

Resources inside!

Wisconsin Topic List 2017–2018

NATIONAL HISTORY DAY 2018

CONFLICT

&

COMPROMISE

— IN HISTORY —



WISCONSIN
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

NHD
NATIONAL
HISTORY DAY®

HEY, WISCONSIN!

These pages are packed full of information about an important step in creating a solid NHD project: picking a topic with lots of resources that interests you.

Topics: There are thousands of stories in Wisconsin history that would make excellent projects related to this year's theme. This packet is a starting point for research and to introduce you to stories that you may have never heard.

Resources: Most of the topics in this packet have selected resources listed with their description, but these are not the only ones out there! Check out libraries and archives for many more resources.

More Ideas: To discover even more Wisconsin topic ideas, visit your local library or historical society or explore our website. We have listed printed and online resources that have many potential topics to offer.

Conflict and Compromise in History

Wisconsin history is full of interesting people, events, and stories that fit this year's National History Day theme. You can investigate a topic that relates to the idea of conflict. You can choose a topic that relates to the idea of compromise. Either way, by the end of your project, relate your topic to *both* parts of the theme. Just remember that no matter which topic you choose, it should be fundamentally connected to the theme.

As you'll see in the following pages, the ideas of conflict and compromise have played a role in many aspects of Wisconsin history.

NATIONAL HISTORY DAY 2018



Find more information about the theme at wisconsinhistory.org/nhd

Resources, Resources, Resources

By choosing a topic focusing on the history of your own state or community, you will have a much easier time tracking down *primary sources* than if you chose a national topic with sources that may be out of easy reach. Primary sources such as letters, diaries, documents, and interviews with witnesses are extremely important to successful research projects.

Surprised you didn't know that?


Researching a state or local topic provides you the opportunity to learn more about the place you live. Becoming personally connected to the story you are telling makes the research even more interesting. There are fascinating stories waiting to be discovered and told about the people, places, and things you see every day!

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Online Resources:

- Help with general National History Day at www.nhd.org
- The Wisconsin Historical Society at www.wisconsinhistory.org
- Turning Points of Wisconsin History at www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints/
- *Wisconsin Magazine of History* at <http://wihist.org/2hs1Ewt>



There's more to Wisconsin history than cows - take it from me!

Want More Ideas?

Check out the National Office's List of American, European, and World History Topics at <http://wihist.org/2uZ3ACW>

Many topics have a connection to Wisconsin history you might not know about or Wisconsin might have a parallel story!

Native American History

Wisconsin Indian Tribes:

Comprising a large number of distinct tribes, states, and ethnic groups, many of which still endure as political communities, Native people lived in the United States long before Europeans set foot on the continent. The Ho-Chunk (Winnebago), Menomonee, Ojibwa, Potawatomie, and Sauk tribes were the original inhabitants of the area now known as Wisconsin. As the Iroquois Wars of the seventeenth century and European settlement in North America pushed eastern tribes west, how did life change? What conflicts developed with more Europeans in the area?

- For information about the Fur Trade Era and its effect on Wisconsin tribes see <http://wihist.org/2wfg2dQ>
- *Wisconsin Indians (Revised and Expanded)* by Nancy Oestreich Lurie
- *Indian Nations of Wisconsin: Histories of Endurance and Renewal* by Patty Loew
- *Mountain Wolf Woman: A Ho-Chunk Girlhood* by Diane Holliday

Treaties: As fur traders explored the Midwest and settlers built homes, the federal government expanded the territory of the United States. Treaty negotiation and communication with Wisconsin's native people became essential. As the policy of Indian removal during the nineteenth century forced the relocation of major Native American groups, how did cultural and linguistic differences affect the treaty-making process? Take a closer look at one of the major treaties in Wisconsin history. What sorts of conflicts and compromises led to or were outcomes of the treaty?

- For information about one of the rarest documents in the Wisconsin state archives representing the Native people's perspective on treaties with the U.S. government between 1825–1864 see "These I Do Not Sell" by Harry Miller, *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, summer 2001, online at <http://wihist.org/2vc0ISi>
- For major treaties negotiated between Indian nations and the U.S. government that resulted in land cessions in Wisconsin and a detailed account of the Prairie du Chien Treaty of 1825, see Turning Points in Wisconsin History at www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints and <http://www.glifwc.org/TreatyRights/>
- Check out Chief Buffalo (Kechewaishe) as a major leader for the Ojibwa in resisting forced migration.

Black Hawk War: Angered by broken treaties, food shortages, and relocation by the U.S. government, a band of Sauk, led by Black Hawk, confronted the U.S. Army for possession of lands in Illinois and Wisconsin. What do the actions of Black Hawk say about how Wisconsin Native nations responded to European settlement? What effect did the news of the outcome of the Black Hawk war have on other Native nations in Wisconsin?

- Check out Turning Points for resources on this topic, including Black Hawk's autobiography at www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints.
- Learn more about Chief Black Hawk at <http://wihist.org/2tXfnNu>
- Image: Painting of Black Hawk by Robert M. Sully



Spear Fishing Protest: Northern Wisconsin in the late 1980s and early 1990s was the stage for significant, controversial, and sometimes violent, protests against Native American practices retained through U.S. treaties. The movements in support of and against treaty rights affected the Ojibwa tribe and the practice of spear fishing. Why did spear fishing become such a conflict and what compromises were made by both the protestors and the Ojibwa?

