



# The Boston TV News Digital Library: 1960-2000

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# Partners

**WGBH Media Library and Archives (WGBH)**  
**Northeast Historic Film (NHF)**  
**Boston Public Library (BPL)**  
**Cambridge Community TV (CCTV)**



# Partners

- **WGBH Media Library and Archives (WGBH)**
  - Public TV station (and archive)
  - Local Boston Public TV news collection
- **Northeast Historic Film (NHF)**
  - Regional Archive
  - Local Boston commercial station news collection
- **Boston Public Library (BPL)**
  - Major Public Library
  - Local Boston commercial station news collection
- **Cambridge Community TV (CCTV)**
  - Community access TV station
  - Local Boston community access coverage (public?)



# Partner strengths

- **WGBH**

- Deep experience with film, video, audio and moving images
- Need to solve issues of digital moving images
- Have beginnings of a solution and work flow of digital files storage, preservation, and access
- Strong relationship with broadcast and on-line viewers, the public, and educators

- **NHF**

- Extensive experience with film
- Extensive experience with issues of moving image preservation and access
- Film transfer and storage capabilities
- Strong relationship with broad New England community many who have lived in the area for years

# Partner Strengths

- **BPL**
  - Extensive knowledge of library standards as applies to paper, books, photos
  - Strong relationship with local community as a public library resource
  - Strong public access policies and capability
  - Well known institution
- **CCTV**
  - Close relationship with patrons and community
  - Strong and successful community access station
  - Captured and saved community history from 1990-2000
  - Truly understands the need for digital solutions at economical prices

# Partner collections

	1960-	1969	1970-	1979	1980-	1989	1990-	2000
WHDH, CBS & ABC affiliate <b>Boston Public Library</b> 1960s to mid-1970s 16mm film								
WCVB, ABC affiliate <b>Northeast Historic Film</b> 1970-1979 primarily 16mm film							Video	
Ten O'Clock News, PBS, <b>WGBH</b> 1970-1991 video								
<b>Cambridge Community TV</b> 1988-1999 video								





# Project goals

- combine known Boston television collections to develop a comprehensive digital library and build a lasting collaboration among the community partners
- provide primary source materials in classrooms for the study of urban history
- research and create a rights primer for local news collections
- raise awareness of the individual collections and the new online library to support sustainability
- preserve and make accessible online unique digital assets with relevant descriptive metadata.





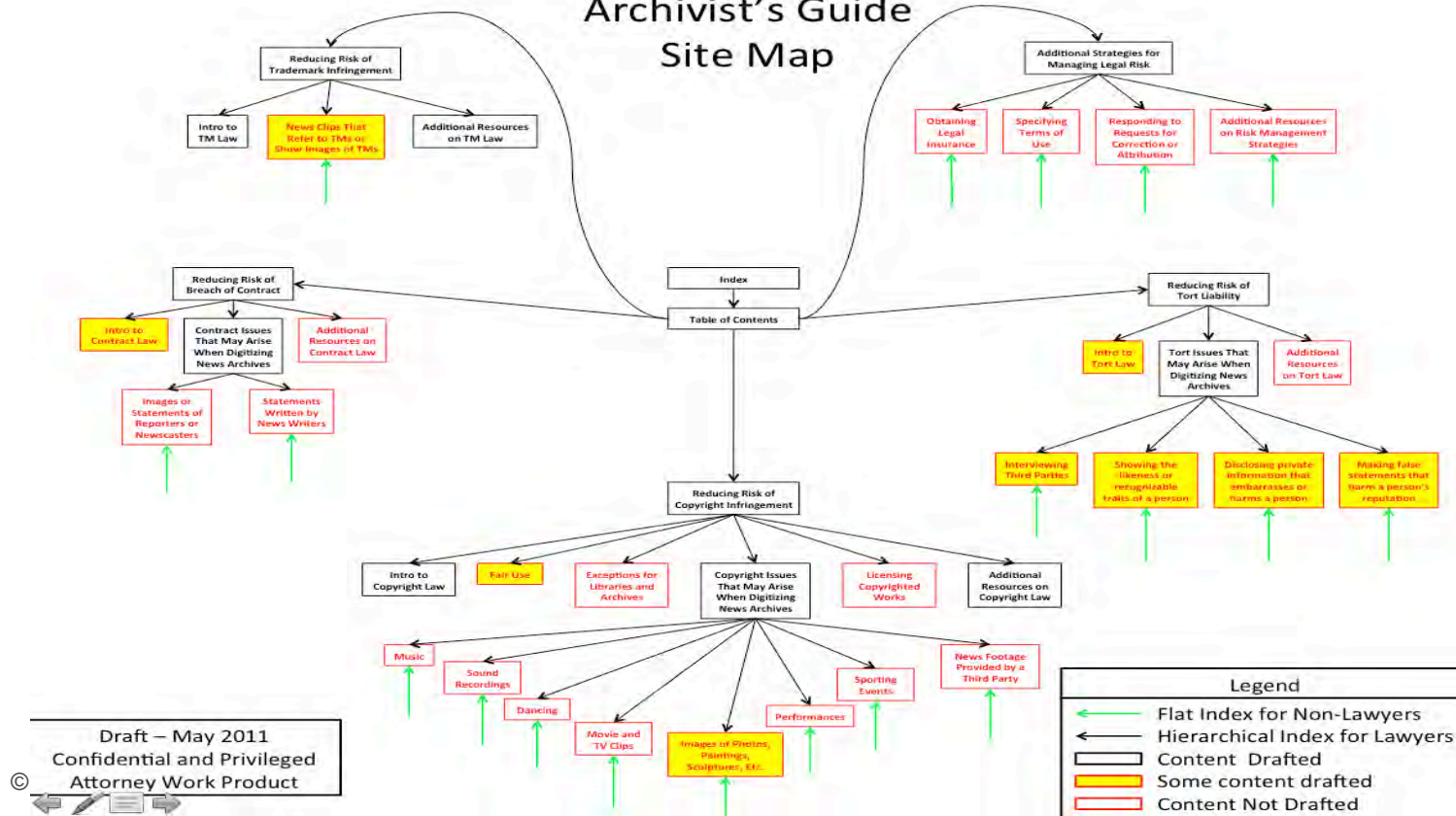
# Goals

- Use open Source solutions for technology where possible and share the solutions
- Identify rights issues and develop guidelines – working with faculty and students from Harvard Law School Berkman Center for Internet and Society
- Have users help determine digitizing and cataloging priorities
- Develop concrete examples of educational use to stimulate access and use
- Invite other news organization in community to join: radio and newspaper

# Rights guidelines

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## Archivist's Guide Site Map











# NHF WCVB film collection

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# NHF/WCVB assignment sheets

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assignment list for monday, july 26, 1976	
north end l. bagger	in a vacant building/sil/perkins/daylight/so len
✓dorchester smoke fire	on columbia road/sof/alan alan
burke kids to peabody museum hfr	for gloria for tomorrow/sil/len
✓barnstable blue laws folo	4 merchants go to court and say they ain't guilty/this is a folo to the story we did last week about the blue laws hassle with int.s. with those involved plus real estate. sof/jim/ray
✓oops search w. tisbury	not to be confused with tisbury. this is definitely a west tisbury story. they're on the lookout for woods and shoemfeld to see if the two alleged baby-nappers of 26 kids and 1 bus driver are enjoying their summer on the beaches of west tisbury/sil/quinn
✓gov/auto ins. reform <u>for noon only</u>	gov. tells his point of view on the auto reform legislation/apparently he's pretty much in agreement with the bill/sof/bill/alan
foxboro cleanup	after last night's rock concert (fleetwood mac/eagles/bos scaggs/this is cleanup of the debris made by the filthy bastards who paid 9 bucks a head for general admission/sof/paul don
✓digrazia/re: hearing	with the 17 pox persons who wouldn't standup for the lineup/tells them that if their good little boys and stay out of trouble/in 6 months, he'll forget about their cases/sof/ roger/len
✓school committee	subject: how many little tykes in <del>thx</del> each classroom. so the parents go to the meeting to confront the gods of the school. the gods become angry and walk out/sof/gloria/alan
✓state workers n.c.	try to appease the media by providing a photo session before going into their negotiations, they talk, we listen and film/then they go to their talks/who cares/sof/mike/john
✓mounted police expands	or the mayor and the police commissioner in another staged media event. this time to tell us that the mounted police in the back bay have done such a superb job in preventing crime that they're expanding the mounted police/sof/roger/len
✓brighter day/boat fire <i>SEC. 11.1 GIVEN TO SPYING G. 10/25/76</i>	who would want to burn the patrol <del>thx</del> boat so the little cherubs cannot have their sailing program start tomorrow. this is a follow/ sof/paul/don







Ribbs,  
--DPW

can 577  
2/20/69

sof mag color cuts 4:00

TITLE: Ribbs  
~~DPW~~ DPW

SUBJECT:

LOCATION:

REPORTER:

DESCRIPTION:

CROSS REF:

CAN NO: 558  
DATE: 2/20/69

SILENT

(SOF) OPT (MAG)

(COLOR) BW

TIME: 3:00

Ribicoff, Sen

1385

<sup>3</sup>  
4/9/70

sof air 1:30

*RIBICOFF, Sen*

*1383-1*

*4/3/70*

*sil + sof  
at Graham Jr College  
500'*

TITLE: Ribicoff, A. Sen.

CAN NO: 732

SUBJECT:

DATE: MAY 1 1969

LOCATION:

SILENT

REPORTER:

(SOF) OPT (MAG)

DESCRIPTION:

(COLOR) BW

CROSS REF:

TIME: 1:20

TITLE: Richardson, Mrs.

CAN NO: 206

SUBJECT:

DATE: 6/25/68

LOCATION:

SILENT

REPORTER: Pensullo

(SOF) OPT (MAG)

DESCRIPTION:

air piece

(COLOR) BW

CROSS REF:

TIME: 1:30

# WGBH record samples

19

**MARS LOGS : Form**

**Record Groups** Assaats Materials Used Programs **Logs**

**Search** Find Mode

**Log Views** Form List

**Functions** Log Report ?

**WGBH** Omit Record

Tracking # 516313

Item # 100 Type News Tape Source

Series Ten O'Clock News Source Ref

Title Rights Holder

Digital Folder Name Digital Codec

Digital File Name Digital Wrapper

Date Portrayed 11/13/1981 Time In Out

Event Location

Note / Restrictions

Keywords TOCN show tape

**Description** 1) Cash rich corporations buy tax credits from poorer companies under Reagan's economic recovery program. 2) Changing structure of American family — more single parents and working mothers; Uri Bronfenbrenner. 3) Brief on state senator Alan Sisitsky charged with disruptive behavior at Seattle Airport. 4) Interview with writer V.S. Naipaul. 5) Studio Red Top is home for Boston women in jazz. Cathy Lee, founder and Barbara Mejan, percussionist. 6) Stravinsky centennial festival at New England Conservatory. Robert Craft; photo of Igor; student ensemble with chorus and French horns. 7) Obit of French filmmaker Abel Gance; silent clip from "Napoleon." Anchor Lydon in bow tie.

**Language:**

**Transcript Delivered:**

**Transcript in DAM:** ☐

**Footage in DAM:** ☐

**Related Asset Format(s)** 3/4 inch videotape

A\_D0D3BY2H MJ67WGZ

A\_D0D3BY2H MJ67WGZ

V\_1UZJAT3CQI5MY6V

**MARS LOGS : Form**

**Record Groups** Assaats Materials Used Programs **Logs**

**Search** Find Mode

**Log Views** Form List

**Functions** Log Report ?

**WGBH** Omit Record

Tracking # 516355

Item # 113 Type News Tape Source

Series Ten O'Clock News Source Ref

Title Rights Holder

Digital Folder Name Digital Codec

Digital File Name Digital Wrapper

Date Portrayed 3/15/1977 Time In Out

Event Location

Note / Restrictions

Keywords Boston Public Library

**Description** Facade of Boston Public Library older (McKim) building. Pan of inscription "The Commonwealth of Massachusetts requires the education of the people as the safeguard of order and liberty." Move to modern building entrance. Sign - "Library will be closed on Sundays." Patrons in line at circulation desk in lobby. Librarian stamps due dates on borrowing cards. Reading tables in research room.

**Language:**

**Transcript Delivered:**

**Transcript in DAM:** ☐

**Footage in DAM:** ☐

**Related Asset Format(s)** 3/4 inch videotape  
Betacam  
Digital betacam

A\_OWA6SCIQP1VU0CC

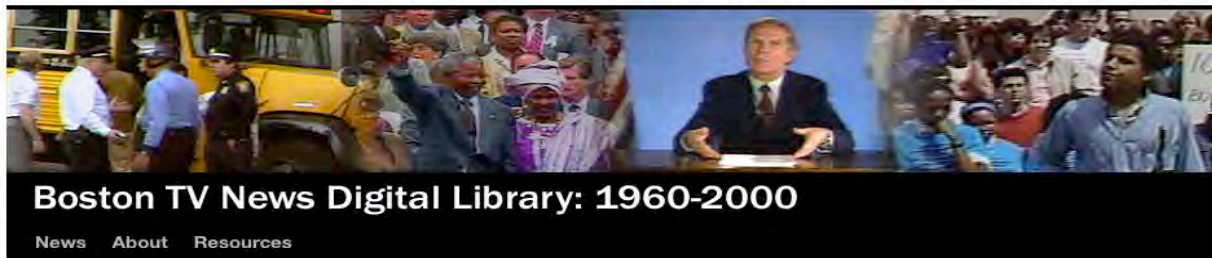
A\_OWA6SCIQP1VU0CC

V\_A2YVQR500W7NEYP

# Intern blogs

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Created by WGBH in collaboration with the Boston Public Library, Cambridge Community Television and Northeast Historic Film



← The Curious Case of "I am Curious"

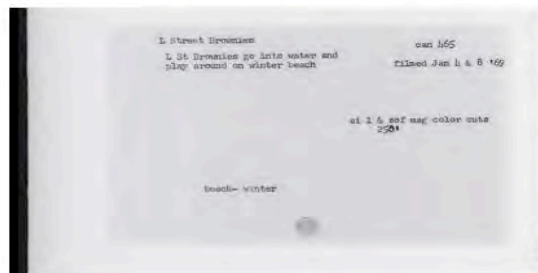
The Infill Housing Program, 1968-1973 →

## L Street Brownies: A Century-Old Boston Tradition

Posted on [August 30, 2011](#) by [Courtney Michael](#)

by Jessica Green

As an intern at the Media Library and Archives of WGBH, I have come across many interesting index cards in the process of transcribing them into the Filemaker database for the Boston Local TV News Digital Library Project. Recently, a card about 250 feet of news footage filmed on January 4th and 8th, 1969 caught my eye:



"L St Brownies go into water and play around on winter beach."

Winter beach? That must have been a rather unpleasant swim.

A little poking around on the Internet gave me some insight into who these L

### Archives

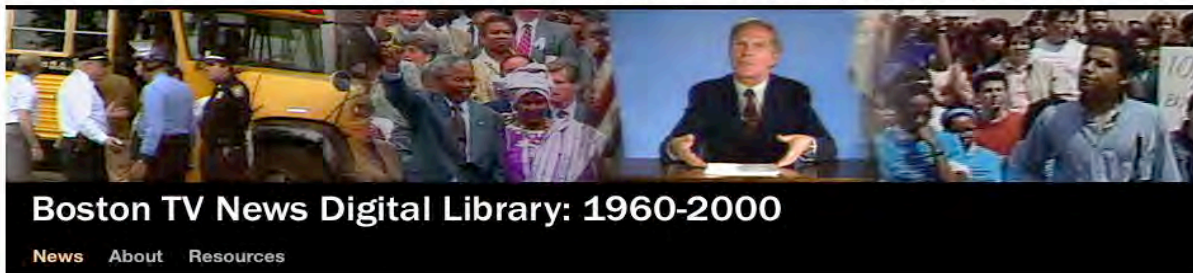
- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [June 2011](#)
- [May 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)

### Meta

- [Log in](#)

# Blog site

Created by WGBH in collaboration with the Boston Public Library, Cambridge Community Television and Northeast Historic Film



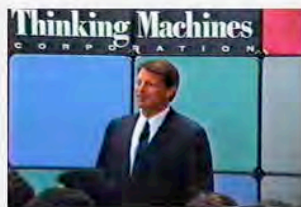
### Al Gore in Cambridge, 1992

Posted on [September 30, 2011](#) by [marissa](#)

by Jason Ong

In 1992, Senator and Vice Presidential candidate Al Gore visited the offices of Thinking Machines, which was a Cambridge-based manufacturer of supercomputers. Cambridge Community Television was there to cover his visit, and I recently watched our tape. Thinking Machines eventually went out of business and closed in 1994.

Meanwhile, Al Gore went on to serve two terms as Vice President, lose his own Presidential election (to a son of the man he'd helped defeat eight years earlier), receive a Nobel Peace Prize for his environmental activism, and, of special interest to those of us who are in media production, co-found Current TV.



Al Gore at Thinking Machines, 1992.  
Courtesy CCTV

#### Archives

- [September 2011](#)
- [August 2011](#)
- [July 2011](#)
- [June 2011](#)
- [May 2011](#)
- [March 2011](#)

#### Meta

- [Log in](#)



# Teachers and student use

- How to engage students and teachers to use this local TV news collection
- Project partner:
  - Teachers Domain / PBS LearningMedia
  - An on-line digital library of media resources from PBS programming aligned to curriculum topics and state educational standards





SEARCH TEACHERS' DOMAIN

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User: Please sign in.

