

July 2016

## Extras for Educators: Explore, Discover, and Create Using National Archives' Primary Sources on [Docsteach.org](http://Docsteach.org)

This summer the National Archives has updated its popular teaching website [Docsteach.org](http://Docsteach.org) with a new look and improved features. In addition, teachers and students can now use the full website and all of its interactive aspects on any computer or mobile device.

Docsteach is the online tool for teaching with documents from the National Archives. Since it first came online in 2010, its pages have been viewed over 12



million times. On Docsteach.org, teachers, students, and other history explorers can access thousands of primary sources - including letters, photographs, speeches, posters, maps, videos - spanning the course of American history. Educators can register for a free account to create their own fun and engaging online activities for their students. Or they can borrow from an ever-expanding collection of document-based activities created by the National Archives or fellow teachers around the world. They can even copy and customize activities for their students.

Docsteach is now easier to use, more customizable, and provides a more complete experience for all users. In addition to mobile friendliness, major updates include the ability to:

- Organize and share favorite documents;
- View multimedia directly on the site;
- Access document transcriptions and archival citations;
- Include primary sources from outside the National Archives, and
- Search activities by grade level.

Other changes to the site drive openness, increase public access, and cultivate public participation. All Docsteach learning activities are labeled with the CCO Public Domain Dedication and classified as open educational resources — anyone around the world can copy, modify, or distribute them freely. The copyright status of each primary source on the site is clearly indicated, making use of statements from [RightsStatements.org](http://RightsStatements.org).

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### Upcoming Events

Unless noted, all events are held at the National Archives 400 West Pershing Road Kansas City, MO 64108

More details will be in forthcoming issues, save the dates for the following programs:

- AUGUST 23 - 6:30 P.M.  
WOMEN'S EQUALITY WEEK ANNUAL PROGRAM
- SEPTEMBER 7 - 6:30 P.M.  
AUTHOR EVENT: *HARVEY HOUSES OF KANSAS*
- SEPTEMBER 13 - 6:30 P.M.  
AUTHOR EVENT: *FIDES ET LABOR - 140 YEARS OF PIONEERING EDUCATION: THE STORY OF PARK UNIVERSITY*
- SEPTEMBER 15 - 6:30 P.M.  
PANEL DISCUSSION: *IKE, HARRY, AND THE CONSTITUTION*

# Hidden Treasures from the Stacks

Pipestone National Monument: Centuries of History Protected by the National Park Service

**“At an ancient time the Great Spirit, in the form of a large bird, stood upon a wall of rock and called the tribes around him, and breaking out a piece of red stone formed it into a pipe and smoked it, the smoke rolling over the whole multitude. He then told his red children that this red stone was their flesh, that they were made from it, that they must all smoke to him through it, that they must use it for nothing but the pipes: and as it belongs to all tribes, the ground was sacred, and no weapons must be used or brought upon it.” - Sioux Story**  
[[www.nps.gov/pipe/learn/historyculture/stories.htm](http://www.nps.gov/pipe/learn/historyculture/stories.htm)]

As the National Park Service celebrates the 100 year anniversary of its creation, we examine one of its great assets which has actually been in use by humans for over 3,000 years. Located in southwestern Minnesota, Pipestone National Monument was created by an Act of Congress in 1937 to preserve the pipestone quarries that were used by

Native Americans for many generations to create their sacred red stone pipes. The significance of the pipes was great in Native American culture, and used as a sign of friendliness and a way to broker peace between people.

The soft red pipestone is found in a vein between layers of very hard red Sioux quartzite. The methods used today to extract the pipestone are very similar to how it has been done for thousands of years. Philander Prescott, a fur trader from Mendota, Minnesota spent time in 1831 quarrying pipestone with the Native Americans and wrote about how they quarried the pipestone only using axes, hoes, and larger rocks. After a full day of quarrying they had enough rocks to make 20 pipes. Prescott once remarked, “The work was very labor intensive and much of the rock we quarried had many flaws in it.” So only a small percentage of the rock was used to create pipes.

Pipestone is in a layer that is 10 to 18 inches thick. It is in-between layers of very hard quartzite so the removal must be done carefully to avoid cracking. The quarries are located in the bottom of bowl like depressions so they often times flood in the spring and early summer. Due to this, most of the quarrying is done in the late summer and early fall months.

When visitors enter the monument, they must first pass a group of rocks known as the Three Maidens, consisting of red coarse-grained granite that was brought to its current resting spot by glaciers. It has been reported that humans have been making offerings to the spirits of the Three Maidens for hundreds of years.



