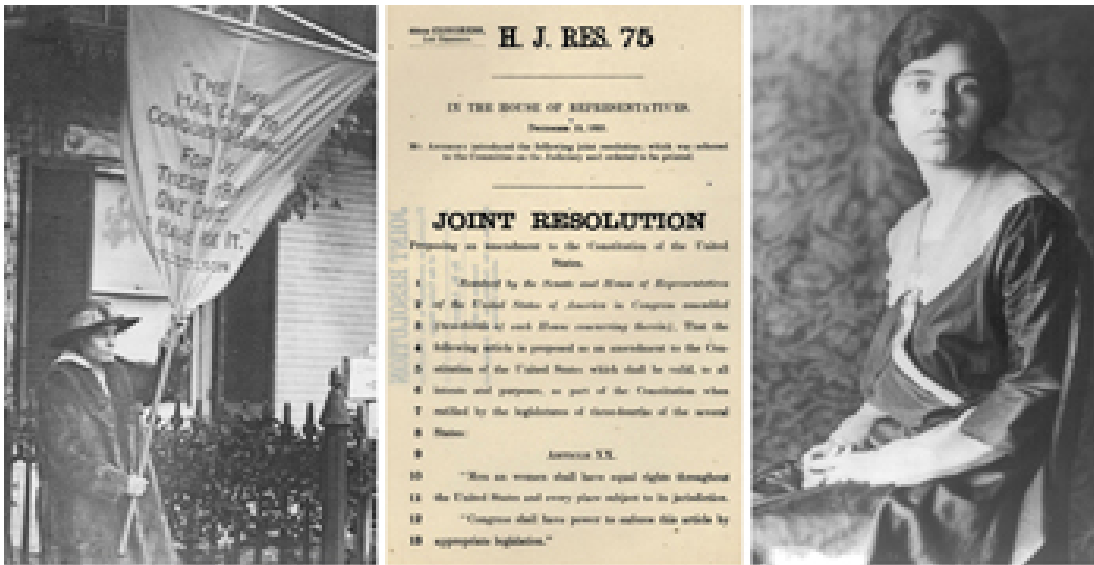




The Belmont-Paul Women's Equality National Monument

A Storytime with a Historic Place



(Images courtesy of the Library of Congress and the National Archives and Records Administration)

Teaching with Historic Places

Storytime with Historic Places: The Belmont Paul Women's Equality National Monument

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Program Title: The Belmont-Paul Women's Equality National Monument

Summary: Today we'll be talking about the Belmont-Paul Women's Equality National Monument. This house is in Washington D.C near the U.S. Capitol Building and has been the headquarters of the National Woman's Party since 1929. The people who worked and lived in the house believed in suffrage, or the right to vote, for women. They also tried to convince politicians to pass an equal rights amendment to the Constitution that would make most American men and women equal. The house is still being used as the party's headquarters today!

Prompts to Encourage Empathy about the Topic

- How do you feel when no one listens to you where you live?
- How do you think The National Woman's Party felt about finally being able to vote in the United States?
- Why do you think suffrage activists choose a headquarters near the Capitol building in Washington D.C.?

Map to Ground the Topic and the Place

- Map of Washington, DC, with NWP headquarters marked and discussion questions

Image to Spark Imagination

- *National Women's Party at the Capitol* and discussion questions

Suggested Books to Be Read or Displayed

- 1) *Elizabeth Leads the Way: Elizabeth Cady Stanton and the Right to Vote* by Tanya Lee Stone
- 2) *Around America to Win the Vote: Two Suffragists, a Kitten, and 10,000 Miles* by Mara Rockliff
- 3) *One Vote, Two Votes, I Vote, You Vote (Cat in the Hat's Learning Library)* by Bonnie Worth
- 4) *You Forgot Your Skirt, Amelia Bloomer!* by Shana Corey
- 5) *Brave Girl: Clara and the Shirtwaist Makers' Strike of 1909* by Michelle Markel
- 6) *Who Says Women Can't Be Doctors? The Story of Elizabeth Blackwell* by Tanya Lee Stone
- 7) *Miss Paul and the President: The Creative Campaign for Women's Right to Vote* by Dean Robbins

