



Phillips Academy

Archives and

Special

Collections



Lesson Catalog

www.andover.edu/archives

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Teaching with Primary Sources

Archives and Special Collections staff offer a range of services for instructors interested in teaching with and about the books, manuscripts and other material in our collections. Building class discussions or assignments around archival documents or rare books can provide an engaging, multi-sensory experience for your students, one that often leads to unexpected insights.

A class may visit in order to examine special collections holdings specific to a course topic, but we also invite faculty to use Archives and Special Collections holdings to explore concepts such as the nature of evidence and the interpretation of historical materials. We are also available to give your class hands-on instruction in finding and working with primary source materials and to assist individual students who choose to pursue research projects or assignments using Archives and Special Collections materials.

If you have any questions or just want to discuss how to incorporate the collections in your course, feel free to stop in or send an email to Paige Roberts at proberts@andover.edu

— Paige Roberts
Director of Archives & Special Collections
archives@andover.edu

Discovery & Resistance



Photograph taken at Phillips Academy, where Pierre S. du Pont's brother, Henry Belin du Pont, was a student from 1888 to 1890.
Photograph of the home at 20 Bartlet Street, built for Harriet Beecher Stowe and Rev. Calvin Stowe in 1853.

1. The Anti-Slavery Movement in Andover

Harriet Beecher Stowe lived on campus and wrote *Uncle Tom's Cabin* while her husband taught at Andover Theological Seminary, and her children attended Abbot Academy and Phillips Academy during the 1850s. Her home was a center of abolitionist activity, and she hosted many famous anti-slavery activists including Frederick Douglass. This lesson explores Stowe sites on campus and her complicated role as a white abolitionist.

2. Cato Freeman's Vindication: Enslavement and Prejudice Within PA's History Anti-Slavery Movement in Andover

During the past fifteen years, U.S. colleges and universities, have begun paying greater attention to the historical role of slavery at their institutions. Like many higher education institutions throughout the Americas, Phillips Academy's history is entangled with the lives of enslaved people. Students will have an opportunity to learn about the life of Cato Freeman, who was enslaved in the Phillips household and later obtained freedom before their passing. The lesson will show students how Cato lived, the Phillips views on enslavement, and the town of Andover's racial prejudice before slavery was abolished in Massachusetts.



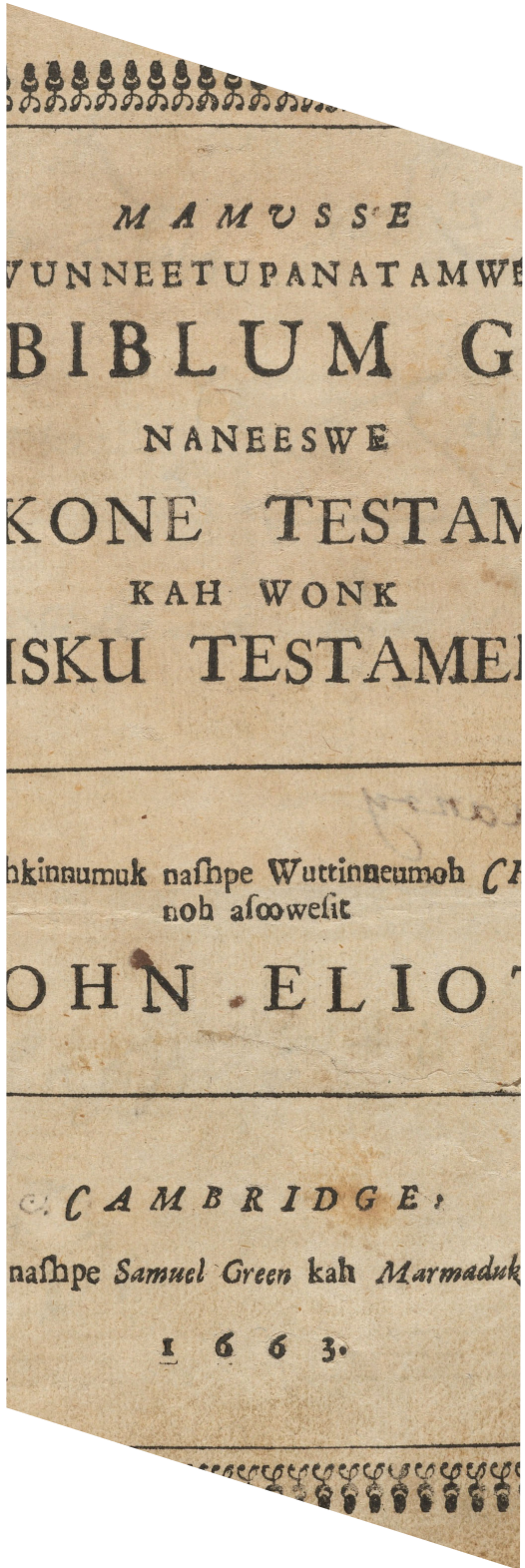
"Unlike many formerly enslaved people, Freeman's grave was not segregated. He was buried alongside white townspeople near the North Andover common" Andover History and Culture

