Primary Sources

A primary source is a document or other sort of evidence written or created during the time under study. Primary sources offer an eyewitness view of a particular event.

Primary documents include charters, correspondence, diaries, speeches, letters, minutes, interviews, journals, narratives, manuscripts, memoirs, images, news film footage, autobiographies, official records, oratory, pamphlets, and photographs.

The following sources will provide—if searched correctly—primary sources in history.

Books

Bishop Library Catalog

Catalog to all materials owned by the LVC Library, as well as over 77,000 eBooks. Access the Bishop Library catalog from the library’s homepage.

Begin your search by clicking on POWER SEARCH. In the first search box, click on Words or Phrase, choose Subject, and type in: sources OR military sources OR personal narratives OR autobiography OR correspondence OR diaries OR journals OR oral history OR interviews OR photographs OR pictorial works OR slaves’ writings

In the second search box, choose Subject and type in: slaves OR slavery or slaveholders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>subject</th>
<th>subjects OR military sources OR personal narratives OR autobiography OR correspondence OR diaries OR journals OR oral history OR interviews OR photographs OR pictorial works OR slaves’ writings</th>
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<td>subject</td>
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<tr>
<td>periodical title</td>
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<td>And</td>
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[Search] [Reset]
**Early American Imprints, Shaw-Shoemaker, 1801-1819**

Provides a comprehensive set of over 36,000 American books, pamphlets and broadsides published in the early part of the 19th century.

Access Early American Imprints from the library’s homepage, under the Online Databases link.

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**WorldCat**

Database of 77,000 worldwide libraries’ records. Will require the use of Interlibrary Loan (books borrowed by LVC from other libraries for you).

![WorldCat Search](http://ezproxy.lvc.edu:2048/login?url=http://firstsearch.oclc.org/fsip?dbname=worldcat&done=referer)

If you plan on using WorldCat, start your research early, and allow 1-2 weeks for ILL books to arrive. Again, relevant *subjects* to use for locating primary documents are: sources OR military sources OR personal narratives OR autobiography OR correspondence or diaries or journals or oral history or interviews or photographs or pictorial works or writings. In the second search box, enter slaves or slaveholders or slavery, and search these as subjects, also. To further refine your search, selected subtypes NOT JUVENILE, NOT FICTION, and NOT MICROFORM.

### Government Documents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Available From</th>
<th>URL</th>
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<tr>
<td>Census Data</td>
<td>1790-1960</td>
<td>Permits easy access to census data related to slavery. Covers U.S. census data from 1790-1960; provides demographic information, including numbers of slaves, by state and county.</td>
<td><a href="http://mapserver.lib.virginia.edu/">http://mapserver.lib.virginia.edu/</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Court Documents</td>
<td>1740-1860</td>
<td>Full-text and PDFs of 100 books/pamphlets relating to legal cases about slavery. Available from the Library of Congress.</td>
<td><a href="http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/sthtml/sthome.html">http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/sthtml/sthome.html</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court Petitions</td>
<td>1775-1867</td>
<td>Searchable database containing full-text information about legislative and court petitions concerning slavery in the South, 1770s to 1860s. Available from the University of North Carolina.</td>
<td><a href="http://library.uncg.edu/slavery_petitions/">http://library.uncg.edu/slavery_petitions/</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laws, TX</td>
<td>1821-1845</td>
<td>Originally published in 1898 by H.P.H Gammel, the <em>Laws of Texas</em> contained all the laws concerning Texas passed by the Mexican Congress (at both the state or federal levels), by the Congress of the Republic of Texas, and by the state of Texas. Includes digitized transcriptions of the laws in this collection that touched in slavery, agriculture, and taxation in Texas during the years between 1821 and 1845. Available from the Texas Slavery Project.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.texasslaveryproject.org/">http://www.texasslaveryproject.org/</a></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Journals & Magazines

Making of America  1815-1901
Search the full-text of 22 journals, retrieve PDF images. Journals available include:

- The American Missionary (1878 - 1901)
- The American Whig Review (1845 - 1852)
- The Atlantic Monthly (1857 - 1901)
- The Bay State Monthly (1884 - 1886)
- The Century (1881 - 1899)
- The Continental Monthly (1862 - 1864)
- The Galaxy (1866 - 1878)
- Harper’s New Monthly Magazine (1850 - 1899)
- The International Monthly Magazine (1850 - 1852)
- The Living Age (1844 - 1900)
- Manufacturer and Builder (1869 - 1894)
- The New England Magazine (1886 - 1900)
- The New-England Magazine (1831 - 1835)
- New Englander (1843 - 1892)
- The North American Review (1815 - 1900)
- The Old Guard (1863 - 1867)
- Punchinello (1870)
- Putnam’s Monthly (1853 - 1870)
- Scientific American (1846 - 1869)
- Scribner’s Magazine (1887 - 1896)
- Scribner’s Monthly (1870 - 1881)
- The United States Democratic Review (1837 - 1859)

Available from Cornell University.
http://digital.library.cornell.edu/m/moa/

Newspapers

California Newspapers,  1846-1922
Searches the full-text of Amador Ledger, California Star, California Star and Californian, Californian, Daily Alta California, Imperial Valley Press, Los Angeles Herald, Pacific Rural Press, Sacramento Daily Union, Sacramento Transcript, San Francisco Call, Sausalito News.
Available from the University of California.
http://cdnc.ucr.edu/newsucr

Colorado Newspapers,  1859-1930
Searchable PDFs of 164 Colorado newspapers.
Available from the Colorado State Library.
Newspapers

Georgia Newspapers, 1750-1925
Full-text of three of the leading Georgian newspapers.
http://metis.galib.uga.edu/ssp/cgi-bin/ftaccess.cgi?galileo_server=andromeda.galib.usg.edu&galileo_server_port=80&galileo_server_id=8&instcode=publ&instname=Guest&helpuserid=&style=&_id=6d97f486-d34d04cb75-7096&dbs=ZLGN

Kentucky Newspapers, 1860-1922
Full-text of 36 Kentucky newspapers.
Available from the University of Kentucky.
http://kdl.kyvl.org/ Choose newspapers

Missouri Newspapers, 1835-1975
Searches 13 full-text newspapers.
Available from the Missouri State Library.

New York Newspapers, 1827-1902
Brooklyn Daily Eagle 1841-1902
Brooklyn, NY

Freedman’s Journal 1827-1829
New York, NY
“We wish to plead our own cause. Too long have others spoken for us.’ Thus declare Samuel Cornish and John B. Russwurm on the front page of Freedom’s Journal, the first African-American owned and operated newspaper published in the United States. The Journal was published weekly in New York City from 1827 to 1829.” Website below provides pdfs of the entire newspaper.
Available from Wisconsin Historical Society.
http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/libraryarchives/aanp/freedom/

North Carolina Newspapers, 1759-1899
Full-text of several North Caroline newspapers.
Cape Fear Mercury, 1769-1775
Carolina Watchman, 1832-1898
Edenton Gazette, 1800-1801
Edenton Intelligencer, 1788
Encyclopedian Instructor, May 21, 1800
Fayetteville Gazette, 1792-1793
Hall’s Wilmington Gazette, 1797-1798
Newbern Gazette, 1798-1801
North-Carolina Gazette, Dec. 19, 1787
North-Carolina Centinel, Jul. 25, Aug. 8, 15, 29, 1795
North-Carolina Chronicle, 1790-1791
North Carolina Gazette, 1751-1786
North Carolina Gazette and New Bern Advertiser, 1785-1787
The North Carolina Gazette and Wilmington Post boy, 1756-1766
North Carolina Magazine, 1764 – 1765
North-Carolina Mercury, 1799-1801
Martin’s North Carolina Gazette and New Bern Advertiser, 1787
Post Angel, Sept. 10-Nov. 12, 1800
The Western Carolinian, 1820-1842
The Wilmington Centinel, 1788-1789
Available from North Carolina State Archives
http://www.archives.ncdcr.gov/newspaper/search.html
Pennsylvania Newspapers, 1831-1880
Full-text of many Pennsylvania newspapers from the Civil war era.

