, is an accomplished educator and scholar with experience at institutions including Florida International University, the University of Miami, and the University of Michigan Law School. Her award-winning work spans law librarianship and environmental law, and she actively contributes to the field through academic publications and leadership roles on editorial boards of *Law Library Journal* and *Legal Reference Services Quarterly*.



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