3. Dismantling White Supremacy in the Archives

Archives historically have contributed to cataloging and assessing materials using racist terminology and practices. In this lesson, students will learn how white supremacy informed the creation of archives and how modern-day archivists seeks to dismantle oppressive forms of documentation for more equitable and accessible archives. Racist material culture from the American Humor collection and PA alumnus Fred Gordon's Civil Rights activism offer key glimpses into the struggle to record and disrupt racism within and outside institutional archives.



Phillips Academy students in Martin Luther King Jr. rally for equal education rights in Boston, 1964
Ric Redman, Class of 1966, Howie Stanback, class of 1965, Mike Krinsky, class of 1966



4. Syncretism and Resistance: The Eliot Bible's Use Then and Now

"The Eliot Indian Bible" is the first printed Bible in North America and is significant because it is a translation into the Algonquian language of the Wampanoag people (of Massachusetts). This lesson will cover how the syncretism--one culture's religion expressed in another culture's language--was a means to convert the native population to Christianity. Students will learn not only how the Bible was used for forcible assimilation but also how this Bible is now reviving the Algonquian language and serves as a great resource for pronunciation, grammar, and vocabulary.



Intersection of National and School History

1. 1918 Influenza Pandemic in the Merrimack Valley

Many are unaware that most of the deaths in the 1918-1919 influenza were of young people (aged 18-25) and forced the Merrimack Valley to address the global pandemic in ways reminiscent of the 2020 Covid outbreak. In this lesson, students will review documents from nearby communities grappling with the sanitation challenges the flu presented as well as review Andover documentation on how students processed grief and loss during these uncertain years.



The Emery Hill Base Hospital in Lawrence, Mass., circa 1919.



The undated silhouette above is the only known portrait of Lowell. From the collection of the Charles River Museum of Industry and Innovation

2. Class and Meritocracy: Boston Associates and Alum

Project that recruits students to track early alumni, including Francis Cabot Lowell, who were key figures in launching the Industrial Revolution in the United States and transcribing Phillips Academy's early financial records that may pertain to these alumni.

3. Cold War Tensions: Russian American Conference 1962

During the Cold War, the crucial (Dartmouth Conference) meeting held on campus in October 1962 helped end the Cuban Missile Crisis. The little-known conference had major significance in de-escalating the Cuban Missile Crisis and reoriented diplomatic missions. The collection's plethora of documents introduce students to PA's role in navigating East-West tensions by not only hosting the conference but also with the creation of the Phillips Academy student exchange program with Novosibirsk, Soviet Union during the 1980s.



Dartmouth Conference meeting, George Washington Hall, Phillips Academy, October 1962

4. Enlisting in the Civil War: Student War Letters

The Student Civil War Letters suggests Andover boys' motivations for enlisting in the military and the choices they made once at war. Classes can review and discuss these written exchanges and detailed notes to contextualize how a specific class of Andover boys found themselves often on opposing sides unprepared for the battles that awaited them. The documents complement larger conversations on localized middle-class reactions to the Civil War in the North.



Eugene Houghton. January 22, 1862 page 1.



