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Useful Websites for Teaching History:

<http://xroads.virginia.edu/~hyper/wpa/wpahome.html> From 1936 to 1938, over 2,300 former slaves from across the American South were interviewed by writers and journalists under the aegis of the Works Progress Administration. These former slaves, most born in the last years of the slave regime or during the Civil War, provided first-hand accounts of their experiences on plantations, in cities, and on small farms. Their narratives remain a peerless resource for understanding the lives of America's four million slaves. What makes the WPA narratives so rich is that they capture the very voices of American slavery, revealing the texture of life as it was experienced and remembered. Each narrative taken alone offers a fragmentary, microcosmic representation of slave life. Read together, they offer a sweeping composite view of slavery in North America, allowing us to explore some of the most compelling themes of nineteenth-century slavery, including labor, resistance and flight, family life, relations with masters, and religious belief.

This web site provides an opportunity to read a sample of these narratives, and to see some of the photographs taken at the time of the interviews. The entire collection of narratives can be found in George P. Rawick, ed., *The American Slave: A Composite Autobiography* (Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1972-79).

http://xroads.virginia.edu/~HYPER/DETOC/toc_intro.html Tocqueville's America website contains a virtual tour of America ca. 1831-32 based on Tocqueville's itinerary, on his and his friend Beaumont's letters and journals, on contemporaneous accounts of other foreign visitors, and on a variety of examples of material culture of the period, mostly paintings and engravings. It also holds explorations of Women's Place at the time, of attitudes toward race and color, towards religion, and towards everyday life.

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/twhp/> Teaching with Historic Places (TwHP) uses properties listed in the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places to enliven history, social studies, geography, civics, and other subjects. TwHP has created a variety of products and activities that help teachers bring historic places into the classroom. Teaching with Historic Places has developed more than ninety classroom-ready lesson plans that together cover major themes of American history. Most of them are now available on the website organized by theme, location, time period, and U.S. History Standards.

<http://tigger.uic.edu/%7Epbhales/Levittown.html> Documents Levittown, one of the most important post-world-war-II American suburbs. Contains contemporary photographs and other primary sources.

<http://www.suba.com/~scottn/explore/mainmenu.htm> Jazz Age Chicago, 1893-1934. Excellent primary source documentation for one of the most important twentieth-century American cities. Emphasis on cultural diversity of the urban population, development of department stores, movie theaters, hotels, parks, and other urban places.

<http://www.dohistory.org/> DoHistory invites you to explore the process of piecing together the lives of ordinary people in the past. It is an experimental, interactive case study based on the research that went into the book and film *A Midwife's Tale*, which were both based upon the remarkable 200 year old diary of midwife/healer Martha Ballard of Maine. Although DoHistory is centered on the life of Martha Ballard, you can learn basic skills and techniques for interpreting fragments that survive from any period in history. The DoHistory site takes you into the process of piecing together the past, using Martha Ballard's life as a case study. It puts every entry of Martha Ballard's hand-written diary at your fingertips, and includes hundreds of other documents from the period. And it provides you with a toolkit to go out and do history yourself.