

# *CITIZENSHIP*



## *& AMERICAN HISTORY*



*A Guide to Primary Sources*



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

*History is a clock that people use to tell their time of day. It is a compass they use to find themselves on the map of human geography. It tells them where they are and what they are.*

John Henrik Clarke

*Americans have re-invented citizenship in different historical moments. This perspective can and should leave students with the hope that there is much to learn from the past but that they also have the freedom to redefine citizenship again.*

Michael Schudson

*History is not a procession of illustrious people. It's about what happens to a people. Millions of anonymous people is what history is about.*

James Baldwin

**PRIMARY SOURCES** are the original, firsthand accounts of a subject or event. They include letters, diaries, manuscripts, autobiographies, eye-witness accounts, interviews, opinions, surveys, investigations, government documents, photographs, and maps.

Primary sources may be located by using books, bibliographies, newspapers, or periodicals. The web-based catalog allows easy searching of materials.

## Finding Primary Sources in Books

To find a book, do an **expert keyword** search in the **San Diego Public Library Web Catalog** ([sdplweb.sannet.gov](http://sdplweb.sannet.gov)). Using terms pertaining to the subject, keyword searching helps create more precise results for your search.

To obtain primary sources, add these terms to your keyword search:

- |                 |              |                      |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------------|
| —autobiography  | —documents   | —personal narratives |
| —correspondence | —interviews  | —sources             |
| —diaries        | —manuscripts | —speeches            |

In the titles, look for the words:

- |                |                |                 |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| —letters of... | —reprint of... | —writings of... |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------|

Example: United States *and* Civil War *and* Personal Narratives

Try to identify secondary sources; a book's **bibliography**, **footnotes**, **endnotes**, and **book titles mentioned within the text** can lead you to primary sources.

## Finding Primary Sources in Bibliographies

A **bibliography** is a list of books, articles, documents and manuscripts consulted in the preparation of research papers, articles, or other works. This list of sources often appears at the end of a manuscript, but it may even be an entire book that focuses on a subject. Keep in mind that a bibliography may list secondary sources as well as primary sources.

Example: R 016.9/Clark - *Catalogue of Books Relating to the American Civil War*.

Academic library catalogs such as UCSD's ROGER, California Digital Library/MELVYL, CIRCUIT, and San Diego State's on-line catalogs are excellent sources of bibliographies. These catalogs can be accessed via the Internet.

## Finding Primary Sources in Newspapers

Newspapers may contain primary sources such as:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| —eyewitness accounts of events             | —statements or quotes on an issue       |
| —reprint of important documents            | —editorials expressing a public opinion |
| —interviews with significant personalities |   |

The Newspaper Room maintains a comprehensive listing of all newspapers kept by the San Diego Public Library Central Division and **SDPL Journal**

**List/TDNet** provides a searchable guide to print and online newspaper and magazine subscriptions.

The quickest way to find a newspaper article is to use a **newspaper index**. The Central Library's Newspaper Room has indexes for some of the major newspapers in the U.S., including the San Diego Union Tribune. There are also online indexes available: **ProQuest** indexes national and international newspapers and periodicals; **InfoTrac One File** has a National Newspaper Index going back to 1980; and the **New York Times Archive** is indexed from 1851 to 1999.

Example: *The real voting fraud. The New York Times March 19, 1993 v142 pA16(N) pA28(L) col 1.*

## Finding Primary Sources in Periodicals

Periodicals, including magazines, journals, reviews and newsletters, are publications that are issued at regular intervals.

The **Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature** is located in the Central Library's History Section. Other periodical indexes, such as *Social Sciences Index*, *Humanities Index*, the *Left Index*, as well as specific subject indexes may also be available in the corresponding sections at the Central Library.

To find periodical articles online, click **Newspapers & Magazines** in the SDPL Web Catalog and choose a database to search. **FirstSearch** provides citations and abstracts for academic and professional journals, reports, and proceedings. **Ethnic NewsWatch** is a full-text collection of the newspapers, magazines and journals of the ethnic, minority and native press. **Alternative Press Watch** indexes over 125 alternative and independent newspapers and magazines. **InfoTrac One File**, **ProQuest** and **New York Times Archive** were mentioned in the previous section.