- *Walleye Warriors: The Chippewa Treaty Rights Story* by Walter Bresette and Rick Whaley

- *Chippewa Treaty Rights: The Reserved Rights of Wisconsin's Chippewa Indians in Historical Perspective* by Ronald Satz
- For more information, check out <http://www.glifwc.org/TreatyRights/>

American Indian Movement in Wisconsin: Founded in Minnesota in 1968, the American Indian Movement (AIM) developed chapters throughout the United States. Active in advocacy in combatting poverty, discrimination, and unfair representation, AIM was involved in the cultural, political, and economic issues facing American Indians. Especially active in the 1960s and 1970s, AIM fought for sovereignty, treaty rights, and cultural renewal.

- Read more at the <https://emke.uwm.edu/entry/american-indian-movement/>
- *Indian Nations of Wisconsin: Histories of Endurance and Renewal* by Patty Loew

Native American Mission Schools: In the nineteenth century, the Catholic Church extended its network of missions and schools among Native Americans in Wisconsin. Missionaries built schools on reservations to educate children and convert them to Christianity. These mission schools cooperated with federal Indian education programs that removed children forcibly from their families and placed them in government-run boarding schools. What conflicts resulted between the goals of the schools and the beliefs of the families?

- For information and primary documents relating to mission schools see Turning Points in Wisconsin History at www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints

Chief Oshkosh:

Chief Oshkosh was an influential chief of the Menominee. He brokered many conflicts and compromises in his time as chief. Additionally, the Trial of Chief Oshkosh was Wisconsin's first criminal trial under U.S. law that brought two legal traditions into conflict during the summer of 1830. His trial is one of the most famous in Wisconsin history since it pitted Indian traditional justice against the rule of white man's law.

- More information about Chief Oshkosh's trial visit <http://wihist.org/2uS>
- Read more about the trial in "Doing Justice for 150 Years" by Shirley Schlanger Abrahamson, *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, winter 2002–2003, online at <http://wihist.org/2wj7we0>
- For information about Chief Oshkosh and his importance in Menominee history check out www.wimedialab.org/biographies/oshkosh.html
- Image: *The Trial of Chief Oshkosh by Judge Doty* by James T. Potter, date unknown



Environmental History

The Conservation Movement: As settlement increased across the state, so did the demands imposed on Wisconsin's natural resources. Wisconsinites began to recognize the value of biodiversity and introduced new programs to preserve the environment and protect animals. What were some of the compromises Wisconsinites made to protect the environment?

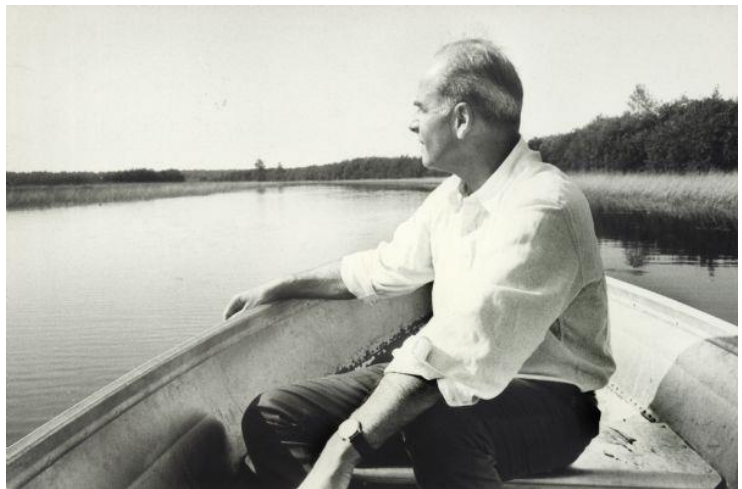
- Visit <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints> for information and sources relating to Wisconsin's conservation movement.

John Muir was an inventor, naturalist, conservationist, and author. His activism helped preserve the Yosemite Valley in Sequoia National Park, which led him to be called "John of the Mountains." He is the founder of the Sierra Club, a well-known conservation organization that is still active today.

- Learn more about John Muir and his life in Wisconsin at <http://wihist.org/2tY57Zi>

Gaylord Nelson, former senator and governor of Wisconsin, envisioned Earth Day as a national celebration of the environment. What environmental conflicts prompted Nelson to establish Earth Day and what kinds of compromise does Earth Day promote?

- *Earth Day and Beyond: Gaylord Nelson's Good Fight* documentary by Wisconsin Public Television online at <http://video.wpt.org/video/2365136488/>
- Image: Gaylord Nelson at the Apostle Islands, 1967, by Frank Wallick



Aldo Leopold was a key figure in modern conservation and is considered the father of wildlife management. Inspired by his work and the time he spent in Baraboo, Leopold advocated not only conservation, but also a new understanding between people and nature. What environmental and societal problems was Leopold reacting to and how did he propose compromise between people and the environment?

- *Aldo Leopold: Learning from the Land* documentary by Wisconsin Public Television online at <http://video.wpt.org/video/2365037221/>

Horicon Marsh: The Horicon Marsh has undergone dramatic changes that have significantly impacted the wildlife population, from industrialists damming the area to private landowners draining and farming the region. Beginning in 1927, however, attitudes changed toward the marsh as the state passed the Horicon Marsh Wildlife Refuge Bill. How have conflicting demands changed the landscape of the Horicon Marsh? What compromises allowed conservationists to reverse years of land abuse and restore the marsh ecosystem?

