

Annual Report

July 2020–June 2021



Massachusetts
Historical Society
Founded 1791



LOCATION

1154 Boylston Street
Boston, MA 02215

CONTACT

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VISITOR INFORMATION

Gallery Hours:

Monday through Friday,
from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Library Hours:

Monday through Friday,
from 10:00 AM to 4:45 PM

SOCIAL AND WEB

  @MHS1791

 @MassachusettsHistoricalSociety

www.masshist.org



Cover: Binney family mourning bracelet by an unidentified goldsmith, [circa 1847].
Above: Employees at the Nashawena Mills textile factory in New Bedford, Mass., circa 1929. Photo: Coll. 500.260, gift of Sarah Leonard, January 2021. Both images are new acquisitions.



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To promote understanding of the history of Massachusetts and the nation by collecting and communicating materials and resources that foster historical knowledge.

FY2021 BY THE NUMBERS

JULY 1, 2020, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021

100

LINEAR FEET OF MANUSCRIPT MATERIAL ACQUIRED

INCLUDING 127 GIFTS AND 4 DEPOSITS

\$300,000

RAISED AT VIRTUAL MAKING HISTORY GALA

14,257

ATTENDEES AT 61 PROGRAMS, 12 BROWN-BAG LUNCHEES, AND 29 SEMINARS

3

VIRTUAL EXHIBITIONS

1,500+

RESEARCHERS SERVED

INCLUDING 1,020 E-MAIL INQUIRIES, 262 LIVE VIRTUAL REFERENCE INTERACTIONS, 219 PHONE CALLS, 90 IMAGES LICENSED, AND 583 REPRODUCTION ORDERS FILLED

ENJOYED ACROSS AMERICA AS WELL AS 27 COUNTRIES ON 5 CONTINENTS

2,500

STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN NATIONAL HISTORY DAY IN MASSACHUSETTS

39

FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED INCLUDING MHS-NEH LONG-TERM, MHS SHORT-TERM, TEACHER, AND STUDENT

1

MAJOR RESEARCH CONFERENCE HELD VIRTUALLY

65,345

PAGES OF REFERENCE REPRODUCTIONS DELIVERED

506 ATTENDEES FROM AROUND THE WORLD PARTICIPATED

THANK YOU FOR MAKING IT ALL POSSIBLE!

Year in Review

The MHS is evolving and making its mark!

Our community is growing, and it is exciting to witness history in action. The MHS is a vibrant resource for the public—locally, nationally, and around the world—and we remain committed to providing access, embracing diversity, and demonstrating quality. As you read through the pages of this report, you will see how true this is.

Though our doors remained closed to in-person visitors in FY2021, more than 14,200 attendees joined us online for a variety of events. Over 500 guests attended our first virtual gala, 2,500 students participated in National History Day in Massachusetts, 1,500 researchers were served by our Reader Services staff, more than 65,000 pages of reproduction pages were created, and more than 19,200 digital images of manuscripts and photographs related to collections of marginalized communities were made available on our website. Our community was also able to explore three virtual exhibitions created throughout the fiscal year:

- *Who Counts: A Look at Voter Rights through Political Cartoons* illustrates how cartoonists helped to tell the story of voting rights in the United States through examples of published cartoons from the MHS collection as well as other libraries and foundations.
- *Thomas Nast: A Life in Cartoons* highlights Nast's remarkable impact through a cartoon biography created by local artists.
- *Our Favorite Things: Objects that Fascinate, Interest & Inspire* highlights a selection of compelling, captivating, and amusing items selected by the MHS staff, those who know our collection best.

The values of diversity, equity, and inclusion are integral to our mission. Throughout the year, our staff has put in tireless effort to make the MHS more welcoming and inclusive. We continue to look at and adjust our physical and virtual spaces, increase awareness, expand our audiences, and forge new partnerships through building networks. Please read more about these projects on page 4.

We continue to discuss the role we play in supporting the work of historians at all points of their careers as well as the continuing development of the historical narrative. In October 2020, we held the inaugural—and virtual—Conrad E. Wright Research Conference which explored the latest scholarship on the 15th and 19th Amendments and welcomed more than 500 attendees from around the world.

It takes an enormous amount of expertise, dedication, and passion to keep the MHS running, let alone achieve so much growth during a global pandemic. Every function we perform and every project we produce has had to change in ways that demand more of each of us. The MHS staff continues to adapt and to do more to share history with everyone, everywhere.

As we reflect on how much the MHS has accomplished in the past year, we want to thank you for your support and friendship. The Society's ability to grow and expand is a direct result of the passion, dedication, and generosity of friends like you.



Paul W. Sandman
Board Chair, 2016–2021



Catherine Allgor
President

Impact

The MHS Evolves

Though our building remained closed to the public in Fiscal Year 2021, our staff continued to spread the word about the MHS and all its wonderful resources. Here are just a few examples of how we worked toward fulfilling our mission and vision.

