



PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE GEORGE W. BUSH FOUNDATION AND THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) is the nation's official record keeper, preserving and protecting important historical materials, supporting research, and creating interactive programs and exhibits that educate and inspire visitors. NARA operates the nation's 13 presidential libraries, providing access to presidential records, documents, historical materials and artifacts for future generations of historians, scholars, students and interested citizens.

Historically, presidential libraries and museums have been built and paid for by private foundations and then donated to NARA to make presidential records and artifacts available to the public.

During the April 25, 2013 Dedication of the George W. Bush Presidential Center, the George W. Bush Foundation will present the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum to NARA.

- The first presidential library was built by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in December 1938. The library was built on his estate in Hyde Park, New York.
- Every president since Roosevelt has established a presidential library to hold their presidential records and artifacts and make them available to the public. Each president chooses the location of the facility. The process for providing a presidential library to NARA was formalized through the Presidential Libraries Act of 1955, which was amended in 1986.
- Not all presidential records are immediately available for research. Prior to 1978, former presidents determined the access to certain records. The Presidential Records Act of 1978 established that the presidential records that document the constitutional, statutory and ceremonial duties of the president are the property of the U.S. government. After the president leaves office, the Archivist of the United States assumes custody of the records.

For more information, please visit the Bush Center online at www.bushcenter.org, or connect with us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/TheBushCenter) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/TheBushCenter).