- "The Transformation of Horicon Marsh" by Lewis S. Wright, *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, winter 1957–1958, online at <http://wihist.org/2tXIBQI>
- For a geological history of the Horicon Marsh read "Horicon: The Marsh That Lives Again" by Virginia A. Palmer, *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, winter 1962–1963, online at <http://wihist.org/2vmRRh8>

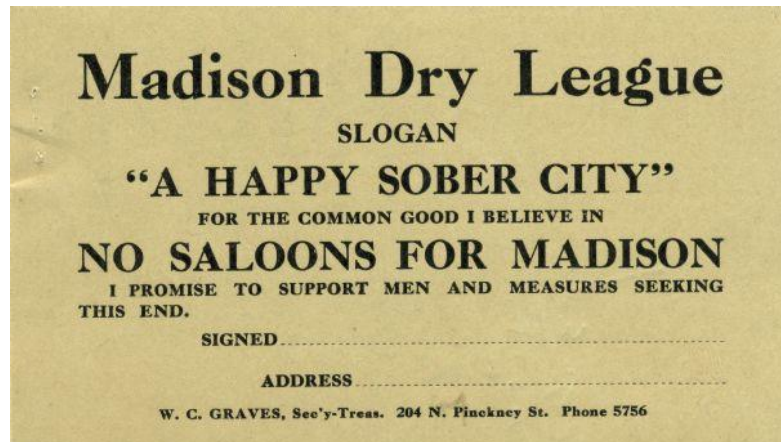
Social History

The Temperance Movement, Prohibition, and Wisconsin Breweries:

Members of the nineteenth-century temperance movement crusaded against the "demon rum" and other forms of alcohol consumption, often clashing with Germans and other immigrants who saw beer and taverns as a part of their culture and livelihood.

What impact did the temperance movement have on the state and local communities? How did ethnic and religious conflicts affect the issue? How did the movement affect breweries in Wisconsin?

- For more information about brewing and prohibition see Turning Points at www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints
- Image: Card from Madison Dry League circa 1914



African American History and Civil Rights in Wisconsin

African American Rights in Wisconsin: Wisconsin, especially Milwaukee, has a rich history of Americans fighting for civil rights. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the Congress for Racial Equality (CORE), Vel Phillips, Father Groppi, Lloyd Barbee, and many others fought poverty, discrimination, and segregation in housing and schools. What were the major conflicts Wisconsinites faced and what were some of the ways these groups asserted their rights?

Thinking of Awards? Civil Rights History is a Special Award at the State Contest that you can apply for!

M.U.S.I.C.: The Milwaukee United School Integration Committee (MUSIC) held a series of boycotts of segregated schools, one of which lasted 35 days. Founded by Lloyd Barbee in 1964, MUSIC included Vel Phillips, Father Groppi, and more major Wisconsin civil rights activists.

- Learn more about MUSIC at <http://uwm.edu/marchonmilwaukee/keyterms/music/>
- Image: School Desegregation Pickets, circa 1964, from the Lloyd A. Barbee papers

Lloyd Barbee was a Milwaukee civil rights leader, lawyer, and politician, who was best known for his work in desegregating Milwaukee's public schools and his activity with NAACP and in the Wisconsin State Assembly.

- Learn more about Lloyd Barbee at <http://wihist.org/2u4vZao> and at <http://uwm.edu/marchonmilwaukee/keyterms/barbee-lloyd-a/>



- *Justice for All: Selected Writings of Lloyd A. Barbee*, edited by Daphne Barbee-Wooten.

"Black Thursday": On November 21, 1968, students led by the Black Student Union (BSU) at the Wisconsin State University of Oshkosh (now UW–Oshkosh) protested discriminatory treatment by the university. Ninety-four student demonstrators were arrested and 90 demonstrators were expelled from UW–Oshkosh.

- See Turning Points in Wisconsin History at www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints
- Find more information at <http://www.blackthursday.uwosh.edu/blackthurs.html>
- Image: BSU spokesman, Geoff McCreary, goes over demands with officials.



Vel Phillips was the first African American woman to graduate from the University of Wisconsin–Madison law school. She was the first African American and first woman to win a seat on Milwaukee’s City Council, become Secretary of State of Wisconsin, and become a judge. And she did it all at a time when many African Americans were not allowed to exercise their civil rights. Her advocacy for desegregating in Milwaukee housing was instrumental in Wisconsin history.

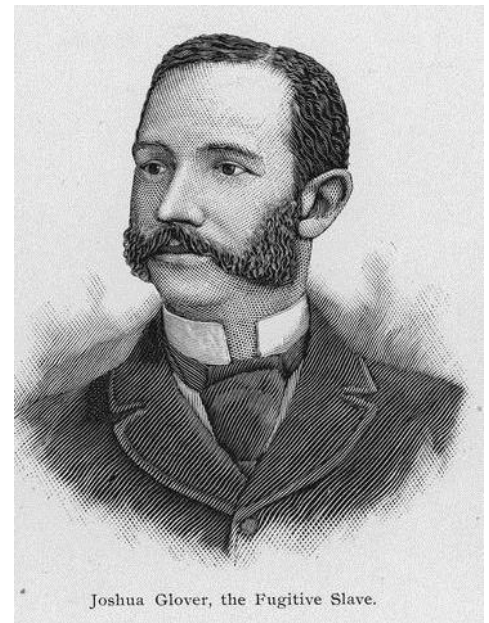
- Learn more about Vel Phillips at <http://wihist.org/2w6FOll>
- “Vel Phillips: Making History in Milwaukee” by Carol Cohen, *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, winter 2015–2016, online at <http://wihist.org/2vtKuEV>
- “Vel Phillips: Dream Big Dreams” documentary by Wisconsin Public Television online at <http://video.wpt.org/video/2365403598/>
- See her work with Father Groppi in the fight for fair housing at <http://wimedialab.org/biographies/phillipsandgroppi.html>

Father Groppi was a Catholic priest from Milwaukee who was active in fighting for civil rights through housing and welfare reform. He marched alongside Vel Phillips for Milwaukee housing rights.

