National Archives and Records Administration § 1254.36

(f) Knives and other sharp objects such as box cutters, razors, or wire are not permitted in our research rooms.

§ 1254.30 Does NARA provide any supplies?
Yes, in most facilities NARA furnishes you, without charge, pencils and specially marked lined and unlined notepaper and notecards, for use in the research rooms. NARA also provides diskettes and paper for our public access computers. Return unused pencils and notepaper, notecards, diskettes, and printer paper to the research room attendant at the end of the day.

§ 1254.32 What rules apply to public access use of the Internet on NARA-supplied computers?
(a) Public access computers (workstations) are available for Internet use in all NARA research rooms. The number of workstations varies per location. We provide these workstations for research purposes on a first-come-first-served basis. When others are waiting to use the workstation, we may impose a 30-minute time limit on the use of the equipment.
(b) You should not expect privacy while using these workstations. These workstations are operated and maintained on a United States Government system, and activity may be monitored to protect the system from unauthorized use. By using this system, you expressly consent to such monitoring and the reporting of unauthorized use to the proper authorities.
(c) You may not use these workstations to gain access to entertainment or other inappropriate Web sites in our research rooms. You also may not use these workstations to conduct private business not related to your research or NARA holdings.
(d) NARA provides at least one Internet access workstation in each facility that complies with the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, ensuring comparable accessibility to individuals with disabilities.
(e) You may download information to a diskette and print materials, but the research room staff will furnish the diskettes and paper. You may not use personally owned diskettes on NARA personal computers. You may not load files or any type of software on these workstations.

Rules Relating to Using Original Documents

§ 1254.34 What are my responsibilities when using documents?
(a) You must sign for the documents you receive and we may require you to show your researcher identification card.
(b) You are responsible for the proper handling of and prevention of damage to all documents delivered to you until you return them. Specific handling instructions are given in §§1254.36 and 1254.38.
(c) When you finish using the documents, you must return them to the research room attendant.
(d) You must not remove the reference service slip that accompanies the documents to the research room.
(e) If we ask, you must return documents up to 15 minutes before closing time.
(f) Before leaving a research room, even for a short time, you must notify the research room attendant and place all documents in their proper containers.

§ 1254.36 What care must I take when handling documents?
To prevent damage to documents, we have rules relating to the physical handling of documents.
(a) You must use only pencils in research rooms where original documents are used.
(b) You must not lean on, write on, refold, trace, or otherwise handle documents in any way likely to cause damage.
(c) You must follow any additional rules that apply to the use of special media records at our facilities, such as wearing cotton gloves we provide you for handling still pictures and any original film-based materials.
(d) You must identify documents for reproduction only with a paper tab that we provide you. You must not use paper clips, rubber bands, self-stick notes or similar devices to identify documents.
(e) You must use exceptionally valuable or fragile documents only under
§ 1254.38 How do I keep documents in order?
(a) You must keep unbound documents in the order in which we deliver them to you.
(b) You must not attempt to rearrange documents that appear to be in disorder. Instead, you must refer any suspected problems with the records to the research room attendant.
(c) You may use only one folder at a time.
(d) Remove documents from only one container at a time.

§ 1254.40 How does NARA prevent removal of documents?
(a) You must not remove documents from a research room. Removing, mutilating, or revising or otherwise altering documents is forbidden by law and is punishable by fine or imprisonment or both (18 U.S.C. 2071).
(b) Upon leaving the research room or facility, you must present for examination any article that could contain documents or microfilm, as well as presenting copies or notes to ensure that no original records are mixed in with them.
(c) To ensure that no one unlawfully removes or mutilates documents, NARA may post at the entrance to research rooms instructions supplementing the rules in this part. These instructions are specific to the kinds of records you use or to the facility where the records are stored.

RULES RELATING TO USING MICROFILM
§ 1254.42 What are the rules that apply to using self-service microfilm?
NARA makes available microfilm copies of many records on a self-service basis.
(a) When microfilm is available on a self-service basis, research room attendants assist you in identifying research sources on microfilm and provide information concerning how to locate and retrieve the roll(s) of film containing the information of interest. You are responsible for retrieving and examining the roll(s).
(b) Unless you require assistance in learning how to operate microfilm reading equipment or have a disability, we expect you to install the microfilm on the reader, rewind it when finished, remove it from the reader, and return it to the proper microfilm box. You must carefully remove from and return to the proper microfilm boxes rewound microfilm. You must take care when loading and unloading microfilm from microfilm readers. Report damaged microfilm to the research room attendant as soon you discover it.
(c) Unless we make an exception, you may use only one roll of microfilm at a time.
(d) After using each roll, you must return the roll of microfilm to the location from which you removed it, unless we otherwise instruct you.
(e) You should bring to the attention of the research room attendant any microfilm you find in the wrong box or file cabinet.

§ 1254.44 How long may I use a microfilm reader?
(a) Use of the microfilm readers in the National Archives Building is on a first-come-first served basis.
(b) Archival operations directors at our regional archives may permit reservations for use of microfilm readers and set time limits on use to meet local circumstances.

[69 FR 39314, June 30, 2004, as amended at 75 FR 10415, Mar. 8, 2010]

OTHER CONDUCT RULES
§ 1254.46 Are there other rules of conduct that I must follow?
(a) Part 1280 specifies conduct rules for all NARA facilities. You must also obey any additional rules supplementing Subpart B of part 1254 that are posted or distributed by the facility director.
(b) You may not eat, drink, chew gum, smoke, or use smokeless tobacco products, or use a cell phone, pager, or similar communications device that emits sound signals in a research room.