Making Our Collections Accessible to All

Despite the challenges presented by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, our collections continued to be processed, digitized, and made available. They grew—by 100 linear feet—as well. Please see pages 6–8 for a list of our new acquisitions.

Our Reader Services team provided expanded reference and reproduction services throughout the year to support the needs of our researchers. The team fielded an impressive number of e-mail inquiries and fulfilled an astounding number of reproduction requests.

Volume 15 of *Adams Family Correspondence* covering March 1801 to October 1804 was sent to press and more than 2,500 John Quincy Adams diary transcriptions were made available online. Among other projects, our Publications team is working on *Wôpanâak Inscribed: Digital Edition of a 17th-Century Wampanoag Lexicon*. This online edition will present transcriptions and page images from a manuscript at the MHS that includes a vocabulary of the Wampanoag dialect spoken on Martha's Vineyard. It is one of very few records of the dialect and, as such, is a crucial record for understanding the history and the reclamation of the language.

Building Pathways to Collections for Students and Educators

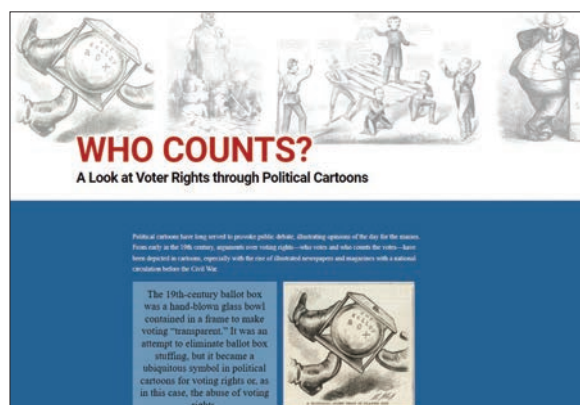
As we were unable to hold in-person teacher workshops and student programs, our education team focused on developing online resources for our teacher communities. This included producing a

curated list of MHS resources that align with the civic education requirements issued in 2018 to assist teachers as they introduce new civic education projects in the classroom.

In collaboration with partner organizations in the Massachusetts Civic Learning Coalition (MCLC), the MHS contributed many of its most popular digital resources to the MCLC web portal. Virtual toolkits were developed to provide educators with easy to access online resources and MHS collections. They explore significant and timely topics, including Anthony Burns and the Fugitive Slave Act, Massachusetts women of World War I, and voting rights in Massachusetts. At the end of the fiscal year, there were almost 4,000 views of these digital presentations. Plans are in place to continue to create and disseminate these toolkits as teachers return to in-person teaching.

Connecting with People in Imaginative and Intellectual Ways

Though visitors were unable to explore exhibitions in person, we were able to showcase our collections through three virtual displays. In September 2020, we launched “*Who Counts?*” *A Look at Voter Rights through Political Cartoons*. In October, we launched *Thomas Nast: A Life in Cartoons*



in which local artists associated with the Boston Comics Roundtable created a cartoon biography of Nast's life.

In June 2021, we launched *Our Favorite Things: Objects That Fascinate, Interest, and Inspire*. This virtual exhibition connects a selection of items from our collection to the backgrounds, interests, and memories of our staff. The web display presents brief object descriptions along with written comments and more than 40 video interviews with staff members about an item from the MHS.

Because our building remained closed, we decided to showcase a selection of items from our collections using large-scale printed panels in the first-floor windows of our building. Spread across time and media, the panels ranged from a diary page written and illustrated by Sarah Gool Putnam and a watercolor of Tahiti by Henry Adams to our 1912 Red Sox Medal and a photograph from the De-grasse Howard Papers.

Making a Difference in Our Community

In celebration of Juneteenth, we launched a special web display highlighting MHS collections as well as 15 student projects from the 2020–2021 National History Day in Massachusetts (NHD) competition. Visitors were invited to explore topics related to African American history and culture. One of those student projects, a documentary about Ida B. Wells, was selected by the National Museum of African American History and Culture in D.C. and featured in a digital showcase in June 2021.



To reach broad audiences and engage community members, we used our windows at 1154 Boylston Street to display 14 images from our collection that

Massachusetts Teacher Is National History Day Teacher of the Year

In June, we were notified that Ms. Suzanne Zmijewski Lim, an eighth grade teacher at Winthrop L. Chenery Middle School in Belmont, Massachusetts, won the Patricia Behring Teacher of the Year Award for the junior division (grades 6-8) of the 2021 National History Day Contest. The award is sponsored by Patricia Behring in recognition of the pivotal role teachers play in the lives of students.