- Learn more about Father Groppi at <http://wihist.org/2uWlt2u>
- *Father Groppi: Marching for Civil Rights* by Stuart Stotts

Opposition to the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850: By the 1840s, many Wisconsin residents were denouncing slavery as morally wrong and discussing reform measures. A unifying force in the anti-slavery movement was the *American Freeman*, an abolitionist newspaper based in Waukesha. The paper's third editor, Sherman Booth, attained national attention for his rescue of the fugitive slave Joshua Glover. For helping Glover escape to Canada, Booth was arrested on federal charges for violating the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850. The legal and political battles over Glover led the Wisconsin Supreme Court to nullify the federal Fugitive Slave Act on the basis of states' rights in 1855. What were the differing opinions of the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 and what sorts of compromises led to it?

- Check out Turning Points in Wisconsin History at www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints for information and sources relating to Wisconsin abolitionism and opposition to the Fugitive Slave Act
- *Finding Freedom: The Untold Story of Joshua Glover, Runaway Slave* by Ruby West Jackson & Walter T. McDonald



- *Freedom Train North: Stories of the Underground Railroad in Wisconsin* by Julia Pferdehirt
- See more about Joshua Glover's story at <http://wimedialab.org/biographies/glover.html>
- Image: portrait of Joshua Glover, date unknown

Women's History

Women's Rights: Many Wisconsin women fought for their rights on local, state, and national levels. After decades of advocacy by Wisconsin suffragists, Wisconsin became the first state to ratify the Nineteenth Amendment in support of women's voting rights. What kinds of conflicts did women face? Were compromises made to reform American society?

Thinking of Awards?
Women's History is a Special Award at the State Contest that you can apply for!

Olympia Brown was the first woman to enter the clergy of any American church. Brown was a lifelong suffrage advocate and associate of Susan B. Anthony.

- "Olympia Brown and the Women's Suffrage Movement" by Charles E. Neu, *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, summer 1960, online at <http://wihist.org/2u0IKUr>

Ada James was a social reformer, humanitarian, and pacifist residing in Richland Center.

- Ada James Papers online in the Wisconsin Historical Society Digital Collection <http://wihist.org/2vpzCI7>

Belle Case La Follette was a lawyer, journalist, suffragist, and counselor who supported the suffrage movement and pacifism in World War I and its aftermath. She was a prominent member of the Progressive Movement in Wisconsin and Washington D.C.

- Learn more about Belle La Follette online at <http://wihist.org/2u0btYq> and at <http://wihist.org/2wmnQum>
- *Belle and Bob La Follette: Partners in Politics* by Bob Kann
- See more about Belle Case La Follette at <http://wimedialab.org/biographies/lafollette.html>
- Image: Photograph of Belle Case La Follette, circa 1885



Theodora Youmans was the leader of the Wisconsin Women's Club Movement, one of Wisconsin's first female journalists, and a supporter of World War I.

- Learn more about Theodora Youmans at <http://wihist.org/2f4LZ5a>
- *Woman Suffrage and Good Citizenship* by Theodora Youmans

Lavinia Goodell became Wisconsin's first female lawyer in 1879 after a long fight against the prevailing notions of women's roles and the state judicial system.

- Learn more about Lavinia Goodell and her conflict with Judge Ryan at <http://wihist.org/2uUNJCg>
- "Lavinia Goodell, First Woman Lawyer in Wisconsin" by Catherine B Cleary, *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, summer 1991, online at <http://wihist.org/2hkRPR0>

Women and the Workforce: During World Wars I and II, Wisconsin women not only replaced the men who had joined the armed forces, but also served in the military as healthcare personnel, parachute riggers, cryptographers, weather observers, and ferry pilots.

- For more information and sources about the Wisconsin WWI and WWII home front see Turning Points in Wisconsin History at www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints

See Vel Phillips on page 8, a civil rights leader in Wisconsin.
See Dickey Chapelle on page 16, a female war correspondent killed in action.

Labor History

Wisconsin Labor History: Wisconsin workers, legislators, and reformers made significant contributions to the history of labor, including the Workman's Compensation Law and the Wisconsin Employment Relations Act. Attempting to transform social policies, Wisconsin reformers joined with labor and business leaders to enact state labor legislation. Workers organized unions and collectively bargained for better wages and improved working conditions. Think about researching labor history in your community to find out what problems workers fought against and how they reacted to labor conflict and compromise.

Thinking of Awards?
Labor History Award is a Special Award at every Regional Contest (no need to apply) and at the State Contest that you can apply for!

The Knights of Labor in Milwaukee officially represented specific trades and was organized by groups of craftsman. The Knights of Labor movement in Milwaukee touched off confrontation with local industrialists and state authorities.

- *Development of the Labor Movement in Milwaukee* by Thomas Gavett

John R. Commons, a well-known economist and labor historian at the University of Wisconsin–Madison, drafted innovative labor and economic legislation, worked closely with Robert LaFollette to pass civil service laws, and is recognized for his scholarship in the creation of Social Security.

- Learn more about John Commons at <http://wihist.org/2vpSQgD>

The Patrick Cudahy Strike of 1987–1989 forced the meat company to drop its slaughtering operation.

- Check out the Labor Collections in the Library-Archives of the Wisconsin Historical Society online at <http://wihist.org/2wmgvqG>
- *Workers and Unions in Wisconsin: A Labor History Anthology* by Darryl Holter

Kohler Strikes (1897, 1934, 1954): Founded in 1873 and largely family owned to this day, the Kohler Company is a worldwide leader in plumbing products and employs thousands of workers around the globe. In 1934, as Kohler Company employees attempted to organize a union, President Walter J. Kohler refused to bargain with the workers. During the ensuing strike, two people were killed and forty-seven were wounded. What conflicts did workers and owners face and how did compromise lead to Kohler Company success?

- For information and sources related to the Kohler strikes see Turning Points in Wisconsin History online at www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints

Oshkosh Woodworkers Strike (1898): Led by the union leadership of Thomas Kidd, fifteen hundred woodworkers, many of whom were women, participated in a violent fourteen-week strike for better wages and working conditions. Did the strikers achieve their goals? How did the woodworkers' actions relate to other labor upheaval throughout the nation?

- "The Very Picture of Anarchy" by Virginia Glenn Crane, *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, spring 2001, online at <http://wihist.org/2w2IKPR>

Bay View Tragedy: On May 5, 1886, after days of marches and protests as part of a national movement in favor of an eight-hour workday, several thousand marchers moved toward the Bay View Rolling Mills in Milwaukee. Governor Jeremiah Rusk ordered the militia to open fire in an effort to stop

the crowd, killing seven. Why did Governor Rusk react to the conflict in the way he did? How did the eight-hour workday movement eventually achieve its goals?

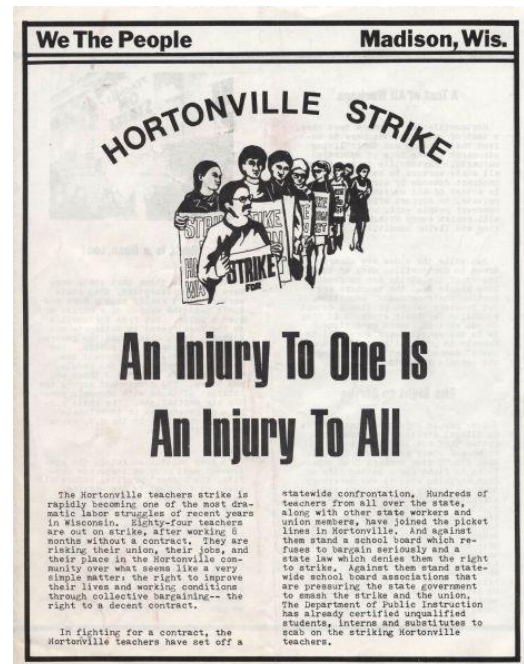
- Check out Turning Points in Wisconsin History for photographs, articles, and memoirs about the Bay View Tragedy at www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints
- Find more about Governor Rusk at <http://wihist.org/2vpA9cZ>

Calvin Sherard was a Milwaukee labor and civil rights activist who founded inquiry groups in cases of police brutality in the late 1950s and who merged with the Negro American Labor Council (NALC) in the 1960s. Sherard and NALC Milwaukee were instrumental in the selective buying and picketing of racially discriminating stores in Milwaukee.

- Find more on Calvin Sherard and NALC at <http://uwm.edu/marchonmilwaukee/keyterms/sherard-calvin/>
- Read another story of African Americans and labor rights in *Blue Jenkins: Working for Workers* by Julia Pferdehirt

1974 Hortonville Teachers' Strike: One of the thirty Wisconsin teacher strikes that occurred in the 1972–73 and 1973-74 school years, the Hortonville Teachers' Strike was one of the most watched teacher strikes in Wisconsin as educators fought for contract renewals, increased salaries, and insurance improvements. How did the strike and its aftermath cause conflict and what compromises were made following the Hortonville experience?

- "The Hortonville Teachers Strike of 1974" by the Wisconsin Education Association Council (WEAC) from *Workers and Unions in Wisconsin: A Labor History Anthology* by Darryl Holter
- "The 1974 Hortonville Teacher's Strike and the Public Sector Labor Dilemma" by Adam Mertz, *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, spring 2015, online at <http://wihist.org/2h152Jd>
- Image: *We the People* labor newspaper, 1974



Industrial and Agricultural History

Wisconsin Industries Past and Present: As technology and economic factors changed, industries have faced challenging times. Some have stayed, some have closed, and some have moved out of the state. Look at a historic or modern industry or business in your community. What factors contributed to its rise or fall? How have conflicts and developments in industry at the state, national, or international level affected the fortunes of companies? Consider researching one of Wisconsin's industrial giants, such as Allis-Chalmers, GM Janesville, American Motors, etc.

- For information and sources relating to Wisconsin industry see Turning Points in Wisconsin History at www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints

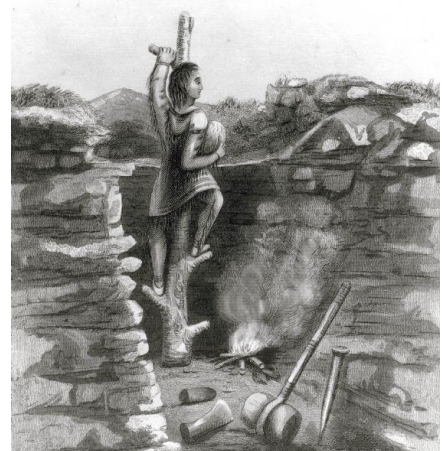
Rise and Fall of Wisconsin Logging: Logging became a major industry in Wisconsin in the 1830s, luring people and businesses to the state, supplying people with wood for homes and industry, and giving rise to cities like Stevens Point and Wausau. Due to exploitation, forests began disappearing and

the logging industry moved elsewhere in search of abundant resources. What conflicts has the lumber industry faced throughout Wisconsin history? What compromises have modern lumber companies made to make their industries more environmentally responsible?

- **Fox Valley Paper Industry:** The paper industry of Fox Valley dates back to the nineteenth century, when resources such as timber and water made the area a prime location for the business. How did the interests of business and the environment conflict during the twentieth century, especially as the dangers of environmental pollution due to paper production were exposed?
 - See how the logging industry reshaped the landscape of central and northern Wisconsin at Turning Points in Wisconsin History online at www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints
 - *Consuming Nature: Environmentalism in the Fox River Valley, 1850–1950* by Gregory Summers
 - “*The Lower Fox, a River of Paper : a Discussion of Pollution, Plankton & Paper*” by John H. Aisnworth

Lead Mining: Europeans were not the first miners in Wisconsin. Wisconsin cities such as Mineral Point, New Diggings, and Hard Scrabble epitomize the booming mining industry of the 1800s. At its peak, Wisconsin produced half the nation's lead. As demand declined, however, some lead miners moved on to other mines or mineral booms while others made the transition to farming. What conflicts developed between Native people and miners as the industry boomed?

- Learn more about mining at <http://wihist.org/2voDTKS> and <http://wihist.org/2tZH6Nt>
- Image: *Ancient copper mining on Lake Superior* by J. C. Tidball, 1855



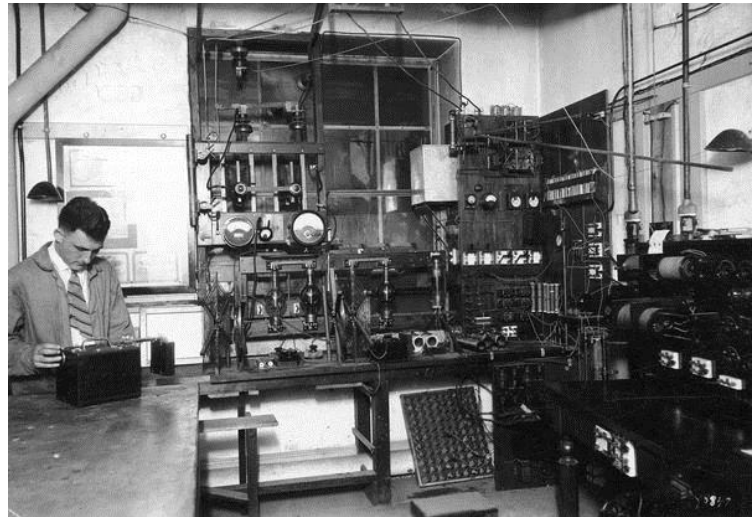
Milk Strikes (1933): As prices dropped and costs rose during the Great Depression, Wisconsin dairy farmers organized a series of strikes to withhold milk from the market to increase demand and prices. What effect did the protest have on Wisconsin, especially urban areas, and what compromises had to be made by farmers and consumers during the Great Depression?

- "The Wisconsin Milk Strikes" by Herbert Jacobs, *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, autumn 1951, online at <http://wihist.org/2uhBAp3>

Banning of DDT: A cheap, effective, and once widely used pesticide, DDT was found harmful to animals and human beings. Wisconsin moved to the forefront of the pesticide discussion as the Citizens Natural Resources Association solicited the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to rule on the safety of DDT. The trial captivated the attention of the nation from December 1968 to April 1969 when DDT was banned in Wisconsin and throughout the U.S. shortly thereafter. What were the conflicting risks and benefits associated with DDT? Why did Wisconsin become the location for this dramatic debate?

- "DDT on Trial: the Wisconsin Hearing, 1968–1969" by Thomas R. Dunlap, *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, autumn 1978, online at <http://wihist.org/2vgnJ6M>
- *Banning DDT: How Citizen Activists in Wisconsin Led the Way* by Bill Berry
- Read more about the DDT banning at <http://wihist.org/2f8y1zs>

WHA Radio and WWI Censorship: In 1915, the University of Wisconsin began transmitting radio signals on 9XM (now WHA), the oldest radio station in the nation. This broadcast was only Morse code, but as technology improved, the station aired weather, news, and music for its listeners. How did WWI affect the ability of WHA to broadcast, and how do those circumstances compare to more contemporary wartime censorship issues? How did the conflict between wartime security and consumer interest play out?



- WHA records, photographs, and the Harold Engel Papers at the Wisconsin Historical Society Archives
- Image: Malcolm Hanson at WHA, date and creator unknown

Government and Politics

State Constitutions of 1846 and 1848: Despite four failed attempts at statehood, the territorial legislature under Governor Henry Dodge pushed through a referendum that received overwhelming majority support in 1846. While Wisconsin seemed set for a quick transition, the process of drafting and ratifying a state constitution proved unexpectedly complicated. The proposed constitution included a number of controversial articles, including currency modification, allowing immigrants who applied for citizenship to vote, granting married women the right to own property, and making the question of black suffrage subject to popular referendum. How did the 1846 constitution present conflict for Wisconsinites and what necessary compromises were made on the path to statehood?

- See Turning Points in Wisconsin History for primary documents relating to the Wisconsin Constitution at www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints
- *Laboratory of Democracy* documentary by Wisconsin Public Television online at <http://video.wpt.org/video/2365092117/>

Bennett Law: Enacted in 1899, the Bennett Law required school attendance of children ages seven to fourteen, levied a fine for parents who did not comply, and required that instruction be in English. The Bennett Law ignited storms of controversy because it forbade Wisconsin's ethnically diverse school-aged population from being taught in the language their families used at home. Why was education and English language instruction so important to the law's supporters? How did the law respond to educational and social conflict and how does it show compromise?

- See Turning Points in Wisconsin History for primary documents relating to the Bennett Law at www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints

Senator Joseph McCarthy and McCarthyism: Rising to political power in the midst of the Cold War in the 1950s, Joseph McCarthy is one of Wisconsin's most notorious historical figures. During his political career, he preyed upon the American fear of communism and launched anti-communist campaigns that eventually lead to his political demise. How did McCarthy's aggressive political campaign silence his opposition and add to the broader conflicts of the Cold War?

