

Susan B. Anthony Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



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**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.**

1997

Revised 2018 February

Contact information:

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Additional search options available at:

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms997009>

LC Online Catalog record:

<http://lcn.loc.gov/mm78011049>

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Collection Summary

Title: Susan B. Anthony Papers

Span Dates: 1846-1934

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1846-1906)

ID No.: MSS11049

Creator: Anthony, Susan B. (Susan Brownell), 1820-1906

Extent: 500 items ; 7 containers ; 3 linear feet ; 7 microfilm reels

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Summary: Reformer and suffragist. Correspondence, diaries, daybook, speeches, scrapbooks, and miscellaneous papers relating primarily to Anthony's writings, lectures, and other efforts on behalf of women's suffrage and women's rights. Includes material pertaining to the National Woman Suffrage Association, after 1890 the National American Woman Suffrage Association, and to the New York State Woman Suffrage Association.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People

Anthony, Mary S. Mary S. Anthony papers.

Anthony, Susan B. (Susan Brownell), 1820-1906.

Avery, Rachel Foster, 1858-1919.

Bloomer, Amelia Jenks, 1818-1894.

Johnson, Adelaide, 1859-1955.

Lincoln, Abraham, 1809-1865--Assassination.

Mott, Lucretia, 1793-1880.

Phillips, Wendell, 1811-1884.

Pillsbury, Parker, 1809-1898.

Shaw, Anna Howard, 1847-1919.

Stanton, Elizabeth Cady, 1815-1902.

Stone, Lucy, 1818-1893.

Organizations

American Anti-Slavery Society.

National American Woman Suffrage Association.

National Woman Suffrage Association (U.S.)

New York State Woman Suffrage Association.

Subjects

African Americans--Suffrage.

Antislavery movements.

Slavery.

Social problems.

Temperance.

Women's rights.

Women--Education.

Women--Suffrage.

Occupations

Reformers.

Suffragists.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Susan B. Anthony, reformer and suffragist, were given to the Library of Congress primarily by Lucy E. Anthony, Ann Anthony Bacon, and others from 1940 to 1964. An addition to the collection includes items received by the Library through gift and purchase in 1987 and 1990.

Processing History

The papers of Susan B. Anthony were arranged and described in 1971. Additional material was incorporated into the collection in 1978 and 1994.

Transfers

A photograph of Anthony, given to the Library in 1988, has been transferred to the Library's Prints and Photographs Division where it is identified as a part of these papers.

The Library's Rare Book and Special Collections Division has custody of Susan B. Anthony's personal library. Among the more than 250 volumes are thirty-four scrapbooks compiled by Anthony, some of which were transferred from the Manuscript Division together with related printed matter and newspaper clippings. The scrapbooks are available on seven reels of microfilm for purchase or loan through the Microform Reading Room.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Susan B. Anthony is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.)

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Susan B. Anthony are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Microfilm

A microfilm edition of these papers is available on seven reels. Consult reference staff in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition.

Online Content

The papers of Susan B. Anthony are available on the Library of Congress Web site at <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/collmss.ms000065>.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel number, Susan B. Anthony Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1820, Feb. 15	Born near Adams, Mass.
1837-1838	Student, Friends seminary near Philadelphia, Pa.
1839	Teacher, Eunice Kenyon's Friends Seminary, New Rochelle, N.Y.
1846	Headmistress, Female Department, Canajoharie Academy, Rochester, N.Y.

