CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY

ASK A LIBRARIAN | BASIC SEARCH | JOURNAL SEARCH | BROWSE | COLLECTION DISCOVERY

Sign in   Menu

Search anything

Library Catalog + Databases + Picture Catalog

ADVANCED SEARCH

All items ▾   that contain my query words ▾   anywhere in the record ▾

Welcome to the California State Library's multipurpose search tool for finding books, online resources (such as articles and e-books), photographs, videos and more!

Get your State Library card to be able to:

Renew books and other items on loan

View complete search results
(some databases' contents only display when you are signed in)

Save results and searches

Where can I get help?

Please fill out our Ask a librarian form to let us know what we can do for you.

Questions? Comments?
Let us know what you think!

Please note:

Not all the Library's collections or databases are searched through this tool. Some databases are only partially searched.

CONTACT US | PRIVACY POLICY | CONDITIONS OF USE

IS IT ONLINE?

Remote Research Options

California State Library
California History Section Staff
cslcal@library.ca.gov

Contents

Introduction

Want to access our materials from home? This guide will:

- Help you view and download library images
- Help you read library books online
- Discuss other remote access options
- Help you identify what information you'll need to supply to staff if you have questions about an item

Please see our research guides page for information on searching our resources including:

- Basic Search: Getting Started Searching our Catalog
- Advanced Search: Tips and Tricks
- Research in Person: Appointment Guide

Keep in mind that we have multiple access points you should consider consulting when doing research with our collections such as:

- The Library Catalog
- Our secondary databases (available remotely online):
  - California Information File II
  - City Directory Database
  - Phonebook Database
  - Gladding McBean Collection Architecture Database
- Our paper card files (available onsite only):
  - California Information File
  - Photo File
  - Map File

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact us using our ask-a-librarian service or via an email to cslcal@library.ca.gov

Picture Catalog Quick Start

Many of our images have been scanned and placed online. Follow the below steps to get started with finding them. For detailed general start-up instructions, consult our "Basic Search" guide on our research guides page.