Each of the 58 National History Day affiliates is able to nominate one middle school teacher for this award. Ms. Zmijewski was the nominee from Massachusetts. She has been teaching National History Day students and teachers for 26 years. Over the course of her career, she has both inspired and witnessed the powerful impact NHD has made on her students.

“Sue is an exceptionally talented teacher, admired by colleagues, administrators, and students alike. She embodies the best of what NHD teachers can offer students.”

—Dr. Elyssa Tardif, MHS Director of Education

2020–2021 National History Day in Massachusetts Virtual Competition

2,500 students participated in the program

388 students took part in the statewide contest

8,361 unique page views of new NHD MA resource website

relate to the abolitionist movement, the struggle for emancipation, and those who fought for freedom. This display included QR codes directing viewers to the web display.

Providing a Forum for Discussion and Debate

As part of its effort to openly address historic disparities, encourage healthy debate, and include more voices, the MHS hosted talks and discussions that explored African American history, LGBTQ history, disability history, urban studies, education equality, and environmental equity. We explored political bravery through a MHS Speaker Fund event with John Dean and William Weld on the need for political courage and held a discussion about moments in American history when there have been doubts about the peaceful transfer of presidential power. Events also included light-hearted debates about how Boston appears in films and the history of the Red Sox.

Embracing the Values of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Across the Institution

In FY2021, the MHS Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) team built upon its initial work developing a DEI vision for the Society. Across the institution, a wide array of projects—from developing community guidelines for in-person and online interactions to making collections more accessible—are now underway.

A subset of the DEI Team is thinking about the unspoken messages our physical spaces and artwork project. Following an initial evaluation and meetings with focus groups, we began to transform the Orientation Room into a visitor-focused space where people can gather and learn about the MHS. We are creating new graphics that utilize a wide variety of images from our collection. As the MHS continues to reopen to the public, we look forward to receiving feedback from community members and neighbors.

In October 2020, we formed a style guide/language use team. The team is working with all departments to review how language is used in collection descriptions, programming, resources, collateral material, etc. Revisions are made as needed to help address how we are telling stories to ensure the accessibility of our resources.

In FY2021, we improved access to collections related to marginalized communities, including African Americans, those who are economically disadvantaged, and Native Americans. More than 19,200 new digital images of manuscripts and photographs are available on our website. An updated guide to African American sources is also now online, a new guide to sources on Native Americans has been written and is currently being encoded for online presentation, and the guides to sources on the history of sexuality, disability history, and the economically disenfranchised are well underway. Several new acquisitions add to the diversity of our collections including an account book kept by Boston merchant Samuel Wallis, WWII letters of brothers David and Simon Levonsky of Everett, and the papers and photographs of Leslie (Sears Tolman) Shah.

From February to June 2021, we hosted *Confronting Racial Injustice* in collaboration with the Northeastern University School of Law Criminal Justice Task Force and more than 30 co-sponsoring organizations. The five-part series of programs explored how enslavement and white supremacy shaped the history of Massachusetts and how they continue to shape its present. Through programming like this, we can delve into different subjects, connect to new populations, explore new methods of telling historical stories, tell more inclusive histories, and attract diverse audiences.

Because the Society's commitment to ensuring the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion are a cornerstone of our daily activities, the DEI team organizes quarterly workshops for staff development. In FY2021, we began to explore workplace culture and norms and to develop deeply focused action statements for structural DEI change. This is an ongoing process and there are no easy fixes or quick solutions, but the team and the larger Society are dedicated to this transformative work.

Enhancing the Understanding of Our Nation's Past and Its Connection to the Present

As the world opens up so will the MHS. As we do, we will continue to think ahead to our future and our vision: "A world where historical understanding is the cornerstone of a healthy democracy."

MHS Spotlight

The Show Must Go On

Each MHS department and every staff person has their own saga of adaptation and evolution through the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Regardless of the circumstances, the MHS went “on with the show” as they say in show business. Though every project we produced and each function performed had to change in some way, two special events underwent drastic transformation.

Making History Gala Moved Online

Transformation, invention, and resilience were the dynamics in play as we held our first virtual gala. Through the dedication of our staff and generous support of our sponsors, the evening was a smashing success raising more than \$300,000 to support the MHS and its Center for the Teaching of History.

With our media partner GBH, we produced a polished event on November 17, 2020, featuring a riveting conversation between Pulitzer Prize-winning presidential historian Jon Meacham and host of GBH’s *Beat the Press* Emily Rooney.



From the comfort of their homes, guests sat back to listen to the program while enjoying a selection of locally sourced wine, charcuterie, and chocolates delivered by Formaggio Kitchen of Cambridge.

As part of the evening, MHS Trustee Anne McNay conferred the John Codman Ropes Award upon Gov. Charlie Baker in recognition of his exemplary

leadership in guiding the Commonwealth through the COVID-19 pandemic. MHS Advisor Dr. Kari-lynn Crockett presented the same award to Mayor Martin J. Walsh for his leadership of the City of Boston through the pandemic.