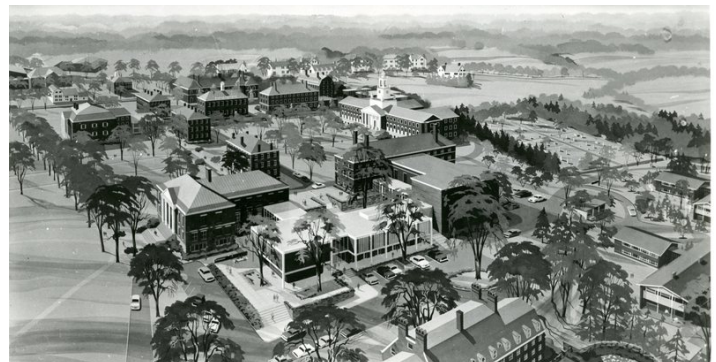
The Holmes stereoscope, with the inventions and improvements added by Joseph L. Bates

5. Inventions for the Masses: Oliver Wendell Holmes Stereo Viewer

The early 19th-century Industrial Revolution transformed how everyday peoples navigated their surroundings and understood the beginnings of modern science. It is not well known that Oliver Wendell Holmes invented the first stereoscope viewer that could be produced at a low price for quick enjoyment. Together, students will view the original stereoscope's inner workings for its craftsmanship and ability to create illuminated optical imagery for closer observation and enjoyment. The lesson highlights the often difficult process to acquire manufacturers and interest for inventions and how one small creation impacted the realm of photography for study and pleasure.

6. Fascism and Boarding Schools, 1930s

Focusing on the International School Boy Fellowship (1930s New England prep schools' student exchange program with Germany), students will investigate Phillips Academy's Headmaster Claude Fuess' interest in the rising global popularity of fascism to indoctrinate male youth with adventure and travel programming.



Aerial View of the Campus



The book *Phillips Academy, Andover in the Great War*, written by headmaster Claude Fuess, honors alumni who died during World War I; at least 16 died of influenza. Pictured here, WWI bayonet drills on campus.

7. World War I Academy Experience

At the height of United States participation in World War I (1917-1918), there was an ROTC training camp on campus, and many PA alumni and many relatives of Abbot Academy alumnae served in the military. In fact, PA alumni served in a dedicated ambulance unit in France. The Memorial Bell Tower was erected on campus soon after the armistice to honor alumni whose lives were lost in the conflict. By examining first-hand accounts, images, documents, and maps, students will learn the myriad ways teenagers assisted the war effort that would unknowingly change their generation's understanding of patriotism, community, and diplomacy. A closer look will highlight the gendered participation in the war effort on both campuses to reveal a more complicated exploration of how the international event reshaped expectations for girlhood and boyhood.

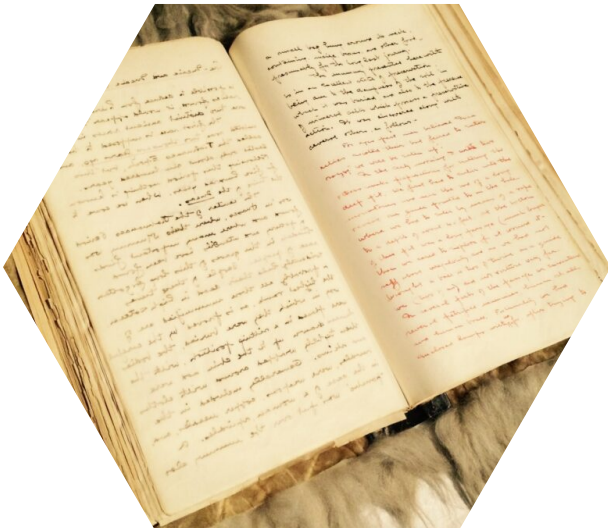
1. Critiques Against Industrialism: Whitman and Dickens in the Rare Books Collection

The Rare Books Collection presents instructors with a unique chance to discuss critiques against industrialization and their subsequent success at convincing generations of the ills of rampant, unrestrained economic growth with the various editions of Whitman's *Leaves of Grass* and Dickens's complete works. Students can learn about the subtle book printing changes (concordances), publication year's advertising, and the books' longstanding appeal.



