

HISTORIC SITES RELATING TO WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN  
CENTRAL NEW YORK: GETTING STARTED

Many people across New York State have done amazing work documenting historic sites relating to women's suffrage. This project will pull together and promote this. It will also locate sites that have not yet been identified.

Identifying historic sites in central New York relating to women's suffrage has several steps:

- A. find people and events related to women's suffrage;
- B. find sites relating to those people and events;
- C. add sites to our database; and
- D. select sites for future nomination to the National Register of Historic Places (and also, if you wish, for William G. Pomeroy Foundation markers).

Much of this research is familiar local history researchers. But here a few specific tips for a quick beginning:

Step A. Finding People and Events Relating to Women's Suffrage

1. Newspapers online. Use search terms such as "woman suffrage" and "political equality clubs," combined with your town and/or county. Easily accessible sources include New York Historic Newspapers (<http://nyshistoricnewspapers.org/>), fultonhistory.com, Chronicling America (<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/newspapers/>) (has only NYC newspapers, but does include the *Tribune*, *Sun*, and *Herald* which cover news from the whole country). *New York Times* (1851-present) and *Brooklyn Eagle* are also possibilities. Kenneth Marks, *The Ancestor Hunt* (<http://www.theancestorhunt.com/>) has a list of all newspapers available online for free. Newspapers.com is one of many paid services.
2. Women and Social Movements, Professor Tom Dublin. Databases include 1) names of people, mostly European American, associated with the National American Woman Suffrage Association, vol. 6, *History of Woman Suffrage*) suffragists affiliated with the Woman's Party; and 3) African American suffragists.. These databases are online through the Ontario County Historical Society. Professor Dublin invites anyone who would like to volunteer to write sketches, copyedit, or fact check to contact him: [tdublin@binghamton.edu](mailto:tdublin@binghamton.edu).
3. *History of Woman Suffrage*, six volumes, available through Google Books, Project Gutenberg, and Internet Archive. Our current database includes information from all six volumes.
4. *Report of the New York State Woman Suffrage Association, 1894, Constitutional-Amendment Campaign Year* (Rochester: Charles Mann, 1895), <https://books.google.com/books?id=gRs5AQAAMAAJ&printsec=frontcover&dq=nys+woman+suffrage+1894&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwirlIONj8PdAhXFct8KHWGPC2EQ6AEIKzAA#v=onepage&q=nys%20woman%20suffrage%201894&f=false>; *Revised Record of the Constitutional Convention of the State of New York, May 8, 1894 to September 29, 1894*, petitions, Carol Kammen; Susan Goodier and Karen Pastorello include a map and list of NYS annual conventions and political equality clubs, *Women Will Vote: Winning Suffrage in New York State*.
5. Manuscripts, including National American Woman Suffrage Collection, Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/collections/national-american-woman-suffrage-association/about-this-collection/>; Elizabeth Smith Miller and Anne Fitzhugh Miller Scrapbooks, 1897-1911, Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/item/93838336/>.

6. Biographical sketches such as *Western New York Suffragists: Winning the Vote* (<https://rrlc.org/winningthevote/>), Frances Willard, *Woman of the Century* (1893, <https://archive.org/details/womanofthecentur002516mbp/page/n3>), Phebe Hanaford, *Daughters of America* (1883, <https://archive.org/details/daughtersofameri00inhana/page/n7>), James, *Notable American Women* (1971).

Step B. Finding Historic sites related to these people and events. In addition to sources you used to find people and events, you may need to locate maps, city directories, deeds to find site locations.

Step C. Adding sites to database.

To make this as easy as possible, we have created a Google form to fill out for each site. Among the most important questions are those that relate to sources: What sources did you find that relate this site to women's suffrage? Which sources identify this location as the correct one?

To nominate historic sites relating to women's suffrage, see

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdY5NXPB4uUmsDhwXg6DemhzVSn7TLjyMUj0gVHn\\_Jxjj3nRA/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdY5NXPB4uUmsDhwXg6DemhzVSn7TLjyMUj0gVHn_Jxjj3nRA/viewform?usp=sf_link)

For current database, see

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1F46xk6GQt1bKuU3XbxOfjB3hajR\\_d8mkC0AssQ4KMRA/edit#gid=778040137](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1F46xk6GQt1bKuU3XbxOfjB3hajR_d8mkC0AssQ4KMRA/edit#gid=778040137). This database includes information from Judith Wellman, *Historic Resource Study: Women's Rights National History Park* (2007); Wellman and Warren, *Roads from Seneca Falls* (2008); and Jurate Kazickas and Lynn Sherr, *Susan B. Anthony Slept Here* (1995). The New York Cultural and Heritage Tourism Network includes a database of women's history sites in NYS (<http://www.nywomenshistory.com/trailmap.php>). The National Votes for Women Trail ([www.ncwhs.org](http://www.ncwhs.org); <https://vimeo.com/291130697/f71c03b0e1>) includes about 60 suffrage sites from central New York.

Step D. Choosing sites for possible National Register nomination. Standing sites with good integrity may be identified for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A: Sites "That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history." ([https://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb15/nrb15\\_2.htm](https://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb15/nrb15_2.htm)). You may also wish to consider sites for markers from the William G. Pomeroy Foundation.

To see how central New York suffragists fit into larger state and national suffrage movements, see:

Julia Corrice, Susan Goodier and Sally Roesch Wagner, "Recognizing Women's Right to Vote in New York State," New York Heritage Digital Collections, May 14, 2018,

<https://nyheritage.org/exhibits/recognizing-womens-right-vote-new-york-state>.

Susan Goodier and Karen Pastorello, *Women Will Vote: Winning Suffrage in New York State* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2017).

Jennifer Lemak et al, *Votes for Women: Celebrating New York's Suffrage Centennial* (2017).

Susan Lewis, "Women Win the Right to Vote in New York State,"

<https://sites.newpaltz.edu/nyrediscovered/2013/11/06/women-win-the-right-to-vote-in-new-york-state/>