Jimmy Carter for National History Day
Carter Presidential Library

- Opened October 1, 1986
- 40 million pages of written materials
- 40,000 museum objects/artifacts
- 500,000 photographs
- 2,500 hours of film, audio and video tape

Right: A portion of the Carter Library archival collections as seen from the museum floor (Carter Library)
Onsite Research

• Currently by appointment only

• Advanced consultation required before confirming appointment

• Submit an Ask an Archivist online form for research inquiries

*Right:* President Jimmy Carter conducting research at the Carter Library (Carter Library)
Remote Research

Adapt to Changing Times, Hold to Unchanging Principles

- Frequently Requested Topics/Document Sets
- Education PPTs with Primary Sources & Embedded Hyperlinks
- Carter Library YouTube Channel
- Carter Library on Facebook, Instagram & Twitter
- NARA NHD Resources
- DocsTeach NHD Resources
About Primary Sources

• They make students question where information comes from; encourages **consideration of original intent and context**

• Images, Film and Audio sources **reveal the intangible**

• Analyzing multiple documents related to a similar topic allows students to **consider multiple perspectives**

• No single primary source will contain all desired information, **prompting further inquiry**
Getting Started

- Read the Contest Rule Book & review other NHD website resources
- Understand the theme, Frontiers in History: People, Places, Ideas
- Begin thinking about broad topics that fit theme & can justify discussion & debate
Crafting a Strong Thesis

- Choose a relevant broad topic
- Consider available primary sources & other resources
- Narrow down an issue within the topic that can be debated
- Answers a HOW or WHY question about your topic/issue
- Be specific to keep project manageable
- Take a stand!

Why was peace between Egypt and Israel important to the United States during the Carter Administration?

*Left: Home page of DocsTeach, an online tool for teaching with primary sources ([National Archives](https://www.archives.gov))
Effective Submissions

Entry meets all requirements of respective category

Primary sources cited accurately

Content reflects effective use of sources as historical evidence

Content reflects unique perspective & strongly supports thesis statement

Bibliography annotation is specific

See NHD Student Resources

**Poor Annotation**

“I chose this photograph because it shows the day the final peace treaty between Egypt and Israel was signed.”

**Strong Annotation**

“I chose this photograph because it is a powerful visual that shows the strong, positive emotions each leader felt securing a treaty that would end more than 40 years of war between Egypt and Israel.”
• Only U.S. President from Georgia
• Career in Navy, Georgia Politics, Presidency & Post-Presidency provides variety of topics
• Topics are very flexible, always relevant to new contest themes
• Plethora of digital primary sources available from Carter Library, National Archives, and Georgia Archives

Clockwise from top left: Jimmy Carter unveils new solar panels installed on the White House roof (Carter Library); Menachem Begin and Jimmy Carter with “Shalom Y’All” Card, 09/19/1978 (National Archives Identifier: 181436); Poster of female appointees in the Carter Administration (Carter Library); Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Jimmy Carter, 2002 (Carter Library); Equal Rights Amendment poster with Carter endorsement (Carter Library); Jimmy Carter and Omar Torrijos signing the Panama Canal Treaty, 6/16/1978 (National Archives Identifier: 175905)
2023 Theme-Approved

- **Camp David Accords**
- **Hostage Crisis in Iran**
- **Panama Canal Treaties**
- **President’s Daily Diary**
  (can be used to support any Carter topic)

*Right: The Daily Diary of President Jimmy Carter, 9/5/1978 (Carter Library) For Right: Man holding a roadside t-shirt during President and Mrs. Carter’s trip to Egypt and Israel in March 1979 to complete negotiation of the Egypt-Israeli Peace Treaty (Carter Library)
Document Sets in Education PPTs

- The Extraordinary Life of Jimmy Carter
- The Extraordinary Life of Rosalynn Carter
- The Energy Crisis
- Jimmy Carter, Alaska & the Antiquities Act
- Women, For a Change

Right: Education PowerPoint presentations available online from the Carter Library (Carter Library)
Louis Martin

- “Godfather of Black Politics“
- Journalist
- Political Activist
- Mentor to Black Leaders
- Advisor to Presidents Kennedy, Johnson, & Carter