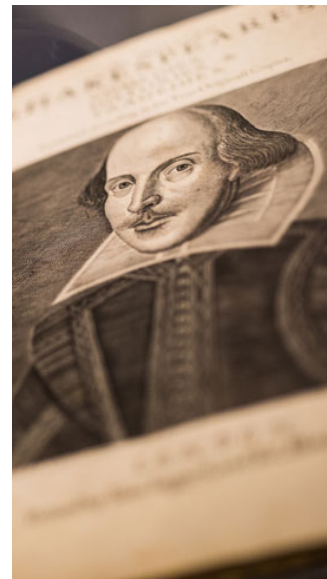
2. History of the Book

Since the invention of the printing press in the 15th century, books and print culture have been central to the shaping of culture and society. Book History explores the book as an object and a revolutionary technology for transmitting knowledge as well as reinforcing power for centuries. The history of the book provides a way to understand the origins of books, their purpose, and uses in shaping and interconnecting the world. Questions for students to consider when looking at books: Date, author, place of publication; content of the book: what is it about?; Is it manuscript or printed? By examining the book as a technology, students can explore how profoundly information and media have shaped history.



3. Shakespeare's Folios

Students will examine a facsimile of William Shakespeare's first folio as well as the second folio, and fourth folio housed in Special Collections to engage in conversations on Shakespeare's popularity and the dissemination of his work across the globe. By examining the folios, students can ask essential questions about Shakespeare's legacy, the nature of his most prized plays, and the marketing of his work throughout the centuries. Students can then brainstorm their own folio design and what works would work better together as a collection for modern-day readers.



Navigating Campus

1. A Snapshot Through Time: Campus Leisure Photography

The introduction of accessible photography introduced teenagers to rife opportunities to capture moments of leisure, sport, and study on campus. Hundreds of photographs provide a living testament to the daily activities students participated in during key eras in history. Instructors can select which era of photographs interest them from the late nineteenth to mid-twentieth century to examine with a class. Images often reveal the trends of the decade, the roles students embraced, and the natural surroundings that once shaped the campus. This lesson is adaptable and available for any instructor's specific needs.



Winter Picnic in the Grove of Abbot Academy



Secret Garden (Abbot Academy)

2. Biology of the Sanctuary

The Sanctuary not only serves students as a space for respite and rejuvenation but also the plethora of insect and animal life that call the grounds their home. Students will visit the Archives to learn more about the Sanctuary's origins (before PA ownership and Indigenous use of prior to establishment of the town), how generations of alumni and faculty have treasured the space, and the changes to the land that directly impact the wildlife in this lesson on the Biology of the Sanctuary.

3. Sense of Place: A Cultural Walking History of the Campus

Students have a unique opportunity to learn about the history of the campus as a class and add to the mobile app that is a walking tour of campus history. The App enables students to add class-specific research to expand the learning content including geo-encoded maps, biology, indigenous history etc.



Phillips Academy, Andover, Mass. : plan for development of lands lying between Bartlett, Morton and Highland Sts. 1912