Above: Chief Looking Eagle working in his quarry. National Archives at Kansas City, Record Group 79, Records of the Department of Interior. National Park Service, Pipestone National Monument. General Files, 1957-1965, National Archives Identifier 2579442.

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Even today, visitors leave offerings of tobacco to the spirits to help them get good stone for their pipes. Today, the rocks are protected by the National Park Service and visitors are prohibited from climbing on the rocks.

Another group of individuals also left their mark at the Pipestone National Monument. Joseph Nicollet, a French mathematician and mapmaker, also explored the area around the quarries. Nicollet was working for the U.S. Corps of Topographical Engineers, mapping out the Upper Mississippi River drainage area. His party was the first to map out the area in 1838. The group spent about a week there, taking astronomical observations for mapmaking. They also witnessed Native Americans working in the stone quarries.



Above: The Three Maidens. National Archives at Kansas City, Record Group 79, Records of the Department of Interior. National Park Service, Pipestone National Monument. General Files, 1957-1965, National Archives Identifier 2579442.

Before leaving, the group carved their names on a quartzite rock that can be seen to this day. They also planted a flag on Leaping Rock to commemorate the Fourth of July holiday. Leaping Rock was so named because the only way to reach it to plant the flag was to leap from the hill onto the rock. It was considered a dangerous task and Nicolet assigned John C. Fremont who was successful on planting the flag. Later, Fremont was hired to lead many more expeditions to the American West.

Pipestone National Monument may not be one of the largest National Parks or Monuments, but it is one of the most historically significant. The rules and regulations that are enforced at the park are there to help protect a way of life that has changed little in thousands of years. To learn more about the Pipestone National Monument, visit [www.nps.gov/pipe/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/pipe/index.htm).

The National Archives at Kansas City preserves and makes available to the public records relating to Pipestone National Monument. For more information, visit the [National Archives Catalog](#).

Left: Nicollet expedition marker. National Archives at Kansas City, Record Group 79, Records of the Department of Interior. National Park Service, Pipestone National Monument. General Files, 1957-1965, National Archives Identifier 2579442.



# National Archives Marks Election Season with Free Political Cartoon eBook

Just in time! To help make sense of Congress and its complexities, the National Archives Center for Legislative Archives has launched *Representing Congress: Clifford K. Berryman's Political Cartoons*, a free [eBook](#). *Representing Congress* goes beyond the headlines, using political cartoons to explore what Congress is, how it works, and what it does. The eBook's cartoons and learning resources engage students of all ages and illustrate how elected officials in the House and Senate represent the American people and fulfill the Founders' vision.

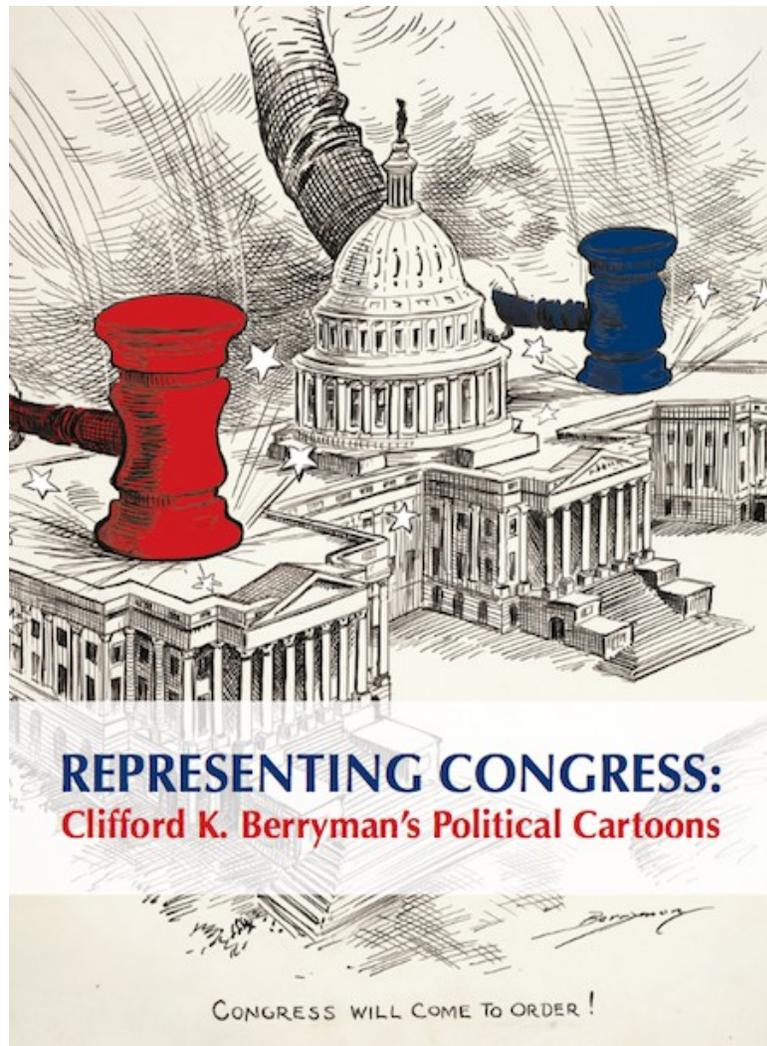
*Representing Congress* showcases Berryman's ability to use portraits, representative symbols and figures, and iconic personifications to help explain the institutions and issues of civic life. Each eBook page features a large political cartoon and links to related online materials, enticing visual learners and orienting students to the study of politics and government. These drawings highlight timeless aspects of Congress. While faces, personalities and many procedures change, these cartoons show that our representative institutions remain surprisingly consistent.