Example: *Helping America vote; Tim Storey; State Legislatures, Denver; Apr. 2003.*

## Selected Primary Sources in the Central Library's Sections and on the Internet

### 1. ART, MUSIC & RECREATION

784/SANGER

*American Folksongs of Protest.*

The purpose of this book is to stimulate, evaluate, and preserve protest songs as expressions of a people whose pride and expectation of a better life have traditionally been considered attributes of the American nation.

784.68/FONER

*American Labor Songs of the Nineteenth Century.*

550 songs and ballads of American labor written from Colonial times to the turn of the century have been gathered together. They reveal that American workers have always expressed their views on economic, political and social issues in song.

784.68/GLAZER

*Songs of Peace, Freedom, and Protest.*

Angry songs, humorous songs, tragic songs with the majority directly depicting America's own struggle toward social and political sanity.

M784.8/SANDBURG

*American Songbag.*

The song history of America presents melodies and verses from diverse regions, from varied human characters and communities.

782.42/SANGER

*"When the Spirit Says Sing!": the Role of Freedom Songs in the Civil Rights Movement.*

Explores the way African-Americans described for themselves the role of song as a communication strategy in their protests.

## **2. CALIFORNIA ROOM/NEWSPAPER ROOM**

*Newspapers* from many U.S. cities, including San Diego, and a few foreign countries. Retention time varies from current issues to the 18th century.

*Maps* of the San Diego area from the late 1800's to present day, including fire insurance, census tract, topographical and topical (e.g., bicycling routes, golf courses) maps.

*Great Registers* - late 19th century and early 20th century handwritten voter registration information for San Diego County that shows name, address, age, occupation, and place of birth.

*City Directories* for the San Diego area dating from 1886 to 1984 show name, address, occupation, and spouse's name.

*Telephone Directories* for the San Diego area from 1906 to the present.

*The New York Times Index* is based on the late city and Sunday regional editions. Arranged by subject including geographic, organization, and personal name headings. Coverage is 1862 to the present.

## **3. CHILDREN'S ROOM**

J305.230973/Colman

*Girls: A History of Growing Up Female in America.*

Traces the history of growing up female in America as told by the girls themselves in journals, household manuals, letters, slave narratives, and other primary sources.

J305.40973/American

*American Women: Their Lives in Their Own Words.*

Excerpts from women's diaries, letters, speeches, and autobiographical writings provide a first-person look at the history of American women.

J973.3/American

*The American Revolutionaries: A History in their Own Words 1750-1800.*  
Letters, diaries, memoirs, ballads, newspaper articles and speeches depict life and events in the American colonies with an emphasis on the years of the Revolutionary War.

J970/Nabokov

*Native American Testimony: An Anthology of Indian and White Relations.*  
A collection of documents in which Native Americans describe their responses to the explorers, traders, missionaries, settlers, and government diplomats and soldiers seeking dominion over their ancient homeland.

J973.7/Murphy

*The Boy's War: Confederate and Union Soldiers Talk About the Civil War.*  
Includes diary entries, personal letters and archival photographs describing the experiences of boys 16 years old or younger who fought in the Civil War.

J973/Black

*The Black Americans: A History in their Own Words.*  
A history of African Americans in the U.S. as told through letters, speeches, articles, and eyewitness accounts.

#### **4. HISTORY & WORLD AFFAIRS**

*Biography Index* - a guide to biographical materials appearing in 2,600 periodicals, current books of individual and collected biographies and incidental biographical material in non-biographical books. Includes list of analyzed sources, i.e. obituaries, letters, diaries, etc. Main body of index is alphabetical by biographies. Also contains a list arranged by occupation or profession.

*Palmer's Index* and the *Times Index* - provide access to citations for the (*London*) *Times* from 1790 to the present.

*Poole's Index to Periodical Literature* - indexes American and English periodical articles published between 1802 and 1906.

*Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature* - indexes over 200 periodicals. Subject and author citations interfiled. Coverage is 1890 to the present.