The Inaugural Conrad E. Wright Research Conference Went Virtual

The first Conrad E. Wright Research Conference also became the first virtual MHS conference. When the COVID-19 pandemic struck in March 2020, we had no idea that it would impact the conference in October. Yet, as the coronavirus tightened its grip on the world, we made the difficult decision to host the conference panels entirely online.

The conference explored the latest scholarship on the 15th and 19th Amendments, marking the sesquicentennial and centennial of both key additions to the United States Constitution. As 2020 was a pivotal election year, we felt the urgency of the topic in the moment.

Rather than the planned two-day, in-person gathering, we hosted one panel per day online over the course of one week in October 2020. The keynote panel featuring Alison M. Parker, University of Delaware; Lisa Tetrault, Carnegie Mellon University; and moderator Alex Keyssar, Harvard University, was postponed for a future date.

The online format enabled a large and diverse group of individuals—506 in total—from around the world to attend the panels. Topics included the biography of suffrage campaigners, the issue of marriage and equality, suffrage across American overseas territories, and restrictions on suffrage counter to the constitutional amendments. Despite the pandemic and distance, technology allowed us to maintain and to forge new connections.

New Acquisitions

The MHS acquired 100 linear feet of manuscript material in FY2021 through 127 gifts and 4 deposits including:

- Gifts**
- Quincy S. Abbot: *Abbot family papers and photographs*
American Folk Art Museum
Judy Anderson
William H. Armstrong
Dena E. Barisano
Thomas A. Barnico: *Additions to the Byron Rushing papers related to the Massachusetts Burma Law of 1996*
Ross W. Beales, Jr.: *Clark family papers*
Anonymous gift in honor of John L. Bell
Nicole Belolan
William Silas Bennett: *Curtis and Tomlinson family papers*
Leonard Bernstein: *Chart of Boston Harbor from the Best Authorities (Boston: N.S. Dearborn, 1856)*
Terence Bowman
Joseph Lee Boyle
Camille Q. Bradford
Sarah Brockmann: *Additions to the Marcy family papers, including Civil War letters of Hosea Marcy*
Kimberly Browne: *Trammer and Ricker family photo album*
Adam Burns
Rob Caldwell
Leon Christoforo
Stevie Clanton
Theodora Clark: *Clark family papers*
Gary Clayton: *Gary Clayton papers*
Liz Coffey
Frances M. Cross: *Publicity photographs of Leverett Saltonstall*
Darwin R. Barker Museum
Christina Davignon
Frederick Dempsey
Christine Donoghue
David Doss
Linda Dowling
Peter Drummey
W. Dean Eastman: *Ship's manifest*
Thomas Ehrlich: *Letter from Charles E. Wyzanski, Jr. to Thomas Ehrlich*
- A. Lovell Elliott: *Letter from the selectmen of Machias, Mass. (now Maine) to the treasurer of Massachusetts*
Marion S. Ellis
Fenway Garden Society (deposit): *Additions to the Fenway Garden Society records*
Dennis Fiori
First Church of Boston (deposit): *Additions to the First Church records*
Diann Folkersen
Pamela W. Fox
Heather Vogel Frederick: *Photograph of the Boston Teachers' Quarters Office, 1910*
Friday Evening Club: *Additions to the Friday Evening Club records*
Marge Garfield
Descendants of George and Fred Garrison (formerly on deposit): *Garrison family papers*
Gerard Gawalt
David Gowler, in memory of Esther Peterson O'Brien: *Papers and photographs of Leslie (Sears Tolman) Shah*
Kenyon Gradert
Mary Jo Griffin: *Photo albums related to the Griffin, Gaul, and Taylor families*
Whitney T. K. Hardy
Sarah Hartwell
Leonard A. Haug
Nancy Heywood
Estate of Pamela Sargent Hicks, through Marianne Zanone: *World War I letters of Raymond Parsons*
Arthur C. Hodges: *Addition to his diary, 2020*
Cathy Holt: *Civil War letter of Joseph L. Burton*
Nora O. Howard
Estate of Llewellyn Howland III through Jessie W. Howland: *Papers related to A Book for Boston (1980)*
Dale Janssen
Brian Johannesen: *Literary commonplace-book kept by John Edwards Russell of Greenfield*
- Leslie Blake Jordan: *Memoranda books kept by Francis Blake and theater playbills*
Judy Thibault Klevins: *Additions to the Gov. Endicott Peabody papers*
Julia Rose Kraut
Margot Lacey: *Court docket possibly kept by John Cushing*
Paul C. LaCroix
Lend a Hand Society, through Nancy Stowe Inui: *Additions to the Lend a Hand Society records*
Sarah Leonard: *Photographs of Nashawena Mills, New Bedford*
Loftis Family
Nancy Lovingood: *Guestbook for Camp Catamount in Colrain*
Estate of John Lowell, through Molly Lowell: *John Lowell's autobiographical memoir of his service on the USS Livermore during World War II*
W. Russell MacAusland: *Three William H. Prescott letters*
Sally L. Maish
Manchester (N.H.) City Library
Massachusetts Audubon Society (deposit): *Additions to the Massachusetts Audubon Society records*
Massachusetts Peace Action (through Eva Moseley): *Additions to the Massachusetts Peace Action records*
Margo McCandless
William A. McCue and Marian L. McCue: *Volume listing the gifts received by Marian Lawrence upon her marriage to Harold Peabody*
Stephen Melanson
Milford (Conn.) Historical Society
Eleanor Mire: *Diaries kept by Eleanor Shumway and Madelene Cowdrey*
Gretchen Murphy
Kay Murray
Phyllis J. Naples: *Letters written to Arthur Francis Joy of Watertown and South Wellfleet*
Oliver Anderson Nash

