Women’s History

BBC Archives: Women Recall Their Struggle to Win the Vote

The BBC has a collection of films from the Suffragettes. In this collection of programmes we hear from those women whose part in the struggle would finally culminate in the 1918 Representation of the People Act and the election of the first woman MP.

The National Archives: Gaining Women’s Suffrage

The National Archives has an exhibition on the women suffrage movement from between 1914 to 1918 and how they achieved gaining the vote.

The National Archives: Suffragettes

The National Archives, power, politics and protest exhibition has a small number of useful primary source documents that relate to the Suffragette movement in the early 20th century. The exhibition has digitalised 5 key documents which includes police reports on the death of Emily Davison from 1913.

Museum of London: The Suffragettes

This exhibition has a small collection of primary source materials that are related to the Suffragettes movement in the 1900’s.

Parliament: The Suffragettes

The Parliamentary Archives has a small online exhibition about the Suffragettes. Included is, Suffragette banners, Police reports and a letter from Emmeline Pankhurst to Lloyd George in 1916.

Parliament: The First Women MPs

The Parliamentary Archives has a small online exhibition, from 2008, to celebrate the 90th anniversary of Royal Assent to the Representation of the People Act 1918. Included are a small number of primary source documents.

British Pathe: Women in World War One

British Pathe has a number of films from World War One which highlights the female contribution to the war effort. The films are varied and show women delivering the post, working as butchers and manufacturing cars.

The National Archives: Women’s Army Auxiliary Corps Service Records 1917-1920
These are the service records of more than 7,000 women who joined the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC) between 1917 and 1920.

**Lowa Digital Library**

The Lowa Digital Library contains primary source documents related to Women’s involved in World War II. The majority of sources are newspapers articles which have been digitalised by the university.

**The University of Nottingham: Women on the Front Line**

The University of Nottingham has a small collection of primary source material that highlights women who were involved in combat during war time. The collection has documents from 1643 that highlight the female contribution to warfare.

**Imperial War Museum: The Women's Land Army in Pictures**

As these images show, women were employed in a wide range of roles, from dairy work to hard manual labour such as ploughing, flax pulling and felling trees.

**The National Archives: Women at War**

The National Archives has a small online exhibition that highlights the contribution of women during World War Two. The exhibition contains a number of primary sources materials, including government papers.

**BBC Sussex: Una Todd**

Una Todd was a teenage tractor driver - working on the Sussex Downs to keep wartime Britain fed. Una remembers German fighters bombing Brighton and cold winters spent working in the hills.

**Digital Maryland: Woman's Land Army of America 1918-1923**

The Woman's Land Army of America 1918-1923 Collection focuses on the District of Columbia branch of the W. L. A. A. which sent young women to work on farms in Montgomery County, Maryland.

**The Imperial War Museum: Florence Nightingale**

The Imperial War Museums exhibition on Florence Nightingale has a wide collection of primary source material. For example, the exhibition has letters sent by Nightingale sent to the British commander in the Crimea, from Scutari.
pointing out deficiencies in medical arrangements for the sick and wounded in 1855.

African Women on the Internet

This website has a collection of links for primary source databases, which relate to African women.

The Elizabeth Cady Stanton & Susan B. Anthony Papers Project

The Elizabeth Cady Stanton & Susan B. Anthony Papers is a project devoted to locating and publishing the papers of these two nineteenth-century American reformers. Here you will find samples of our work—edited documents—and leads to our publications. We also include information about historical editing.

National Women’s History Museum: Online Exhibits

The National Women’s History Museum has 19 online exhibits which covers a wide range of women’s history. These exhibitions cover women history from the 1600’s to the present day. All exhibits have a wide range of contemporary primary source material.

North Carolina Digital Collection

The materials in the "Women, Marriage and the Law" collection were selected for inclusion in the "Studies in Scarlet" Project, organized and partially funded by the Research Libraries Group. The project created a "virtual collection" of digitized primary and secondary documents valuable for researching the legal, historical, and cultural aspects of marriage and other personal relationships in the United States and the United Kingdom from 1815 to 1914.

Discovering American Women's History Online

This database provides access to digital collections of primary sources (photos, letters, diaries, artefacts, etc.) that document the history of women in the United States. These diverse collections range from Ancestral Pueblo pottery to interviews with women engineers from the 1970s.

Women's History Sourcebook

This sourcebook attempts to present online documents and secondary discussions which reflect the various ways of looking at the history of women within broadly defined historical periods and areas.
American Women

This exhibition from the Library of Congress has a small number of primary source documents that relate to Women’s history in America. Included is a selection of photographs, Newspaper reports and Government reports.

Jewish Women’s Archive

The Jewish Women’s archive documents achievements and inspiration stories of Jewish Women History. The database contains special collections which link to primary documents and material.

National Archives: American Historical Documents

This link takes you directly to the 1920 amendment in the U.S. constitution, which gave women the right to vote in America. The database includes a transcript to each document and a 100 milestone moment documents in U.S. history.

UC San Diego: Guide to Online Primary Sources – Women

Subject listings of primary sources available online: free web collections as well as UCSD subscription-based resources. This includes a custom Google search engine to keyword search across many of the listed sites.

Harvard University Library: Women Working

Women Working, 1800–1930 is a digital exploration of women's impact on the economic life of the United States between 1800 and the Great Depression. Working conditions, workplace regulations, home life, costs of living, commerce, recreation, health and hygiene, and social issues are among the issues documented in this online research collection from Harvard University.

Five Colleges Archives

This Web site provides access to digitized versions of archival records and manuscript collections relating primarily to women's history; particularly women's education

Virtual library of Women's History

The main purposes of this virtual library are to list women's history institutions and organizations, locate archival and library collections, and provide links to Internet resources on women's history
Sophia Smith Collection

Digitized images and documents from the Sophia Smith Collection are displayed throughout this site, in digital projects on other Web sites, and in Smith College's Luna image database. Full text transcripts of oral history projects are also available online.

The University of Nottingham: Wives, Windows and Wimples

The collections include stories of knights and their quests; works of learning and instruction in moral conduct; records of saints and of religious practice; and legal documents relating to landholding and marriage.

The Women's Library @ LSE.

A chronological presentation of more than 300 items from the 16th Century to the present day

History to Herstory

This exhibition has a range of digitised letters, diaries and medical case notes which aims to illustrate women’s lives in Yorkshire since 1100.

Encyclopaedia Britannica Profiles: 300 Women Who Changed the World

This website allows students to access biographies of three hundred influential women. The site has essays, speeches, poetry, and other writings by these influential women.

Winning Equal Pay: The Value of Women’s Work

*Winning Equal Pay: the value of women's work* is part of The Union Makes Us Strong website and is a partnership initiative between London Metropolitan University and the Trades Union Congress to record the long campaign to achieve equal pay for women

The National Archives of Ireland: Guide to Women's History Sources

The following guide outlines a selection of sources held in the National Archives which relate to the study of women’s history, though it is important to note that many record series other than those mentioned will also contain relevant material. What follows is a short account of the main series of records likely to repay examination.
Women's Museum of Ireland

The Women’s Museum of Ireland was founded in 2012 to promote the formal recognition of the role of women in Irish history as well as the role of Irish women abroad.

National Library of Ireland: Research Guide to Women's History

This research guide outlines the procedure to locate sources for researching women’s history which are contained in the department of manuscripts and provides a brief description and contextual background of relevant collections.