

**Harriot Stanton Blatch Papers**  
**A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**  
**Washington, D.C.**  
**2007**

Contact information: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm82012997>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms007113>

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2007  
Revised 2023 December

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Harriot Stanton Blatch Papers

**Inclusive Dates:** 1907-1915

**ID No.:** MSS12997

**Creator:** Blatch, Harriot Stanton, 1856-1940

**Extent:** 14 items

**Extent:** 13 containers plus 4 oversize

**Extent:** 3.2 linear feet

**Extent:** 5 microfilm reels

**Language:** Collection material in English

**Location:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm82012997>

**Summary:** Scrapbooks containing correspondence, questionnaires, annual reports of the Women's Political Union, other reports, pamphlets, clippings, photographs, memorabilia, and additional material documenting the struggle of women's suffrage in New York state.

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

### People

Blatch, Harriot Stanton, 1856-1940.

Stanton, Elizabeth Cady, 1815-1902--Anniversaries, etc.

### Organizations

New York (State). Legislature.

Women's Political Union (New York, N.Y.)

### Subjects

Women--Suffrage--New York (State)

### Occupations

Suffragists.

## Acquisition Information

The papers of Harriot Stanton Blatch, suffrage leader, lecturer, and author, were given to the Library of Congress by Blatch in 1932. An addition was donated by Rhoda Jenkins in 1991.

## Processing History

The papers of Harriot Stanton Blatch were arranged and described in 1984 by Mary W. Wolfskill. The collection was expanded and revised in 1997 by Bradley E. Gernand and the finding aid revised in 2007.

## Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Harriet Stanton Blatch is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

## Access and Restrictions

The papers of Harriet Stanton Blatch are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

## Microfilm

A microfilm edition of these papers is available on five reels. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan.

## Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel number, Harriot Stanton Blatch Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

Date	Event
1856, Jan. 20	Born, Seneca Falls, N.Y.
1878	Graduated from Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.
1879-1880	Attended Boston School of Oratory, Boston, Mass.
1880-1881	Traveled abroad as tutor and companion to young girls
1882	Married William Henry Blatch (died 1915)
1882-1902	Lived in Basingstoke, England
1894	M.A., Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.
1902	Returned to United States with family
1907	Founded the Equality League of Self-Supporting Women (name changed to Women's Political Union in 1910); served as president, 1907-1915
1913	Joined the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage and helped devise strategy to defeat Democratic candidates in the 1914 congressional election
1917	Aided in bringing together the Congressional Union (with which the Women's Political Union had merged in 1916) and the National Woman's Party Headed speakers bureau, United States Food Administration Director, Woman's Land Army for farm labor
1918	Published <i>Mobilizing Woman-Power</i> . New York: Womans Press
1920	Published <i>A Woman's Point of View; Some Roads to Peace</i> . New York: Womans Press
1922	Published with Theodore Stanton <i>Elizabeth Cady Stanton as Revealed in Her Letters, Diary, and Reminiscences</i> . New York: Harper & Brothers
1940	Published with Alma Lutz <i>Challenging Years; the Memoirs of Harriot Stanton Blatch</i> . New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons
1940, Nov. 20	Died, New York, N.Y.

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Harriot Stanton Blatch (1856-1940) consist of scrapbooks documenting the women's suffrage movement in New York from 1907 to 1915, the year the suffrage bill passed the state legislature, thus allowing it to be put before the electorate. Arranged in fourteen volumes in rough chronological sequence, the scrapbooks contain clippings, correspondence, questionnaires, reports on debates, pamphlets, photographs, and annual reports of the Equality League of Self-Supporting Women, later called the Women's Political Union, which Blatch founded. At the end of the first twelve

volumes is a selected subject index. Two scrapbooks (Vol. XIII and Vol. XIV) added to the collection in 1997 contain clippings dating between 1909 and 1912.

An historical essay by Nora Blatch de Forest, Blatch's daughter, at the beginning of Volume I highlights many of the political activities evident in the scrapbooks. These include appearances before congressional committees, distribution of suffrage literature, service as "watchers" at the polls, lectures before mass meetings, organization of suffrage parades, support for legislators sympathetic to the cause and opposition to those unfavorable, lobbying political parties to include the suffrage amendment in their platforms, monitoring bills through the legislature, and other actions. Volume XII is devoted to the centennial celebration of the birth of Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

## **Arrangement of the Papers**

This collection is arranged by volume number in a rough chronological sequence.

# Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf nos. 18,964 (reels 1-4) and 21,173 (reel 5)

Container	Contents
BOX 1 REEL 1	Scrapbooks
BOX 1 REEL 1	Vol. I, 1907-1910 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 2 REEL 1	Vol. II, 1910-1912 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 3 REEL 1	Vol. III, 1911-1912 <i>See also Oversize</i>
BOX 4 REEL 2	Vol. IV, 1912 <i>See also Oversize</i> (3 folders)
BOX 5 REEL 2	Vol. V, 1912 (2 folders)
BOX 6 REEL 2	Vol. VI, 1913 <i>See also Oversize</i> (4 folders)
BOX 7 REEL 2-3	Vol. VII, 1913 (3 folders)
BOX 8 REEL 3	Vol. VIII, 1913-1914 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 9 REEL 3	Vol. IX, 1914 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 10 REEL 3	Vol. X, 1914 (3 folders)
BOX 11 REEL 4	Vol. XI, 1914-1915 (3 folders)
BOX 12 REEL 4	Vol. XII, 1915 (4 folders)
BOX 13 REEL 5	Vol. XIII, 1909-1911 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 13 REEL 5	Vol. XIV, 1911-1912 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX OV 1	Oversize
BOX OV 1	Loose items removed from scrapbooks
BOX OV 1	Vol. III, 1912 (Container 3)
BOX OV 1	Vol. IV, 1912 (Container 4)
BOX OV 1	Vol. VI, 1913 (Container 6)
BOX OV 2	Scrapbooks
BOX OV 2	Vol. I, 1907-1910 (Container 1)
BOX OV 3	Vol. II, 1910-1912 (Container 2)
BOX OV 4	Vol. XIII, 1909-1911 (Container 13)
BOX OV 4	Vol. XIV, 1911-1912 (Container 13)