- Pamela Neill
New Athens Historical Society (New Athens, Ill.)
Jean C. O'Connor
Nicole Offerman
Catherine O'Hara
Nancy Orlando: *Addition to the Charles Russell family papers*
Renée Peace
James H. Perkins, Jr.: *My Diary North and South by William Howard Russell (1863), annotated by Charles Francis Adams, Jr.*
Nathaniel Philbrick
Carl A. Pierce: *Civil War diary of Daniel Benham of West Cambridge*
Fred Pond
Geoffrey Potter
Proprietors of Louisburg Square, through Elizabeth Johnson: *Additions to the Proprietors of Louisburg Square records*
Putnam (Conn.) Public Library
William W. Raser
Deborah C. Reeves: *Josselyn, House, and Turner family papers*
Margaret P. Richardson: *Richardson-Cabot-Edsall family papers*
Shelley Pulford Ries and Kevin Marshall Ries: *Pages from the letterbook of Nathaniel Saltonstall*
Diane Riley
Todd A. Rivers
Bianca Rizzoli
St. Botolph Club (deposit): *Additions to the St. Botolph Club records*
Stephen Lee Saltonstall: *Stephen Lee Saltonstall papers*
Richard Santerre
Nannette Sawyer: *Smith-Noble-Miller-Ball legal documents*
Alvin Schaut
Dianne Schmitgal
Roberta Senechal de la Roche: *Additions to the Frank Irving Howe, Jr. collection*
Nancy Senter
Roger Sessions
Jessica J. Sheets
David Snyder
Dianne Solomon: *"The Irish Belly Dancer," 45 RPM recording performed by Boston City Councilman Albert L. "Dapper" O'Neil*
- South County History Center (Kingston, R.I.): *Howard Athenaeum. Nixon & Co.'s Circus... Cinderella! [Boston: 1858], theater broadside*
Theodore E. Stebbins, Jr.: *Stebbins-Ellis family papers and photographs*
Stebbins family of Lansing, Mich.
Margaret G. Stockwell: *Civil War muster out roll of the 37th Mass. Infantry Regiment, Company A*
James M. Storey: *Storey family papers*
Sally Svenson
Jane Abbott Sweatt
Jim Van Tatenhove
Stephen Taylor: *Six 19th-century photographs of Boston scenes*
Thetford Historical Society (Thetford, Vt.): *Menu for the Suffolk Coffee Rooms and "Boston Common," an unattributed manuscript poem*
Gertrude B. Toll: *Besse-King family papers and photographs*
Bob Tomolillo
Gavin Villarreal
Patricia Wasiuk: *Undated medical recipe book kept by Dr. Charles Lyman Hubbell of Adams and Williamstown*
Katharine A. Wells, through Suzanne J. Higgins: *Interleaved almanac kept by Joseph May*
David H. Wells
Sally and Dean Whitlock
D. Patrick Winburn
Charles Wyzanski and Anita Wyzanski Robboy: *Additions to the Judge Charles E. Wyzanski, Jr. papers*
Mary Yacovone
- Art and Artifacts**
Manya C. Boutenoff: *Charcoal sketch of Susan Cushing Amory by Olga Bariatinsky, 1926*
Charles and Belinda Bralver: *"Woman with Dog," portrait of Mrs. Louis Niles Roberts (nee Gina Panecaldo) by Lilla Cabot Perry*
Sandra Carnes: *Three artifacts related to Ralph Farnham, including his cane*
Cattaneo Della Volta family, through Vittorio Martina Di Cornegliano: *Miniature portrait of Amos Binney*
James Ferden: *MBTA token*
- Robert F. Hendrickson: *Artifacts used by the Boston police, ca. 1830s*
Todd A. Rivers: *Razor blade and box for the patented "New Gillette Blade," 1931*
Thomas A. Underwood: *Conté crayon portraits by Alonzo Hartwell of Cyrus and Elizabeth Wheeler and an unidentified gentleman*
- Purchases**
Seventy-six captioned glass lantern slides depicting the process of shipping mahogany from Ghana to Boston
160,000 DOLLARS!! OR DECEPTION EXPOSED, [Boston?: 1812?], campaign broadside for Caleb Strong and William Phillips
Account book kept by a wagon painter from the Quincy/Weymouth area
Isaac Adams, *Address of Isaac Adams to the Democratic County and Ward Committee of Ward Twelve, Upon the Occasion of His Resignation...* [Boston?: 1859]
Letter from Louisa Catherine Adams to [Ward] Nicholas Boylston
Address of the Liberty State Committee. To the Voting Friends of Freedom and Emancipation in Massachusetts... [Boston: 1846]
Anonymous letter likely written by an unidentified Southern woman in Worcester
Timothy Shay Arthur, *Advice to Young Men on Their Duties and Conduct in Life* (Boston: Elias Howe, 1847) and *Family Pride or the Palace and the Poor House and Pride or Principle, or Which Makes the Lady?* (Boston: L.P. Crown & Co., 1855)
"Christmas Rhymes for A. B.," manuscript volume owned by Amy Batchelder
Account book and journal kept by Samuel Batchelder
Two mourning broadsides issued by C. D. Bradlee following the fatal shooting of James A. Garfield
Medical account book kept by Artemus Z. Brown in Hubbardston
Account book of a grist mill in West Stockbridge kept by Elijah Brown, Jr.
Journals and police log kept by James Bruce of Everett
Bunker Hill Centennial Ribbon. Ridge Hill Farms, Wellesley, Mass., 1875
Burdick's Gazette — Extra. Boston, (Sunday Morning,) October 16, 1814, broadside