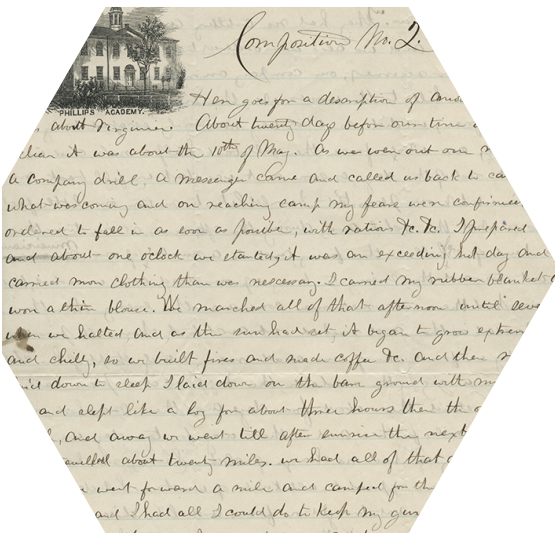
Student Voices

1. Chinese Students at Andover, 1878-1930

Despite the Chinese Exclusion Act (1882-1940s) in the United States, more than one hundred Chinese students came to Andover to study as part of the Chinese Educational Mission (1878-1882), Boxer Indemnity Scholarship Fund (1908-1930), and student exchange program with the Harbin Institute of Technology (1980-1990s). Principal Alfred Stearns was legal guardian for many of these students during the 1910s and 1920s, and the Archives holds his enormous correspondence with the students and their parents. Many of the Chinese students went on to illustrious careers in their home country. For instance, Chentung Liang Cheng, class of 1882, became Chinese Ambassador to the United States, 1903-1908, and worked with President Teddy Roosevelt to establish the Boxer Indemnity Scholarship Fund. New web site with scans (and transcriptions) of the correspondence: <http://chinesestudents.andover.edu>



Chentung Liang Cheng, Phillips Academy Class of 1882
A scrapbook by and about Liang Cheng is held in the Phillips Academy Archives.



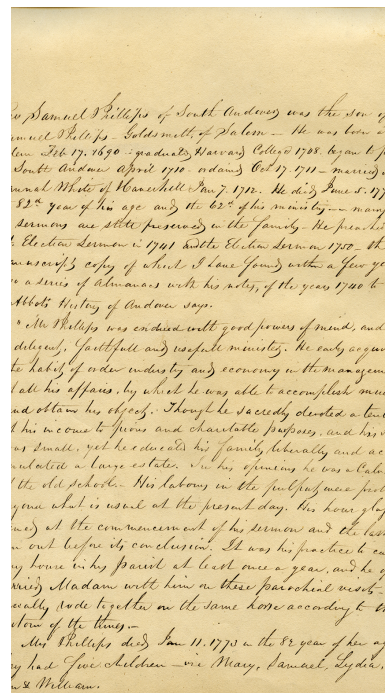
Arthur O. Waterman, class of 1864, composition about his service during the Civil War, 1864. Page 1.

2. Non Sibi Correspondence: Intimate Student Letters While at Boarding School

The lesson Non-Sibi Correspondence reveals to classes the intimate recollections and musings of previous Andover boarders. The letters offer a gateway into understanding the lives of teenagers during various eras and how similar yet different their time at Andover was in comparison. The activity will motivate students to discuss the intention of letter writing, the concerns of past generations, and what forms of writing would they leave behind for future Andover students.

3. Transcribing Phillips Family Papers

In this exercise, students will learn how to transcribe handwritten documents from the 18th century from the personal papers of the Phillips Family, which founded the Academy. Transcription makes this collection (and others with handwritten documents) more accessible to future researchers in the Archives. Students will leave with a deeper understanding of early American life and uncover whether the Phillips were religious, gossipy, worried about their finances, focused on family, concerned with their land and much more. The Phillips Family papers highlight the culture and lifestyle of elite New Englanders during the mid and late 18th century.

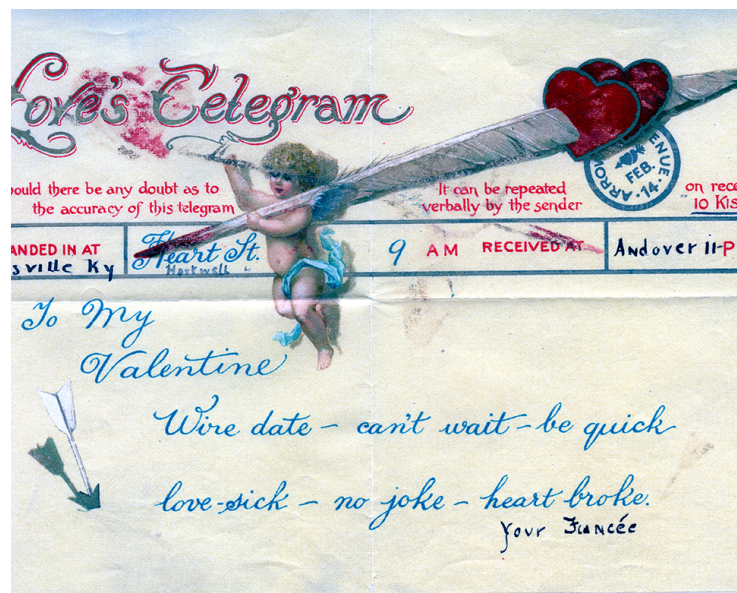


Recounting of the life of Samuel Phillips 3rd (Feb 17, 1690-Jan 11, 1773)



