

Assignments 1870–1977

Description

After establishing the facts of copyright registration, the researcher may wish to determine whether the ownership of the copyright has been transferred or otherwise altered. The Assignment and Related Documents Index is the source for tracing documents clarifying the ownership of copyrights that have been officially recorded in the Copyright Office from 1870 through 1977. Legal documents, including wills and contracts transferring copyright from one person or firm to another, are among the kinds of documents indexed. Assignor-transferor and assignee-transferee files are separate until August 15, 1941, and are thereafter interfiled through 1977. A single title file covers the period 1928 through 1977. There is no title file prior to 1928.

Access to assignment documents recorded after 1977 is available online at www.copyright.gov. The documents are cataloged and filed by the names of the parties involved and by title. Instructional material is available at computer terminals in the Copyright Public Records Reading Room (LM-404) to help the researcher retrieve the data in this file.

After locating the information needed in the files, the researcher may view microfilm copies of the documents themselves on reader-printer machines in the Copyright Public Records Reading Room (LM-404). All recorded assignments and documents from 1870 to approximately 1994 are on microfilm. Available online in the Copyright Public Records Reading Room only are scanned images of all recorded documents from 1870 to the present. The quality of these scanned images varies, and a patron may be better served by utilizing the microfilm. Early documents, in various formats, are also bound in books from 1870 to 1953.

Card Layouts

Information on the card may include the title and author of a work, a registration number, name of the Assignor and Assignee, the date the assignment document was received in the Copyright Office, the date the agreement was executed between the parties, and the volume and page number that identify where the document can be found.

Definitions

1. **Assignor:** person or organization assigning or transferring the rights.
2. **Assignee:** person or organization receiving the rights.
3. **Volume Number:** The Volume of the Record Book that contains the recorded document.
4. **Page Number:** (sometimes Document Number) The page number within the Record Book that contains the recorded document.
5. **Registration number:** The Registration Number of the work that is referenced within the document.
6. **Title:** The title of the work that is referenced within the document.
7. **Document received:** The date the document was submitted to the U.S. Copyright Office for recordation.
8. **Document number:** A combination of the Volume and Page Number. Also known as the Vdoc number.
9. **Cataloger's notes:** Additional information provided by the cataloger

Below are examples of cards. Please note that these samples may not represent all of the card layouts found in this index.

Example: Bambi, A Life in the Woods. Author: F. Salten, Registration Number A33278, Assignee: Disney (Walt Productions, Inc., Assignor: Sidney A. Franklin)

Assignment Index: 1870–1941 Assignee

(Hover over the items at the right to see the different fields that make up this card.)

Disney, (Walt) Productions, Inc., _____ ASSIGNEE
TO

Franklin, (Sidney A.) _____ ASSIGNOR
FROM

ASSIGNMENT OF ENTRY, CLASS A For., No. 33278..., of _____
Title Bambi, a life in the woods; by F.Salten.

Document received Apr. 15/39 Recorded vol. 415, pp. 25-26
Recorded by JAR Revised by M.A.M. Indexed by JAR
(Aug., 1934—5,000) U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1934

Where the card is found: Index: 1870–1941 Assignee, Drawer: D-DIS, Card: 1388

Assignment Index: 1870–1941 Assignor

(Hover over the items at the right to see the different fields that make up this card.)

Franklin, (Sidney A.) FROM	ASSIGNOR
Disney, (Walt) Productions, Ltd., TO	ASSIGNEE
ASSIGNMENT OF ENTRY, CLASS <u>A For.</u> , No. <u>33278...</u> , of	
Title <u>Bambi, a life in the woods; by F.Salten.</u>	
Document received <u>Apr. 13/39</u>	Recorded vol. <u>415</u> , pp. <u>25-26</u>
Recorded by <u>JAR</u> Revised by <u>M.A.M.</u>	Indexed by <u>JAR</u>
(July, 1938—5,000)	U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1933

Where the card is found: Index: 1870–1941 Assignor, Drawer: FR-GIH, Card: 0154

Assignment Index: 1928–1977 Titles

Transfer Example – Title

(Hover over the items at the right to see the different fields that make up this card.)

ASSIGNMENT TITLE CARD	
Title and author <u>Bambi, Eine Lebensgeschichte aus dem Wald;</u>	
<u>by F. Salten;</u>	
From <u>Franklin (Sidney A.)</u>	(assignor)
To <u>Disney (Walt) Productions, Ltd.</u>	(assignee)
Class <u>A for.</u> No. <u>33278</u> Date received <u>Apr. 13, 1939</u>	
Recorded vol. <u>415</u> Page <u>25-26</u> Date of execution <u>Apr. 6, 1937.</u>	
o p o 16-6655	

Where the card is found: Index: 1928–1977 Titles, Drawer: BALLET-BANF, Card: 0964

Transfer of Translation

(Hover over the items at the right to see the different fields that make up this card.)

ASSIGNMENT TITLE CARD

Title and author Bambi, A life in the woods; by F. Salten;
translated by W. Chambers;

From Franklin (Sidney A) (assignor)
To Dianey (Walt) Productions, Ltd. (assignee)

Class A No. 1083300 Date received Apr. 13, 1939

Recorded vol. 415 Page 25-26 Date of execution Apr. 6, 1937.

• P O 16-6655

Where the card is found: Index: 1928-1977 Titles, Drawer: BALLET-BANF,
Card: 0963

Transfer from Author

(Hover over the items at the right to see the different fields that make up this card.)

ASSIGNMENT TITLE CARD

Title and author Bambi, A life in the woods; by F. Salten;
translated by W. Chambers;

From Salten (Felix) Paul Zsolnay Verlag and (assignor)
P. Zolnay Verlag, G.m.b.H.
To Franklin (Sidney) (assignee)

Class A No. 1083300 Date received Apr. 13, 1939

Recorded vol. 415 Page 27-33 Date of execution Dec. 3, 1936.

• P O 16-6655

Where the card is found: Index: 1928-1977 Titles, Drawer: BALLET-BANF,
Card: 0962

Assignment Index: 1941–1977 Assignee/Assignor

Example of Assignee

(Hover over the items at the right to see the different fields that make up this card.)

ASSIGNEE		
Dimond, Ruth Cromer Weir.		
ASSIGNOR		
Follett Corporation. Follett Publishing Company.		
ASSIGNEE		
Dimond, Ruth Cromer Weir.		
TITLE AND AUTHOR		
The Great big noise.		
REGISTRATION NUMBER AND YEAR DATE, IF GIVEN		
1948; A26649		
DATE RECORDED	DATE OF EXECUTION	
7Apr76	2Apr76	
VOLUME	PAGES	Assignment of copyright
1579	248	
C-413 (NOV. 1974 15,000)		
		2093

Where the card is found: Index: 1941–1977 Assignee/Assignor, Drawer: DIE-DISNEY(WALT)-PRODUCTIONS, Card: 0702

Example of Assignor

(Hover over the items at the right to see the different fields that make up this card.)

ASSIGNOR		
Disney (Walt) Productions.		
ASSIGNEE		
Wonderland Music Co., Inc.		
TITLE AND AUTHOR		
BAMBI; piano vocal.		
REGISTRATION NUMBER AND YEAR DATE, IF GIVEN		
EU104838		
DATE RECORDED	DATE OF EXECUTION	
16Jun69	13Jun69	
VOLUME	PAGES	(Assignment)
1347	65	
C-413 (AUG. 1966 20,000)		

Where the card is found: Index: 1941–1977 Assignee/Assignor, Drawer: DIE-DISNEY(WALT)-PRODUCTIONS, Card: 1344