

TEACHER STUDENT INTERNET SOURCES:

Civil War Photography – Using Primary Documents

The Civil War was the first major national event to be photographed. There is an extensive photographic record of this national tragedy. The development of this directory is to guide teachers in using online primary documents to turn students into Civil War historians. The sites include a variety of resources, including; The Library of Congress, National Archives and the Center for Civil War Photography. In addition to tools in aiding teachers and learners with historical background, guidance in media literacy skills, and critical thinking, the selected websites include links to thousands of primary documents.

This directory has made every effort to include some of the most informative and credible sources for teaching and of online primary documents pertaining to the Civil War. It in no way represents all available resources, but those offered are a valuable starting point for teachers and students.

Teaching Resources

Annenburg Media – A Biography of America
<http://www.learner.org/biographyofamerica/>

This website is dedicated to educators and maintained by Annenburg Media. The biography of America site is an excellent source of information about specific time periods. The link for the Civil War video is highly informational as an introduction to Civil War photography. Other links take the learner to fact/fiction sites for evaluating photography. This site does offer educational products for sale, but it is free to sign up and it offers free access to quality historical videos on demand.

Teaching with Documents: The Civil War as Photographed by Mathew Brady
www.archives.gov/education/lessons/brady-photos/

This website is maintained by the National Archives. As an educational site it offers links to a variety of primary sources (photographic and written), worksheets, activity sheets, and lesson plans aimed at teaching with primary documents. This site offers links for both teachers and students. There are links to digital classrooms and to informative online exhibits. There are links to numerous historical periods.

The Library of Congress: The Learning Page
<http://memory.loc.gov/learn/lessons/psources/pshome.html>

The United States Library of Congress maintains this page. The learning page serves as a teacher/student resource in the use of primary materials. There are links to lesson plans,

procedures, a variety of activities, and materials for discussions about primary documents. The lesson materials are available to download.

Historical Centers/Scholarly Sites

Civil War Women: Primary Sources on the Internet

<http://library.duke.edu/specialcollections/bingham/guides/cwdocs.html>

Duke University's Sallie Bingham Center for Women's History and Culture maintains this site. It is an archive of women's history. There are links to dairies, letters, documents, photographs, and prints, as well as a searchable database. This site provides additional access through a link to the Library of Congress American Memory Project, and the Valley of the Shadow Project which details the life of two American Communities (North/South) through the times of the Civil War.

Photographs of African Americans During the Civil War: A List of Images in the Civil War Photograph Collection

http://www.loc.gov/rr/print/list/081_cwaf6.html

The Library of Congress Prints & Photographs Reading Room maintains this site. The main page introduces the information and explains the site's organization. Links navigate the viewer through assorted scenes in which African Americans were photographed during the Civil War. Each link provides a number of photographs with descriptions. The viewer can access images of African Americans as soldiers, in naval scenes, camp scenes etc. There is also a searchable database to find specific information and images.

Selected Civil War Photographs

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/cwphhtml/cwphome.html>

The United States Library of Congress maintains this home page. In addition to the wide collection of Civil War photos this page provides links to understanding the collection, working with the collection, historical background, and a searchable database. There is also a link to examine possible altered battlefield scenes and an analysis of those images. Access to the Library of Congress Learning Page can also be accessed through this site. It offers lessons in critical and chronological thinking skills.

The Center for Civil War Photography

<http://www.civilwarphotography.org>

The Center for Civil War Photography maintains this site. It is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of Civil War photographs. The site includes in depth information about the photography of this time period. Links will take the viewer to online exhibits such as 3D exhibits, Capitals at War, and a tutorial in accessing images from the National Archives and the Library of Congress.

Additional Sites to Explore

The Civil War Home Page

<http://www.civil-war.net>

“Dedicated to the participants, both North and South in the great American Civil War”, is the quote at the top of the web page. This site is owned and managed by Michael Frosch. This is a clear, easy to understand and use site. It is a well-organized breakdown of online primary sources. Links take the viewer to a multitude of historical informational sites including maps, primary documents, regimental information, research data, and photographic images. There is also a searchable database for photographs.

Photographs from the American Civil War

<http://www.wildwestweb.net/cwphotos.html>

Deleted: Preservation Trust

Ted who is interested in the photography of Civil War re-enactments created this site. The main page opens with an organized view of many period Civil War photos to be viewed without having to navigate photo by photo. Clicking on the photo will bring up an enlarged view. At the bottom of Part I the viewer can click on Part II photos and view more period photographs. This site is good for immediate access to numerous Civil War images at once without having to navigate back and forth. Re-enactment photos accessible by links are not of particular interest for the purpose of this directory.

Mathew Brady's National Portrait Gallery: A Virtual Tour

<http://www.npg.si.edu/exh/brady/gallery/gallery.html>

Maintained by the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery, this site is a virtual tour of all of Mathew Brady's photographs in the Smithsonian Portrait Gallery taken through the 1800's. There is a specific link navigating the viewer to the Civil War period photos. Other links of interest include; Making of a Photograph, Brady's Biography, and a Technical Glossary.

This directory was created by Karen Dailey 3-20-07