3. Identity Matters: Describing Scrapbooks

Before social media, scrapbooks were a popular way to document everyday life particularly between 1880 and 1920. The Archives at Phillips Academy holds many scrapbooks created by Abbot and PA students while they were on campus. In analyzing scrapbooks, students will learn about specific alumni to help weave together the different lived experiences that shaped both schools on Andover Hill. As a class, students will examine the contents, think about identity and personal expression, understand preservation issues, and consider how norms have changed on campus.



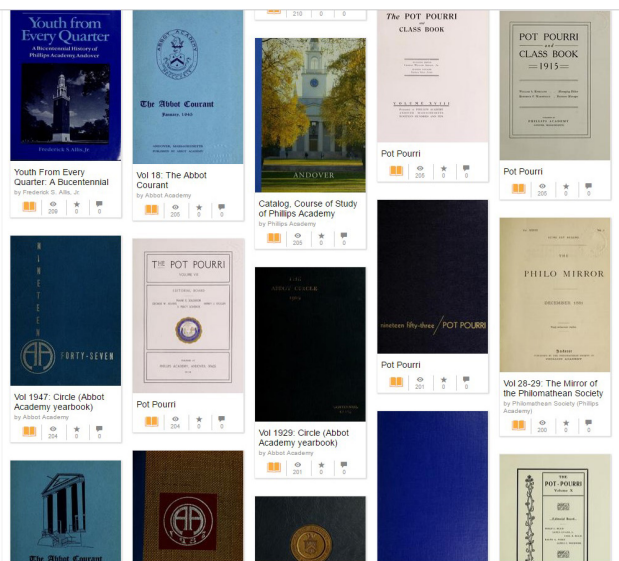
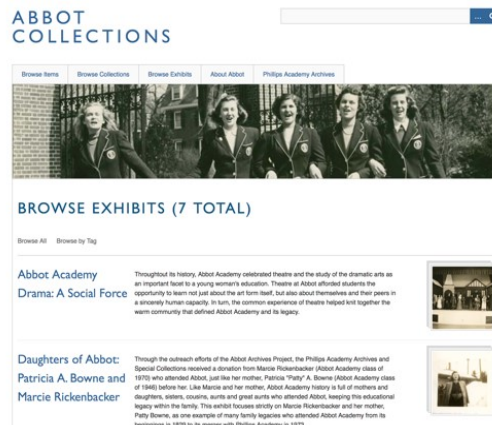
Valentine in Herman Heartwell scrapbook, 1906

Self-Curated Lessons & Projects

Abbot Academy Digital Collections

- highlights of the AA archival collection
- secondary source histories
- all photographs
- all publications: yearbooks, student handbooks, alumni magazines, course catalogs, student literary magazine, treasurer reports, commencement programs

<https://www.noblenet.org/paarchives/publications/abbot-academy-digital-collections/>



Phillips Academy Digital Collections

- maps and plans of campus
- all publications: yearbooks, student handbooks, alumni magazines, course catalogs, student literary magazine, treasurer reports, athletics managers' books, commencement programs, Summer Session catalogues

<https://www.noblenet.org/paarchives/publications/phillips-academy-digital-collections/>

Work Duty

Students have scanned original photographs, described archival collections, and completed other important projects in Archives & Special Collections. Students interested in work duty or separate volunteer work should contact Paige Roberts proberts@andover.edu

Independent Research Projects

Students are encouraged to use Archives & Special Collections and staff expertise in CAMD Scholar, Brace Fellow, and other independent research projects.



Carson Teitler, class of 2018, speaking at Abbot Archives Project celebration, April 2017



**Marcelle Doheny teaching History
100 class using rare books in
Special Collections**

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