- 1848 Joined the Daughters of Temperance in Canajoharie, N.Y.; by Mar. 1849 had become Presiding Sister of the Montgomery Union, No. 29, of the Daughters of Temperance in Canajoharie, a position she also held after moving to Rochester, N.Y., and joining that city's union in mid-1849
- 1849 Managed family farm
- 1851 Met Elizabeth Cady Stanton
- 1852 Formed the Woman's New York State Temperance Society
- 1853 Helped organize the "Whole World's Temperance Convention"
Helped a group of Rochester, N.Y., seamstresses draft a code of fair wages for working women in the city
- 1854 Organized and participated in a canvass to obtain signatures on petitions demanding woman suffrage and improvement of the Married Woman's Property Law in New York
- 1856 Principal New York agent, American Anti-Slavery Society
- 1866 Corresponding secretary, American Equal Rights Association
- 1868-1870 Published the *Revolution*, a weekly periodical edited by Elizabeth Cady Stanton and others
- 1869 Organized a woman's suffrage convention, Washington, D.C.
Formed, with Elizabeth Cady Stanton, the National Woman Suffrage Association
- 1872 Voted illegally for president
- 1876 Presented a "Woman's Declaration of 1876" with two colleagues at the Centennial Exposition, Philadelphia, Pa.
- 1881-1902 Financed and coedited first four volumes of *History of Woman Suffrage* (New York, Fowler & Wells, 1881-[1922] 6 vols.)
- 1888 Founded the International Council of Women
- 1890 Settled in Rochester, N.Y.
Vice president at large, National American Woman Suffrage Association
- 1892-1900 President, National American Woman Suffrage Association
- 1892 Trustee, State Industrial School, Rochester, N.Y.
- 1895-1896 Campaigned in California to secure the vote for women
- 1898 Collaborated in the preparation of *The Life and Work of Susan B. Anthony* (Indianapolis, Bowen-Merrill Co., 1898-1908. 3 vols.), by Ida H. Harper
- 1900 Helped open the University of Rochester, N.Y., to women

1904	Founded, with Carrie Chapman Catt, the International Woman Suffrage Alliance
1906, Mar. 13	Died, Rochester, N.Y.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Susan Brownell Anthony (1820-1906) span the period from 1846 to 1934, although the bulk of the material dates from 1846 to 1906. The papers include [correspondence](#), a [daybook](#), [diaries](#), [scrapbooks](#), [speeches](#), and miscellaneous items.

A volume of [correspondence](#) is dated 1846-1905 and consists primarily of Anthony's letters to Rachel Foster Avery concerning the details of Anthony's extensive lecture circuit, her finances, the activities of the National Woman Suffrage Association, and her work on the multivolume *History of Woman Suffrage* which she coedited with Elizabeth Cady Stanton and others. The file also includes several letters from Anthony to the Reverend Anna Howard Shaw and letters from Wendell Phillips. Although most letters concern suffrage, a few deal with personal and family matters.

A [daybook](#), 1856-1860, records the financial account Anthony kept of her work for the American Anti-Slavery Society, woman's rights, and personal expenditures for postage, room and board, travel, advertising, rent for lecture halls, and other items. Twenty-five volumes of [diaries](#) span the period from 1865 to 1906 with some gaps and omissions. For the most part, the diaries contain brief notations of Anthony's activities and a financial record kept in the back of each volume. Other topics noted in the diaries include family matters, African-American and woman suffrage, lecture tours, and important events of the day, such as Lincoln's assassination. Among her associates mentioned in the diaries are Amelia Jenks Bloomer, Lucretia Mott, Parker Pillsbury, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, and Lucy Stone.

Six [scrapbooks](#) assembled by her sister, Mary S. Anthony, contain clippings from newspapers published in all parts of the United States with a heavy concentration of those from New York state and Washington, D.C. Memorabilia for the period 1876-1934 is also included. The scrapbooks primarily document the activities of Susan B. and Mary S. Anthony in behalf of woman suffrage, especially the conventions of the National Woman Suffrage Association and the New York State Woman Suffrage Association. The scrapbooks also contain biographical articles on Anthony and her associates in the suffrage movement and articles on women in higher education and professional employment, particularly in law, medicine, and journalism.

Manuscripts of [speeches and other writings](#) complete the collection. Anthony's early focus was temperance and abolition as well as women's suffrage and education. The manuscripts date from her first public address in 1848 to 1895 when she was presented with part one of Elizabeth Cady Stanton's *The Woman's Bible* (New York, European Pub. Co., 1895-1898).

Two letters were [added](#) to the collection in 1997. A photocopy of a letter dated 1883 from Anthony to Mary Kimball Rogers concerns a speech she thought had been lost in Omaha, Nebraska. A typed letter dated 1896 from Anthony to Adelaide Johnson concerns the charges of illegality that were raised when Johnson's marriage ceremony was performed by a woman. Anthony's lobbying effort to have statues placed in the United States Capitol of herself, Stanton, and Mott as the founders of the woman suffrage movement is also noted in her letter to Johnson.

Organization of the Papers

The collection is arranged in five series:

- [Correspondence, 1846-1905](#)
- [Daybook and Diaries, 1856-1906](#)
- [Scrapbooks, 1876-1934](#)
- [Speeches and Writings, 1848-1895](#)
- [Addition, 1883-1896](#)

Description of Series

Container

BOX 1
REEL 1

Series

Correspondence, 1846-1905

Letters to and from Anthony.
Arranged chronologically.

