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Thoughts at One of Freedom's Shrines

The early history of the United States becomes real to those school children as they inspect the original copies of that nation's basic documents — the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, and the Bill of Rights — in the U.S. Archives Building. These irreplaceable parchments are carefully safeguarded and at the same time kept on view throughout the year. Many of the 250,000 persons who look into the cases and read the inspiring words each year come from a part of the nation almost unknown when the documents were written. Visitors gain a better understanding and appreciation of the freedoms they have inherited and of the costs their forefathers paid for those freedoms. (55-1987)

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