South Dakota Supreme Court Law Library

500 E Capitol
Pierre, South Dakota 57501
605-773-4898
OPEN: 8 am - 5 pm M-F

Our Mission Statement

SDCL 16-1-14: The Supreme Court library shall consist of all constitutions, statutes, session laws, court reports, digests, textbooks, and other legal publications now owned by the state and under the control of the justices of the Supreme Court, or which may hereafter be acquired by purchase, exchange, or otherwise.

The Supreme Court library shall be under the exclusive control and supervision of the justices of the Supreme Court who are hereby authorized to make such rules and regulations regarding its use as they may deem proper.

Federal Depository Status

The library became a federal depository library in 1978. It serves the government needs of the single U.S. Congressional District that encompasses all of South Dakota. The only other depository near it is the State Library, also in Pierre.

FDLP Links

FDLP Basic Collection

Remodeling, Renovation, Restoration
In August 2015 The Supreme court began the process of restoring the Supreme Court Law library to its original splendor. It is the last room in the Capitol open to the public which has not been restored.

As a result, select treasures, government depository materials and South Dakota law books have been moved to room 124 of the Capitol. Three computer terminals with public access Westlaw, Microfische and a copy machine have been moved to room 222 of the Capitol. Both are open to the public from 8 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday. After hours and weekend access can be arranged.

Hidden Artwork Revealed

Hidden artwork that started the restoration

The first artwork found
The first name found

First artwork found on the ceiling joists

Another view of the first artwork found

Bennett's name found
Bliss's name found

Corson's name found

Renovation Images

Original photograph of the law library
Photo of the library before renovations began
Library after equipment and book removal
Another view of the library after equipment and book removal
Artwork revealed by the bookcase removal

More reveal as bookcases were removed

Another view of the artwork behind the bookcases
Artwork as shown after the second floor removal

Current Renovation Progress

Back left corner of the library currently

Left wall of the library currently
Left wall of the library currently

Left wall of the library currently
Entire view of the library currently

View of the library revealed wood floor

The current artwork that has been revealed

Wall artwork revealed after bookcase removal
Wall artwork revealed after bookcase removal

Ceiling artwork revealed after bookcase removal

Ceiling artwork revealed after bookcase removal

Close up of wall artwork
Close up of wall artwork

Flower artwork closeup with suspected silver paint behind the middle of the flower

Signature of guard Trooper Saucerman in 2011
Fuller's name revealed after bookcase removal

Whiting's name revealed after bookcase removal

Artist's signature revealed on Whiting's name painting