Women in American History

Primary Sources

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 DATABASE

American Women’s History Online includes almost 3,000 primary sources. Use advanced search to limit results to primary sources, or search by era.

INTERNET

American Women: A Gateway to Library of Congress Resources for the Study of Women’s History and Culture in the United States
http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/awhhtml/
Find women’s writings (letters, journals, etc.), photographs, music, and much more.

Gifts of Speech
http://gos.sbc.edu/
Texts of speeches made by famous women. Browse chronologically or by name.

Women Working, 1800-1930
http://ocp.hul.harvard.edu/ww/
Focuses on women’s role in the United States economy and features photographs, pamphlets, diaries, institutional records, magazines, and much more. Search by keyword, subject (events, people, topics) or primary source type.

ONLINE CATALOG

Search for books by author, title, keyword or subject in the Maple Woods Library online catalog at mccck.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 CIRCULATING BOOKS

289.3 St4e
Exposé of Polygamy: A Lady’s Life among the Mormons

305.4 L56 1978
Let Them Speak for Themselves: Women in the American West, 1849-1900

305.4 W842L
Women’s Letters: America from the Revolutionary War to the Present

305.409 C723
The Columbia Documentary History of American Women Since 1941
American Women Activists’ Writings: An Anthology, 1637-2002
The Female Experience: An American Documentary
In Her Place: A Documentary History of Prejudice against Women
Public Women, Public Words: A Documentary History of American Feminism (3 volumes)
Women’s Rights
Women Together: A History in Documents of the Women’s Movement in the United States
The American New Woman Revisited: A Reader, 1894-1930
The Concise History of Woman Suffrage: Selections from the Classic Work of Stanton, Anthony, Gage, and Harper
Rocking the Boat: Union Women’s Voices, 1915-1975
Beyond Rosie: A Documentary History of Women and World War II
Mary Chesnut’s Civil War
The Private Mary Chesnut: The Unpublished Civil War Diaries
Memoirs of a Soldier, Nurse, and Spy: A Woman’s Adventures in the Union Army
Turn Backward, O Time: The Civil War Diary of Amanda Shelton
An Uncommon Soldier: The Civil War Letters of Sarah Rosetta Wakeman, Alias Private Lyons Wakeman, 153rd Regiment, New York State Volunteers
Memories
That’s the Way It Was
Best of Covered Wagon Women

REFERENCE
Sexual Harassment in America: A Documentary History