

# Annual Report

July 2024-June 2025

Weymouth March 1775

Balk Cowen	Dr	
To 4 1/2 wide Alamode w/4		1.6.3.
6 1/2 Sate w/48		1.10.4
5 1/2 Sate w/48		0.1.0
1 1/2 Blue Gaur w/48		0.4.0
		3.1.7.
By Cash & Debt		1.4.10.
Vid. B.N. P. 69		
8		
Messrs. Bate & Co. By Dring. 45. Flour from Boston		2.0.0
To 117 1/2 Burch Boards		
13 1/2 Linnen 157		
Vid. B.N. P. 102		
8		
Stephen Southam		6w
By bring 2602 from Boston w/ Carriage		1.0.6
To Cash 377		130.0.11
		131.0.6
8		
Simon Tuft & Co. By binding as Mill		5.2.8
Way of Brand y of 10 w/48		2.7.8
15. To Cash 74. Cornus		8.6.8
		9.3.0
Vid. B.N. P. 110		
9		
Thos. Hollis Dr. To 7 1/2 Turneps		0.0.8
6 3/4 Pork w/48		0.2.0
13 1/2 w/48		0.8.7
		0.4.7
Vid. B.N. P. 110		
9		
Fredrick Chushing Dr. To 1/2 Cambricks		4.3

Weymouth March 1775

10		
Eber Hunt. Dr. By 7 1/2 B. Corn		
Farm Produce		
30 1/2 Cheese (3 meals)		
Vid. B.N. P. 110		
11		
John Adams Esq.		Dr.
15 1/2 Wine w/48		23.2.0
10 1/2 "		22.0.0
		23.2.0
Vid. B.N. P. 110		
12		
Lebulen Pain Dr. To Office		0.10.0
April 20 1/2 Wine w/48		9.6
1/2 Pepper w/48		1.3
		10.9.0
Vid. B.N. P. 110		
13		
Nicholas Philips		Dr.
To 20 1/2 of 2 1/2 Sugar w/48		0.2.5
20 1/2 of 2 1/2 Sugar w/48		3.6.1
		3.8.6
Vid. B.N. P. 110		
14		
Peter Pratt Esq. of Bridgewater		6w
By his Acct. for Work & Expenses to this Day		7.9.1
By Cash 18/8		18.8
By his note the Balance		2.1.6
		10.9.3
Vid. B.N. P. 110		
15		
By my Ballance due to me on Hamlet		14.7.6
settled this Day		
By my note out in Charge of New 22		0.1
an Acct. of 17 1/2 w/48		1.6
		15.8.7
Vid. B.N. P. 110		
16		
Peter Pratt		Dr.
To an Error in Settlement of 1/2 being short		0.1.4
charged in Nov. 22		
in to him		
		0.1.4
Vid. B.N. P. 110		
17		



Cover image: 1775 "Petty Book." Learn more about this collection on page 8.  
Above: Making History Gala, March 11, 2025. Paige McWhorter Photography.



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*Our mission is to promote understanding of the history of Massachusetts and the nation by collecting and communicating materials and resources that foster historical knowledge.*

# By the Numbers

FY2025: July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025

**250** LINEAR FEET OF MANUSCRIPT MATERIAL PROCESSED

**278** DAYS MHS READING ROOM OPEN (JULY 1, 2024, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2025)

**68** FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED (INCLUDING MHS SHORT-TERM, NERFC, TEACHER, AND STUDENT)

**6,000** COLLECTION ITEMS CIRCULATED (DOES NOT INCLUDE SELF-SERVICE MATERIALS, MICROFILMED COLLECTIONS, OR USE OF COLLECTION ITEMS BY MHS STAFF)

**4,533** ATTENDEES (AT 21 PROGRAMS, 29 SEMINARS, 1 SPECIAL EVENT, 1 SYMPOSIUM, AND 2 CONFERENCES)

**1** RECORD-BREAKING MAKING HISTORY GALA WITH 376 ATTENDEES

**2,274** RESEARCH VISITS (514 INDIVIDUAL RESEARCHERS FROM 28 STATES AND 19 COUNTRIES OUTSIDE THE US)

**87,524** DIGITAL IMAGES CREATED INCLUDING MORE THAN 72,000 REFERENCE IMAGES

**4,350** STUDENTS FROM 90 SCHOOLS SERVED BY EDUCATION PROGRAMS INCLUDING MASSACHUSETTS HISTORY DAY

# Year in Review

## Gearing up for the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution

We are delighted to present our FY2025 Annual Report. Throughout, we demonstrate successes in promoting understanding of the history of Massachusetts and the nation by collecting and communicating materials and resources that foster historical knowledge. This is the mission we have carried since our founding in 1791 and one that is especially relevant as we commemorate the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution.

Year 2 of our 3-year Sharpening Our Strategic Focus plan prioritized two main projects: enhancing digital access to our collection and the 250th anniversary of the start of the American Revolution. From our Making History Gala featuring Nathaniel Philbrick and landmark exhibition, *1775: Rebels, Rights & Revolution*, to a sold-out conference and crowdsourcing efforts focused on transcribing Revolutionary-era collections, the MHS was abuzz with 250th activities.

As part of our efforts to engage young scholars in archival research, in June 2025, we hosted two students from The Hotchkiss School, a private high school in Connecticut, to support their Hersey Scholars program. This program brings 20 students to Boston to conduct historical research. And more than 300 undergraduate and graduate students were exposed to our collection through two dozen tours of the library.

We added 140 linear feet of new material to the collection. The Bullard-Lauriat family papers containing papers of Charles Lauriat, Jr., founder of Lauriat Books, are among the highlights. Lauriat was one of the survivors of the sinking of the *Lusitania* in 1915. Letters recounting his harrowing ordeal are included in the papers. Additional highlights can be found on page 8.

On the publications front, volume 19 of *Sibley's Harvard Graduates* was completed with almost 150 biographies of students from the classes of 1775–1777, and we reprinted *Paul Revere's Three Accounts of His Famous Ride*, one of our more popular picture books. The second of four final issues of the *Massachusetts Historical Review* arrived in mailboxes in FY2025. With the theme of disasters, this issue includes articles on colonial fires in Boston, the meaning of earthquakes, and transportation disasters in the age of steam.

In June 2024, we said goodbye to Catherine Allgor who served as MHS president for seven years. In June 2025, we announced that accomplished museum leader Lisa Krassner would take the helm as president. It was a big year with many accomplishments and forward momentum. Thanks to the support of our Trustees, Advisors, Members, and friends, we are poised to expand the Society's reach and relevance as we continue to make history.



Levin H. Campbell, Jr.  
Chair, Board of Trustees



Brenda M. Lawson  
Interim President

# Commemorating the 250th Massachusetts and Revolution

It started here. In 1775, several key events in Massachusetts ignited the American Revolution. At the MHS, we commemorated these events with an exhibition, two conferences, large-scale digitization efforts, a teacher workshop, and expanded resources.

## 1775: Rebels, Rights & Revolution

Opening to great fanfare at the MHS on March 27, 2025, this immersive exhibition explored pivotal events leading to the 8-year war for independence. These events included Paul Revere's daring midnight ride; the ensuing battles of Lexington, Concord, and Bunker Hill; and an 11-month siege.

Nearly 200 guests—and several news crews—enjoyed opening night festivities and as well as a first look at letters, diary accounts, broadsides, and artifacts from the MHS collection. These personal stories and unique perspectives provided insight into the tensions, choices, and conse-

quences faced by Massachusetts residents at the start of the American Revolution. We express our gratitude to the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism for the \$75,000 grant to support the exhibition and related programs.

To support our efforts to provide audiences with information from our collection for the 250th and to supplement our exhibition, we reprinted one of more popular picture books, *Paul Revere's Three Accounts of His Famous Ride*, now updated with full-color illustrations of the featured manuscripts.

## Programs Offer Deeper Understanding

The exhibition was just one opportunity for visitors to glean a deeper understanding of the people who shaped America's fight for independence. Programming offered a variety of nuanced stories. Topics included French material culture in the Revolutionary Atlantic, local government



and popular politics, family disruptions amid wartime divisions, and artists who championed the American Revolution.

### Expanded Resources Related to the 250th

A set of American Revolution biography cards for K-12 students were designed and printed in FY2025. The cards profile individuals and include an image of or related to the person as well as biographical information. Initial feedback from teachers has been positive and distribution of the cards to classrooms continues.

The History Source draws upon MHS collections to create source sets that are supported by activities and guiding questions for K-12 teachers. In FY2025, a new Revolutionary-era source set was added. Explore the 13 Revolutionary-era primary sources and more at [www.HistorySource.org](http://www.HistorySource.org).

Nearly 13,000 pages of manuscripts related to the American Revolution were digitized, including:

- Hancock family papers;
- Warren-Adams correspondence;
- medical account books kept by Joseph Warren and, following his death at Bunker Hill, by his brother John;
- the papers of two Continental Army officers from Massachusetts, Benjamin Lincoln and William Heath.

### Sold-Out Conference and Teacher Workshop

Along with programs and gallery talks related to the Revolution, the MHS co-sponsored a sold-out conference, *1775: A Society on the Brink of War and Revolution*, in partnership with the David Center for the American Revolution at the American Philosophical Society and the Concord Museum, where it was held. The conference sessions considered the challenges New England society faced in 1775 and how these factors impacted the outbreak of fighting in Lexington and Concord. Scholars Serena Zabin and Robert A. Gross gave the keynote address. Sessions spanned topics from faith, community, and impending war to material culture and memory.

A teacher workshop accompanied the conference. “Whose Revolution? Multiple Narratives of the American Revolution and Its Legacies in Massachusetts,” held at the MHS and Concord Museum, enabled 31 teachers to investigate archival and place-based primary sources and objects from the Revolutionary period. They considered multiple perspectives and gained a more complex understanding of the Revolution and its legacies. By prioritizing stories of historically underrepresented groups, the workshop offered an inclusive and a nuanced approach to a seemingly familiar era. Teachers commented that they appreciated the varied primary source materials that they could use in their classrooms, and everyone indicated that they would recommend future MHS workshops to colleagues.



# Impact

# Making History Accessible

As part of our commitment to increasing public interest in history, we consistently and deliberately provide access to our collection and reach out to share our resources.

## Born-Digital Records Now Available

In January 2025, we launched the MHS Digital Archive. Using software called Preservica, the MHS is now able to accept, preserve, and provide access to records that exist only in digital form, often called born-digital, as well as reformatted audio and video materials.

This software is critical to ensuring that scholars can access content stored via outdated media, such as VHS and cassette tapes, now and in the years to come. There's a lot to explore on the MHS Digital Archive, such as the home movies of US Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr. (1902–1985), which document his travels across the country.

## Making Our Collection Accessible

We continue to process collections and publish content in areas of high interest to scholars and educators. In Fiscal Year 2025, we completed processing of the Davis family papers, including a diary, correspondence, and photographs from Peter Davis's service in the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. *Sibley's Harvard Graduates*, volume 19, is now available and contains biographical sketches of members of the classes of 1775–1777, a focus area for many researchers during the 250th.

## All Things Adams

The Adams Presidential Library, our web directory for all things Adams, was redesigned as part of a yearlong grant-funded project. The relaunched portal increases online content, streamlines access, and improves navigability. The effort created a scalable foundation for future expansion. Explore the pages at [www.masshist.org/adams](http://www.masshist.org/adams).

Publication of the papers continues apace. Volume 16 of the *Adams Family Correspondence* (November 1804–July 1809) was published with Harvard University Press and the digital version of volume 15 was added to the Adams Papers Digital Edition (March 1801–October 1804, published 2022).

Adams Papers staff boosted outreach efforts in Fiscal Year 2025 by organizing an interactive public program on the travels of John Quincy Adams, in recognition of the 200th anniversary of his presidential inauguration. They curated rotating displays of Adams materials, assisted researchers with reference questions, and participated in workshops and conference presentations.

## Podcasting Grows at the MHS

The MHS produced season four of *The Object of History* and debuted a new podcast, *Historians & Their Histories*. The podcasts are available to hear on the MHS website as well as major streaming platforms.

*The Object of History* hit the road in season four. Over eleven episodes, the production team visited various organizations that have a connection to the MHS through our collection. The episodes featured interviews with representatives from these institutions as well as MHS staff to teach listeners more about the sites and connected items. Sites included OldNorth Church, Massachusetts General Hospital, Mount Auburn Cemetery, and the Museum of African American History, Boston.

Our new podcast, *Historians & Their Histories*, is released twice a month. Each episode profiles a scholar who received fellowship support from the MHS. They share their back story and what motivated them to study the past. Some scholars talk about their current work, providing a sneak peek at what's to come.

### K-12 Education Efforts Expand

Our robust K-12 education programs make primary sources accessible to students and teachers around the world. In Fiscal Year 2025, we served 4,350 students at 90 schools in Massachusetts, offering 29 K-12 programs, including teacher workshops, as well as 3 teacher and 4 student fellowships. These fellowships are a unique resource, allowing teachers and students the opportunity to conduct independent research in the MHS collection.

From workshops and research fellowships, teachers bring their findings back to the classroom, providing a richer learning experience for all. One educator commented, “The ability to engage with fellow teachers/scholars in authentic experiences and with primary sources is critical to my ability to teach. The biggest lack of resource as a teacher is time to engage with quality materials & to think critically about them. Every MHS workshop I’ve taken has allowed me that time.”

### Showcasing Massachusetts History Day Students

More than 3,700 students participated in Massachusetts History Day (MHD) in Fiscal Year 2025. MHD, sponsored by the MHS, is the state affiliate of National History Day. This yearlong enrichment program allows students to conduct primary source research on a topic of their choice, and present their findings through a paper, exhibit, film, performance, website, or podcast. Students compete at local and state contests, with the winning students traveling to Maryland for the national competition.

The MHD program was showcased in March 2025 through a partnership with the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit Court in Boston. The MHS Education team was invited as featured guests to the opening of the Stephen G. Breyer Community Learning Center on Courts and the Constitution. A select group of MHD students presented their projects to Justice Stephen Breyer and other guests at the Center’s opening at Moakley Courthouse. Six students from Bedford High and Hingham High, along with their parents and teachers, met with Justice Breyer personally as

he reviewed and offered thoughtful feedback on each of their projects. We look forward to continuing this partnership with the Breyer Community Learning Center.

### History.org Launches

The MHS is an inaugural partner in History.org, an online K-12 resource initiative led by Colonial Williamsburg. The site, which launched in beta in 2025, provides teachers with primary sources on American history and teacher-developed materials for effectively bringing these stories to the classroom. The MHS contributed images and text for over 100 items. The site also features short educational videos produced by ed tech leader Makematic, with support from the MHS Education team. This new site will help bring items from the MHS collection into classrooms nationwide.

### Conversations, Author Talks, and More

Alongside programs related to the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, we offered a wide variety of programming including:

*Making the Presidency: John Adams & the Precedents That Forged the Republic*, with Lindsay M. Chervinsky and Louisa Thomas

The inaugural John B. Paine, Jr., Annual Lecture on the History of Business and Innovation: *An Evening with David Rubenstein*, with David Rubenstein and Lizabeth Cohen

A performance and panel: *Creating Culture in America: AAPI Diaspora Lives* with Harleen Singh, Tuyet Tran, and Lisong Liu

*The William Hickling Prescott Award for Excellence in Historical Writing*: presented to Stacy Schiff, who was joined in conversation by Megan Marshall

Four programs featured talks by authors of new books, including Kellie Carter Jackson, Catherine McNeur, Donna Tesiero, and Susan Wilson. The MHS participated in Opening Our Doors, a festival of free cultural experiences put on by the Fenway Alliance.

# Why the MHS?

## Meet Laura Selene Rockefeller



*MHS Trustee Laura Selene Rockefeller portraying Abigail Adams at the opening of 1775: Rebels, Rights & Revolution. Photo by Paige McWhorter Photography.*

### Who is Laura Selene Rockefeller?

Writer, actress, and first-person historical interpreter, Laura has been involved in many activities at the MHS. Currently a Trustee and member of the Education Committee and the Programs and External Affairs Committee, and she previously served on the Advisory Council and chaired the 2025 Making History Gala Committee. She has performed at several MHS programs and is a passionate supporter of National History Day (NHD).

### How did she become involved with the MHS?

Laura became involved with the MHS when she and Ty Hallmark were writing a play about Marian “Clover” Adams, inspired by Natalie Dykstra’s 2012 biography *Clover Adams: A Gilded and Heart-breaking Life*. She notes that, “It was thrilling to discover that I could access Clover’s photographs on the MHS website and study them from my desk in Washington, DC.” She said it “took her breath away” when she visited the MHS and Chief

Historian Emeritus Peter Drummey brought out one of Clover’s albums for her to see. Laura says that being able to interact with an object that a historical figure created with such care is a powerful experience for someone researching her life and world. Every single writing project she has undertaken since “Clover” has involved research at the MHS.

### What is her favorite item in the MHS collection?

While Clover’s photo albums are high on her list, Laura describes examining one of American patriot and financier James Swan’s (1754–1830) letters as an experience she will never forget. She says, “It was a powerful lesson to me in why there is no substitute for looking at the document itself. It was one of those research moments that hits you in the chest.” In this letter, Swan pleads with a friend to help him gain release from a debtor’s prison in Paris where, although Swan had no idea of it at the time, he would spend the last decades of his life. She carefully turned the letter over to examine his wax seal. The motto imprinted there under the three swans was, “Dum Spiro Spero.” “While I breathe I hope.” Tears come to her eyes just thinking about it.

### Why should readers support the MHS?

In response to this question, Laura speaks to the treasure trove of documents and other items held by the MHS that illuminate the history of our country. She likes being part of a community that is excited to share the stories that those items tell. She appreciates how the MHS makes its primary sources available to celebrated scholars and grade school students alike. People at every age and at any point in their career can be inspired by the many voices of the past found in the vast MHS collection.

### Why should people care about history education?

Laura is a proponent of history and civics education and is involved with several education initiatives at the MHS. She believes history and civics education has never been more important, expressing, “we are at a critical moment in our history when the future of our democracy is teetering in the balance.” She shares that it is vitally important that the coming generations understand our past so that they can make informed decisions about what they want our future to look like. She continues, “Gaining an understanding of the human stories and struggles that have gotten us to this point can help young people understand the importance of civic engagement and their responsibilities as citizens of our country and of the world.” Laura speaks about how easy it is to take liberty for granted when one grows up feeling assured of certain rights. She stresses the significance of providing access to read Abigail Adams’s letters about the importance of education for women, or one of Lucy Stone’s impassioned calls for women’s rights, because they “can help young people understand the enormity of the personal battles that individuals in the past had to fight to gain the freedoms we now enjoy.”

### Why support National History Day?

Laura supports this yearlong initiative because it is a wonderful way to encourage and be inspired by the next generation as they engage with history in new and creative ways. The skills that students have the opportunity to develop through their NHD work is of enormous value for their futures. Not only does it help students enter college with confidence in their ability as researchers, writers, and public speakers, but these projects also give them an experience of engaging with and analyzing primary source documents. When students are able to look at a historical document and consider the words on the page, for whom those words were written, and by whom they were written, as well as how they were designed to impact their audience in that specific time and place, they have the skills to look more critically and discriminatingly at the information with which they are bombarded, and to discern fact from fiction. She concludes, “Being a judge or helping out at a feedback session, I find that the students’ work frequently illuminates something new for me, and it is thrilling to help students discover how relevant and exciting history can be.”



Left: Henry Adams seated at desk in dark coat, writing, by Marian Hooper Adams, album 8, page 24, 1883. Right: Umbrella tree at Smith's Point [second view], by Marian Hooper Adams, album 8, page 24, 1883.

# Acquisition Highlights

## From 1775 to Vietnam

### 1775 “Petty Book”

Used to record routine cash transactions, this 1775 “Petty Book” kept by an anonymous merchant in Weymouth, Mass., includes transactions with local militia for gunpowder, shot bags, a gun and other supplies, and the sale of everyday staples such as candles, sugar, textiles, and rum. Entries record the purchase of wine by John Adams just three days before he called for the boycott of Madeira wine imports, as well as accounts with African Americans Abel and Prince Pero. The petty book provides extraordinary documentation of commerce “on the ground” in the tumultuous first year of the American Revolution.

### 19th-Century Mourning Picture

In August 1803, tragedy struck the family of Rev. Isaac Clinton and Charity Welles when an epidemic of dysentery ravaged the area of Southwick, Mass., and took the lives of five of their six children.

The watercolor by Maria Clinton, depicted below, is a touching remembrance of her siblings lost. The piece has hallmarks of 19th-century mourning art: weeping willows, a line of headstones, and grieving survivors. Rev. Clinton points toward the heavens while Maria and her mother are depicted with handkerchiefs in their hands.



### Weekly Pledge Box

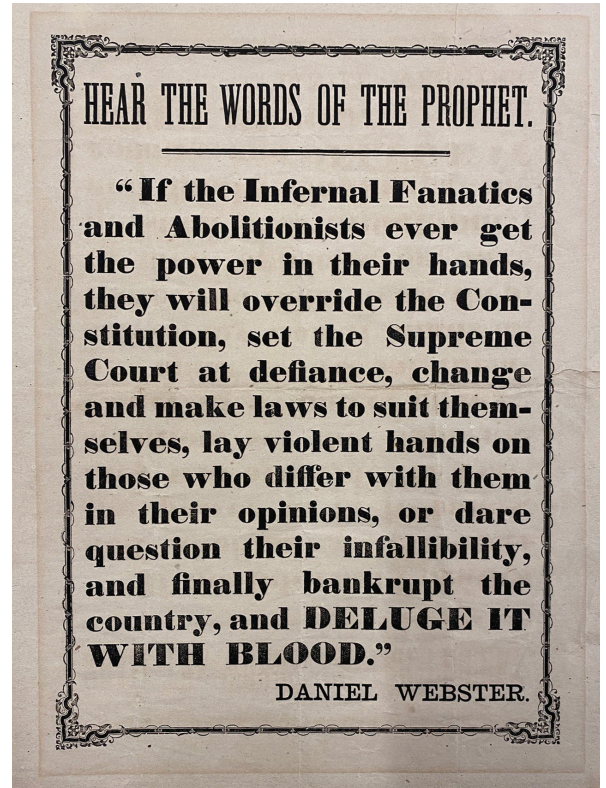


This lithographed cardboard box was used to collect weekly pledges to the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society. Wedgwood's iconic kneeling figure of an enslaved person with an arc above reading "REMEMBER YOUR WEEKLY PLEDGE" is featured on the front; the back outlines the Society's "Weekly Contribution Plan." One side of the box shows a hymn by Maria W. Chapman; the other, biblical verses about slavery.



### A Broadside with a Bald-Faced Lie

A broadside that begins, "HEAR THE WORDS OF THE PROPHET" deceptively appears to quote Mass. Sen. Daniel Webster. It was said to have come from Webster's March 7, 1850, speech at Faneuil Hall in Boston, or remarks upon hearing another speech. The quotation and attribution were reprinted in newspapers from ca. 1862 to 1868 and appeared in several anti-Lincoln Copperhead periodicals. Contemporary newspapers called it out as a fraud, although not nearly as often as it was reprinted as "truth."



### Vietnam War Diary & Scrapbook



The Davis family papers contain volumes, personal and professional papers, and correspondence of Peter Kaiser Davis who served as a pilot during two tours of duty during the Vietnam War. His diary, kept from April 2 to December 16, 1967, covers one tour with the Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 121. In it, he notes duties, everyday activities, fellow soldiers, and flights he made flying an A-4E Skyhawk. A scrapbook covering his military training and career contains photographs, certificates and citations, orders, and news clippings.

# New Acquisitions

The MHS acquired 102 linear feet of manuscript material in FY2025 through 139 gifts and 4 deposits.

Gifts		
Adams Memorial Society	Sheryl Eldridge	Jared Keyes
Additions to the Adams Memorial Society records	Letters from Rev. Athur T. Brooks to his wife Olive	Tiny L. Kolberg
Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company	Envisioning Access (deposit)	John F. Kotek
Anonymous	Helping Hands: Monkey Helpers records	Letters to Col. Jeremiah William Coveney as Postmaster General of Boston
Additions to the Lady Gertrude Codman Carter papers	Karen Lee Estes	Kevin Lafond
Descendants of the Bailey family	Rusty Farrin	Ledger of the Cambridge Bank
Bailey-Miles family papers	Two narrative logbooks kept by John Boit, Jr., including a voyage to the Northwest Coast and Canton, China, on the sloop <i>Union</i> , 1794–1795	Anne Lauriat
Robert Balfour	Fenway Studios Housing Cooperative (deposit)	Bullard-Lauriat family papers
Letters from Henry James to Alice Mason Hooper Sumner	Additions to the Fenway Studios records	Henry Lee
Marshall C. Ballou	First Church Boston (deposit)	Pat Lettieri
Correspondence between Lance C. Ballou, Jr., and Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr.	Additions to the First Church Boston records	Edward Lind
Constance and Lawrence Barone	Sharon Fisher	Civil War papers of William Lind of the 27th Mass. Volunteer Infantry
Andrew Bauman	Pam Fricke	Joseph Lombard
Karin Bohleke	Friday Evening Club (deposit)	Vincent F. Luti
Carey Borden	Additions to the Friday Evening Club records	Gladys Lyman
Sarah Dixwell Brown	Dewolf Fulton	<i>Collected Memories of World War II by Brothers James J. Trembl and William B. Trembl</i> (2003)
Elizabeth Bruce	Thomas Furber	W. Russell MacAusland
Arthur Leonard Johnson papers	Gage County Historical Society & Museum (Ne.)	Additions to the William H. Prescott letters
Hill Bullard	Gerard Gawalt	Amy MacDonald
Marcia Butman	Hannah Goeselt	Susannah Church Maxwell
Marcia Butman papers	Daniel Gorman, Jr.	Church-Pomeroy-Sprague family papers
Martha Harvell Calef, daughter of Philip and Jessie Harvell	Len Gougeon	James W. Mayou
Harvell and Havens family papers	Bradford H. Gray	Copies of Mayou's poems, including "Minuteman," "Boston Strong," and "The Day the World Stood Still"
Chautauqua County Historical Society (N.Y.)	Kathe Gregory	Carolyn McBride
Hand-stitched notebook containing mathematical work of Abigail Balcorn (Fletcher)	<i>The Pioneers</i> (1928), a four-part color comic strip by Lovrien Gregory and Glenn Chaffin	Christopher Harrison papers
Stephen D. Chubb	Sean Griffin	Carolyn McLane
Christopher Coenen	Holly Grimshaw	Ruth Meleen
Corland County Historical Society (N.Y.)	Donald L. Hafner	Additions to the William P. Wharton diaries
Robert Culbert	Gregory J. Hansard	Carol Miles
Christopher Davis	Terry Heller	Addition to the Bailey-Miles family papers
Davis family papers	Sherry L. Hergenreder	Linda Millette
Cornelia H. Dayton	Arthur C. Hodges	Mirabella Portland Quilters
Cassandra Dean	Addition to his diary, 2024	Linda Murphy
Dean DeBolt	H. Kirk Horstman	Jacqueline Marie Musacchio
Terri DeMitchell	Hubbardston Historical Society (Mass.)	Jeanne Musto
Charles and Mary Dolan	Ray Douglas Hurt	Jane M. Nickolaus
Additions to the William Jenks family papers	Lawrence and Lisa Katz	Lorraine Norwich
Andrew Donnelly		Lyle Nyberg
		Derek Kane O'Leary
		Marc-William Palen
		Gary Patterson

Sharon Pecoraro  
 Pembroke Historical Society (Mass.)  
 Joanne Polster  
 Sally Shaughnessy Powers  
 Records of the Roxbury Women's  
 Democratic Club  
 Michael V. Pregot  
 Proprietors of Louisburg Square  
 Additions to the Proprietors of Louisburg  
 Square records  
 Allison Romig  
 Abigail Saltonstall and William Saltonstall  
 Additions to the Leverett Saltonstall papers  
 Alvin Schaut  
 Schuyler County Historical Society (N.Y.)  
 Robert and Judith Silverio  
 Dorothy Skelley  
 Reiner Smolinski  
 Carole Steele  
 David P. Stevens  
 Peter Stickel and John Bumstead  
 Records of the New England String  
 Ensemble  
 Robert T. P. Storer III  
 Letters to John Humphries Storer  
 Rand and Carolyn Swanigan  
 Nellie Hutchinson diary  
 Trinity Church (New York, N.Y.)  
 Letter from William Pepperrell to  
 William Wadding, 1725  
 Erika Valenti and Scott Bogren  
 Additions to the Bogren family papers  
 Jere and Bill Voigt  
 Wayne County Historical Society (N.Y.)  
 Meadow Welch  
 John Whalen  
 Memoir of Emmett Whalen  
 Shelley Wheeler-Carreiro  
 Bob Williams  
 Connie Williams  
 Kanisorn Wongsrichanalai  
 Wyandot County Historical Society (Ohio)  
 Mary E. Yacovone  
 John Yellen

#### Art and Artifacts

Faith Childs  
 Additions to the Bowditch-Knauth-Jones-  
 Child papers, including portraits of  
 Theodora Bowditch Jones by Sarah G.  
 Putnam  
 Robert Culbert  
 Medals awarded to James Francis Quinny  
 Julie Martin, in memory of Hannah Jane  
 (Kitchin) Martin  
 Lithographed cardboard box used to collect  
 weekly pledges to the Massachusetts  
 Anti-Slavery Society  
 Rebecca W. S. More  
 Silver chocolate pot belonging to Rev.  
 Phillips Brooks  
 Timothy T. and Rebecca W. S. More  
 Watercolor mourning picture of the  
 Clinton family  
 Peter Torkildsen  
 Portrait of Samuel Shute by John James  
 Bakker, ca. 1712

#### Purchases

Letter from Charles Francis Adams to  
 Obadiah Wheelock  
 Tax payment records for Wards 5 and 6 of  
 Boston, 1787  
 Log of a voyage from Boston to India in the  
 bark *Brothers*  
*Constitution of the Charitable Association  
 of the Boston Fire Department* (Boston:  
 David Hooton, 1835)  
 Letter from Benjamin Robbins Curtis to  
 Edwin W. Stoughton  
*HEAR THE WORDS OF THE PROPHET. "If  
 the Infernal Fanatics and Abolitionists ever  
 get the power in their hands, they will  
 override the Constitution, set the Supreme  
 Court at defiance, change and make laws to  
 suit themselves, lay violent hands on those  
 who differ with them in their opinions, or  
 dare question their infallibility, and finally  
 bankrupt the country, and DELUGE IT  
 WITH BLOOD."* DANIEL WEBSTER.  
 Broadside falsely attributed to Daniel  
 Webster, [1862].

*HERALD, EXTRA. Newburyport, May 24,  
 1861. THE WAR BEGUN.* "Extra" of *The  
 Daily Herald* of Newburyport issued as a  
 broadside  
 Invoice to the Town of Boston for advertising  
 in the *Boston Post Boy and Advertiser*,  
 July 1768  
*On the Death of Mrs. Hannah Bullard...*  
 (Holliston), 1825, broadside poem  
 "Petty Book for 1775," account book kept by an  
 anonymous merchant in Weymouth  
 Letter from George L. Prescott to Sarah Edes  
 Letters from Charles M. Riley to Eloise  
 Delahunty during the Spanish-American War  
 Letter from Charles T. Russell to Rev. Dr. Anderson  
 Letter from William Savage to Frederic Tudor  
 Letter from Mass. Adjutant General William  
 Schouler to an unidentified recipient  
*Six Letters from John Quincy Adams to Edward  
 Livingston. On Masonry* (Philadelphia: C.T.  
 Jones), 1833  
*To the Democratic Votes of the Fourth  
 Massachusetts Congressional District*, [1852],  
 broadside  
 "Two Thousand Miles in Sixty Days: A Journal of  
 the Cruise of the Sch. Cook Borden...," nautical  
 diary kept by Andrew Homer Skinner of Fall  
 River on a trading voyage in the schooner  
*Cook Borden*  
 Business records of Thomas Vose  
*VOTERS OF BOSTON! READ! REFLECT! AND  
 RESOLVE TO DO YOUR DUTY! AMERICAN  
 CITIZENS OF BOSTON...* [Boston, 1858],  
 broadside  
 Wimpenny family correspondence  
 Letter from Robert C. Winthrop to Thomas  
 Dawes Eliot

# Financial Statements

## Treasurer's Report

I am pleased to submit this annual Treasurer's Report to the Fellows and Trustees of the Massachusetts Historical Society. Our financial profile remains strong. Over the past five years, the endowment has grown by approximately 70% to \$151.9 million as of June 30, 2025. This growth has enabled the Society to continue providing exceptional value to our stakeholders.

In FY2025, we completed the second year of our strategic planning process to increase institutional capacity and sharpen our strategic focus. As part of this effort, the Board approved temporary increases in the endowment draw rate from 4.5% to 5.5% to enhance our visibility and support investments in key personnel, technology, and facilities. Going forward, with expected increases in fundraising and continued, careful expense management, we plan to reduce the endowment draw rate to a more traditional percentage over time.

