Primary sources provide firsthand accounts of the past. Examples include letters, photographs, diaries, newspaper accounts, interviews, oral histories, and speeches. Official documents such as laws, court decisions, treaties, party platforms, and constitutions are also primary sources.

**ONLINE DATABASES**

*American History Online* includes over 2,800 primary sources from over 500 years of American history. Use advanced search to limit results to primary sources.

*Issues & Controversies* includes historic documents with a focus on more recent history. Search by title or year. Use advanced search to limit results to primary sources.

**MICROFILM**

*The New York Times* 1851 - 1900
  1914 - 1919
  1939 - 1945
  1966 - present

*Newsweek* 1940 - present

*Time* 1923 - present

**INTERNET**

*American Life Histories: Manuscripts from the Federal Writers Project, 1936-1940*

[lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/wpaintro/wpahome.html](http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/wpaintro/wpahome.html)

Life histories written by the staff of the Folklore Project for the U.S. Works Progress Administration from 1936-1940. Includes over 2900 documents.

*A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation: U.S. Congressional Documents and Debates, 1774-1875*

[http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw](http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw)

One of the most complete collections of U.S. congressional documents in their original format. Includes journals, letters, debates, bills and resolutions, statutes, and the Congressional Record.

*Digital Civil War Collection*


Find diaries, letters, images, and military documents from the Civil War and Reconstruction.

*Documents for the Study of American History*

[http://www.vlib.us/amdocs/](http://www.vlib.us/amdocs/)

Includes maps, letters, constitutions, speeches, treaties, and much more. Search chronologically from 800 to the present.
**Founders Online**  
http://founders.archives.gov


**The Great Depression Interviews**  
http://digital.wustl.edu/greatdepression

Video clips and transcripts of interviews of people who lived through the Great Depression.

**The Library of Congress American Memory**  
http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html

Contains over nine million digitized American historical materials including manuscripts, prints, photographs, posters, maps, sound recordings, motion pictures, books, pamphlets, and sheet music organized into 100 thematic collections.

**Making of America**

Primary sources in American social history, a joint project of Cornell University and the University of Michigan.

http://ebooks.library.cornell.edu/m/moa/  
Access 267 books and over 100,000 journal articles from the 1800s, as well as Civil War documents.

http://quod.lib.umich.edu/m/moagrp/  
Access 10,000 books and 50,000 journal articles from the 1800s.

**National Archives**  
http://www.archives.gov/research/

The nation’s record keeper. Holdings include famous documents such as the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, as well as records of ordinary citizens. Documents range from slave ship manifests to military records to journals and photographs.

**New Deal Network**  
http://newdeal.feri.org/

Over 20,000 primary source items including photographs, political cartoons, speeches, letters, and other historic documents related to the public works and arts projects of the New Deal.

**The Sixties Project**  
http://www2.iath.virginia.edu/sixties

Includes the Sixties Personal Narrative Project and back issues of the *Viet Nam Generation Journal* as well as primary documents relating to the Vietnam War, Martin Luther King, Jr., the Black Panthers, SDS (Students for a Democratic Society), and much more.
ONLINE CATALOG

Search for books by author, title, keyword or subject in the Maple Woods Library online catalog at mcckc.edu/library/maple-woods/. A link on the library online catalog page connects to the shared library online catalog for MOBIUS, a network of academic libraries in Missouri that includes Maple Woods. The MOBIUS online catalog accesses over 27 million items. Request books online from other libraries at no charge.

Use LC subject search terms of correspondence; diaries; interviews; oral history; personal narratives; sources; speeches, addresses, etc.; and treaties, along with keywords relevant to your topic.