BOX 2-3
REEL 1-5

Daybook and Diaries, 1856-1906

One daybook and twenty-five diaries.
Arranged chronologically.

BOX 4-6
REEL 5-6

Scrapbooks, 1876-1934

Six volumes and two folders of clippings and memorabilia.

BOX 7
REEL 6-7

Speeches and Writings, 1848-1895

Speeches by Anthony. Also includes *The Woman's Bible*, part one, by Elizabeth Cady Stanton.
Arranged chronologically.

BOX 7
not filmed

Addition, 1883-1896

Two letters by Anthony.

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1 REEL 1	Correspondence, 1846-1905 Letters to and from Anthony. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 1 REEL 1	Bound volume Digital content available
BOX 2-3 REEL 1-5	Daybook and Diaries, 1856-1906 One daybook and twenty-five diaries. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 2 REEL 1	Daybook, 1856-1860 Digital content available
BOX 2 REEL 1	Diaries 1865 Digital content available 1870 Digital content available 1871 Digital content available 1872 Digital content available 1873
BOX 2 REEL 2	Digital content available 1874 Digital content available 1876 Digital content available 1877 Digital content available 1878 Digital content available 1883 Digital content available 1888 Digital content available

Daybook and Diaries, 1856-1906

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 2 REEL 3	1890 Digital content available
BOX 3 REEL 3	1892 Digital content available
	1893 Digital content available
	1894 Digital content available
	1895 Digital content available
	1896 Digital content available
BOX 3 REEL 4	1897 Digital content available
	1898 Digital content available
	1899 Digital content available
	1900 Digital content available
	1901 Digital content available
	1903 Digital content available
BOX 3 REEL 5	1904 Digital content available
	1906 Digital content available
BOX 4-6 REEL 5-6	Scrapbooks, 1876-1934 Six volumes and two folders of clippings and memorabilia.
BOX 4 REEL 5	1876-1903 Digital content available
BOX 5 REEL 5	1892-1902 Digital content available
BOX 5 REEL 6	1902-1903 Digital content available
BOX 6 REEL 6	1905-1906

Scrapbooks, 1876-1934

Container

Contents

- [Vol. 1]
[Digital content available](#)
- [Vol. 2]
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- BOX 7**
REEL 6
- Clippings, 1890-1934
- [Digital content available](#)
- National American Woman Suffrage Association Convention programs, 1905-1906
- [Digital content available](#)
- BOX 7**
REEL 6-7
- Speeches and Writings, 1848-1895**
- Speeches by Anthony. Also includes *The Woman's Bible*, part one, by Elizabeth Cady Stanton. Arranged chronologically.
- BOX 7**
REEL 6
- List of speeches
- [Digital content available](#)
- 1848 , first public address
- [Digital content available](#)
- 1852 , speech delivered at Batavia, N.Y., in company with Emily Clark (2 copies)
- [Digital content available](#)
- 1852 , "The Church and the Liquor Traffic"
- [Digital content available](#)
- 1853
- Apr. 17 , "Maine Law"
- [Digital content available](#)
- BOX 7**
REEL 7
- June 27 , "Expediency"
- [Digital content available](#)
- 1856 , "Report on Educating the Sexes Together," written by Elizabeth Cady Stanton and delivered by Anthony at the New York State Teachers Convention, Troy, N.Y.
- [Digital content available](#)
- 1858 , speech, Union Agricultural Society, Yates County Fair, Dundee, N.Y.
- [Digital content available](#)
- undated 1859 , "Make the Slave's Case Our Own"
- [Digital content available](#)
- 1861
- "The No Union with Slave-holders Campaign"
- [Digital content available](#)
- "What Is American Slavery?"
- [Digital content available](#)
- "Judge Taney"
- [Digital content available](#)
- 1862 , Speech during Wadsworth Campaign (emancipation)
- [Digital content available](#)

Speeches and Writings, 1848-1895

Container

Contents

1877 , "Homes of Single Women"

[Digital content available](#)

1895 , *The Woman's Bible* (part 1) by Elizabeth Cady Stanton

[Digital content available](#)

BOX 7
not filmed

Addition, 1883-1896

Two letters by Anthony.

BOX 7
not filmed

Letters, 1883 , 1896