As of June 30, 2025, cash and investments were \$156.6 million. This amount includes the endowment together with operating and capital reserves of approximately \$2.8 million. Net assets were \$163.5 million, including \$60.5 million that is unrestricted. During the past fiscal year, we achieved an operating surplus of approximately \$614,000. With ample financial resources and prudent fiscal management, the Society is well positioned for continued growth and development of our outstanding programs and services.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert G. Ripley, Jr., Treasurer

## Statement of Activities & Financial Position (in thousands)

<b>Statement of Activities</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
Operating revenues and support		
Gifts and grants	\$ 2,039	\$ 2,343
Seminars, conferences, workshops, and other events	448	447
Endowment support for operations	7,165	6,553
Other revenues	<u>347</u>	<u>278</u>
	9,999	9,621
Operating Expenses	<u>9,385</u>	<u>9,516</u>
Increase (decrease) in net assets from operations	614	105
Non-operating activity		
Endowment gifts, grants, and bequests	2,024	970
Purchase of collections	(55)	(66)
Investment return	19,981	14,548
Endowment support	<u>(7,165)</u>	<u>(6,553)</u>
Increase (decrease) in net assets	<u>\$ 15,399</u>	<u>\$ 9,004</u>
<b>Statement of Financial Position</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,715	\$ 4,238
Endowment investments at market value	151,887	136,369
Property, equipment, and other assets	8,848	9,032
Other assets	<u>495</u>	<u>857</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 165,945</u>	<u>\$ 150,496</u>
Current and long term liabilities	\$ 1,821	\$ 1,663
Long term debt	581	688
Net assets		
Unrestricted	60,529	56,080
Temporarily restricted	83,174	74,045
Permanently restricted	<u>19,840</u>	<u>18,020</u>
Total net assets	<u>163,543</u>	<u>148,145</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 165,945</u>	<u>\$ 150,496</u>

# Thank You to Our Donors

## Donors of \$100,000 and more

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An anonymous, landmark gift of \$3,000,000 was made to honor the four-decade tenure and lasting legacy of Peter Drummey by endowing the Chief Historian position. The gift will provide financial stability in perpetuity, helping the MHS to fulfill its mission, enhance outreach, and provide access to historical scholarship.

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 Sarah Thomas, 2016  
 Tamara P. Thornton, 2009  
 Edward G. Tiedemann, 2025  
 Bryant F. Tolles, Jr., 2008  
 Kathryn M. Tomasek, 2012  
 Leonard Travers, 2005  
 Olga A. Tsapina, 2017  
 Nicola Tsongas, 2006  
 Kenneth C. Turino, 2000  
 John W. Tyler, 1991  
 Reed Ueda, 1999  
 Laurel Thatcher Ulrich, 1991  
 Timothy L. Vaill, 2011  
 Lawrence Vale, 2020  
 Conevery Bolton Valencius, 2014  
 Mark Valeri, 2016  
 Allan van Gestel, 1995  
 William P. Veillette, 2010  
 Katheryn P. Viens, 2009  
 Celeste Walker, 2002  
 Ann Fowler Wallace, 2001  
 John F. Walsh, 2011  
 Jonathan Lee Walton, 2018  
 Barbara M. Ward, 2013  
 Gerald W. R. Ward, 2013  
 Susan Ware, 2009  
 John C. Warren, 1997  
 Alexander Webb III, 2011  
 Sinclair Weeks, Jr., 1991  
 Adrian C. Weimar, 2018  
 Margaret Wheeler, 2019  
 William H. White, 2003  
 Edward L. Widmer, 2002  
 Kemble Widmer II, 2016  
 Herbert P. Wilkins, 1997  
 Jack Williams, 2001  
 Rosalind Williams, 2015  
 Garry Wills, 1994  
 Lisa Wilson, 2004  
 Susan Wilson, 1996  
 Margaret L. Winslow, 2008  
 Frederic Winthrop III, 1980  
 John Winthrop, 1981  
 Jonathan Winthrop, 1994  
 Judith Bryant Wittenberg, 2009  
 Mark L. Wolf, 2009  
 Missy Wolfe, 2020  
 Kanisorn Wongsrichanalai, 2020  
 Charles B. Wood III, 2014  
 Gordon Stewart Wood, 1978  
 Douglas P. Woodlock, 1997  
 Ryan J. Woods, 2022  
 Hobson Woodward, 2015  
 Walter Woodward, 2008  
 Conrad Edick Wright, 2000  
 Lawrence Kinvin Wroth, 1969  
 Karin A. Wulf, 2013  
 Donald Yacovone, 2005  
 Mary Yacovone, 2019  
 Lawrence J. Yerdon, 2019  
 Xiao-huang Yin, 2012  
 Michael R. Yogg, 2003  
 Neil L. York, 2011  
 Serena Zabin, 2013  
 Rosemarie Zagari, 2015  
 Nina Zannieri, 2000  
 Mary Saracino Zboray, 2011  
 Ronald J. Zboray, 2011  
 Philip Zea, 2012  
 Da Zheng, 2005  
 Hiller B. Zobel, 1969

† Passed away between July 1, 2024, and this printing



## LOCATION

1154 Boylston Street  
Boston, MA 02215

## VISITOR INFORMATION

Galleries and Library Hours  
Monday and Wednesday through  
Friday: 9:30 AM to 4:45 PM  
Tuesday: 9:30 AM to 7:45 PM  
Saturday: 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM

*The last admission for visitors is  
45 minutes prior to closing.*

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Images: 1775: Rebels, Rights & Revolution exhibition opening on March 27, 2025. Paige McWhorter Photography.