- E. C., *Practical Illustration of the Fugitive Slave Law* [Boston?: 1850], lithograph.
- Household accounts kept by Mass. Gov. John H. Clifford of New Bedford, and accounts kept by Warren Delano of Fairhaven
- Diaries kept by Clara E. Currier of Haverhill
- Daniel Dana, *Hints of Reading: An Address Delivered at the Ipswich Female Seminary, January 15, 1834* (Newburyport: 1834)
- Photographs of abolitionists and suffragists, compiled by Caroline May Davis
- Warren Baker Eames letters
- Account book of a clothing and dry goods store in Reading kept by Franklin Fletcher
- Carte de visite photograph of Jeremiah Gunderway, an African American river pilot from Scituate
- Edward Everett Hale, *Low Spirits. A Sermon Preached at the South Congregational Church*. [Boston: Commonwealth Publishing Company, ca. 1890s]
- The Night of Freedom: An Appeal, in Verse, Against the Great Crime of our Country, Human Bondage!*, by William Wallace Hebbard (Boston: Sam'l Chism, 1857)
- Two letters from Josiah Hinckle
- George Frisbie Hoar, *Women's Cooperation Essential to Pure Politics* [Boston: American Woman Suffrage Association, 1885]
- Record books kept by Hose Company No. 4 of South Weymouth
- Letter from Horace C. Hovey to Edward Franklin Williams
- Account book kept by wagon maker Isaac Howard of Bridgewater
- "A Day's Sail in a Whale Ship," by Matthew Morris Howland
- Benjamin Johnson, publisher, *The Grocer's Companion and Merchant's Hand-book* (Boston: New England Grocer Office, [1883])
- World War II letters written by David and Simon Levonsky of Everett
- Letter from L. J. M. to her cousin L. W. Bartlett in Dedham
- Massachusetts Whig State Central Committee, *Address of the Whig State Central Committee to the Whigs of Massachusetts* (Boston: Eastburn's Press, [1841]), broadside
- Letter from Samuel J. May to William Lloyd Garrison
- Account book kept by J. F. McCarthy of Lexington for his hack, boarding, and livery stable
- Manuscript notebook kept by Michael Metcalf on sermons he heard in Dedham
- Metropolitan Transit Recess Commission... Boston Elevated Railway and Proposed Extensions of Rapid Transit into Suburban Boston* (Boston: Metropolitan Transit Commission, 1945), map
- Account book kept by sawmill operators Justin Morgan and T. J. Morgan of Brimfield
- T. J. Morgan, *Roman Catholics and Indian Education. An Address Delivered by Hon. T. J. Morgan, Ex-Commissioner of Indian Affairs...*(Boston: American Citizen Co., 1893)
- Letter from Charles A. Morse to Charles B. Washburn
- The New South*. Vol. 1, No. 39, June 6, 1863 (Port Royal, S.C.: Jos. H. Sears), Union newspaper announcing the arrival of the Massachusetts 54th Infantry Regiment
- Harvey Newcomb, *Newcomb's Manual for Maternal Associations. Written for the Massachusetts Sabbath School Society...* (Boston: Massachusetts Sabbath School Society, 1840)
- Order of Exercises at the Washingtonian Celebration of the Fourth of July, In Ipswich* (Boston: S.N. Dickinson, [1840s]), broadside
- Photo album compiled by Anne Penrose of her African American family in military housing near Fort Devens during World War II
- Amos A. Phelps, *Lectures on Slavery and Its Remedy* (Boston: New England Anti-Slavery Society, 1834)
- Daybook kept by Samuel Prescott, a brewer and owner of a general store on Grove Hall Ave. in Roxbury
- Record of Meetings. Semper Paratus Club, Newton, Mass. Season of 1880-81*. [Boston: Franklin Press, 1881]
- Revere Woman's Club programs
- Letter from E. Sanford to his brother M. H. Sanford of Medway
- Diary kept by Katharine Shepard of Newburyport
- Miss Caroline Smith, *Arm for the Right: or, The Invalid's Last Appeal* [Haverhill: ca. 1869-1876], broadside poem
- John H. Thorndike letterbook
- To the Electors of Boston...*[Boston: 1824], campaign broadside for John Quincy Adams
- To the Friends of Temperance in Massachusetts* [Boston?: 1863], broadside listing the names of individuals who met at a convention in Tremont Temple
- Account book kept by Boston merchant Samuel Wallis
- Correspondence of Charles W. Wild written from Victoria, Hong Kong, China, while working for commission merchants Drinker & Heyl and other family letters
- Business account book kept by supply and hardware merchants Wilder & Kimball of Hingham
- Minutes of the Winchester Auxiliary of the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
- Minute book of the Young People's Association of Newton

