



# LA CROSSE PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Primary Sources Pathfinder

### Primary Sources

“A primary source is a piece of information about a historical event or period in which the creator of the source was an actual participant in or a contemporary of a historical moment. The purpose of primary sources is to capture the words, the thoughts and the intentions of the past. Primary sources help you to interpret what happened and why it happened.

Examples of primary sources include documents, artifacts, historic sites, songs, or other written and tangible items created during the historical period you are studying.

### Secondary Sources

A secondary source is a source that was not created first-hand by someone who participated in the historical era. Secondary sources are usually created by historians, but based on the historian's reading of primary sources. Secondary sources are usually written decades, if not centuries, after the event occurred by people who did not live through or participate in the event or issue. The purpose of a secondary source is to help build the story of your research from multiple perspectives and to give your research historical context.”

--National History Day website, <http://www.nhd.org/ConductingResearch.htm>, accessed 2014 May 14.

### Albert Einstein

Einstein papers

<http://einsteinpapers.press.princeton.edu/papers>

**Abraham Lincoln**

Abraham Lincoln

<http://lincoln.lib.niu.edu/>

**Advertising**

Advertisements

<https://repository.duke.edu/dc/adaccess>

**Alexander Hamilton**

Alexander Hamilton papers

<https://www.loc.gov/collections/alexander-hamilton-papers/>

**American History**

American Archive of Public Broadcasting

<http://americanarchive.org/>

American Centuries

<http://memorialhall.mass.edu/>

American County Histories

<http://www.accessible-archives.com/collections/american-county-histories/>

American Journeys

<http://www.americanjourneys.org/>

American Libraries

<https://archive.org/details/americana>

American Presidency Project

<https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/>

Assassination Archives and Research Center

<https://aarclibrary.org/>

C-Span Video Library

<https://www.c-span.org/30years/>

California Digital Library

<https://archive.org/details/cdl>

California State Archives

<http://exhibits.sos.ca.gov/collections/browse>

Central Intelligence Agency

<https://www.cia.gov/readingroom/home>

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

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lawhome.html>

Chicago History Museum

<https://www.chicagohistory.org/>

Chronicling America

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>

Colorado History

<https://www.historycolorado.org/collection>

Colorado State University, Archives and Special Collections

<https://lib.colostate.edu/find/archives-special-collections/>

Congressional Research Service Reports

<https://crsreports.congress.gov/>

<https://fas.org/sgp/crs/>

<https://www.everycrsreport.com/>

Congressional Serial Set

[https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/serialset/015%3B1817-1819%3B1%20to%2024/00022\\_00\\_00%3BSerial%20No.%2022%20-%20House%20Document%2C%20Vol.%206%3BHouse%20Documents%2086-91%2C%2094-123/%7B%22page%22%3A%22100%22%2C%22offset%22%3A%220%22%7D](https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/serialset/015%3B1817-1819%3B1%20to%2024/00022_00_00%3BSerial%20No.%2022%20-%20House%20Document%2C%20Vol.%206%3BHouse%20Documents%2086-91%2C%2094-123/%7B%22page%22%3A%22100%22%2C%22offset%22%3A%220%22%7D)

Department of State

<https://history.state.gov/>

Digital Library of Appalachia

<https://dla.acaweb.org/digital/>

DocsTeach from National Archives

<https://www.docsteach.org/digital-vaults>

Digital Public Library of America

<https://dp.la/>

Documerica

<https://www.documerica.org/>

Documenting the American South

<http://docsouth.unc.edu/>

Educator Resources from the National Archives (1754-1820)

<https://www.archives.gov/education/lessons/revolution-new-nation.html>

Eyewitness to History

<http://www.eyewitnesstohistory.com/>

FedFlix

<https://archive.org/details/FedFlix>

Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History

<https://www.gilderlehrman.org/>

Hagley Digital Archives

<https://digital.hagley.org/>

Illinois Digital Archives

<http://www.idaillinois.org/cdm/search>

Internet Archive Newspapers

<https://archive.org/details/newspapers>

Library of Congress Classroom Materials

<http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/>

Library of Congress Digital Collections

<https://www.loc.gov/collections/>

Library of Congress Rare Book Collection

<https://www.loc.gov/collections/rare-book-selections/>

Library of Congress Veterans History Project

<https://www.loc.gov/vets/>

Making of America

<https://quod.lib.umich.edu/m/moagrp/>

Media History Digital Library

<https://archive.org/details/mediahistory?&sort=-downloads&page=3>

Missouri Historical Society

<http://mohistory.org/collections>

National Archives Online Exhibits

<https://www.archives.gov/exhibits>

National Endowment for the Humanities

<https://edsitement.neh.gov/>

National Library of Medicine Digital Collections

<https://collections.nlm.nih.gov/>

National Park Service

<https://www.nps.gov/museum/index.html>

National Security Internet Archive

<https://archive.org/details/nationalsecurityarchive>

Naval History Center

<https://www.history.navy.mil/>

New York Public Library

<https://digitalcollections.nypl.org/>

Our Documents

<https://www.ourdocuments.gov/index.php?flash=true&>

Pen America Archive

<https://archive.pen.org/>

Presidential papers

<https://www.govinfo.gov/app/collection/PPP>

Smithsonian Institution

<https://library.si.edu/collections>

<http://library.si.edu/digital-library>

Social Welfare History Project

<https://images.socialwelfare.library.vcu.edu/>

United States Supreme Court

<https://www.oyez.org/>

University of Illinois Library Digital Collections

<https://digital.library.illinois.edu/collections>

University of Kentucky

<https://exploreuk.uky.edu/>

University of Minnesota Digital Collections

<https://www.lib.umn.edu/collections#digital>

University of Wisconsin-Madison Digital Collections

<https://uwdc.library.wisc.edu/collections>

*Village Voice* (newspaper)

[https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=KEtq3P1Vf8oC&dat=19551026&b\\_mode=2&hl=en](https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=KEtq3P1Vf8oC&dat=19551026&b_mode=2&hl=en)

White House Tapes

<https://millercenter.org/the-presidency/secret-white-house-tapes>

Wisconsin State Law Library

<http://wilawlibrary.gov/>

### **Canadian History**

Canadian audio history

<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/films-videos-sound-recordings/virtual-gramophone/Pages/virtual-gramophone.aspx>

Canadian libraries

<https://archive.org/details/toronto>

Early Canadiana Online

<http://eco.canadiana.ca/?usrlang=en>

University of Alberta, Canada

[https://archive.org/details/university\\_of\\_alberta\\_libraries\\_microfilm](https://archive.org/details/university_of_alberta_libraries_microfilm)

University of Calgary, Arctic and Northern Studies

<http://contentdm.ucalgary.ca/digital/collection/p22007coll1/search>

### **Civil War**

Civil War: The Valley Project

<http://valley.lib.virginia.edu/>

### **Holocaust**

Voices from Ravensbruck

<https://universes.art/en/voices-from-ravensbrueck>

United States Holocaust Museum

<https://www.ushmm.org/>

### **Jamestown, Virginia**

Virtual Jamestown

<http://www.virtualjamestown.org/>

### **Japanese-Americans**

Densho Digital Depository (Japanese-American incarceration)

<http://ddr.densho.org/>

Japanese-American incarceration in California

<http://exhibits.sos.ca.gov/items/browse?collection=6>

### **Jewish History**

Center for Jewish History

<http://access.cjh.org/>

Jewish-American History Foundation

<http://www.jewish-history.com/Default.htm>

### **Labor History**

Cornell University, Catherwood Library

<https://catherwood.library.cornell.edu/>

Southern Labor Archives

<https://digitalcollections.library.gsu.edu/digital/collection/labor>

Wayne State University, Walter P. Reuther Library

<http://reuther.wayne.edu/>

### **Leonardo da Vinci**

Leonardo da Vinci's notebooks

<https://www.vam.ac.uk/articles/leonardo-da-vincis-notebooks>

### **Local History**

*The Friendly Finding Aid* to La Crosse area archival resources

<http://www.friendlyfindingaid.com/>

### **Midwest History**

Pioneering the Upper Midwest: Books from Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, ca. 1820 to 1910

<https://www.loc.gov/collections/pioneering-the-upper-midwest/about-this-collection/>

### **Native American History**

Center for World Indigenous Studies, Chief George Manuel Memorial Indigenous Library

<https://www.cwis.org/chief-george-manuel-memorial-indigenous-library/>

Indian Papers of Texas and the Southwest

[https://texashistory.unt.edu/search/?fq=untl\\_collection%3A%20BOOKS&sort=title&fq=str\\_title\\_serial%3A%20The+Indian+Papers+of+Texas+and+the+Southwest+1825-1916](https://texashistory.unt.edu/search/?fq=untl_collection%3A%20BOOKS&sort=title&fq=str_title_serial%3A%20The+Indian+Papers+of+Texas+and+the+Southwest+1825-1916)

Indigenous Digital Archive

<http://miaclab.org/indigenous-digital-archive>

Northwestern University, Edward S. Curtis's The North American Indian

<https://dc.library.northwestern.edu/collections/55ff2504-dd53-4943-b2cb-aeaa46e77bc3>

Oklahoma State University, Indian Affairs: Laws & Treaties

<https://library.okstate.edu/search-and-find/collections/digital-collections/indian-affairs-laws-and-treaties/>