- "The Anti-McCarthy Campaign in Wisconsin 1951–1952" by Michael O'Brien, *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, winter 1972–1973, online at <http://wihist.org/2wqV4gv>
- Read more about McCarthy at <http://wihist.org/2fZ77KN>

Birth of the Republican Party: Anti-slavery representatives from various political groups recommended the organization of a new party to protest the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854. This act repealed the anti-slavery provisions of the 1820 Missouri Compromise and allowed settlers to decide for themselves whether to make slavery legal. In July of 1854, a convention was held in Madison to organize the new party. The members resolved "That we accept this issue [freedom or slavery], forced upon us by the slave power, and in the defense of freedom will cooperate and be known as Republicans." What conflicts did the early Republican Party address and what sorts of compromises did they promote?

- For more information about the birth of the Republican Party in Wisconsin see Turning Points in Wisconsin History at www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints
- *Laboratory of Democracy* documentary by Wisconsin Public Television available online at <http://video.wpt.org/video/2365092117/>
- See Joshua Glover on page 8
- Image: *Little White Schoolhouse*, birthplace of the Republican Party, by Dr. Joseph Smith, 1913



Good Roads Movement (1890s): During the early 1890s, years before the first gasoline-powered automobile appeared in Wisconsin, a movement to transform the state's country roads began. The Good Roads Movement, as it was called, was supported by a coalition of businessmen, farm leaders, engineers, and bicyclists. Influenced by highway movements in eastern states, the Wisconsin Good Roads promoters campaigned for improved road conditions and for a constitutional amendment that would allow a state-financed highway program administered by a highway commission. How did travel affect Wisconsin business and what compromises were made to improve roadways?

- For more information on the Good Roads Movement check out Wisconsin101 <http://www.wi101.org/?story=the-good-roads-movement-in-wisconsin>
- *Wheel Fever: How Wisconsin Became a Great Bicycling State* by Jesse J. Gant and Nicholas J. Hoffman

Founding of Milwaukee: Solomon Juneau, a fur trader and merchant, owned much of Milwaukee's east side with his partner, Morgan Martin. They hoped their land would become the center of a major Lake Michigan port city. Two other speculators, Byron Kilbourne and George Walker, owned tracts on Milwaukee's west and south side. Mutually interested in having their lands surveyed and opened to public sale, these rival promoters engaged in a bitter competition to improve their village sites to attract buyers. How did compromise play a role in founding the once booming port city of Milwaukee?

- For more about the founding of Milwaukee check out www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints

Military History

Anti-Vietnam War Movement: Protests against the Vietnam War took place on campuses across Wisconsin, including marches, teach-ins, and draft card burnings.

- The UW–Madison campus exemplified anti-war radicalism with the bombing of Sterling Hall on August 24, 1970, by students who believed the Army Math Research Center conducted

research vital to the war effort. How did such a violent and deadly event affect the strength of the anti-war movement and embody anti-war sentiment across the nation?

- The Milwaukee 14 burned draft cards to protest the war and to protect other men from being drafted.
 - Find information and primary documents relating to the anti-Vietnam protests using Turning Points in Wisconsin History online at www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints

Civil War Draft Riots: The military draft that President Abraham Lincoln instituted in 1862 was unpopular in many German communities since many Germans had left their homeland to escape compulsory military service. On November 10, 1862, roughly three hundred rioters attacked the draft office in Port Washington and vandalized the homes of Union supporters until troops arrived to quell the disturbance. In Milwaukee the same week, a mob of protesters shut down the draft proceedings, and in West Bend, the draft commissioner was beaten bloody and chased from the scene. What sorts of compromise did Wisconsinites face during the Civil War? How did internal conflict affect Wisconsin families?

- Find information and primary documents relating to the Wisconsin Civil War home front using Turning Points in Wisconsin History online at www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints

The Iron Brigade: The Iron Brigade was Wisconsin's most famous war unit. They fought in the Army of the Potomac, suffering unusually high casualties at Gainesville, Antietam (the Civil War's bloodiest battle), and Gettysburg. Many of Wisconsin's other regiments were composed primarily of single ethnic groups. What were some of the compromises made by Wisconsinites and Civil War soldiers? How did the segregation of regiments further illustrate social conflict?

- *Giants in Their Tall Black Hats: Essays on the Iron Brigade* by Alan Nolan & Sharon Eggleston Vipond.

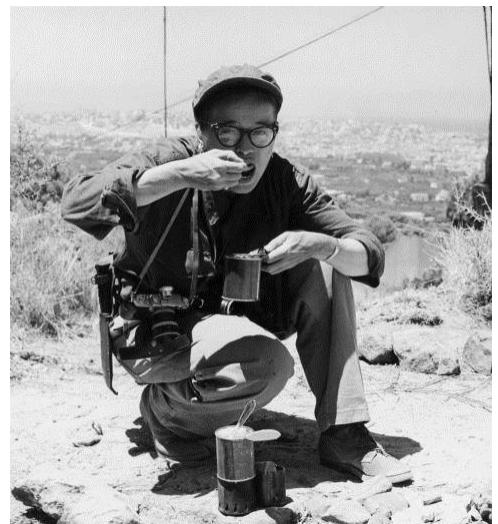
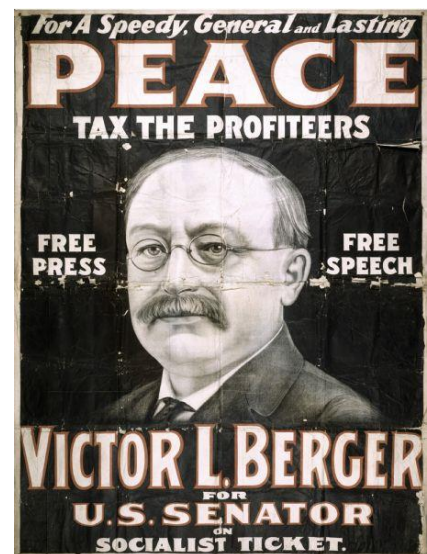
WWI and the Wisconsin Home Front: With many Wisconsin families aiding the American war effort in Europe, reverberations from the Great War hit home, especially for the sizable German-American population. What sorts of compromises were made on the home front in an effort to ease the effects of war?