COVID-19 REFLECTIONS:

Nancy White Ahmadifar: "Apocalypse Now: The Pandemic Journal"

Erwin Curry: "COVID-19—The Long Haul," poem

Tracy Das: "My 2020 Experience: A Year of Quarantine, Masks, and Social Distancing," photo journal

Alan Foulds: "Town Meeting 2020-style," how Reading held its meetings during COVID-19

Arthur R. Frederick, Jr. and Suzanne M. Frederick: Images of the COVID-19 pandemic

Christine McKinnon: Images of the COVID-19 pandemic in Boston

Read more about collecting first-person accounts on page 9.

Why the MHS?

First-person Accounts

Witness to History: COVID-19 Experiences

The ongoing pandemic did not stall our collecting initiatives. Along with the purchases, deposits, and gifts listed on the previous pages, we collected first-hand accounts of the impact of the coronavirus.

Deeply aware that we are living in unprecedented times and always conscious of our mission to collect and communicate materials and resources that foster historical knowledge, we know the importance of collecting accounts of COVID-19. We launched *Witness to History: What Are Your COVID-19 Experiences* (www.masshist.org/projects/covid) for people near and far to contribute their experiences.

The website enables visitors to submit their descriptions, read what others have written, and explore diaries from earlier pandemics in our collection. Questions on the page help prompt visitors. Answering “how do you cope with COVID-19,” a letter from a local prison reads: “I cope with the knowledge of knowing, that no matter if it is the Scientists, Doctors, Nurses, Medical Staff, Health Care workers, First Responders, Food Banks, Restaurants and Store workers, or the common people who are complying with the guidelines of social distance, everyone is playing their part so we will defeat Covid-19. Why am I so sure of this...because WE ARE THE PEOPLE!”

On March 16, 2021, “Lucky Retiree” wrote about getting the vaccine and the challenges encountered in setting up an appointment: “Having just turned 65 in the last few days I’ve begun the vaccine scheduling equivalent of Hungry Hippos snagging the golden ball, but without any success.”

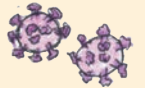
We have received drawings, journals, photographs, and other remembrances in both digital and hard copy from a diverse and wide-spread population. A poem written by Beverly A. Favreau is interspersed

with drawings. *Heroes Surround Us (And You Can Be One, Too)* begins:

Once upon a time, not so long ago
In a place faraway came Covid. Oh no!
This “Corona” it proved, was a very
strong virus
Bringing illness to some, then to many around us.



And before we knew it, it had
spread to ‘Ourtown’
Shutting down businesses,
turning lives upside down.



Suddenly, rapidly, started the changes.
A different life began for those of all ages.

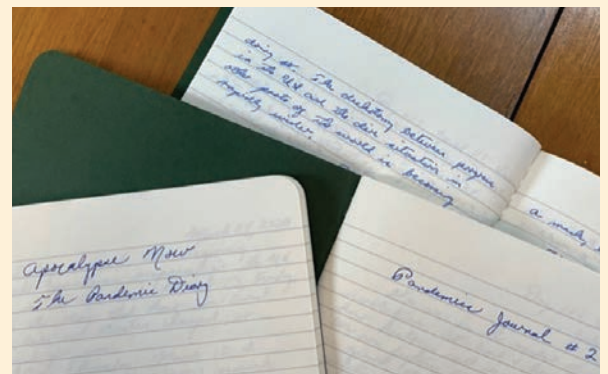


The poem ends:

And to everyone everywhere, what this world needs
Is patience and kindness and thank you and please.
Start each day with a smile
and just do your best.
We’ll get through this together
and realize we’re blessed.



The accounts are part of the MHS collection and, more importantly, a piece of the historical record that future historians will need to tell the story of these turbulent days. If you have not yet done so, we encourage you to visit the site, contribute, and invite your friends and family to participate.



“Apocalypse Now: The Pandemic Journal,” Nancy White Ahmadifar

Financial Statements

Statement of Activities (in thousands)

	2021	2020
2020		
Unrestricted revenues and support		
Gifts and grants	\$ 967	\$ 1,141
Fellows and Members dues	77	101
Royalties and rights	32	63
Seminars, conferences, workshops, and other events	181	185
Other revenues	139	138
Release of restricted gifts	643	431
Paycheck protection program loan forgiveness	768	—
Endowment	<u>3,717</u>	<u>3,474</u>
	6,522	5,533
Operating Expenses	<u>6,795</u>	<u>6,419</u>
Increase (decrease) in net assets from operations	(272)	(886)
Non-operating activity		
Endowment gifts, grants, and bequests	1,187	1,211
Purchase of collections	(45)	(83)
Proceeds from sale of collections	127	—
Investment return, net gain	51,144	4,763
Endowment support	<u>(3,717)</u>	<u>(3,474)</u>
Increase (decrease) in net assets	<u>\$ 48,422</u>	<u>\$ 1,531</u>

Statement of Financial Position (in thousands)

	2021	2020
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,493	\$ 4,553
Endowment investments at market value	137,542	89,532
Property, equipment, and other assets	10,093	10,341
Other assets	<u>1,067</u>	<u>1,060</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 153,195</u>	<u>\$ 105,486</u>
Liabilities	\$ 1,441	\$ 2,102
Long-term debt	932	985
Net assets		
Unrestricted	55,396	39,640
Temporarily restricted	77,869	45,462
Permanently restricted	<u>17,557</u>	<u>17,297</u>
Total net assets	<u>150,822</u>	<u>102,399</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 153,195</u>	<u>\$ 105,486</u>

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Anne E. Bentley—curator, conservator, author, and numismatist—has served a distinguished career at the Massachusetts Historical Society since 1973. She is a master in her field.

In recognition of the profound creativity and expertise that Anne has bestowed on the Society through the years, and the dedication with which she has promoted its mission, a central gallery in the Society’s building on Boylston Street has been named in her honor. It will feature dynamic installations of Ms. Bentley’s curation from the extensive MHS collection.

The gift was made possible in 2021 by the generosity of Life Trustee Levin H. Campbell and MHS Fellow Eleanor L. Campbell.

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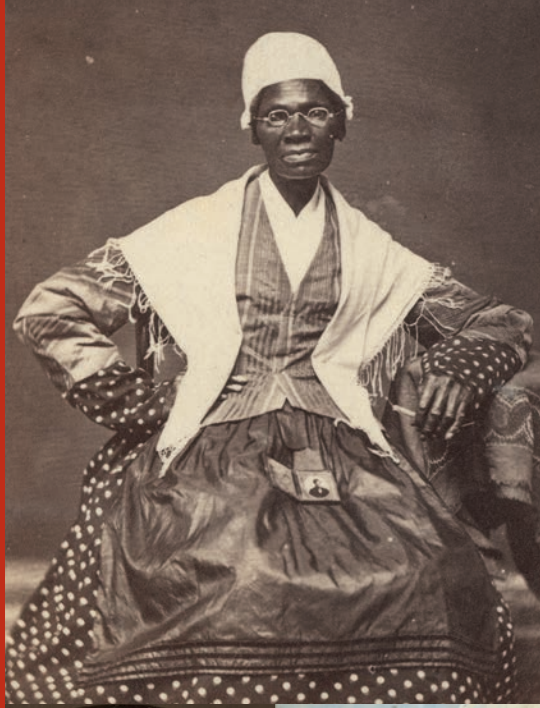
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3rd We were nam'd his honor's anto subscribers being desir'd by
good man nurr's to declar what we knew concerning his
vicious conversation for time past: we can testify to all
whom it may concern that we have known his for many
years and according to our observation his life and conversation
was according to his profession and we never had any cause
or grounds to suspect his of any such thing as he is now
charg'd of

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Sam^l Andrew
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