- **Go to the library catalog:** https://catalog.library.ca.gov
- **Change your search default:**
    - Click on the dropdown to the right of the search box on a desktop or above it on a mobile (circled on visual)
    - Select "Picture Catalog"
- **Search:**
    - Type your search term into the search box (pointer on visual)
    - Hit enter or click on the magnifying glass (boxed on visual)
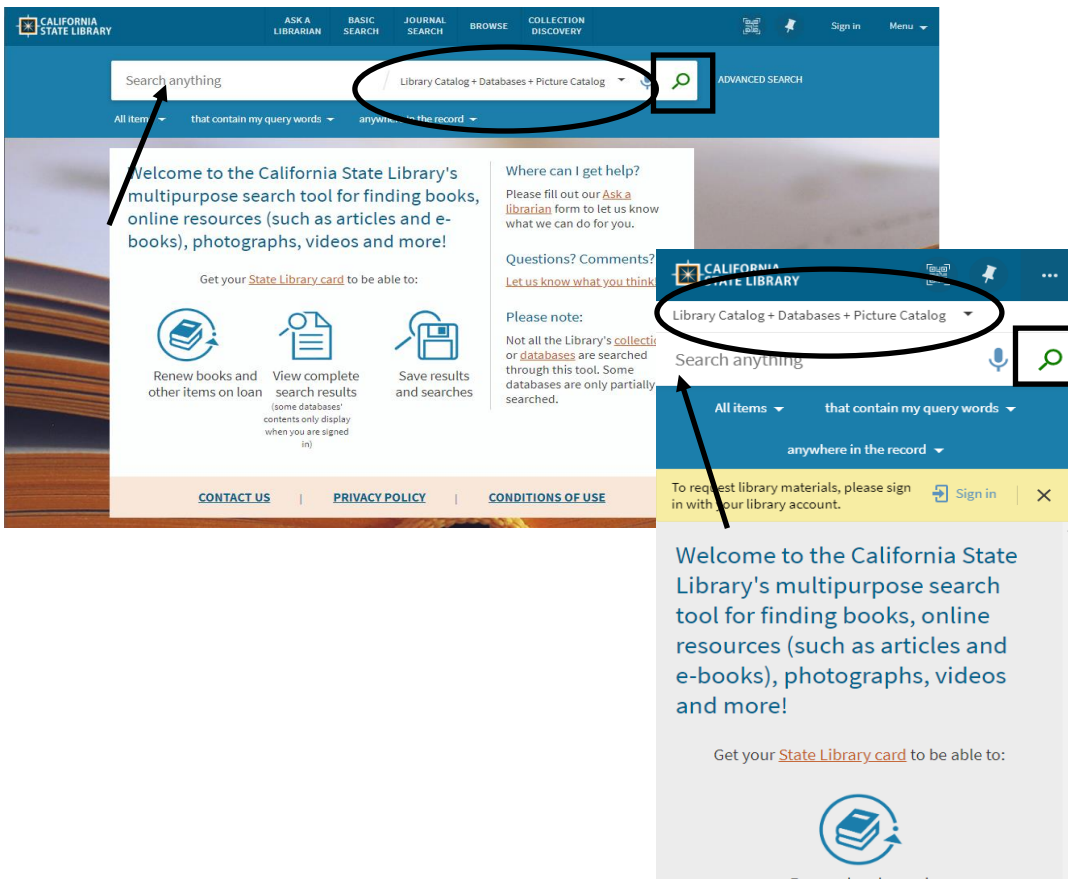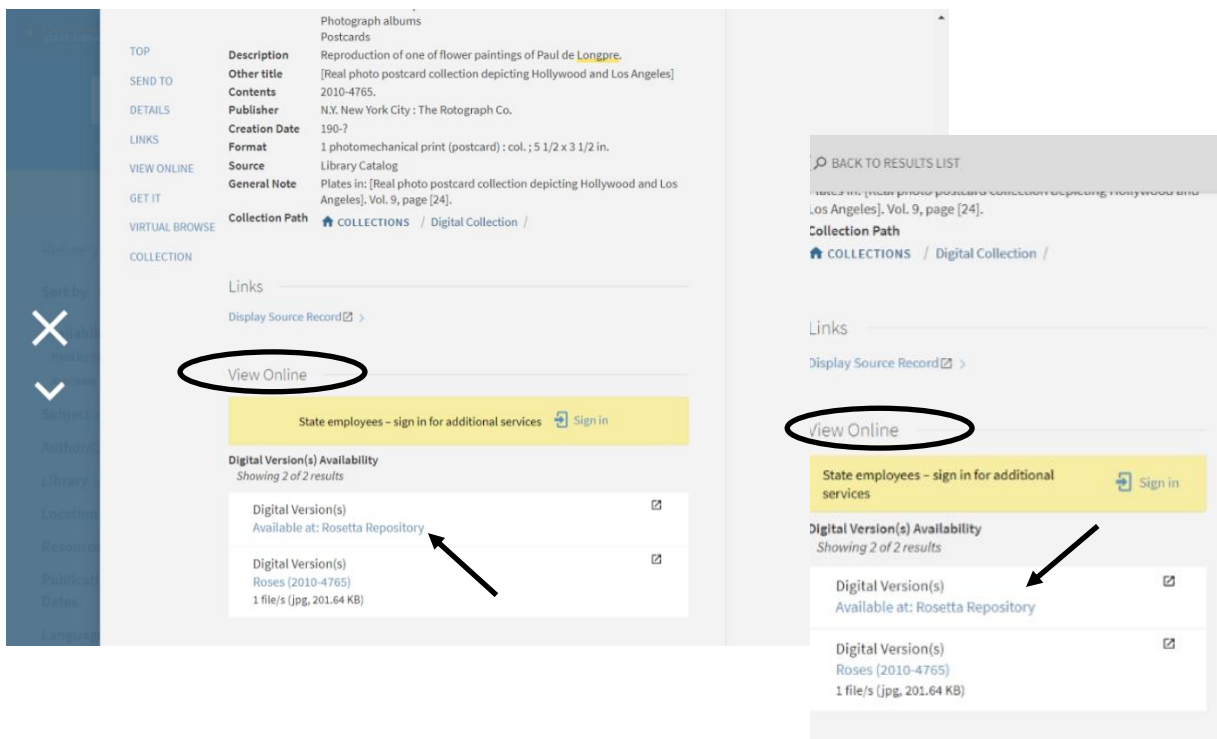

Figure 1: Desktop and mobile views of the library catalog, with the search default dropdown and search bars highlighted.

Viewing an Image Online

While you can only see thumbnail images in the general search results, you can get a detailed view using our Rosetta Repository. Here is how to get there.

- Find a relevant image in the catalog using the instructions on page 3
- Open the Item Record by clicking on the title
- Scroll to the "View Online" section (circled on visual)
- Click on "Available at: Rosetta Repository" (pointer on visual)
- A new window will open

Figure 2: Desktop and mobile views of the item record with "View Online" and "Available at: Rosetta Repository" highlighted.

Downloading Online Images

- Navigate to the Rosetta Repository version of the relevant image
- Locate the download types (JPEG and TIF)
    - **On a desktop:** Look for two blue bars to the left of the image (circled on visual)
    - **On a mobile:** Tap on the "list" icon (boxed on visual)
- Choose a download type
    - **For low-resolution JPEG:** Click the "Derivative Copy" bar
    - **For high-resolution TIF:** Click the "Preservation Master" bar
- Select the "Download" icon on the upper right (pointer on visual)
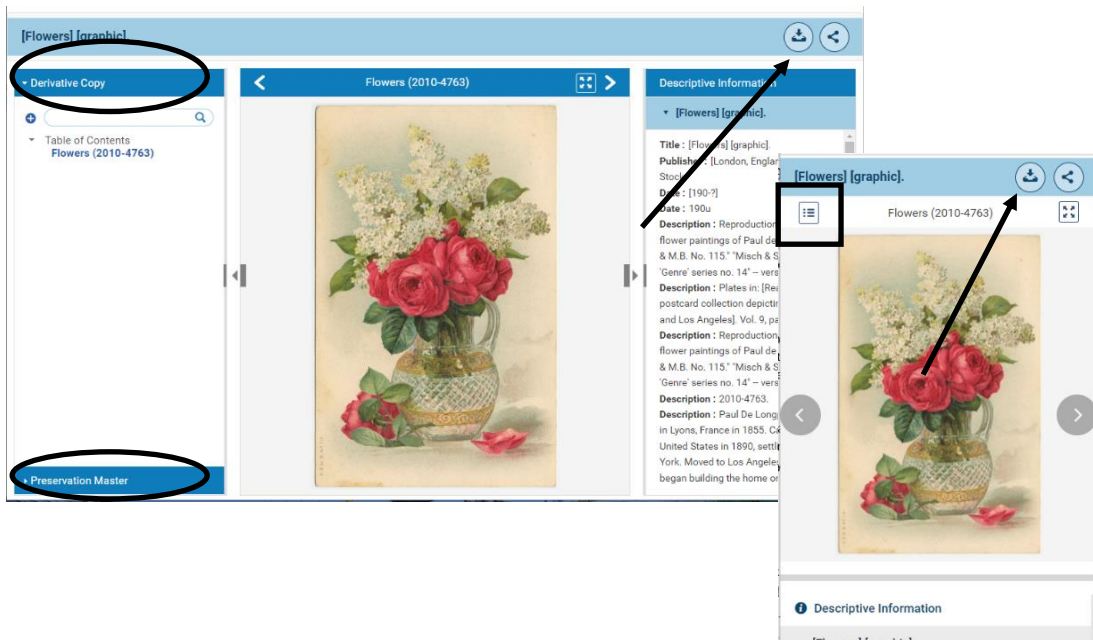
Figure 2: Desktop and mobile views of the "Rosetta Repository" with the JPEG, TIF and download buttons highlighted.

Special Note:

We suggest that you use JPEGs for social media and TIFs for formal publications. Additionally, you must request Permission to Use before reusing our images.

Reading our Books and Periodicals Online

We have placed many of our rare and valuable books on Internet Archive! Here is how to view them:

- Locate a title in our [library catalog](#)
  - If you need help with this consult our Basic Search guide on [our research guides page](#)
- If the catalog doesn't include a link to the digital version of an item, go to [Internet Archive](#): https://archive.org/details/californiastatelibrary
- Type the title into the "Search this collection" box (circled on visual)
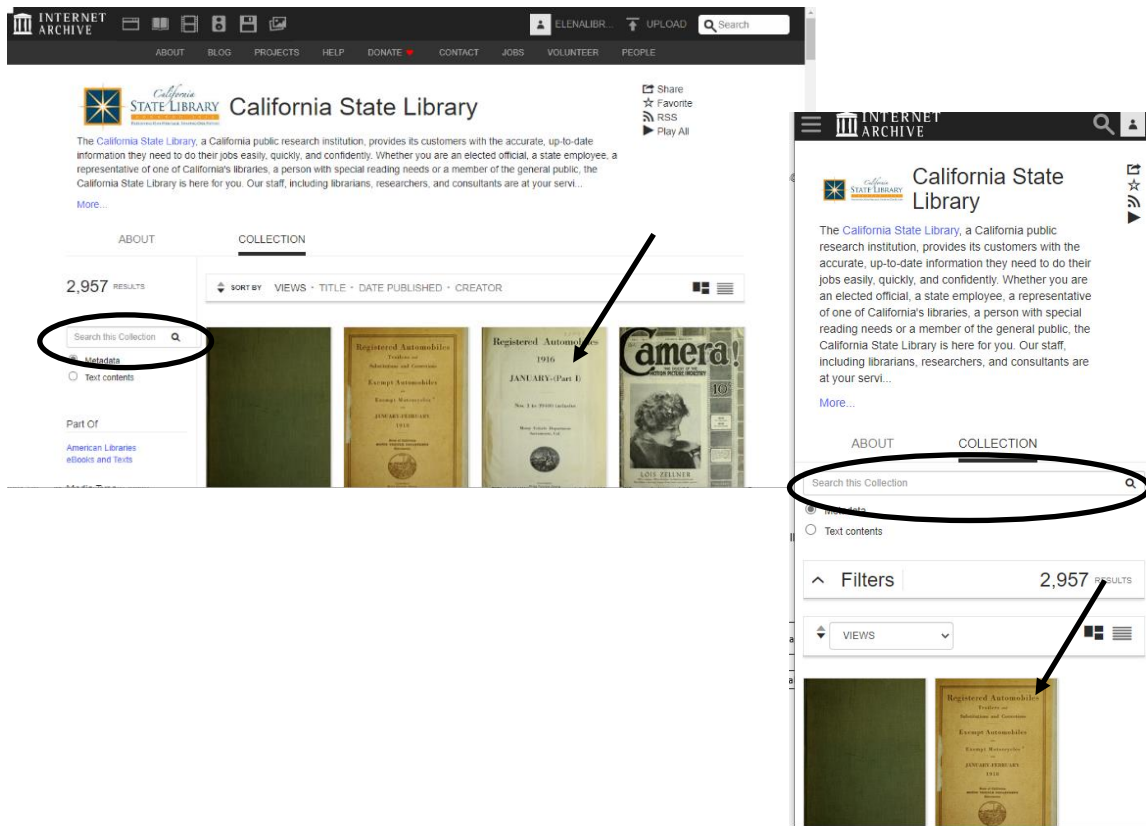- Click on the title/thumbnail to open the item (pointer on visual)

Figure 2: Desktop and mobile views of Internet Archive" with the search bar and thumbnail book views highlighted.

Other Remote Access Options

Is the item not available online? You may still be able to access it remotely. Here are some options:

Get it Sent to Your Local Library
(Inter-Library Loan)

- Place a request at your local library
- Available for:
  - Circulating Periodicals
  - Circulating Books
  - Circulating Microfilm (including newspapers)
- **Special Note:** We offer inter-library loans to libraries in the United States and Canada only. We don't charge for inter-library loans, but your library might. You will need to check with your library about fees.

Request a Scan
(Low resolution scans of up to 20 pages)

- Email cslcal@library.ca.gov or use ask-a-librarian to request a scan
- Scanning services may be available for select:
  - Non-rare books
  - Non-rare periodicals
  - Rare items such as manuscripts <u>but</u> not oversized or fragile items
- **Special Note:** Requests are subject to staff evaluation and if approved are conducted on a time-delay.

Non-Standard Access Options

Ask about other access options such as video consultations by emailing cslcal@library.ca.gov or using ask-a-librarian.