SELECTED REFERENCE BOOKS

REF 325.73 Us11p U.S. Immigration and Migration
REF 328.73 L235 Landmark Documents on the U.S. Congress
REF 341.026 Am35 American Treaties and Alliances
REF 342.73 C738 The Complete Bill of Rights: The Drafts, Debates, Sources, and Origins
REF 815.08 In1 In Our Own Words: Extraordinary Speeches of the American Century
REF 970.5 Un3i Indian Treaties, 1778-1883
REF 973 An7a The Annals of America (18 volumes)
REF 973.099 B65n The New York Times on the Presidency, 1853-2008
REF 973.7 C499w The Civil War Chronicle: The Only Day-By-Day Portrait of America's Tragic Conflict as Told by Soldiers, Journalists, Politicians, Farmers, Nurses, Slaves, and Other Eyewitnesses
REF 973.703 Am35 American Civil War: The Definitive Encyclopedia and Document Collection (Volume VI Documents)

SELECTED CIRCULATING BOOKS

Multiple Eras:

303.484 D632 Dissent in America: Voices That Shaped a Nation
323 D632 The Dissenters: America’s Voices of Opposition
630.11 G83L Land That Our Fathers Plowed: The Settlement of Our Country as Told by the Pioneers Themselves and Their Contemporaries.
815.08 G798a Great American Speeches
816 H93t A Treasury of Great American Letters; Our Country’s Life & History in the Letters of Its Men and Women
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call Number</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>970.1 Ar5i</td>
<td><em>I Have Spoken; American History through the Voices of the Indians</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973 Am3ah</td>
<td><em>American Historical Documents, 1000-1904</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973 Am35e</td>
<td><em>The American Experience: The History and Culture of the United States Through Speeches, Letters, Essays, Articles, Poems, Songs, and Stories</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973 Am3j Folio</td>
<td><em>The American Jewish Album: 1654 to the Present</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973 C73a8</td>
<td><em>Documents of American History</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973 On2</td>
<td><em>100 Key Documents in American Democracy</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973 R245 Folio</td>
<td><em>Records of Our National Life: American History at the National Archives</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973 W781a Folio</td>
<td><em>Witness to America: An Illustrated Documentary History of the United States from the Revolution to Today</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973.7 Am35p Folio</td>
<td><em>The American Nation: Primary Sources</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973.7 T21d</td>
<td><em>Destruction and Reconstruction; Personal Experiences of the Late War</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>978 H58f</td>
<td><em>The Frontier Experience; Readings in the Trans-Mississippi West</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>978 R43a</td>
<td><em>America’s Frontier Story; A Documentary History of Westward Expansion</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>978 Sp3a</td>
<td><em>The American West; A Source Book</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Multiple Eras to 1865:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call Number</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>327.73 F41f</td>
<td><em>Foundations of American Diplomacy, 1775-1872</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>342.73 Am3s</td>
<td><em>American State Papers</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973 Am3h</td>
<td><em>An American Harvest: Readings in American History</em> (vol 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973 L761 Folio</td>
<td><em>Living American History: Our Nation’s Past through Its Documents</em> (vol 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973 M81</td>
<td><em>A More Perfect Union: Documents in U.S. History</em> (volume 1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**The Colonial Era:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call Number</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>133.43 R245 Folio</td>
<td><em>Records of the Salem Witch-hunt</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92 H249r</td>
<td><em>The Journal of John Harrower, an Indentured Servant in the Colony of Virginia, 1773-1776</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92 W639w</td>
<td><em>The Diary of Michael Wigglesworth, 1653-1657; The Conscience of a Puritan</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Log of Christopher Columbus

Debating the Issues in Colonial Newspapers: Primary Documents on Events of the Period

Foundations of Colonial America: A Documentary History (3 volumes)

The Redeemed Captive Returning to Zion

Journals

Journal of Captain Thomas Morris, from Miscellanies in Prose and Verse

Of Plymouth Plantation, 1620-1647

Journall of the English Plantation at Plimoth

Thomas Hariot’s Virginia, by Theodore de Bry

The American Revolution:

The Spirit of ‘Seventy-Six: The Story of the American Revolution as Told by Participants

The Diary of the American Revolution, 1775-1781 (2 volumes)

The Revolution Remembered: Eyewitness Accounts of the War for Independence

Revolutionary Versus Loyalist: The First American Civil War, 1774-1784

This Glorious Struggle: George Washington’s Revolutionary War Letters

The Early National Period and Expansion:

To Marry an Indian: The Marriage of Harriett Gold and Elias Boudinot in Letters, 1823-1839

The Constitution of the United States

Roots of the Bill of Rights (5 volumes)

The Bill of Rights: A Documentary History (2 volumes)

