

Collection Update for October 2019

2068 new items were added in October

Hosted

- Boston Latin School - Boston Latin School Photograph Collection (15 items)
- Boston Public Library - Colonial and Revolutionary Boston (Collection of Distinction) (2 items)*
- Boston Public Library - George Bellows (1882-1925). Prints and Drawings (158 items)*
- Boston Public Library - Giovanni Battista Piranesi (1720-1778). Etchings (114 items)
- Boston Public Library - Medieval and Early Renaissance Manuscripts (Collection of Distinction) (1 item)*
- Boston Public Library - Thomas Prince Library and Collection of the Old South Church (46 items)
- Boston Public Library - Victoria Woodhull Martin Papers, 1883-1927 (776 items)
- Sturgis Library - Stanley Smith Deed Collection (952 items)
- Weymouth Public Libraries - Weymouth Public Libraries Historical Photograph Collection (3 items)*
- Wilbraham Public Library - Wilbraham Town Archives Photographic Collection (1 item)*

* items added to existing collection

Harvested

No harvests in October

137,508 Item views *763,689* Total item-level records *307,691* Total hosted items

Featured New Collection...

This month the BPL added a collection of 114 etchings of Giovanni Battista Piranesi (1720-1778). Piranesi was one of the most important Italian printmakers of the period and his views of Rome continue to define modern ideas of the ancient city. Check out the full collection [here](#).



[View of the bridge and mausoleum built by the Emperor Hadrian](#)



Contextual Conversations:
Representation and Digital Practice

2020 Conference Update...

In the coming months leading up to the conference, we'll be featuring our various panelists and speakers. This month, we'll introduce our first panel, entitled "Politics, Ethics and Context in Digital Collections". The panel's charge is to follow up on points raised on these topics by Eben English at his luncheon keynote at the 2019 Conference. However you reacted to Eben's presentation if you were present, it certainly elicited a lot of feedback, which would tend to indicate that it's an important subject to consider. This panel will be led by distinguished scholar, [Elizabeth Duclos-Orsello](#), Chairperson, Interdisciplinary Studies, Salem State University.



Elizabeth Duclos-Orsello

Other members of this panel will include Eben English, who has graciously agreed to be a panelist as well as give the Luncheon Keynote, Elizabeth Pope, Curator of Books at the American Antiquarian Society, and Jane Kelly, former Digital Archives Specialist, Web Archiving Assistant #metoo collection, Schlesinger Library, Harvard University.

The Digital Commonwealth Membership Committee needs you...

Interested in:

- ? Reaching out to and meeting with potential new members for Digital Commonwealth
- ? Organizing exciting member events
- ? Helping Digital Commonwealth grow

then please consider volunteering to serve on the Membership Committee! The committee meets once a month by conference call and requires a commitment of between 2-3 hours per month on average to undertake organization, coordination and execution of an event or event(s). Please contact committee co-chair, Alan Karass, at alanmkarass@gmail.com if you are willing to help or have questions.

“Getting Started with Digital Commonwealth” at Melville’s Arrowhead...

We were thrilled to be able to host a “Getting Started with Digital Commonwealth” event on October 18th at the Berkshire County Historical Society in Pittsfield, MA. Twenty-four people attended and many stayed on after the presentation for a tour of Herman Melville’s Arrowhead home. We also welcomed Amy Lafave, Executive Director of the Lenox Public Library, who talked about the benefits of hosting their collection on Digital Commonwealth. Thanks to Lesley Herzberg, BCHS Executive Director, for hosting us and to everyone that attended!

Lesley first presented the Melville photo wall (top left) that includes Herman and his family. We also got to view the painting of Sarah Moorhead (top right) who it was rumored Melville had an affair with (check out “[Melville in Love](#)” by Michael Shelden). The windows in Melville’s study (bottom right) where he wrote Moby Dick point north. After the torrential rain and winds of the day before, we were fortunate to be treated to the same glorious view of Mount Greylock (bottom left) that Melville himself enjoyed. He was inspired by the constantly changing light on the mountain that reminded him of a giant whale.



New Digital Commonwealth Blogs...

[Formats, have we got formats](#)

A reminder from the Outreach Committee of all the item formats in the Digital Commonwealth repository...from photos and letters to painting and sheet music! Check out all the items in the collection by format [here](#).

[In the News: David Akiba](#)

In this blog, the Outreach Committee brings your attention to the passing of local photographer David Akiba in August 2019, and to his work that is hosted on Digital Commonwealth. See the hosted collection of Mr. Akiba’s photographs [here](#).

Former Board Member Alix Quan...

Digital Commonwealth was saddened to hear of the passing of former Board Member, Alix Quan. Alix also served as Secretary and chaired the Conference Committee for several years. She was the Assistant Director/Head of Reference at the State Library of Massachusetts. For more on Alix’s life, please click [here](#).



Save the dates!!

“Getting Started with Digital Commonwealth”, February 12, 2020, 1-3pm, Wilbraham Public Library.

“2020 Annual Conference”, Tuesday April 7, 2020, 8-4pm, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA.



Membership News

Welcome new members!

- Sharon MA Historical Society
- Weston Public Library
- Woburn Public Library

Welcome back all our returning members!

- Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University
- Beaman Memorial Public Library
- Boston College
- Brockton Public Library
- Hatfield Historical Society
- J. V. Fletcher Library
- Longmeadow Historical Society
- Massachusetts Horticultural Society Library
- Morrill Memorial Library
- North Adams Public Library
- Northern Essex Community College
- Northfield Mount Hermon
- Plimoth Plantation
- Reading Public Library
- South Hadley Public Library
- St. John's Preparatory School
- USS Constitution Museum
- Washington Historical Committee
- Worthington Historical Society

Not a Member? Join [here](#)