Contacting the Library About an Item

To pursue most remote access options for undigitized items you will need to contact us via cslcal@library.ca.gov or our ask-a-librarian service. Please provide the following information:

- Item Titles
- Call Numbers
- Permalinks

- Pull up a detailed item record (click on the item title in the results list)
- **Title:** This appears in bold at the top of the item record (circled on visual).
- **Permalink:** Click on the chain symbol listed under "Send to" and labeled permalink (pointer on visual).
- **Call Number:** Scroll to locations. The call number is listed on the second line in the white box after the word "available" (boxed on visual).

Special Note:

If you are planning to see the item in person and are unsure of your next steps consult our "Research in Person: Appointment Guide" on our research guide page.
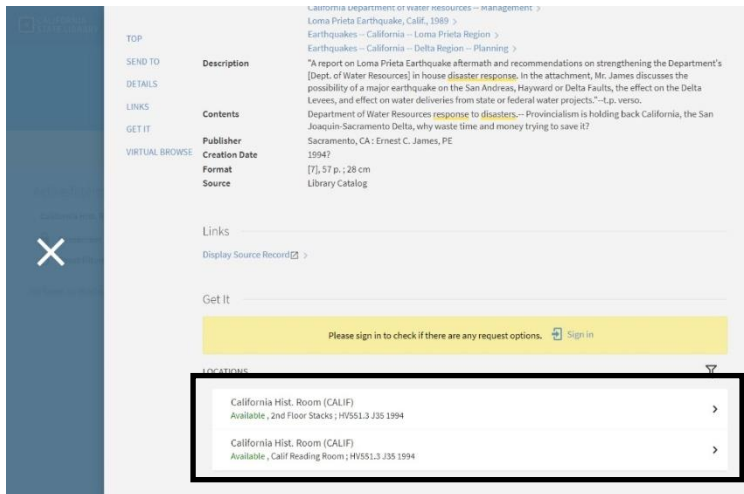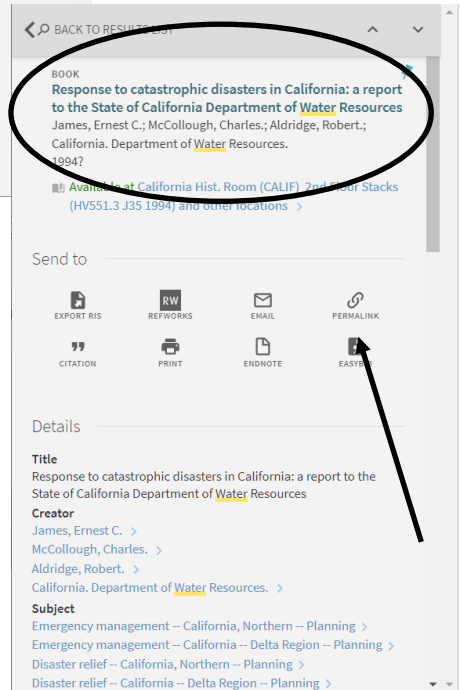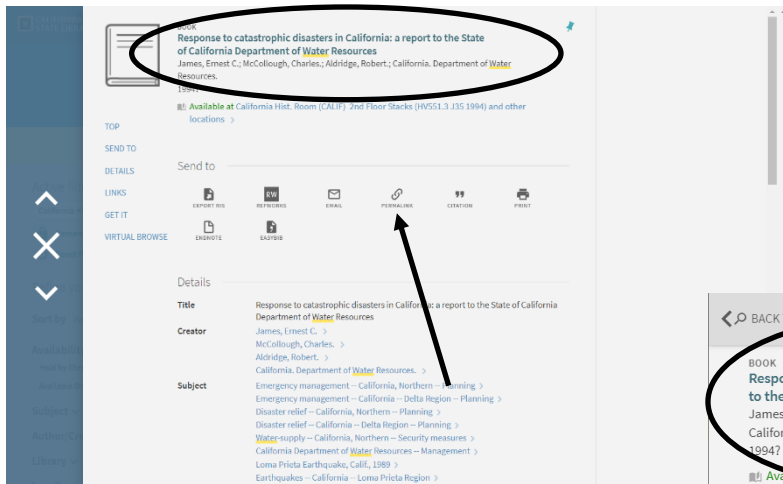
Figure 5: Desktop and mobile views of an item record with titles, permalinks, and call numbers highlighted.

CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY
CALIFORNIA HISTORY SECTION

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This guide is available online at:
http://www.library.ca.gov/california-history/research-guides/

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