

## Jeremy Belknap's American Roadmap

As part of our 225th Anniversary celebration, we are sending Jeremy Belknap, the founder of the MHS, on a mission across the country to share information about the MHS and promote the teaching of history.

### How to Participate

1. Take a picture with Jeremy!  
Take a picture using the cartoon of Jeremy Belknap included in this packet. You and/or your students can photograph him in your classroom, at your school, at a local landmark, or any other place in your neighborhood. Take a group photo, or photograph him by himself . . . it's up to you.
2. Visit Jeremy Belknap's American Roadmap  
Go online and share your stories at [www.masshist.org/225th/jeremywashere](http://www.masshist.org/225th/jeremywashere).
3. Map your location  
Enter the name of the place Jeremy visited (e.g. Diamond Middle School, Lexington, MA; or WWII Monument, Washington, D.C.). Google will map it for you!
4. Tell us about it  
Once you've approved your location, please tell us about Jeremy's visit including who went with him (e.g. Mr. Davey's Eighth-Grade Class), the date of the visit, and a brief description of the place and/or the people in your photo. Please provide an e-mail address in case we have any questions. Don't forget to upload the photo(s) of your visit!
5. See how far Jeremy has travelled  
Once you've submitted your information, visit Jeremy Belknap's American Roadmap ([www.masshist.org/225th/map](http://www.masshist.org/225th/map)) to view your post and learn about Jeremy's other recent destinations!
6. Pass Jeremy along  
Ask your colleagues to share Jeremy with their students, and see how far he travels . . .

For more information about the Society's educational resources, or to schedule a program, please contact the Education Department at 617-646-0557 or [education@masshist.org](mailto:education@masshist.org).

## Why History Matters

The MHS contributes to the building of strong American history content for the classroom, focused on primary sources and the analytical skills needed to effectively use them.

Founded in 1791, the Massachusetts Historical Society's mission encompasses service to teachers and students across the country. Through workshops, fellowships, and online resources the MHS contributes to the creation of engaging American history content for the classroom by providing access to primary sources and the tools that students need to think critically about what they read. Whether it is a student researching a National History Day project in our library or of a teacher utilizing our online lesson plans, the Society is dedicated to providing opportunities for teachers and students to use its collections to make personal connections to America's history.

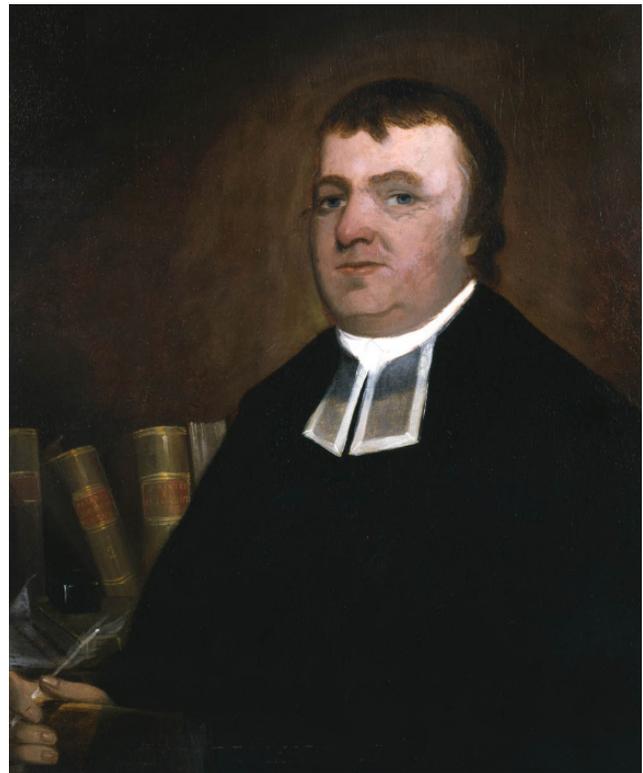
As part of our 225th Anniversary celebration, we are sending Jeremy Belknap, the founder of the MHS, on a mission across the country to share information about the MHS and promote the teaching of history. We invite you to learn more about the MHS and everything it has to offer while having fun sharing Jeremy's adventures, locations, and experiences on the MHS website.

### Who was Jeremy Belknap?

Jeremy Belknap (1744-1798), the founder of the MHS, was born in Boston and educated at Harvard College. He trained for the ministry, but he was also involved in a wide range of secular activities, one of which was the founding of the MHS, the first institution in the world organized primarily for publishing and collecting historical Americana.

On January 24, 1791, Belknap convened a meeting with nine like-minded gentlemen with the goal of

gathering and protecting the basic sources of American history. By the end of that meeting, and through their pledges of manuscripts, books, pamphlets, newspapers, and historical artifacts, the "Historical Society," the nation's first, was formed. In the absence of any other American historical archive, the organization now known as the Massachusetts Historical Society took on a broad national role, one still apparent in both its collections and its publications.



Jeremy Belknap, Portrait, oil on canvas by Henry Sargent, 1798.

## Educational Resources at the MHS

The primary sources found in our unparalleled collections provide the stories—and the evidence—that can help a student to understand that American history is a wonderfully diverse, yet connected, continuum of experiences that we all share.

The MHS offers a wide array of educational services including engaging workshops and hands-on student programs; online classroom tools; lesson plans and curricular resources; fellowships for students and teachers; and community partnerships.

### National History Day

The Society serves as state sponsor of National History Day, which involves middle and high school students in research and presentations (papers, documentaries, websites, exhibitions, performances) at local, regional, state, and national levels.

### Workshops

The MHS develops and implements a full schedule of workshops on a variety of American history topics. Participants become historians as they investigate materials from the Society's collections, and discuss methods for using these primary sources in the classroom. Half-day to week-long workshops often include appearances by noted scholars, visits to partnering historical sites, and opportunities to view treasures from the Society's collection.

### Professional Development

The MHS is a registered professional development provider in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Teachers can also earn graduate credit for many of our workshops through Worcester State University (the latter entails having workshop syllabus approved by the college curriculum committee).

### Student Programs

Students engage with documents and artifacts from the Society's collection and work with MHS staff to make connections to what they are learning in the classroom.

### Teacher Fellowships

The MHS coordinates a program of fellowships for teachers. Swensrud Fellows use the Society's collections to create curricula which are shared with other educators through the MHS website. Kass Fellows pursue their own research interests in areas of American history through the Society's documents. Alums of the fellowship program continue to work with the Society as workshop instructors, mentors, advisors, evaluators, and promoters.

### John Winthrop Fellowship

The John Winthrop fellowship, awarded to high school students, promotes online and on site use of our collections for assigned school research papers.

### Online Content

The MHS continues to add content-rich curriculum material to its website to complement digital projects, making its collections accessible to more teachers and students than ever.

### Outreach

The MHS advises schools, colleges, museums, historical societies, and libraries on educational programming that connects local resources to key themes and topics in American history to comply with state frameworks, and Common Core standards. The MHS actively participates in professional organizations such as the National Council for the Social Studies, the National Council for History Education, the New England History Teachers Association, the American Association for State and Local History, and the National Council for Public History.

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