Selected Flickr Albums from Special Collections

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Featured State Historical Society of Iowa Flickr Albums

Iowa Women's Suffrage Collection
Courtesy of State Historical Society of Iowa

To celebrate the centennial of the 19th Amendment in 2020, the Iowa Women's Suffrage Collection at the State Historical Society of Iowa is comprised of records generated and collected by organizations and individuals leading the statewide campaign. This gallery presents visual items from the collection documenting key players and moments in the Iowa women's suffrage story, as well as national figures that influenced the movement. Seeds of the women's suffrage movement had already taken root in the state by 1870 when the Iowa Woman Suffrage Association was founded. However, while an amendment to the state's constitution was considered by legislators in every session from that year forward, it was not until April 1919 that the Iowa General Assembly passed a bill granting women the right to vote in presidential elections. Several months later, on July 2nd, Iowa became the 10th state to ratify the federal 19th Amendment, committing to equal suffrage for women a little over a year ahead of the amendment's full ratification in August 1920. Iowans such as Carrie Chapman Catt, Mary Jane Coggeshall and Amelia Bloomer became nationally recognized figures in the suffrage movement and were joined by a host of other activists working at the state level to achieve the goal.

Image (left): Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, addressing the crowd after a parade held during convention of the Iowa Equal Suffrage Association, October 29, 1908 at Boone, Iowa (8th and Story Streets), Photographer: Almon E. Moxley, Iowa Women's Suffrage Collection, State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines

Image (right): Parade held during convention of the Iowa Equal Suffrage Association held at Boone, Iowa, October 29, 1908. Marchers passing the Methodist Episcopal church at 703 Arden Street. One banner reads: “Taxation without representation is tyranny— as true now as in 1776”. Photographer: Almon E. Moxley, Boone, Iowa. Iowa Women's Suffrage Collection, State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines
Iowa and World War I

2017 marked the centennial of the U.S. entry into World War I. This set of photographs illustrates the experiences and contributions of Iowans in Europe and on the homefront. Additional images are available and can be researched at the State Historical Society of Iowa's reading rooms in Des Moines and Iowa City.

*Image (top): Panoramic photo showing 168th Infantry, Rainbow Division, assembled on Iowa State Capitol grounds. Des Moines, Iowa. May 15, 1919. Photographer: Hebard-Showers Co., Des Moines, IA. (“The End of the Rainbow in Iowa...From the Rhine to the Mississippi”), State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines*

*Image (left): World War I soldiers homecoming parade. Keokuk, Iowa. ca1919. World War I Collection, State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines*

*Image (right): African-American girls assembled for drilling exercises sponsored by the recreation department of the War Camp Community Service. Des Moines, Iowa. ca1918. War Camp Community Service Collection, State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines*