

THE FATAL STAMP

EFFIGIES, RAGING FIRES, HOUSES WRECKED AND looted, rampant propaganda, swelling outrage. Welcome to Boston, 1765.

In March 1765, Parliament passed, and George III assented to, the Stamp Act. The resulting unrest arguably marks the start of the American Revolution. Two hundred and fifty years later, the MHS commemorates the passage (and popular rejection) of the Stamp Act with the exhibition, now on display, *God Save the People! From the Stamp Act to Bunker Hill*. To tell the story of the coming of the American Revolution in Boston, this exhibition follows the evolution of colonial thought and political action through the letters and diaries of men and women caught up in the conflict, together with political cartoons, newspapers, maps, and portraits.

The Stamp Act required that a wide range of legal and trade documents, as well as newspapers and even dice and playing cards, carry official stamps of differing values. It offended colonists for a number of reasons and exacerbated the sense among patriots that they suffered under tyrannical rule. It was the first time Parliament had imposed a direct tax on the American colonies—that is, a tax implemented without the consent of colonial legislature—amounting to taxation without representation. What we know as the Stamp Act has a much longer title, and the first half of the title is helpful in highlighting another reason for the backlash:

An act for granting and applying certain Stamp Duties, and other Duties, in the *British Colonies and Plantations in America*, towards further defraying the Expences of defending, protecting, and securing the same . . .

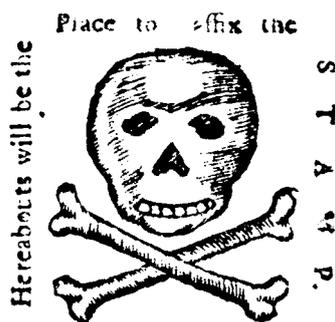
Defraying “the Expences of defending, protecting, and securing” the colonies meant, in short, paying the salaries of British troops who were stationed in North America with nothing much to do since the close of the French and Indian War. Tensions between American colonists and British forces, not at all helped by the Stamp Act, would continue to mount, coming to a dramatic head in the Boston Massacre four years later.

The response in Boston was vehement. Stamp masters, agents commissioned to administer the tax, faced the very real threat of gang and mob violence. One such figure, Andrew Oliver, was hanged in effigy from what would later be called the Liberty Tree, and a mob ransacked his home—after they had leveled the stamp office—in the first Stamp Act riot, on August 14, 1765. The next day, Cyrus Baldwin wrote to his brother Loammi describing the

riot and reporting Oliver’s resignation:

It is reported that Mr Olver the said Stamp Master wrote to the Governor & Counsel that it was not worth while for him or any body else to accept the office of a Stamp Master in this place. . . . Tis hopd what Mr Oliver has Suffer’d will be Sufficient warn- ing to others not to take Offices that Encroach upon American liberty.

Oliver was not alone in that opinion. Many stamp masters throughout the colonies were intimidated into resigning their posts. Oliver’s papers, which offer a fascinating glimpse into the life of a colonist who found himself on the wrong side of the burgeoning conflict, reside at the MHS.



Another man much maligned by the patriot cause—the most hated man in Massachusetts, in fact—was Lt. Gov. Thomas Hutchinson. Like Oliver, Hutchinson suffered a mob attack on his property in consequence of the Stamp Act. On August 26, rioters looted and wrecked his Boston home. Another of his properties suffered a different fate: years later, when Hutchinson was exiled and living in London, James and Mercy Otis Warren, among his most vociferous opponents, acquired his country estate in Milton.



Though this article has mused on the unwitting villains of the story, exhibition visitors (and anyone who crosses our threshold, physically or virtually) will be treated to highlights from our matchless collections on the Revolution's heroes, including John and Abigail Adams, Samuel Adams, John Hancock, Joseph Warren, Josiah Quincy, Paul Revere, and many more. It is no accident that the Society's collecting on the American Revolution has such extraordinary breadth and depth: the MHS was founded in 1791 to collect, preserve, and communicate the young nation's history, by people who lived through it.

Given the richness of our collecting, the MHS is naturally the site of significant scholarship on the Revolution. In April, the Society encouraged new scholarly approaches to the topic with the conference "*So Sudden an Alteration*": *The Causes, Course, and Consequences of the American Revolution*. The conference featured a keynote address by Woody Holton, the McCausland Professor of History at the University of South Carolina, "Not Yet":



Left: Thomas Hutchinson, portrait by Edward Truman, 1741. Above: Samuel Adams, engraving by Paul Revere, 1774. Facing: Screenshot of the comparison tool feature of Perspectives on the Boston Massacre, a new presentation on the MHS website.

The Massachusetts Historical Society is an independent research library that collects, preserves, makes accessible, and communicates manuscripts and other materials that promote the study of the history of Massachusetts and the nation—a mission it has pursued since 1791.

The Officers & Board of Trustees of the Massachusetts Historical Society

Chair

Charles C. Ames

Co-Vice Chairs

Nancy S. Anthony

Frederick G. Pfannenstiehl

Secretary

Judith Bryant Wittenberg

Treasurer

William R. Cotter

Trustees

Benjamin C. Adams

Oliver F. Ames

Frederick D. Ballou

Levin H. Campbell, Jr.

Joyce E. Chaplin

William C. Clendaniel

Herbert P. Dane

Amalie M. Kass

Anthony H. Leness

G. Marshall Moriarty

Lisa Nurme

Lia G. Poorvu

Byron Rushing

Paul W. Sandman

Joseph Peter Spang

William N. Thorndike

Life Trustees

Bernard Bailyn

Leo Leroy Beranek

Levin H. Campbell

Henry Lee

Trustees Emeriti

Nancy R. Coolidge

Arthur C. Hodges

James M. Storey

John L. Thorndike

Hiller B. Zobel

President

Dennis A. Fiori

MHS Miscellany, no. 108

Periodical Newsletter of the Massachusetts Historical Society

Masthead illustration:

"Plan & Elevation of the Tontine Crescent, now erecting in Boston." From the *Massachusetts Magazine*, 1794. All images are from the MHS collections unless otherwise credited. The MHS occupied the Tontine Crescent from 1794 until 1833.

Front cover: Detail from *Boston-Gazette, and Country Journal*, October 7, 1765. Back cover: Stephen Minot Weld, January 1862. All photographs by Laura Wulf / all images from MHS collections unless otherwise noted.

Address:

1154 Boylston St.
Boston, MA 02215
617-536-1608
www.masshist.org

Hours:

The MHS reading room is open to the public free of charge, 9 AM to 4:45 PM Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays; 9 AM to 7:45 PM on Tuesdays; and 9 AM to 4 PM on Saturdays.

For more information:

Please call ahead or check the website for directions, information about collections, reading room policies, holiday hours, and special events.



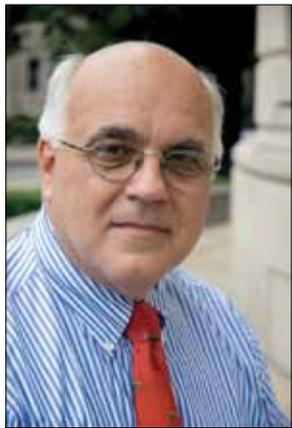
massculturalcouncil.org

The Originality Crisis in American Revolution Studies,” and a proposal by Boston University Professor of History Brendan McConville, “The Great Cycle: The Professional Study of the American Revolution, 1960–2015.”

Visit www.masshist.org/collections/online?bmode=topics and browse by “Era of the Revolution” to explore our many online presentations on the topic, and come investigate the nation’s complicated past in the halls of our 1154 Boylston Street building. *God Save the People! From the Stamp Act to Bunker Hill* is on display from February 27 to September 4, 2015; it is free and open to the public Monday through Saturday from 10 AM to 4 PM.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I often get questions about our location. Now it cannot be missed. By the time you read this, the walls of our building will have been transformed into a huge poster—in the form of a wrap that surrounds the scaffolding supporting our latest building conservation project. The balustrade capping our walls has badly deteriorated due to what is called rust jacking.



Unknown to us, water had been leaking into the roof beams for decades. As they rusted, encrustation grew, which pushed up the limestone balustrade. Not until the tilting and cracking were identified during an engineer’s routine structural inspection did the problem become evident. Over the winter, the same Indiana quarry that produced the balustrade in 1899 worked to create an exact copy, now being installed along with a new roof. A

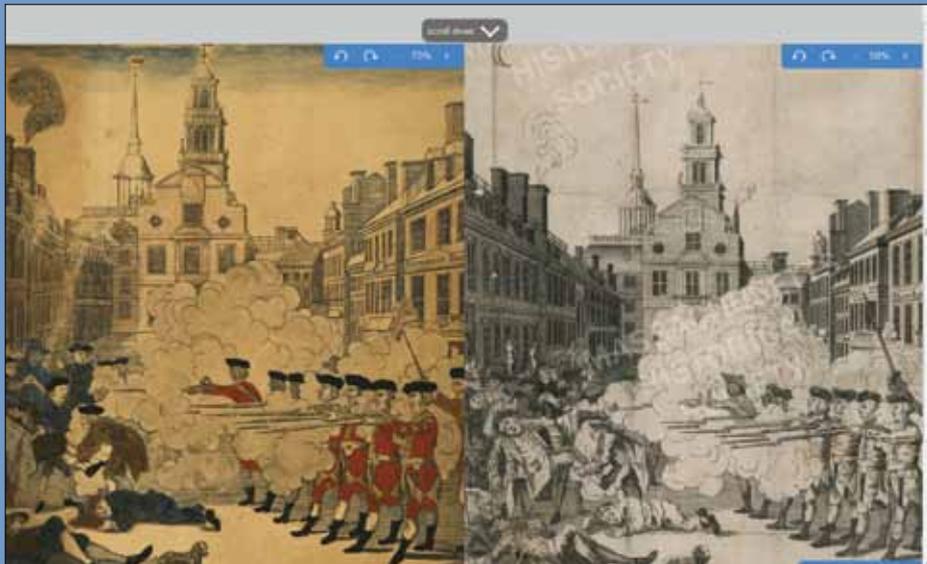
national register landmark designed by the noted Boston architect Edmund M. Wheelwright, our headquarters is our

largest artifact, deserving of the care we take to maintain all of our collections. When the scaffolding comes down in July, we hope you won’t notice the change, but our gigantic poster will certainly be missed.

NINE CIVIL WAR COLLECTIONS DIGITIZED & MICROFILMED

The Society has more than 3,600 separate collections of family and personal papers, and for 224 years, the MHS has balanced preservation and accessibility issues relating to those historical materials. We have achieved goals in both areas for 9 Civil War manuscript collections thanks to a recently completed project funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services through a program administered by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. MHS staff digitized every page in each collection, created preservation-quality microfilm, and developed a web presentation of sequences of more than 9,000 digital images. As one member of the Society’s Collections Committee exclaimed, “Researchers will love this. They can work with these collections at home; in fact they could stay in their pajamas and still do research!”

The nine featured Civil War collections relate to six officers (Richard Cary, Norwood Penrose Hallowell, Francis William Loring, Edward Miles, Charles F. Morse, and Stephen Minot Weld), one surgeon (Charles Briggs), one private (Edward Burgess Peirce), and one superintendent in the U.S. Sanitary Commission (Frederick Newman Knapp). The workflow included preparing the collections for imaging, creating master digital images (some collections were digitized in-house and others at the Northeast Document Conservation Center), completing post-processing steps on



Perspectives on the Boston Massacre

The Boston Massacre on March 5, 1770, was a pivotal event leading to the American Revolution. The Society’s collections contain letters and diary entries written by people who were either at the scene or were able to comment on the overall atmosphere of the town after the event. Thanks to funding from the Massachusetts Society of the Cincinnati, the MHS has created a new web presentation, *Perspectives on the Boston Massacre*, featuring dozens of documents including manuscripts, pamphlets, legal notes, and engravings.

One section of the site focuses on visual representations of the Boston Massacre. Seven prints of the event, as well as one painting that shows the same location in Boston in 1801, are available for close examination. Website visitors can use a comparison tool (pictured here) to view any two of the featured images side by side.

Visit www.masshist.org/features/massacre to explore.

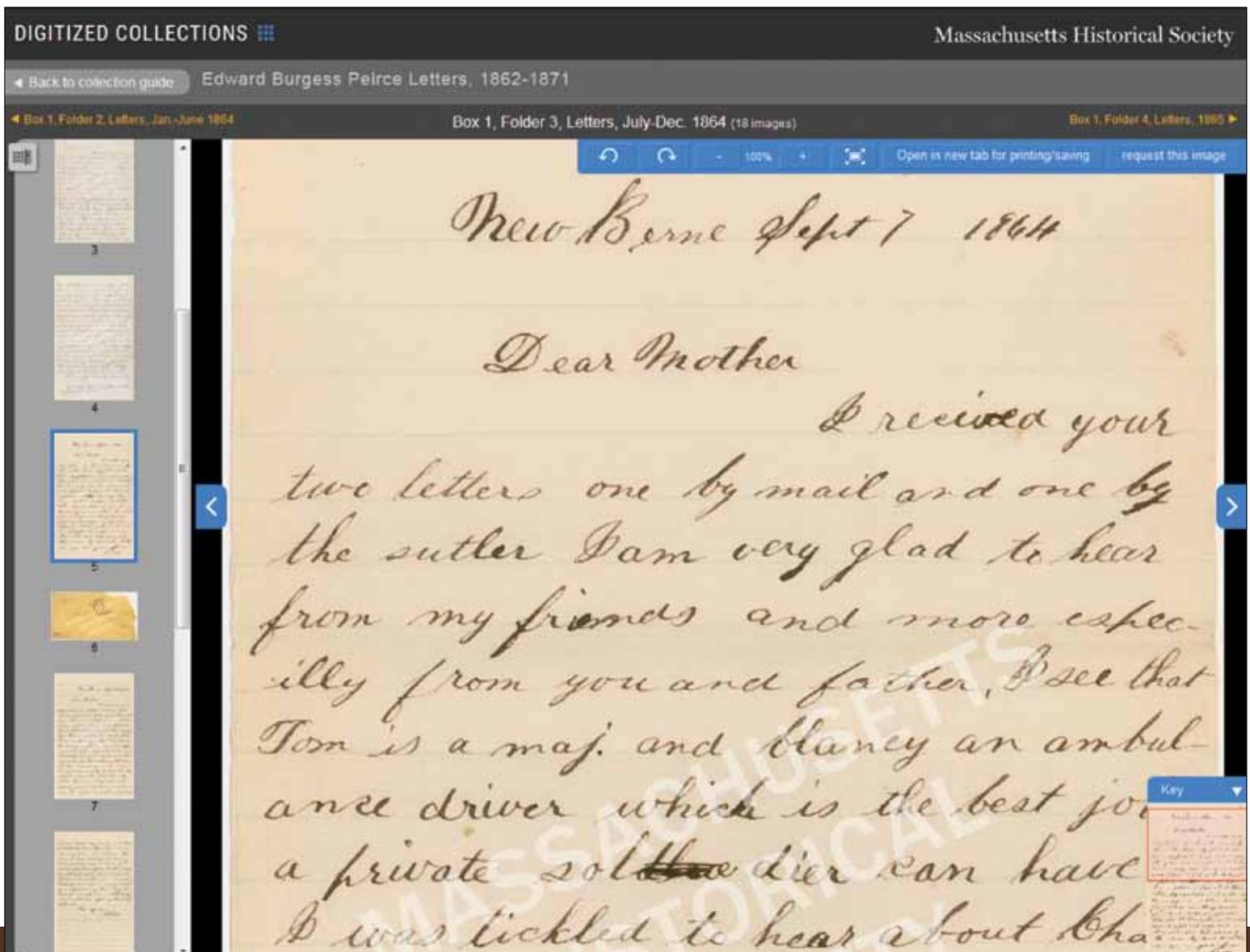
the master images and producing derivative images for web use, providing structural metadata relating to the various sets of images, and developing a user interface that allows web users to access sequences of images. Sets of digital images were also assembled for another vendor, Hudson Archival, who made preservation-quality microfilm for each collection. Microfilm remains a trusted, long-term preservation medium.

Website users start by visiting the collection guide for one of the selected manuscript collections, for example, the Edward Burgess Peirce letters (www.masshist.org/collection-guides/view/fa0374). All of the usual components within each guide—biographical sketch, collection description, acquisition information, and the detailed description of the collection—are available. The detailed description, often consisting of a box and folder list, includes links to web displays of sequences of digital images. A link to a folder or volume gives the user the option to examine every page of that component of the collection. A stack of thumbnails appears

on the left for browsing, and the main viewing pane allows researchers to rotate and/or zoom in at several selected settings.

Edward Burgess Peirce was born in Lowell, Massachusetts, and was a teenager when he enlisted in Company F of the Massachusetts 2d Heavy Artillery Regiment, in which he served as drummer and private. His manuscript collection is mostly made up of letters that he sent to his parents. The digital images capture the manuscript materials in great detail, telling visual stories in addition to textual ones. Peirce's handwriting, fairly large and bold, but also a bit uneven, seems to epitomize how young he was (only 16 years old at the time he enlisted!) in a way his biographical sketch alone cannot convey.

To explore the Peirce letters and the other eight digitized manuscript collections, please browse the collection guides (<http://www.masshist.org/collection-guides/browse/manuscript-guides>) and look for the "Digital Content" label next to the guides with links to digital facsimiles.



Screenshot from the Edward Burgess Peirce letters, one of nine newly digitized collections of Civil War-related manuscripts.

LOOKING AT THE CIVIL WAR SERIES

Final Installment

In January 2011, *Looking at the Civil War: Massachusetts Finds Her Voice* launched on the MHS website with the publication of its inaugural documents: a letter from Massachusetts senator Charles Sumner to Gov. John A. Andrew and a letter from Andrew to Commander-in-Chief Winfield Scott. In May 2015, the project comes to a close with a letter from Charles E. Briggs, a surgeon in the 24th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Regiment, to his sister Emma.

Looking at the Civil War has been a true team effort. Librarian Elaine Heavey, who spearheaded the project, benefited from the help of over a dozen volunteers and interns and especially that of volunteer Joan Fink, who joined the project in September 2011. Also invaluable was the Society's digitization team, who brought the project to the web by scanning the manuscripts and encoding the content that Elaine and her crew created.

Over the course of the project, the MHS aimed to bring the war to life by sharing letters and diary entries written by a wide variety of individuals—both men and women writing from the front, clergymen writing to inform loved ones of a soldier's death, nurses and surgeons commenting on medical practices, a soldier held captive at the infamous Andersonville prison, and another participating in Sherman's March to the Sea. This digital archive of 55 documents drawn from over 50 individual collections held by the MHS will remain available on the Society's website, offering a glimpse of the wartime experience of the people of Massachusetts and a tantalizing preview of our vast Civil War-era holdings.

LIBRARY LEAPS AHEAD WITH AEON

Big changes are coming to the MHS library. Portal1791, an automated researcher registration and request system, will make its debut on May 21, marking a great leap forward for the library in both its day-to-day operations and its long-term management. Portal1791 is the Society's version of Aeon, a product of Atlas Systems. The Society purchased the Aeon software in fall 2014 and has, since then, been working to customize the product to suit the needs of MHS staff and researchers.

When Portal1791 is unveiled, library visitors will be able to create an online account, register as researchers, and request materials directly through our online catalog (ABIGAIL) and collection guides in advance of their visit. Researchers will have 24-hour access to their accounts and

will be able to create lists of items to view on future visits, schedule requests for days they plan to visit, order reproductions, and review lists of items viewed in the past. This last bit will prove particularly helpful when crafting footnotes.

Portal1791 offers advantages to MHS staff as well. By automating many processes currently managed manually, the library will improve its efficiency, provide better opportunities for statistics reporting, and—perhaps most important—enhance collection security by automating reading room circulation.

THE FIVE-YEAR COMMITMENT

"How was the conference?" is a recurring question here at the MHS. Over three decades, the Research Department has organized more than a dozen academic conferences on topics as diverse as American Unitarianism, Boston's environmental history, and recent immigration. Having read a corpus of essays that we solicited to serve as the basis for discussion, scholars from across the United States descend on our reading room to share the most up-to-date historical knowledge and debate research trends.

But then they fly away. Back to Pittsburgh, and Atlanta, and Los Angeles, and dozens of other places. Meanwhile, essay authors and MHS Research staff redouble their efforts. As other scholars settle back into their classrooms, we continue the process of bringing to fruition a collection of essays that will render the conference scholarship in a permanent and widely available form. It takes faith and dedication on the part of our authors, in-house editorial skill and logistical talent, and the support of our publishing partners. And it takes years. What drives us toward an end product we can only imagine? The answer lies in a look at the process.

Collaboration

Two years before a conference opens, Research Department staff, led by Director of Research Conrad Edick Wright, find experts in the conference topic to advise them on the most exciting work taking place in the field. They invite the scholars who are doing this work to submit essays and participate in the program. Other scholars agree to chair or comment at conference sessions. If the number of these participants does not add up to a small army, it is at least the size of a platoon; the program for our conference this April, "*So Sudden an Alteration*," includes 45 people. Within months, a new network emerges, of junior faculty, tenured professors, graduate students, and independent scholars all committed to the project.

Of course, a program of this scale requires a commensurate financial commitment. The MHS makes a modest provision for conference programming in its annual budget,

and registration fees provide additional income, but none of our conferences could take place without the fundraising efforts of MHS Pres. Dennis Fiori and his development staff and the generosity of various individuals and organizations, including the Lowell Institute.

Honing the Scholarship

As soon as the conference essays arrive, MHS staff make them available to registrants. Everyone reads this new scholarship with a critical eye and begins to consider the implications for their own work and the field as a whole. During the conference, MHS staff make a record of the discussion. Only about half of the essays featured at the conference can fit into a published collection, and these must form a coherent whole. Much like a monograph, our essay collections develop themes from beginning to middle to end. The commentary from the program will play an important part in shaping the volume. *Who doesn't love new ideas, to learn from the best, and to have a role in shaping history?*

Multiplying the Copies . . .

With feedback from their colleagues and the editors of the projected volume, the authors of a dozen essays revise them for publication. Then, it's time for Research Department staff to open the electronic files, activate "Track Changes," and point their browser to the online *Chicago Manual of Style*. We may have set aside our green pencils, but the rewarding process of ensuring clarity and consistency—not to mention helping authors to find just the right turn of phrase—has been taking place here at the MHS since 1792.

. . . but Who's Counting?

After the authors approve this copyediting, MHS staff submit the essays to a publisher for consideration. The University of Massachusetts Press, the University of Pittsburgh Press, Palgrave MacMillan, and the University Press of New England have all given us contracts in recent years. If an editorial board does not require additional changes, the publisher's copyeditor will further edit the essays to match the "house" style and provide instructions to typesetters. The author will answer any remaining questions—in the sixth iteration of the conference paper.

The Proof in the Pudding

Contributing to a cover design and receiving page proofs are always exciting stages of the project, as MHS staff and our authors see the tangible results of their efforts. At last, five years after the MHS staff had the idea for the conference, the volume takes its place alongside the *MHS Collections*, *Sibley's Harvard Graduates*, and other MHS essay collections and monographs in libraries and private collections nationwide.

Of course, a handsome bound edition is hardly our ultimate goal. The last three MHS essay collections have also been made available as e-books—a way of "multiplying the

copies" that our founder Jeremy Belknap never could have imagined. The enduring value of the conference we convened and the scholarship that resulted is evident in the bibliographies and endnotes that continue to cite our conference volumes years after a program.

"So, how was the conference?" Allow me to show you . . .

NEW ESSAY COLLECTIONS

It has been a banner year for MHS conference volumes. In December, Palgrave MacMillan published *What's New about the New Immigration? Traditions and Transformations in the United States since 1965*, edited by professors Marilyn Halter and Marilynn S. Johnson, MHS Research Coordinator Katheryn P. Viens, and Director of Research Conrad Edick Wright. A collection of essays first presented at our 2011 conference and revised for publication, it informs our understanding of immigration today by considering the experiences of Bosnians, Chinese, Mexicans, Asian Indians, Nigerians, and other groups. This volume is available from Palgrave MacMillan at www.palgrave.com.

The University of Massachusetts Press Spring & Summer 2015 Catalog features *Massachusetts and the Civil War: The Commonwealth and National Disunion*, edited by Prof. Matthew Mason, Katheryn P. Viens, and Conrad Edick Wright. A collection of essays that consider the key role of Massachusetts before, during, and after the war, it grew out of our 2013 conference of the same name. This volume will be available in July; visit www.umass.edu/press. To view all of the MHS essay collections, visit www.masshist.org/publications/conference-volumes.



INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT IN BOSTON: A HISTORY

The financial services industry in Boston receives its due in *Investment Management in Boston: A History* by David Grayson Allen. Published in January by the University of Massachusetts Press in association with the MHS, the volume is the first comprehensive account of one of the city's most dynamic industries.

Allen, an historical consultant and a former editor of the Adams Papers, traces the history of investing in Boston from the creation in the 17th century of the first institutional endowments, notably Harvard's, to such modern developments as venture capital and hedge funds. The merchants and manufacturers who invested their earnings from the China trade and the textile industry also play important roles in Allen's story, as do the financial innovators who created the "Boston trustee" to manage the inheritances of wealthy Bostonians. Interviews with pioneers of the 20th century's revolution in investment management help bring Allen's account up to the present.

Investment Management in Boston: A History is available from the University of Massachusetts Press, www.umass.edu/umpress/ for \$29.95 (paperback) or \$90.00 (hardcover).

ADAMS PAPERS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adams Family Correspondence will publish its 12th volume this spring. The continuing saga of this preeminent American family opens with the inauguration of John Adams as the second president of the United States and closes just after details of the XYZ Affair are made public in America. While John struggled to maintain American independence and honor while avoiding war, Abigail used her personal networks to influence public opinion and fielded requests for the president's patronage. John Quincy's and Thomas Boylston's letters from Europe offer keen observations about the political turmoil in France, the shifting European landscape, and their implications for the United States. On the personal side, the marriage of John Quincy and Louisa Catherine Johnson in London in July 1797 gave the family cause for celebration, while John's appointment of John Quincy as U.S. minister to Prussia created a minor rift as the scrupulous younger Adams struggled with concerns about nepotism. The Adamses' characteristic candor and perceptiveness again offer forthright commentary during a tense and caustic period in American history.



Detail from Thomas Boylston Adams's French passport, 1797.

The Adams Papers Editorial Project is also pleased to announce that, after a nationwide search, a new editor in chief has been selected. Following the retirement of C. James Taylor in April, Sara Martin, currently series editor for *Adams Family Correspondence*, will become the fifth editor in chief of the project, which has flourished under Jim's leadership. We wish him well and are excited to open this new chapter. For more information on the project, visit www.masshist.org/adams.

FROM BASKET CASE TO INNOVATION HUB

How the Boston of Today Rose from the Ashes

This fall, a series of programs at the MHS will tell the tale of how Boston bounced back from the deep malaise it experienced in the second half of the last century.

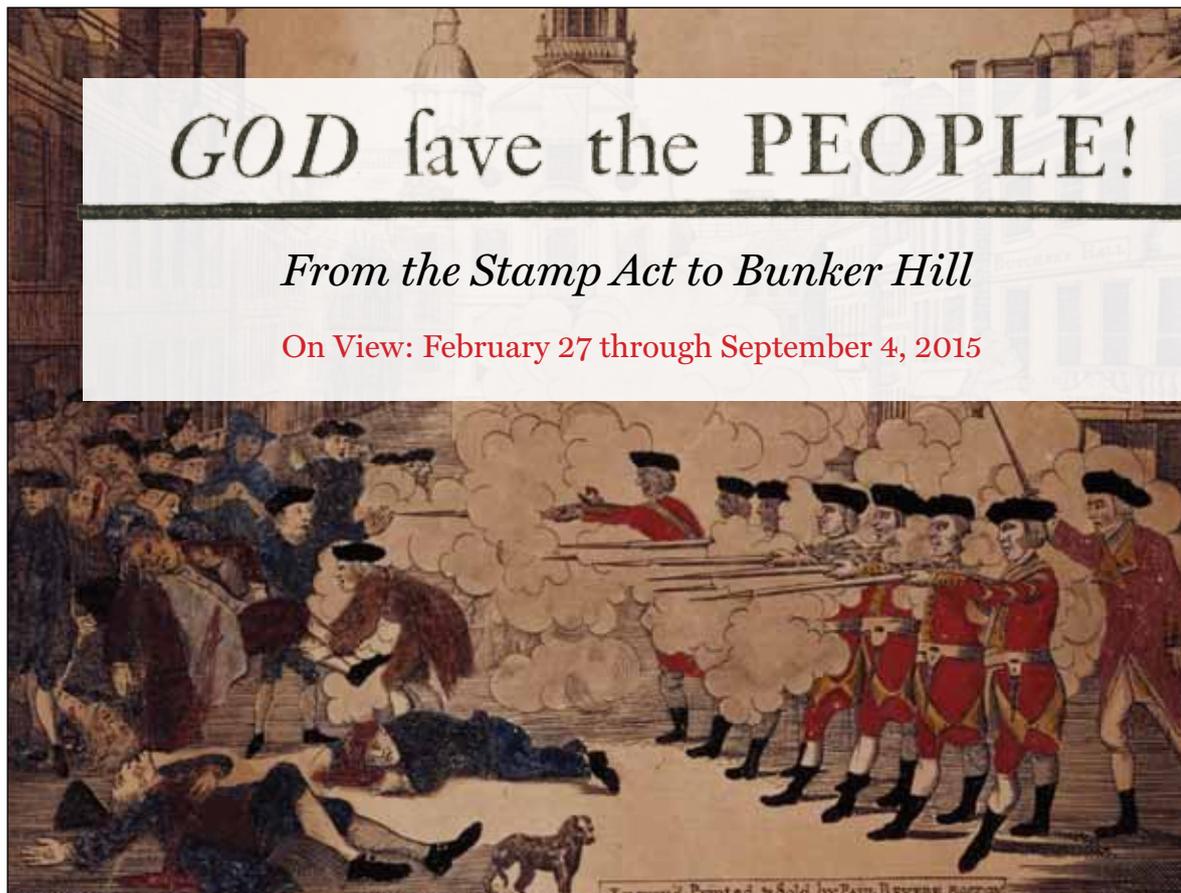
A visitor to Boston 60 years ago arrived in a bleak city. The newest major hotel available was built in 1927. Real estate development was dormant. The Custom House Tower remained the city's tallest building. Its heyday as a manufacturing center was past. Personal income had fallen over 20 percent between 1929 and 1950. Highway expansion and GI Bill support for mortgages was fueling a massive expansion of residential suburban communities, and manufacturing jobs and retail services followed. The city's population had peaked in 1950, as had neighboring commu-

nities close to the urban core, and had undergone an almost catastrophic collapse. From a height of over 800,000 residents, it lost over 200,000 inhabitants, 30 percent of the population, in the following 30 years.

If you were a tourist in Boston last year, you probably had a hard time finding a room. Over 19,000,000 tourists visited the city in 2014, more than three times the number during the bicentennial in 1976. What they found was one of the most sought after metro areas in America, a thriving cultural scene, an impressive skyline, a real estate market too hot to touch, and the highest concentration of technology startups, bio-tech companies, and venture capital in America. Its population is more diverse, younger, more highly educated, and richer than ever before. Instead of its population leaving, it struggles to find space for all the people who are arriving.

How did this happen? In June 1964, *Fortune Magazine* ran an article essentially asking this question; the title was "Boston: What Can a Sick City Do?" The answer is complicated; however, there is no doubt that the Boston Redevelopment Authority, politicians, and community activists had leading roles. The story of Boston's evolution from "a sick city" to one of America's most desired locations will be explored in a series of four programs at the MHS this fall titled *Transforming Boston: From Basket Case to Innovation Hub*. Historians, planners, architects, and some of the citizens who lived through the transformation will reflect on these stories and how the process continues to this day.

exhibition



GIVE TO THE MHS FUND TODAY

Gifts to the MHS Fund allow us to continue fulfilling our mission to collect, preserve, and share the diverse stories that define our nation's past. The MHS Fund provides the Society with unrestricted operating support that is used every day to provide the resources necessary to move our top priorities forward. Through the philanthropy of our friends, the MHS continues to be a national resource for American history. The MHS Fund enables the Society to produce nationally important exhibitions, offer educational programs for visitors of all ages, share its collections with researchers around the world, and provide for the upkeep and care of our facilities. MHS Fund Giving Circle member and Trustee Lisa Nurme supports the MHS Fund because

“The MHS is a repository for some of the most extraordinary documents of American history.”