The Prairie Traveler

Matt Field on the Santa Fe Trail

Prairie and Mountain Sketches

Wah-To-Yah & the Taos Trail
The Definitive Journals of Lewis & Clark (volumes 2-8 & 13)


Letters and Notes on the Manners, Customs, and Conditions of the North American Indians; Written during Eight Years’ Travel (1832-1839) amongst the Wildest Tribes of Indians in North America

Voices from the Trail of Tears

The Destruction of California Indians; A Collection of Documents from the Period 1847 to 1865 in Which Are Described Some of the Things That Happened to Some of the Indians of California

Wilderness Kingdom, Indian Life in the Rocky Mountains: 1840-1847; The Journals & Paintings of Nicolas Point

Writings / Alexander Hamilton

The Portable John Adams

The Westward Expansion 1800-1860

A Winter in the West (2 volumes)

Letters from America

History of the Late War in the Western Country

To Mexico with Taylor and Scott, 1845-1847

The Journals of Lewis and Clark

The Civil War:

Shadows of Blue and Gray: The Civil War Writings of Ambrose Bierce

Spectator of America

The Children of Pride; A True Story of Georgia and the Civil War

Confederate Guerrilla: The Civil War Memoir of Joseph M. Bailey

Battles and Leaders of the Civil War

Memoirs of the Rebellion on the Border, 1863
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call Number</th>
<th>Title and Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>973.7 C42m</td>
<td><em>Mary Chesnut’s Civil War</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973.7 C42p</td>
<td><em>The Private Mary Chesnut: The Unpublished Civil War Diaries</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973.7 C49 Folio</td>
<td><em>The Civil War Extra: From the Pages of the Charleston Mercury &amp; The New York Times</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973.7 C499wfy</td>
<td><em>The Civil War: The Final Year Told by Those Who Lived It</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973.7 C73b</td>
<td><em>The Blue and the Gray: The Story of the Civil War as Told by Participants</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973.7 D71t</td>
<td><em>Twenty Months in Captivity: Memoirs of a Union Officer in Confederate Prisons</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973.7 G75i</td>
<td><em>The Illustrated Gettysburg Reader: An Eyewitness History of the Civil War’s Greatest Battle</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973.7 L63i Folio</td>
<td><em>In Lincoln’s Hand: His Original Manuscripts</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973.7 L63t</td>
<td><em>This Fiery Trial: The Speeches and Writings of Abraham Lincoln</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973.7 N16u</td>
<td><em>The Union on Trial: The Political Journals of Judge William Barclay Napton, 1829-1883</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973.7 R91m 1988</td>
<td><em>My Diary, North and South</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973.7 Sh4t</td>
<td><em>Turn Backward, O Time: The Civil War Diary of Amanda Shelton</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973.7 T21d</td>
<td><em>Destruction and Reconstruction; Personal Experiences of the Late War</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973.7 W32c</td>
<td>“Co. Aytch”; A Side Show of the Big Show</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973.7 W45c</td>
<td><em>The Civil War Diary of Gideon Welles, Lincoln’s Secretary of the Navy</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973.7 W92c</td>
<td><em>Captain James Wren’s Civil War Diary: From New Bern to Fredericksburg: B Company, 48th Pennsylvania Volunteers, February 20, 1862-December 17, 1862</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973.708 C73f</td>
<td><em>Fifty Basic Civil War Documents</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973.7115 F624</td>
<td><em>Fleeing for Freedom: Stories of the Underground Railroad</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973.7115 W27j</td>
<td><em>John Washington’s Civil War: A Slave Narrative</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>974.7 R39v 1972</td>
<td><em>Village Life in America, 1852-1872; Including the Period of the American Civil War as Told in the Diary of a School-Girl, by Caroline Cowles Richards</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>975 OL5j</td>
<td><em>A Journey in the Back Country</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>975.203 M369</td>
<td><em>Maryland Voices of the Civil War</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Multiple Eras since 1865:

320.6 P926  Presidents from Reagan through Clinton, 1981-2001: Debating the Issues in Pro and Con Primary Documents

331.0973 G43a  The American Worker in the Twentieth Century, a History through Autobiographies

355.0092 F762  Forever a Soldier: Unforgettable Stories of Wartime Service

355.1 Sm6b  Beyond Glory: Medal of Honor Heroes in Their Own Words: Extraordinary Stories of Courage from World War II to Vietnam