Activity: March through the Library

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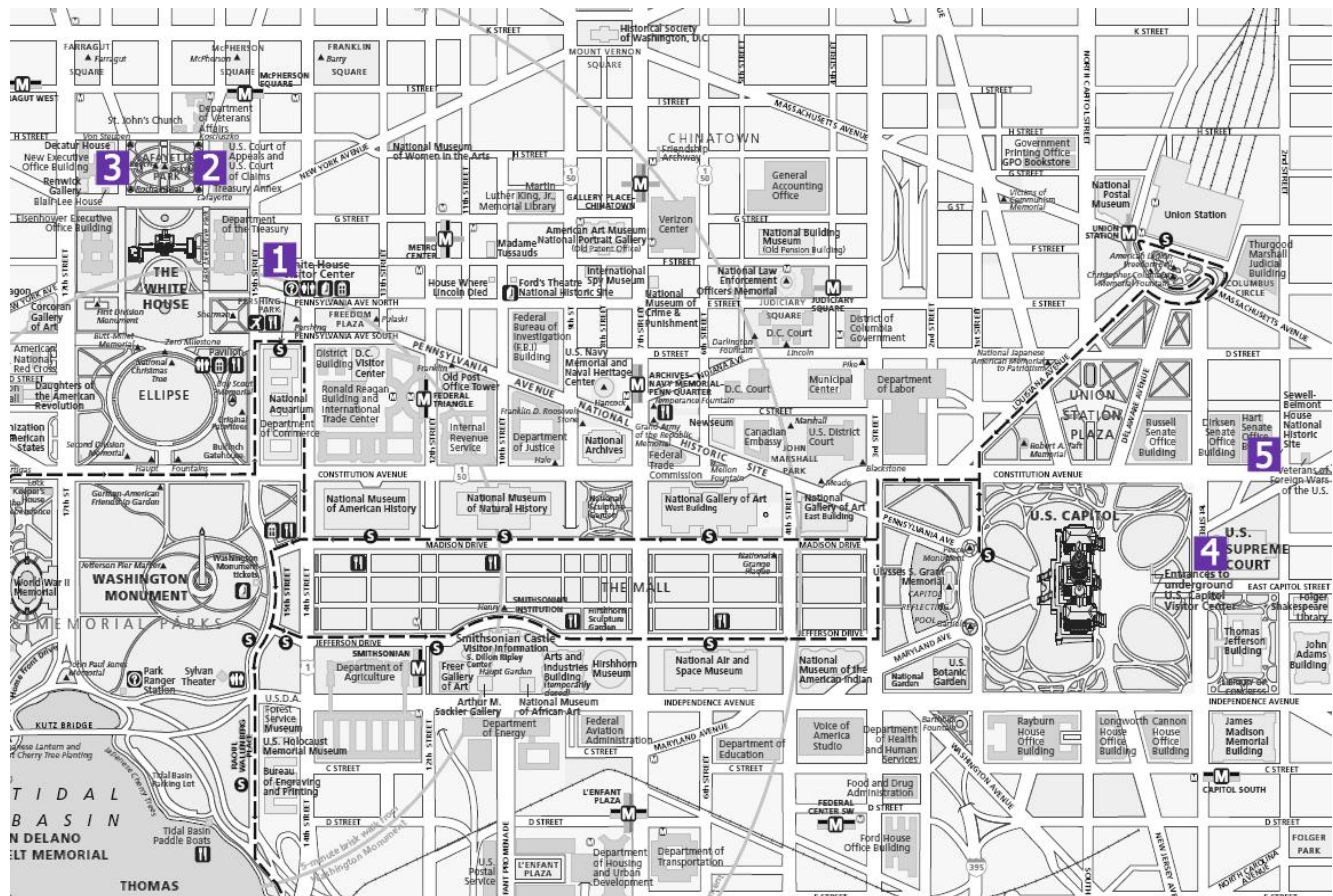
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Map to Investigate

Map of Washington, DC, with NWP headquarters marked



(National Park Service)

The National Woman's Party (NWP) headquarters between 1913 and 1929.

