



Primary vs. Secondary Sources Guide

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Updated:

What is a Primary Source?

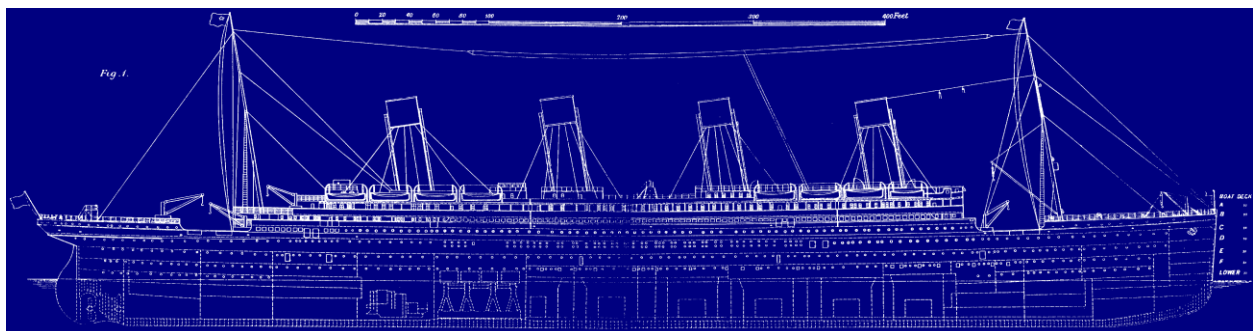
A Primary Source is a document, record, or artifact that was created in the historical era being studied. It provides direct or firsthand evidence about an event, person, or object.

What is a Secondary Source?

A Secondary Source is a document or record that was created after the historical era being studied. It is created by someone who did not experience or participate in the events firsthand.

Primary Source	Secondary Source
Diary Photograph Painting Object (clothing, furniture, tools, etc.) Letters Legal or Government Records Maps Oral Stories Speeches News Articles Eyewitness Accounts Receipts	Scholarly/Academic Journals Scholarly/Academic Articles Scholarly/Academic Books

Example:



Titanic Blueprints, Primary or Secondary source?

They are a **Primary Source** because they were created at the same time as the Titanic and give firsthand knowledge on the Titanic's structural/architectural build.

The screenshot shows a web interface for 'WORLD HISTORY IN CONTEXT'. The article title is 'Titanic--the Manitoba story' from 'Manitoba History, Summer 2012'. The text discusses the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the RMS Titanic on April 14, 1912, and mentions that 130 Canada-bound passengers and crew were on board the White Star liner. It highlights the role of Arthur Ford of the Winnipeg Telegram and Herbert Chisholm of the Manitoba Free Press in reporting the event. The article also mentions the rescue of survivors and the fate of the ship's passengers and crew.

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Related Subjects:

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- [Canadian history](#)
- [Hustak, Alan](#)
- [Journalists](#)
- [Titanic Sinking, 1912](#)

Journal Article about Titanic victims from Manitoba or with a connection to Manitoba, Primary or Secondary Source?

This is a **Secondary Source** because the author, Michael Dupuis, did not know these people personally and did not experience the sinking of Titanic firsthand.