## **Slavery**

Slave biographies

<http://slavebiographies.org/resources.php>

Slavery in America and the World

<https://home.heinonline.org/content/slavery-in-america-and-the-world-history-culture-law/>

Voyages: the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Database

<http://www.slavevoyages.org/>

## **Theodore Roosevelt**

Theodore Roosevelt Center (there is not a presidential library for him)

<https://www.theodorerooseveltcenter.org/Research/Digital-Library>

## **Tobacco History**

Truth Tobacco Industry Documents

<https://www.industrydocumentslibrary.ucsf.edu/tobacco/>

## **Veterans History**

Library of Congress Veterans History Project

<https://recollectionwisconsin.org/listeningtowar>

Wisconsin's Wartime Oral Histories

<https://recollectionwisconsin.org/listeningtowar>

## **Vietnam War**

Texas Tech University, Vietnam Center and Archive

<https://www.vietnam.ttu.edu/>

## **Wisconsin History**

Archive of Wisconsin Newspapers

<https://badgerlink.dpi.wi.gov/resource/archive-wisconsin-newspapers>

Recollection Wisconsin



<https://recollectionwisconsin.org/>

University of Wisconsin Digital Collections  
<https://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/wiarchives/>

Wisconsin Historical Society  
<https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/>

## **World History**

Art Institute of Chicago  
<https://www.artic.edu/collection>

Avalon Project  
<http://avalon.law.yale.edu/default.asp>

British Pathe  
<http://www.britishpathe.com/>

Chronicles of Courage  
<https://flyingheritage.org/Chronicles/>

Colonial America  
<http://www.colonialamerica.amdigital.co.uk/>

Council on Foreign Relations  
<https://www.cfr.org/publications>

Critical Past (video)  
<https://www.criticalpast.com/>

*Daily Colonist* Newspaper Collection  
<https://archive.org/details/dailycolonist>

Elephind: World Historical Newspapers  
<https://elephind.com/>

European Libraries  
<https://archive.org/details/europeanlibraries>

European Library  
<http://www.theeuropeanlibrary.org/tel4/>

Europeana Collections  
<https://www.europeana.eu/portal/en>

German History in Documents and Images

<http://germanhistorydocs.ghi-dc.org/>

Getty Images

<https://www.gettyimages.com/>

Getty Museum

<http://www.getty.edu/art/collection/>

Google Arts & Culture

<https://artsandculture.google.com/>

Images of Rome, Rodolpho Laucian Digital Archive

<https://exhibits.stanford.edu/lanciani/browse>

Internet History Sourcebooks Project

<https://sourcebooks.fordham.edu/index.asp>

The Labyrinth: Resources for Medieval Studies

<https://repository.library.georgetown.edu/handle/10822/1061738>

Medieval manuscripts (British Library)

<http://blogs.bl.uk/digitisedmanuscripts/2018/01/a-mammoth-list-of-digitised-manuscripts-hyperlinks.html>

National Archives of the United Kingdom

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>

National Library of Australia

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/>

National Security Archive

<https://nsarchive.gwu.edu/>

Perry-Castaneda Library Map Collection (University of Texas)

<https://legacy.lib.utexas.edu/maps/historical/index.html>

Prague Spring Archive

<https://scalar.usc.edu/works/the-prague-spring-archive-creees/index>

RTE Archives (Ireland)

<https://www.rte.ie/archives/category/archives/>

Russian Archives Online

<https://www.russianarchives.com/>

Smithsonian Institution

<http://www.si.edu/Collections/>  
<http://library.si.edu/digital-library>

United Nations Digital Library

<https://digitallibrary.un.org/>

Vanderbilt Television News Archive

<https://tvnews.vanderbilt.edu/>

Video stock footage

[https://archive.org/details/stock\\_footage?&sort=-downloads&page=2](https://archive.org/details/stock_footage?&sort=-downloads&page=2)

World Digital Library: (primary sources from other countries)

<http://www.wdl.org/en/>

## **World War I**

Canadian Expeditionary Force

<https://www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/discover/military-heritage/first-world-war/personnel-records/Pages/personnel-records.aspx>

Illinois National Guard World War I Intelligence Maps

<http://www.idaillinois.org/digital/collection/p16614coll33/search/page/1>

United States Army in World War I

<https://www.govinfo.gov/app/search/%7B%22query%22%3A%22United%20States%20Army%20in%20the%20World%20War%2C%201917-1919%22%2C%22offset%22%3A0%7D>

World War I Document Archive

[https://wwi.lib.byu.edu/index.php/Main\\_Page](https://wwi.lib.byu.edu/index.php/Main_Page)