

**TIES THAT BIND: HELPING CHILDREN WITH FAMILY & LOCAL
HISTORY, A SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**COMPILED BY DEBRA ANDERSON
Archivist, University of Wisconsin Green Bay**

Wisconsin Library Association, October 2003

NOTE: The Following List is meant to be a starting point, and is not intended to be a comprehensive bibliography.

General

Nesbit, Robert C. *Wisconsin: A History*. Second Edition. Revised and Updated by William F. Thompson. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1989.

The State of Wisconsin Blue Book. Compiled by Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau. Current edition.

Thompson, William F., General editor. *The History of Wisconsin*. 6 volumes. Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1988.

Uncapher, Wendy and Herrick, Linda. *Wisconsin: Its Counties, Townships, & Villages*. Janesville, Wisconsin: Origins, 1994.

Ethnic Heritage

Zaniewski, Kazimierz. *The Atlas of Ethnic Diversity in Wisconsin*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1998.

Series of small paperbacks published by the Wisconsin Historical Society. Examples of titles include: *Irish in Wisconsin*, *Finns in Wisconsin*, *Norwegians in Wisconsin*, etc. See www.wisc.edu/wisconsinpress for full list of titles.

Genealogy

Chorzempa, Rosemary A. *My Family Tree Workbook: Genealogy for Beginners*. Dover Publications, 1989.

Croom, Emily Anne. *Genealogist's Companion and Sourcebook*. F & W Publications, 1994.

Croom, Emily Anne. *Unpuzzling Your Past: The Best Selling Basic Guide to Genealogy*. 4th Edition. F & W. Publications, 2001.

Wolfman, Ira. *Climbing Your Family Tree: Online and Off Line Genealogy for Kids*. Workman Publishing, 2002.

Geography

Gard, Robert. *The Romance of Wisconsin Place Names*. Minocqua, Wisconsin: Heartland Press, 1988.

Wisconsin's Past and Present: A Historical Atlas. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1998.

Woodward, David. *Cultural Map of Wisconsin: A Cartographic Portrait of the State*. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1996.

Native Heritage

Loew, Patty. *Indian Nations of Wisconsin: Histories of Endurance and Renewal*. Madison: Wisconsin Historical Society Press, 2001.

Lurie, Nancy Oestreich. *Wisconsin Indians*. Revised and expanded edition. Madison: Wisconsin Historical Society Press, 2002.

Tanner, Helen Hornbeck. *Atlas of Great Lakes Indian History*. University of Oklahoma Press, 1987.

Oral History

Fletcher, William. *Recording Your Family History: A Guide to Preserving Oral History Using Audio and Video Tape*. Berkley, California: Ten Speed Press, 1989.

Greene, Bob and Fulford, D.G. *To Our Children's Children: Preserving Family Histories for Generations to Come*. New York: Doubleday & Co., 1993.

Curriculum Publications

The Office of School Services at the Wisconsin Historical Society has published a full line of resources for classroom teachers. The series include texts for students as well as teachers' guides. The topics covered include: Native People, labor, everyday life, water,

archaeology, water, immigrants, land use, and buildings. For a complete list of these publications see www.wisc.edu/wisconsinpress.

Internet Resources

The best Internet source for Wisconsin history is the web site for the Wisconsin Historical Society. <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/index.html> From this web page, access is gained to the library and archives catalogs, resources on historic preservation, curriculum resources, and the regional depositories known as the Area Research Center Network.

The goal of the Office of School Services at the Wisconsin Historical Society is to “provide teachers with resources to enliven the study of history and help students build meaningful connections.” Its website contains a special area for kids (timeline, archaeology mystery, paper dolls, games, “firsts,” and fun facts); lesson plans; newsletters; publication ordering lists; book reviews; and links to websites produced by students about Wisconsin history. A special feature of the website of the Office of School Services is the *Connecting to the Classroom*. This component is a resource for teachers that connects teachers with the variety of educational materials available at the Wisconsin Historical Society. This area is organized by the topics that are specified in the Wisconsin Model of Academic Standards for American and Wisconsin History. The web address is: <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/oss/index.html>

National History Day is a relatively new arrival on the scene of Wisconsin history. The contest is an exciting academic enrichment program that helps students learn about historical issues, ideas, people, and events. This academic adventure provides teachers with an innovative teaching tool and fosters students' enthusiasm for learning. Students participating in National History Day events compete at a regional level and can advance to state and national level contests. Students involved in National History Day projects must use primary sources and many students elect to research Wisconsin based topics. The state contest web site <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/oss/historyday/index.html> and the national contest web site http://www.nationalhistoryday.org/06_students/06.html provide further details about the contest as well as links to resources for student projects.

The Area Research Center Network makes Wisconsin historical records available in almost everyone's backyards. The Wisconsin Historical Society, the UW four-year campuses, and two private institutions operate the Network cooperatively. Librarians and teachers are encouraged to meet their local Area Research Center archivists. With holdings of diaries, citizenship records, census, maps, letters, reminiscences, and more, the Area Research Centers are natural local partners when helping youth work on family and local history projects. <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/archives/arcnet/index.html>

Students seeking first hand accounts of events or Internet resources for primary sources have many sites to choose from. Examples include:

American Journeys (www.americanjourneys.org) Provides 150 eyewitness accounts of early explorations and settlements in North America, from 985 AD to the 1830s. Materials were taken from 17,600 pages of rare books and manuscript collections

Wisconsin Pioneer Experience: A digital collection of original sources documenting 19th-century Wisconsin history

<http://libtext.library.wisc.edu/wipionexp/>

This site presents more than 30 collections of original diaries, letters, reminiscences, speeches and other writings of people who settled and built Wisconsin during the 19th century. Most of the original materials are owned by the Society and housed at the Area Research Centers on University of Wisconsin campuses around the state.

American Memory is a gateway to rich primary source materials relating to the history and culture of the United States. This Library of Congress site offers more than 7 million digital items from more than 100 historical collections.

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amhome.html>

The sites available for family history or genealogy grow at a phenomenal rate. Three examples include:

Cyndi Howells' list of over 91,000 links for genealogists is categorized and cross-linked in over 100 easy to understand subject categories and frequently updated. The site has a separate area for helping children with family history projects.

<http://www.cyndislist.com/kids.htm>

US Genweb is one of the most ambitious grassroots volunteer projects being undertaken in the genealogical community. The goal is to get a web page up for each county in the U.S., where queries can be posted, volunteers will assist researchers who are not local, lists of resources for the area can be posted, etc. Amount and quality of information may vary from site to site since this is strictly a volunteer project. <http://www.usgenweb.org/>

Rootsweb is another comprehensive site for genealogists with links, bulletin boards, and more. The site also has a separate area for children with a few articles and the ability to post queries and questions. <http://www.rootsweb.com/~usgwkidz>