- [1] 1420 F Street, NW in 1913
- [2] 21 Madison Place, NW in 1916
- [3] 14 Jackson Place in 1917
- [4] 21-25 First Street, NE from 1922 to 1929
- [5] Belmont-Paul House in 1929

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Map Discussion Questions

- 1) The location of the National Woman's Party headquarters moved to different houses in DC. What do you notice about all the locations?
- 2) Why do you think they picked houses near these places?

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Image to Explore

National Women's Party at the Capitol, 1923



(Library of Congress)

National Woman's Party members in front of the Capitol Building in 1923. They are about to enter the offices of their states' Congressmen to ask them to vote for the Equal Rights Amendment.

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Image Discussion Questions

- 1) Who do you see in this photograph? What kind of building is behind them?

- 2) Why would you want to talk to your congress person about something in-person rather than writing to them?

- 3) What do you think were the challenges of facing Congress in person for these women? What cultural challenges might they have struggled to overcome?

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Book List

Book	Author	Recommended Age Range	Accelerated Reader™ Book Level	Lexile® Level
<i>Elizabeth Leads the Way: Elizabeth Cady Stanton and the Right to</i>	Tanya Lee Stone	6 - 10	3.8	700
<i>Around America to Win the Vote: Two Suffragists, a Kitten, and 10,000 Miles</i>	Mara Rockliff	5 - 8	4.3	750
<i>One Vote, Two Votes, I Vote, You Vote (Cat in the Hat's Learning Library)</i>	Bonnie Worth	5 - 8	4.4	not given
<i>You Forgot Your Skirt, Amelia Bloomer!</i>	Shana Corey	4 - 8	3.5	350
<i>Brave Girl: Clara and the Shirtwaist Makers' Strike of 1909</i>	Michelle Markel	4 - 8	5.0	760
<i>Who Says Women Can't Be Doctors? The Story of Elizabeth Blackwell</i>	Tanya Lee Stone	5 - 8	4.1	560
<i>Miss Paul and the President: The Creative Campaign for Women's Right to Vote</i>	Dean Robbins	4 - 8	not given	not given

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Activity 1

March through the Library



(Library of Congress)

Have the children create sashes or signs to wear or hold like the suffragists did when marching through the streets of Washington D.C. The signs should say words and phrases like, "Vote!" or "Equal Rights." March the children in your story time space or through your library. If the children march through the library, plan strategic stopping points in the stacks to highlight books written by women or books about civil rights activism.

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Additional Resources for this Storytime

Library of Congress.

<http://www.loc.gov/teachers/classroommaterials/primarysourcesets/womens-suffrage/>

Western New York Suffragists. <https://rrlc.org/winningthevote/>

Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Learning Harvard University: Catching the Wave: Photographs of the Women's Movement. <https://www.radcliffe.harvard.edu/schlesinger-library/exhibition/catching-the-wave>

American Libraries Magazine. <https://americanlibrariesmagazine.org/2017/02/21/at-least-18-more-womens-history-month-programming-ideas/>

The National Woman's Party. <http://nationalwomansparty.org/>

National Park Service: Belmont-Paul Women's Equality National Monument.
<https://www.nps.gov/bepa/index.htm>

National Park Service: Teaching with Historic Places Lesson: A Woman's Place Is In the Sewall-Belmont House: Alice Paul and Women's Rights.
<https://www.nps.gov/nr/twhp/wwwlps/lessons/148sewallbelmont/148sewallbelmont.htm>

Accelerated Reader Bookfinder™. <http://www.arbookfind.com/>

Alice Paul Institute. <http://www.alicepaul.org/>

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About this storytime

This storytime program was produced by the National Park Service during Summer 2017. It was developed originally by a school librarian, Samantha Nelson, and edited by Katie Orr, a historian in the CR Office of Interpretation and Education. The Belmont-Paul Women's Equality National Monument contributed feedback. This storytime is part of the *Teaching with Historic Places* resource produced by the National Park Service in Washington, DC. The award-winning education series provides educators in every setting with tools to facilitate learning through National Park Service sites and many others listed on the National Register of Historic Places.