Right: Louis Martin with Guests Visiting the White House, 3/21/1979 (National Archives Identifier: 184022)
Patricia Roberts Harris

- Appointed by Johnson as Ambassador to Luxembourg, 1965
- Chairman, Credentials Committee & Member-at-Large w/DNC, 1972-73
- Appointed Secretary of H.U.D. by Carter, 1977; first African-American woman in line of succession to Presidency
- Serves as Secretary of Health, Education & Welfare, 1979

*Left: Secretary of H.U.D. Patricia Roberts Harris, Jimmy Carter, and New York Mayor Abraham Beame tour the South Bronx, 10/5/1977 (National Archives Identifier: 176392)*

**NATIONAL ARCHIVES and RECORDS ADMINISTRATION**
Andrew Young

- Executive Director, Southern Christian Leadership Conference
- U.S. Congressman (D-GA), member of Congressional Black Caucus
- First Black American to serve as Ambassador to the United Nations
- Mayor of Atlanta, Georgia
- Awarded Medal of Freedom

Right: Swearing in of Andrew Young, U.S. Representative to the United Nations, 1/30/1977 (National Archives Identifier: 173525)
The Refugee Act of 1980

- Increased numbers of Cubans and Vietnamese seeking refuge in U.S. brings new attention to immigration laws
- Raised annual ceiling of refugees to 50,000; adjustable in response to emergencies
- Refugee now defined as person with “well-founded fear of persecution”

Right: Crewmen of the amphibious cargo ship USS Durham (LKA-114) take Vietnamese refugees aboard a small craft (National Archives Identifier: 558518)
Carter’s Diversity Legacy

Equal Rights and Protections

- Extension for 3 years of ERA Ratification Deadline
- D.C. Voting Rights Amendment
- Anti-Boycott Law
- Issuance of 504 Regulations to ensure rights of handicapped
- Mandatory Retirement - raised from 65 to 70 in private sector and eliminated from civil service
- Wiretap Protection Act - first controls on foreign intelligence wiretapping
- Appointments
  - Senior Management - appointment of more blacks, Hispanics and women to Cabinet, sub-Cabinet, White House and other senior management positions than any other President
  - Judgeships - appointment of more blacks, Hispanics and women than all previous 38 President combined
- Minority Business - tripling of federal purchases from minority-owned businesses
No Longer President, But a Leader

- Establishes Carter Center with Rosalynnn
- Eradication of Tropical Diseases
- Election Monitoring
- Diplomatic Missions (North Korea, Cuba)
- Nobel Peace Prize, Medal of Freedom

Clockwise From Top Left: Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Jimmy Carter, 2002 (Carter Library); Presidential Medals of Freedom awarded to Carters by President Clinton (Carter Library); Mounted automatic weapon presented to Carter Center for serving as international election monitors (Carter Library)
Hidden Gems

- **Facebook** typically used for announcements, events

- **Twitter** & **Instagram** are primary source-heavy, content typically overlaps
  - Primary sources with citations
  
- Carter Library **YouTube** channel go-to for video sources
Become the Historian

1. Meet the document
2. Observe its parts
3. Try to make sense of it
4. Use it as historical evidence

- Available for novice & secondary learners
- Available in Spanish

Left: Written Document Analysis Worksheet for intermediate and secondary students (National Archives) Right: A letter from Jimmy Carter to U.S. Senators that voted to approve the Panama Canal Treaties, 4/1978 (Carter Library)
For Students and Teachers

- Easily search by topic, time period, source type
- Includes citations; many annotated
- Most sources have hyperlink to National Archives Catalog
- Civics-based Activities for K-12 students
- Teachers can publish activities

Left: Home page of DocsTeach, an online tool for teaching with primary sources (National Archives)
Effective Primary (Re)Sources

We’re Here For You

- **Carter Library, NARA & DocsTeach** provide easy to use digital access

- **Extensive collections** with diverse primary source types provide multiple perspectives & effective cross referencing

- **Document Analysis Worksheets** effective tool for analysis & annotated bibliography

- Library staff available to assist **remotely** or in-person

Left: Carter Library Staff meet with President Carter at his Boyhood Home in Archery, Georgia (Carter Library)
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