- *The Great War Comes to Wisconsin: Sacrifice, Patriotism, and Free Speech in a Time of Crisis* by Richard L. Pifer

Victor Berger and Sewer Socialism: During World War I, the post office refused to deliver the *Milwaukee Leader*, a socialist newspaper that opposed the American entry into the war. How did its editor Victor Berger voice his dissent, and what socialist ideas did he promote? What local conflicts arose due to his socialist agenda?

- Find information and primary documents relating to Sewer Socialism using Turning Points in Wisconsin History online at www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints
- Victor Berger Papers at the Wisconsin Historical Society Archives.
- Image: Campaign poster for Victor Berger, 1918

Dickey Chapelle: Photojournalist Dickey Chapelle became one of the first female war correspondents, covering World War II, the Korean conflict, and Vietnam. In the last years of her life, many of her photographs and stories were deemed too sensitive for publication as her passion for stories began to cloud her



objectivity. An outspoken anti-communist, Chapelle loudly proclaimed her pro-American views. How could a journalist's views create conflict? Was there compromise between her views, the public, and her editors?

- For more information and photos from Dickey Chapelle, visit <http://wihist.org/2hoA2Z5>
- Image: Chapelle eating military rations from Dickey Chapelle papers, 1933–1967

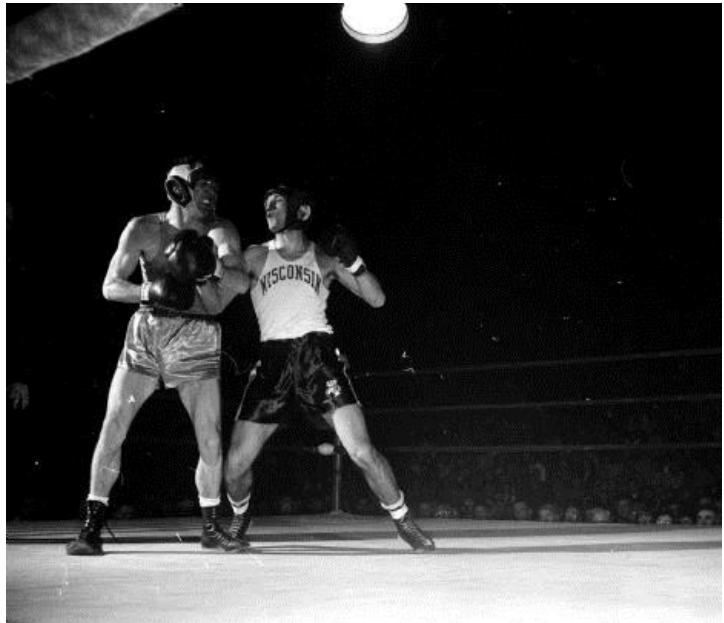
Sports History

Milwaukee Baseball: The relocation of a sports team can alter a community's economic health, daily life, and identity. How did the Braves' move from Boston to Milwaukee affect each community and how did the Brewers eventually captivate the devotion of a largely blue-collar fan base? What conflicts resulted from the Braves' move and what compromises were made to keep the team in Milwaukee?

- See an online exhibit about the Braves from the Wisconsin Historical Museum at <https://www.wisconsinhistory.org/museum/exhibits/braves/>
- "When the Braves of Bushville Ruled Baseball" by William Povletich
- "The 1982 Brewers Dared Wisconsin Baseball Fans to Fall in Love Again" by Robert De Broux, *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, summer 2007, online at <http://content.wisconsinhistory.org/cdm/ref/collection/wmh/id/49374>

The Charlie Mohr Boxing Match: A popular sport at the UW–Madison in the 1930s, boxing was banned in 1960 after Charlie Mohr entered the ring against a competitor from San Jose State, collapsed in the locker room after the match, and died a week later of an aneurism. How did Wisconsin's decision to ban college boxing affect other collegiate boxing programs? What were the differing opinions about the boxing conflict?

- For a brief introduction to the UW boxing conflict and compromise, watch a short documentary at <http://y2u.be/wP0fx0KcecQ>
- Image: UW boxer Charlie Mohr wins fight by Arthur M. Vinje, March 21, 1960



Immigration History

Anti-German Sentiment: When war was declared in 1917, anti-German sentiment reached a boiling point in Wisconsin as schools stopped educating in German, German-language books were burned, and Wisconsinites with German names became targets of harassment. How did the conflicts of WWI play out in Wisconsin?



- Check out Turning Points in Wisconsin History at www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints
- Image: Burning of German textbooks, 1918, by Ephraim Burt Trimpey from Baraboo, WI

Hmong Immigration: The Vietnam War and the Secret War brought Hmong immigrants to the United States, including many to Wisconsin. The “Secret War” is exactly what it means: a war kept secret by the United States government. This war led to the deaths of thousands of Hmong people and left tens of thousands more looking for a new home. After lots of conflict and compromise, groups began bringing Hmong fighters and their families to the United States.

- *Mai Ya's: Long Journey* by Sheila Terman Cohen
- For original documents and primary sources on Hmong immigration to Wisconsin, check out www.wisconsinhistory.org/turningpoints

Jewish Immigration: A number of conflicts and some compromises left many different Jewish groups looking for new homes. Many of them found their way to Wisconsin.

- *Jews in Wisconsin* by Sheila Terman Cohen
- *A Recipe for Success: Lizzie Kander and Her Cookbook* by Bob Kann
- For more resources, check out <http://jewishmuseummilwaukee.org>