808.85 G83w Folio  Words That Shook the World: 100 Years of Unforgettable Speeches and Events (CDs volumes 1 & 2 available on request)

973 Am3h  An American Harvest: Readings in American History (vol 2)

973 L761 Folio  Living American History: Our Nation’s Past through Its Documents (volume 2)

973 M81  A More Perfect Union: Documents in U.S. History (volume 2)

973.7 Am35p Folio  The American Nation: Primary Sources

973.91 F51  First Person America

973.91 H752  Home Fronts: A Wartime America Reader

Before 1900:

92 C642s  Cochise: Firsthand Accounts of the Chiricahua Apache Chief

970.3 N54L 2007  The Life and Traditions of the Red Man

973.82 L14  Lakota Recollections of the Custer Fight: New Sources of Indian-Military History

973.82 T21w  With Custer on the Little Bighorn: By One Who Was There Engaged

Progressive Era/World War I:

940.302 R42p  Posters of the First World War

940.4 Ar7f Folio  The Faces of World War I

940.4 In88  Intimate Voices from the First World War

940.4 Sh59c  Commitment and Sacrifice: Personal Diaries from the Great War

973.91 H67p  The Progressive Movement, 1900-1915
Great Depression/World War II:

940.53 B53d  Design for Victory: World War II Posters on the American Home Front
940.53 V87  Voices of World War II: Contemporary Accounts of Daily Life
940.54 C62L  A Life Disturbed: My Pacific War Revisited
940.54 Iw6  Iwo Jima: World War II Veterans Remember the Greatest Battle of the Pacific
973.9 T27h  Hard Times: An Oral History of the Great Depression
973.91 F51  First Person America
973.917 Am3a  America at War; The Home Front, 1941-1945
973.917 R74g  The Great Depression: A Diary
973.917 Si5a  As We Saw the Thirties; Essays on Social and Political Movements of a Decade

Cold War/Vietnam War/Watergate:

364.1 N65p  The Presidential Transcripts
909.825 W72c  The Cold War: A History in Documents
959.704 Ap6p  Patriots: The Vietnam War Remembered from All Sides
959.704 G43d  Days of Decision: An Oral History of Conscientious Objectors in the Military during the Vietnam War
959.704 H182k 2000  Khe Sanh: A Siege in the Clouds: An Oral History
959.704 L61v  Voices from the Vietnam War: Stories from American, Asian and Russian Veterans
959.704 W19 Folio  A War Remembered
959.704 W195  War Torn: Stories of War from the Women Reporters Who Covered Vietnam
973.918 T77ha Folio  Harry S. Truman in His Own Words
973.918 T77m  Memoirs / by Harry S. Truman (2 volumes)
973.918 T77o 1997  Off the Record: The Private Papers of Harry S. Truman
973.918 T77qt  The Quotable Truman
973.918 T77s 1999  Strictly Personal and Confidential: The Letters Harry Truman Never Mailed
973.918 T77ta  Talking with Harry: Candid Conversations with President Harry S. Truman
Documents Depicting the 1950s: A Decade of Conformity and Dissent

A White House Diary / by Lady Bird Johnson

Submission of Recorded Presidential Conversations to the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives, by Richard Nixon

Iraq War/Recent History

The Iraq Papers

Photojournalists on War: The Untold Stories from Iraq

The Deserter’s Tale: The Story of an Ordinary Soldier Who Walked Away from the War in Iraq

Baghdad at Sunrise: A Brigade Commander’s War in Iraq

Road from Ar Ramadi: The Private Rebellion of Staff Sergeant Camilo Mejia: An Iraq War Memoir

Operation Homecoming: Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Home Front, in the Words of U.S. Troops and Their Families

Reporting Iraq: An Oral History of the War by the Journalists Who Covered It

Tell Them I Didn’t Cry: A Young Journalist’s Story of Joy, Loss, and Survival in Iraq

Blood Brothers: Among the Soldiers of Ward 57

What Was Asked of Us: An Oral History of the Iraq War by the Soldiers Who Fought It

Tower Stories: An Oral History of 9/11

Voices Rising: Stories from the Katrina Narrative Project