973.2/Saari

*Colonial America: Primary Sources*  
Presents the historical events and social issues of colonial America through twenty-four primary documents, including diary entries, poems, and personal narratives.

R 973.3/American

*American Revolution: Primary Sources*  
A collection of annotated documents relating to the American Revolution, including speeches, autobiographical text, and proclamations.

973.7/Taylor

*Destruction and reconstruction: personal experiences of the late war.*  
Personal narratives pertaining to the American Civil War, 1861-1865.

973.70202/Kirchberger

*The Civil War and Reconstruction: An Eyewitness History.*

Portrays the American Civil War and its aftermath through such primary sources as memoirs, diaries, letters, contemporary journalism, and official documents.

## 5. LITERATURE & LANGUAGES

191/Dewey

*Intelligence in the Modern World: John Dewey's Philosophy.*

American philosopher's influential writings on education, social criticism, philosophies of individual self-development, and the free exchange of ideas in public policy-making.

811.3/Whitman

*The Portable Walt Whitman.*

From his Democratic Vistas to Leaves of Grass, the epochal American poet and philosopher's influences are international and nearly immeasurable.

814/Emerson

*The Collected Works of Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

The seminal American philosophical essayist, lecturer, and poet's universal and visionary thinking on human nature, representative man, and the epiphany of democracy.

815/Potter

*The Colonial Idiom.*

A broad selection of original American essays, speeches, sermons, and published writings on religion, politics, civil liberties, and the democratic mandate.

## 6. SCIENCE & INDUSTRY

Y 3.B 47/2:2 B 49/6

*The Bill of Rights and Beyond, 1791-1991.*

Overview of the Bill of Rights and its history.

Y 4.J 89/1:C 49/9/981

*Civil Rights Acts of 1957, 1960, 1964, 1968 (as amended through the end of the 96th Congress): Voting Rights Act of 1965 (as amended through the 96th Congress).*

United States civil and voting rights

CAL LE 1.15:IM 6/3

*Summary of Findings, Testimony and Remarks: Legal Immigrants: Obstacles on the Road to Citizenship and Voting: Public Hearing.*

A California perspective on immigrants and voting.

ED 1.2:C 76

*The Constitution's Children: A Collection of Essays by Schoolchildren to Commemorate the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution, 1787-1987.*

Children's view of the U.S. Constitution.

CR 1.2:F 87

*Freedom to the Free: Century of Emancipation, 1863-1963.*

An overview of The Emancipation Proclamation.

W 45.5

*The War of the Rebellion : A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies.*

Official records of the Union and Confederate armies.

Y 3.AD 9/8:2 C 49/2

*Citizenship Participation in the American Federal System.*

A study on ways of improving citizen participation in American government.

I 20.3/2:20/922

*Indian Citizenship.*

A brief document on citizenship and Native Americans.

CR 1.2:V 94/4

*The Voting Rights Act, Unfulfilled Goals.*

A survey of problems with The Voting Rights Act.

## **7. SOCIAL SCIENCES**

305.42/Adams

*Women's Suffrage: A Primary Source History of the Women's Rights Movement in America.*

Background study on women's influence on early social reform movements.

305.567/We

*We Live in a Little Cabin in the Yard.*

Oral testimony of 21 former Virginia slaves about their lives under the yoke and their adjustment to freedom.

342.7/Federalist

*The Federalist.*

The papers of Alexander Hamilton, James Madison and John Jay written in support of the Federal Constitution.

342.7/Tocqueville

*Democracy in America.*

The first comprehensive study of political and social institutions of the United States.

342.73/American

*American Constitution, For and Against.*

Selected Federalist and Anti-Federalist papers.

R345.2/California

*West's Annotated California Codes.*

The laws enforced by the State of California.

## RECOMMENDED INTERNET RESOURCES

The Internet is a valuable resource to locate web sites dealing with primary sources. Dennis Trinkle and Scott Merriman's book, *The History Highway 3.0: A Guide to Internet Resources* (R 025.069/History) is a good introduction to the skills and tools necessary to navigate the Information Superhighway and offers detailed information about the thousands of quality resources on history and how to find them. A good Internet site is the **Librarians' Index to the Internet** ([www.lli.org](http://www.lli.org)), which has excellent links to source media - some of which have on-line indexes.