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Password:

SIGN IN

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FEATURED RESOURCE:



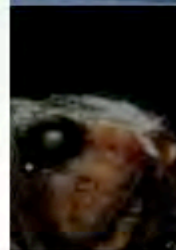
TEACHERS' DOMAIN



NOVA  
ScienceNOW

on TEACHERS' DOMAIN

Go! Cyber



Fastest Glacier  
Video for grades 6-12

FEATURING  
MEDIA FROM:

NOVA

NATIONAL K -12 SUBJECT

Arts

*Teachers' Domain* is a free digital media service for educational use from public broadcasting and its partners. You'll find thousands of media resources, support materials, and tools for classroom lessons, individualized learning programs, and teacher professional learning communities.

WHAT'S NEW

**Preview PBS LearningMedia!**

Exciting news! Teachers' Domain is expanding into PBS LearningMedia, a next-generation digital media platform that empowers PreK-16 educators to re-imagine learning, transform teaching, and engage students. Look forward to over twice the content, plus new features and functions. Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for more updates.

**Students react to Freedom Riders**

The story behind a courageous band of civil rights activists called Freedom Riders.

RESOURCES BY STANDARD

Browse Teachers' Domain resources by your individual state educational frameworks, national standards, or by Common Core State Standards.



SEARCH TEACHERS' DOMAIN

GO

User: Please sign in.

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# Boston Desegregation

Resource for Grades 6-12 | [Citation](#)



Media Type:  
Video

Running Time: 3m 39s  
Size: 10.6 MB

VIEW

SAVE TO FOLDER

Share



Source: *Evening Compass*

See Also:

National K-12 Subject:  
[American Laws and Rights](#)  
[Civil Rights and Civil Liberties](#)

Lesson Plans Using this Resource:  
[Re-Examining Brown](#)  
[Strategies for an Equal](#)

Resource Produced by:



Collection Developed by:

This news segment from 1975 reviews the events of the first year of Boston's controversial school desegregation plan. Because of geographic barriers between black and white communities, a federal court instituted and enforced busing to desegregate the city's schools. The plan was greeted with white resistance, racial violence, and the boycotting of several schools.

Accessibility Features: Caption

▶ Background Essay

▶ Discussion Questions

▶ Standards





# Classroom use

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# Educational use

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- Develop activities for teachers to help encourage use of digital libraries
  - How to research and explore a large digital library of local news
  - Use to teach media literacy
  - Use of primary source materials
  - How to engage with content
    - >How to help specific topics and themes to be easily found



# Classroom use

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- Will need content that could be used in classroom
  - History of Boston – locations, events, people
  - The changing face of a city over 40 years
  - Local events that made national news
  - Curricular context for the study of urban history

1960  
2000

## BostonTV News Digital Library

[News](#) | [About](#) | [Resources](#)**The Brookline Booksmith and Marshall Smith: Local Upstart, East Coast Phenomenon, and Local Institution***Posted on April 4, 2012 by Dallas Foster*

When I moved to [Jamaica Plain](#) this fall one of my favorite local discoveries was Brookline Booksmith in the nearby [Coolidge Corner neighborhood](#) of Brookline. In a world of impersonal online mega-bookellers and big box behemoths more interested in sales than diversity of offerings and personal service, the [locally owned bookshop](#) was a breath of fresh air. While going through the WCVB collection a particular record caught my eye because of the title "Paperback Booksmith R.E." For those readers not accustomed to 1970s local news cameraman speak "R.E." means real estate, or footage of the outside of buildings important to a story.

The text of the record goes on to describe the bankruptcy of the Booksmith in January 1979, effecting stores 'all over New England.' Having only been to one local Booksmith store, the idea of more of them grabbed my interest.

**Tags**

1960s 1970s 1990s 1970s 1970s 1970s  
[rights](#) [access](#) [going](#) [Alfred](#) [Kazin](#) [anti-war](#) [let](#) [Dunbar](#)  
[Barney](#) [Frank](#) [boston](#) [BPL](#) [Boston](#)  
[cambridge](#) [cards](#) [catalog](#) [cards](#)  
[cataloging](#) [catalogs](#) [CCTV](#) [cheat](#)  
[congress](#) [crisis](#) [Demonstrations](#)  
[Environmentalism](#) [Film](#) [harvard](#) [Harvard](#)  
[Square](#) [history](#) [Kevin](#) [White](#) [library](#)  
[student](#) [NHF](#) [Occupancy](#) [Occupancy](#) [Boston](#)  
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[Society](#) [Supreme](#) [Court](#) [decisions](#)  
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# Thank you!

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