Agitator, 1854-1865
Altoona Tribune, 1858-1865
American Presbyterian, 1860-1869
Bellefonte National, 1858-1868
Bellefonte Republican, 1869
Central Press, 1858-1868
Clearfield Republican 1851-1854; 1858-1865
Columbia Spy, 1847-1870 [gaps]
Compiler, 1857-1866
Country Dollar, 1849-1850
Daily Evening Bulletin, 1864-1870
Daily Morning Post, 1842-1843
Daily Morning Post, 1846-1855 [gaps]
Daily Patriot and Union, 1860-1863* [gaps]
Daily Pittsburgh Gazette, 1847-1851
Daily Pittsburgh Gazette and Commercial Journal, 1861-1863
Daily Pittsburgh Gazette, 1863-1866
Democratic Banner, 1845-1849
Democratic Watchman, 1855-1871
Erie Observer, 1859-1869 [gaps]
Erie Weekly Observer, 1853-1859 [gaps]
Evening Telegraph, 1862-1864* [gaps]
Franklin Repository, 1863-1865
Gettysburg Compiler, 1866-1868
Globe, 1856-1870
Huntingdon Globe, 1855-1856
Huntingdon Journal, 1838-1880 [gaps]
Lancaster Intelligencer, 1847-1871
Lebanon Advertiser, 1857-1865
Lehigh Register, 1849-1872 [gaps]
Mariettian, 1861-1867
Pennsylvania Daily Telegraph, 1859-1862 [gaps]
Pennsylvania Telegraph, 1864
Pilot, 1863-1864* [gaps]
Pittsburgh Daily Gazette and Advertiser, 1847
Pittsburgh Gazette, 1866-1870
Pittsburgh Morning Post, 1843-1846
Pittsburgh Morning Post, 1855-1859 [gaps]
Pittsburgh Post, 1859-1860
Presbyterian Banner, 1860-1864
Presbyterian Banner and Advocate, 1856-1860 [gaps]
Press, 1857-1865
Reading Eagle, 1868-1869
Reading Gazette and Democrat, 1862-1863
Republican Compiler, 1854-1857
Star, 1831
Star and Adams County Republican Banner, 1831-1832 [gaps]
Star and Banner, 1847-1857
Star and Republican Banner, 1834-1847
Star and Sentinel, 1867-1871
Tioga County Agitator, 1865-1871
Village Record, 1862-1871
Waynesboro Village Record, 1871-1874
Weekly Mariettian, 1860-1861
Wellsboro Agitator, 1872-1873

Available from Penn State University.
http://digitalnewspapers.libraries.psu.edu/
Newspapers

**U.S. Newspapers, 1880-1922**
View and search newspapers from 1880 to 1922 from the following states: Arizona, California, District of Columbia, Florida, Hawaii, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, Virginia and Washington.
Available from the Library of Congress.
http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/search/pages/

**U.S. Newspapers, 1690-1876**
Full-text of over 700 Early American newspapers.
Available from the library's homepage, under Online Databases, under *Early American Newspapers, Series I*.
http://ezproxy.lvc.edu:2048/login?url=http://infoweb.newsbank.com/iw-search/we/HistArchive?p_product=EANX&p_action=timeframes&p_theme=ahnp&p_nbids=B54H4BHCMTMxM2YWmTA2My45MDgxNTI6MToxNDoxOTIuNzcuMTQzLjE1MA&p_clear_search=&s_search_type=timeframes&s_category=none&d_refprod=EANX&s_browseRef=

**Virginia Newspapers, 1857-1870**
Full-text of seven VA newspapers. Search for the articles at http://valley.lib.virginia.edu/newspapers. Note the newspaper title, date and page your article is on. Locate the full-text by going to http://valley.lib.virginia.edu/VoS/newspapers/about.html
- *Staunton Vindicator*, 1859-1870
- *Franklin Repository*, 1859-1870
- *Staunton Spectator*, 1857-1870
- *Semi-Weekly Dispatch*, 1861-1862
- *Virginian*, 1865-1870
- *Valley Spirit*, 1859-1870
- *Waynesboro Village Record*, 1863
Available from the University of Virginia.

**Virginia Gazette, 1736-1780**
Full-text of the Virginia Gazette. Accessible by date or by subject.
Available from the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.
http://research.history.org/DigitalLibrary/VirginiaGazette/VGPPIndex.cfm

For additional information in locating manuscripts, archives, public records, government documents, oral histories, media and AV, see:

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