

Women's Rights Walking Tour

Did you know that Utah was the first place in the U.S. where women citizens voted with suffrage rights equal to men's?

Utah played a unique and early role in the suffrage movement, partially due to the 19th-century Mormon practice of polygamy. Utah women citizens gained, lost, and re-gained voting rights—all before 1900! Their experience set the stage for a nationwide push to ratify the 19th Amendment. Many pieces of this story remain visible in the landscape of Salt Lake City today.

Join public historian Katherine Kitterman on a walking tour of Salt Lake City to learn about the exciting and groundbreaking history of women's voting rights in Utah. We'll visit Council Hall, where the first Utah women cast their votes in 1870; a new memorial to women voters at the State Capitol with breathtaking views of the city; and other homes and public buildings where Utah women made their mark on history. We'll also talk about women whose lives and achievements are less visible in Salt Lake's built environment and discuss the efforts underway to change that.

**Note: there is a slight incline on the walking tour route.*

Katherine Kitterman is a Ph.D. candidate at American University and the Historical Director for Better Days 2020, a non-profit dedicated to popularizing Utah women's history. The year 2020 marked the 150th anniversary of Utah women's historic first votes, the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, and the 55th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act. To honor these anniversaries and encourage civic engagement, Better Days 2020 worked with partner organizations across Utah to create educational curriculum, install public art honoring women's achievements, and host events highlighting the state's legacy of women's leadership.