<http://americanhistory.about.com/homework/americanhistory/>

### **About.com: American History**

A guide for American history, with feature articles, Web site links, and discussion forums. Topics covered include the Civil War, colonial America, government, immigration, biographies, and more.

<http://www.us-history.info/home.html>

### **An Abridged History of the United States**

An online textbook produced by William M. Brinton. The text includes photographs and links to various court cases and other historical documents.

[http://history.cc.ukans.edu/carrie/docs/amdocs\\_index.html](http://history.cc.ukans.edu/carrie/docs/amdocs_index.html)

### **AMDOCS: Documents for the Study of American History**

Part of the Electronic Library at the University of Kansas, this site provides access to hundreds of important documents vital to the study of American history. The materials date from the fifteenth century to the present.

<http://longman.awl.com/history/default.htm>

### **American History Online**

From Longman Publishing Company, this bank of resources includes interactive practice tests, downloadable maps, primary sources, Web activities, and reference links.

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem>

### **American Memory**

American Memory is the online resource compiled by the Library of Congress's National Digital Library Program. With the participation of other libraries and archives, the program provides a gateway to rich primary source materials relating to the history and cultural developments of the United States. The site provides multimedia collections of digitized documents, photographs, maps, recorded sound, and moving pictures.

<http://www.umdl.umich.edu/moa>

### **Making of America**

A digital library of primary sources in American social history from the antebellum period through Reconstruction. The collection is particularly strong in the subject areas of education, psychology, American history, sociology, religion, and science and technology. The collection contains approximately 1,600 books and 50,000 journal articles with nineteenth century imprints.

<http://odur.let.rug.nl/~usa>

### **A Hypertext on American History: From the Colonial Period until Modern Times**

The main body comes from a number of United States Information Agency publications: An Outline of American History, An Outline of the American Economy, An Outline of American Government, and An Outline of American Literature. The text is enriched with links to relevant documents, original essays, other Internet sites, and outlines.

<http://www.thehistorynet.com>

### **The History Net**

Provides access to discussion forums and hundreds of full-text articles on American history from selected journals. Also includes a picture gallery and a list of events and exhibits taking place around the United States. Produced by the National Historical Society.

<http://historymatters.gmu.edu>

### **History Matters: The U.S. [History] Survey Course on the Web**

Designed for high school and college teachers of U.S. History survey courses, this site serves as a gateway to Web resources and offers unique teaching materials, first-person primary documents, and threaded discussions on teaching U.S. history. From the American Social History Project/Center for History and the New Media.

<http://www.discovery.com/guides/history/historybuff/historybuff.html>

### **History Buff's Home Page**

Produced by the Newspaper Collectors Society of America, this site is devoted to press coverage of events in American history. It includes an extensive, searchable library with the categories Civil War, Baseball, Engravings, Journalism Hoaxes, Old West, including Billy the Kid and Jesse James, Crime Figures, such as Bonnie and Clyde and Lizzie Borden, and over a dozen other categories. The Presidential Library includes the inaugural addresses of all U.S. presidents. There is also a primer and price guide for historic newspapers.

<http://historicaltextarchive.com/links.php?op=viewlink&cid=6>

### **Historical Text Archive**

The Historical Text Archive provides links to Native American history, U.S. historical documents, the Colonial period, the Revolution, the early republic, the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, U.S. wars, and more.

<http://www.law.ou.edu/ushist.html>

### **A Chronology of U.S. Historical Documents**

Provides hundreds of important documents related to American history from pre-Colonial times to the present. From the University of Oklahoma Law Center.

<http://www.chnm.gum.edu/index1.html>

### **Center for History and New Media (CHNM)**

Combining “the most exciting and innovative digital media with the latest and best historical scholarship.” Gateway to projects such as *History Matters*, the *September 11 Digital Archive*, and more. Features interviews with historians, recommended readings, quizzes, and tools for students. Various plug-ins required. Searchable. From George Mason University.

**SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY***www.sandiego.gov/public-library*

|                               |                                  |   |                          |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| CENTRAL                       | (619) 236-5800                   | 820 "E" Street                                      | 92101-6478               |
| Balboa                        | (858) 573-1390                   | 4255 Mt. Abernathy                                  | 92117-5028               |
| Beckwourth                    | (619) 527-3404                   | 721 San Pasqual                                     | 92113-1839               |
| Benjamin                      | (619) 533-3970                   | 5188 Zion Avenue                                    | 92120-2728               |
| Carmel Mountain               | (858) 538-8181                   | 12095 World Trade Drive                             | 92128-3709               |
| Carmel Valley                 | (858) 552-1668                   | 3919 Townsgate Drive                                | 92130-2584               |
| City Heights                  | (619) 641-6100                   | 3795 Fairmount Avenue                               | 92105-1693               |
| Clairemont                    | (858) 581-9935                   | 2920 Burgener Blvd.                                 | 92110-1027               |
| College Heights               | (619) 533-3902                   | 4710 College Avenue                                 | 92115-3905               |
| Environmental Services        | (858) 573-1213                   | 9601 Ridgehaven Court                               | 92123-2198               |
| Kensington/<br>Normal Heights | (619) 533-3974                   | 4121 Adams Avenue                                   | 92116-2507               |
| La Jolla                      | (858) 552-1657                   | 7555 Draper Avenue                                  | 92037-4802               |
| Linda Vista                   | (858) 573-1399                   | 2160 Ulric Street                                   | 92111-6628               |
| Logan Heights                 | (619) 533-3968                   | 811 S. 28th Street                                  | 92113-2498               |
| Malcolm X                     | (619) 527-3405                   | 5148 Market Street                                  | 92115-2209               |
| Mira Mesa                     | (858) 538-8165                   | 8405 New Salem Street                               | 92125-2398               |
| Mission Hills                 | (619) 692-4910                   | 925 W. Washington Street                            | 92103-1895               |
| Mission Valley                | (858) 573-5007                   | 2123 Fenton Parkway                                 | 92108-4739               |
| North Clairemont              | (858) 581-9931                   | 4616 Clairemont Drive                               | 92117-2701               |
| North Park                    | (619) 533-3972                   | 3795 31st Street                                    | 92104-3720               |
| Oak Park                      | (619) 527-3406                   | 2802 54th Street                                    | 92105-4941               |
| Ocean Beach                   | (619) 531-1532                   | 4801 Santa Monica Avenue                            | 92107-2810               |
| Otay Mesa                     | (619) 424-0474                   | 3003 Coronado Avenue                                | 92154-2198               |
| Pacific Beach                 | (858) 581-9934                   | 4275 Cass Street                                    | 92109-4005               |
| Paradise Hills                | (619) 527-3461                   | 5922 Rancho Hills Drive                             | 92139-3137               |
| Point Loma<br>Rancho Bernardo | (619) 531-1539<br>(858) 538-8163 | 3701 Voltaire Street<br>17110 Bernardo Center Drive | 92107-1606<br>92128-2002 |
| Rancho Penasquitos            | (858) 538-8159                   | 13330 Salmon River Road                             | 92129-2641               |
| San Carlos                    | (619) 527-3430                   | 7265 Jackson Drive                                  | 92119-2314               |
| San Ysidro                    | (619) 424-0475                   | 101 West San Ysidro Blvd.                           | 92137-2516               |
| Scripps<br>Miramar Ranch      | (858) 538-8158                   | 10301 Scripps Lake Drive                            | 92131-1026               |
| Serra Mesa                    | (858) 573-1396                   | 3440 Sandrock Road                                  | 92123-2198               |
| Skyline Hills                 | (619) 527-3485                   | 480 S. Meadowbrook Drive                            | 92114-7701               |
| Tierrasanta                   | (858) 573-1384                   | 4985 La Cuenta Drive                                | 92124-2601               |
| University<br>Community       | (858) 552-1655                   | 4155 Governor Drive                                 | 92122-2501               |
| University Heights            | (619) 692-4912                   | 4193 Park Boulevard                                 | 92103-2510               |