Related online resources include:

- Companion classroom lesson plan: [Congress Represented in Political Cartoons](#)
- Online exhibit: [Running for Office: Candidates, Campaigns, and the Cartoons of Clifford Berryman](#)
- [Congress Creates the Bill of Rights Lesson Plan, eBook](#) and mobile [app](#)
- Additional Center for Legislative Archives [Educational Resources](#)

Clifford K. Berryman was a political cartoonist for *The Washington Post* and the *Washington Evening Star* during the first half of the 20th century, who drew thousands of cartoons commenting on the events, issues, and personalities of his era. Berryman was a Washington institution, and his 53 years of front-page drawings were internationally renowned. He satirized both Democratic and Republican political figures but was able to critique without rancor, which won him great respect from many politicians.

The original cartoons used in *Representing Congress* are part of a collection of nearly 2,400 drawings by Berryman from the U.S. Senate Collection housed in the Center for Legislative Archives in Washington, DC.



## Please Pardon Our Dust!



Renovation work will continue through July and August at the National Archives at Kansas City. Currently work is being done to update and upgrade the public exhibit galleries, hospitality areas, and educational learning center. All work will be completed by the end of the summer.

During renovation work the Research Rooms will be open for regular business hours for researchers. In addition, public programs will continue to be offered. The National Archives normal business hours are Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

# Amending America and the National Conversations Series

In celebration of the 225th anniversary of the Bill of Rights in 2016, the National Archives presents a national initiative: **Amending America**. Written in 1789 and ratified on December 15, 1791, the original Bill of Rights, on permanent display in the National Archives Rotunda in Washington D.C., is still closely connected to the biggest issues of today—and to each of our citizens.

Through a series of exhibitions, programs, online resources, and more, Amending America explores how we continue to perfect our union through the lens of our historic records.

In celebration of this 225th anniversary, the National Archives is hosting a series of conversations across the country to explore the continuing and often complicated issues of rights of our modern era.

Building on the National Archives' extensive holdings and hosted in a partner institution, this series of conversations will delve into a range of contemporary issues, encompassing human rights and civil rights and addressing the tension between individual rights and collective responsibilities.



Below is a list of upcoming programs within the National Conversations Series. The public is invited to attend in-person or via live streaming through the web. For more information or register to attend (via in-person or live streaming) about the National Conversation Series, visit: [www.archivesfoundation.org/amendingamerica/conversations/](http://www.archivesfoundation.org/amendingamerica/conversations/).

## Schedule of conversations:

- July 15-16, 2016: **LGBTQ Human and Civil Rights** at the Chicago History Museum and Center on Halsted in Chicago, Illinois
- October 21-22, 2016: **Women's Rights and Gender Equality** at the National Archives at New York in New York City, New York
- November 19, 2016: **Immigration: Barriers & Access** at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles, California
- February 2017: **Educational Access and Equity** in Dallas, Texas
- Spring 2017: **Building a More Perfect Union** at the National Archives in Washington, DC



NATIONAL  
ARCHIVES

KANSAS CITY

**HOURS OF OPERATION:** Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed on weekends and Federal holidays. Hours are subject to change due to special programs and weather. The National Archives is located at 400 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, Missouri, 64108.

The National Archives at Kansas City is home to historical records dating from the 1820s to the 1990s created or received by Federal agencies in Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

For more information, call 816-268-8000, email [kansascity.educate@nara.gov](mailto:kansascity.educate@nara.gov) or visit [www.archives.gov/kansas-city](http://www.archives.gov/kansas-city). Find us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/nationalarchiveskansascity](http://www.facebook.com/nationalarchiveskansascity). Tweet us @KCArchives or #KCArchives.