She continues, **“If you are moved by the story of our nation's founding, you must visit the MHS, see its treasures, and support its commitment to historical scholarship.”**

Become a member of one of the MHS Fund Giving Circles with a gift of \$500 or more and stand alongside an invaluable group of loyal donors who believe history matters. MHS Fund Giving Circle members enjoy a full year of social, cultural, and educational experiences. Donate today and help us collect, preserve, share, and make history today!

WHAT WILL YOUR LEGACY BE?

Planned giving represents your life's work and reflect your values. A planned gift communicates your legacy; it tells a story of what you hold most important in your life and community. The Society's legacy giving group, the James Sullivan Society, honors the Society's founding president and first recorded donor. Through a generous bequest of important historical documents and artifacts, his legacy lives on.

Today, friends continue this tradition of giving started over two centuries ago by naming the MHS as a beneficiary in their estate plans. New Sullivan Society members Jan Cigliano and George Hartman explained their reason for naming the Society in their estate plans: **“The MHS is an invaluable resource for historical research, documentation, education, and programs, and a delightful place to work, meet, and talk with individuals involved in an exciting array of historical inquiry and endeavors.”**

The Society welcomes a variety of options and planned gifts to keep the MHS an invaluable resource. Naming the MHS as a beneficiary of your will or trust is an easy, practical way to make a meaningful contribution to support the Society's mission without affecting your current finances. You may also be able to reduce your taxable estate. A bequest can be made for a specific asset—cash, tangible personal property, real estate, the remainder of a retirement plan—a percentage of your estate, or part or all of what remains of your estate after other bequests are carried out.

To learn more about the many planned giving opportunities that can help donors realize their own philanthropy and ensure the future of the MHS, contact Audrey Wolfe at 617-646-0543 or awolfe@masshist.org.



HISTORY REVEALED: THOMAS HUTCHINSON & THE STAMP ACT RIOTS

On October 8, 2014, 80 Fellows, Members, and friends attended *History Revealed: Thomas Hutchinson and the Stamp Act Riots*. Guests enjoyed a reception, remarks by John W. Tyler, editor of *The Correspondence of Thomas Hutchinson: 1740-1766* (2014), and a chance to explore items from the Society's collections related to the coming of the American Revolution. A special dinner for MHS Fund Giving Circle members followed.



Clockwise from left: Curator of Art Anne Bentley gives guests a closer view of a document. MHS Fellow John Tyler speaks with Member Tunie Howe and Fellow Sheila Perry. MHS Trustee Lee Campbell and Overseer Tom Paine enjoy the reception before the talk. MHS Trustee Judy Wittenberg converses with Jack Wittenberg and MHS Overseer John O'Leary.

COCKTAILS WITH CLIO

More than 250 guests turned out for the fifth annual Cocktails with Clio on November 7 to support the Society's outreach efforts and educational programs.

Friends socialized at the Society while sipping cocktails and nibbling on tasty hors d'oeuvres and then moved to the nearby Harvard Club for dessert and the program. Guests sat back to listen as MHS Pres. Dennis Fiori led a fascinating conversation with featured guest David Hackett Fischer. The audience was captivated with stories from Prof. Fischer's distinguished career teaching and writing about well-known historical events. He shared how MHS collections have influenced his work over the past 50 years and revealed to the audience some of his current and upcoming projects.



Clockwise from left: Fellow David Grayson Allen and his wife Julyann enjoy chatting with MHS Pres. Dennis Fiori. The Figgy Puddin' Carollers sing holiday favorites in the Dowse Library. Members Sally Ebeling, Gretchen Grozier, and Loumona Petroff catch up with one another.



Fellows, Members, and guests gathered at the Society on December 5 for an evening of holiday cheer, festive music, and jovial camaraderie. The Figgy Puddin' Carollers delighted guests by singing seasonal favorites and Stephen T. Riley Librarian Peter Drummey entertained the crowd with a reading of the anti-Christmas laws, an annual tradition.



Left to right: Following the reception at the MHS, guests gather at the Harvard Club and listen to featured guest and MHS Fellow David Hackett Fischer and MHS Pres. Dennis Fiori. Fellow George Sergentanis and his wife Irene enjoy the reception. David Hackett Fischer engages in lively conversation with Clio Committee co-chair Tony Leness, MHS Board Chair Charlie Ames, and Clio Committee co-chair Ben Adams. MHS Overseer Joan Fink, Julia Pfannenstiehl, and Nancy Netzer share a laugh during the reception.

Thanks to the support of all of our generous sponsors as well as all of our ticket buyers, Cocktails with Clio made history once again.



Massachusetts Historical Society
1154 Boylston Street
Boston MA 02215

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Boston, Mass.
Permit No. 53



Over 9,000
pages of Civil
War materials
newly digitized.
See page 3.