



# Highlights

## Collection Update for June 2021

0 new items were added in June

### Hosted:

- No new ingests

### Harvested:

- No new harvests

**161,793** Item views   **925,417** Total item-level records   **356,640** Total hosted items

## "Expanding Your Digital Horizons" Online Event Series

Have you ever wondered about the inner workings of a rare book library? What do they collect and why? Where do all the materials live? How do they ensure the survival and preservation of those materials? In this virtual tour, we'll go behind the scenes at the American Antiquarian Society to learn a little about the institution's more than 200-hundred-year history, collecting scope, conservation practices, and approaches to virtual and in-person programs. A highlight of the tour will be visiting the 7,000-square-foot addition to the library completed in 2019, which includes the Learning Lab—a multipurpose classroom space—and the Conservation Lab.

There is no charge for this event, but pre-registration is required.

[Register for "Behind the Scenes at the American Antiquarian Society"](#)

### Speaker Bios:

**Kayla Hopper** is the director of outreach at AAS. She works to reach a wide range of the Society's constituents by planning and developing programming for the general public and K-12 audiences, running public and group tours, and being part of AAS's social media team. She has worked previously at Historic New England and the Emily Dickinson Museum. She holds a B.A. in history from the College of the Holy Cross and an M.A. in history and public history from the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

**Babette Gehrlich** is the chief conservator at the American Antiquarian Society. She is responsible for the preservation of the Society's collections and works closely with library staff. She received her training in book/paper conservation and hand bookbinding in Berlin, Germany, and the Centro del bel Libro in Switzerland. Prior to joining the AAS staff in 1989, she held the position of assistant book conservator at Yale University.

## Upcoming Events....

**Mid-September (date TBA)**, "Digital Commonwealth Primary Source Sets".

**October date TBA**, "A Discussion on Race", Faculty Members, North Shore Community College.

**October 29**, presentation by Francesca Giannetti, Rutgers University, who will be speaking on working with students to enrich data and metadata associated with existing digitized archival collections.

**November date TBA**, "Cross Cultural Competency", online workshop, Jennifer Harris & Tiffany Magnolia, North Shore Community College.

**December date TBA**, "Digital Commonwealth, User Perspectives on Getting Your Collections Digitized"

## Digital Commonwealth's Officers for 2021-2022 and New Board Members

The Board Officers for 2021-2022 will be as follows:

**President:** Kate Boylan, Wheaton College

**Vice-President, President Elect:** Sonia Pacheco, UMass Dartmouth

**Past-Presidents:**

Justin Snow, Salem State University (2020-2021)

Danielle Sangalang, Mass College of Art and Design (2019-2020)

**Secretary:** Hans Bergmann, Mount Washington History Society

**Treasurer:** Tegan Kehoe, Paul S. Russell MD Museum of Medical History  
& Innovation, Massachusetts General Hospital

**The Board is pleased to welcome new members:**

Kate Bradley, Independent Archivist

Amanda Fowler, Phillips Library, Peabody Essex Museum

Maureen Mann, Wellesley Public Schools



## Welcome from Digital Commonwealth President, Kate Boylan and VP, President Elect, Sonia Pacheco

Sonia and I are so excited to serve as Digital Commonwealth President and Vice President for FY22. Our goals this year are to support the mindful growth of this organization by encouraging membership and championing strong partnerships with the State, BPL, Massachusetts History Alliance, and DPLA, and by hosting a welcoming, inclusive, and thought-provoking annual conference. Perhaps equally as important as our membership and partnerships, we hope to collaboratively draft and broadcast both mission and values-oriented statements to help guide Digital Commonwealth in future initiatives, so that the organization on-whole can assess diversity, depth, and breadth in our leadership, inclusivity and visibility and description in our collections, and our economic and labor practices on whole to best foster community and collaboration and support among Massachusetts cultural heritage institutions, employees, and researchers. We look forward to updating information on our website for accessibility and engagement, and welcome feedback and questions over the course of the next year!

## Armchair Traveling.... Interesting Bibliographic Related Images



The kingdom of books, Tianjin Binhai Library, China (left)  
Antique scroll reader, Beauport, the Sleeper-McCann House, Gloucester, MA (Historic New England) (center)  
Amazing bench in a library in Alexandria, Egypt (right)



## Meet new Digital Commonwealth Board Member, Amanda Fowler

**Can you tell us about your professional background and what drew you to pursuing a career as an Archivist or in Library Science?** Previously, I was a social studies teacher and then a school librarian. While I was at Simmons working on my MLIS, I switched to the Cultural Heritage Informatics concentration because of my interest in digital collections and the intersection of mission and practice between libraries, archives, and museums. I'm an organizer and information seeker by nature, so it feels good to put those traits to work!

**How and when did you first become aware of DC?** I learned about Digital Commonwealth while I was at Simmons, studying the ways institutions find and access resources to either begin or expand their digitization programs and build their digital collections. DC is an amazing resource for large and small institutions in Massachusetts.

**How do you use DC in your professional life?** I am currently the Digitization Technician and Reference Assistant at the Phillips Library of the Peabody Essex Museum. We already have a couple of photograph collections hosted by Digital Commonwealth and are about to launch another collection of photographs by Essex County author and architectural photographer Samuel Chamberlain. Because those Chamberlain photos are almost ready to come home, we're already starting to pull materials and draft metadata spreadsheets for our next batch of items to go to the BPL to be digitized by DC. We plan to continue to add collections, primarily of visual materials, to be hosted by Digital Commonwealth as we build our online access.

**Why did you decide to become involved with DC?** I'm early in my career and working with a great group of colleagues who are not primarily focused on digitization work, so I wanted to get involved with other local digital collections people and a collaborative group of institutions who are working together to share knowledge and best practices.

**What do you hope to achieve in your tenure on the Board?** I'm hoping to learn a lot myself and have an opportunity to help DC grow its membership and provide services to its member organizations. I would also like to be involved with DC's role as hub for the Digital Public Library of America.

Thank you, Amanda, and welcome to the Digital Commonwealth Board!!

We'll be meeting the other new board members in the newsletter in the coming months.

## Digital Commonwealth Blogposts

[New Collections Added in May and June](#)

by *Digital Commonwealth Outreach Committee*

## DPLA News

Digital Public Library of America joins national effort to combat misinformation...read more [here](#).

## Member News

### Welcome New Members!

Massachusetts National Guard Museum  
Nahman-Watson Library, Greenfield Community College  
Sandra Hakkarainen, Friend

### Welcome Back Returning Members!

Attleboro Public Library  
Bancroft Memorial Library & General William F. Draper Library  
Bellingham Public Library  
Berklee College of Music  
Billerica Public Library  
Boston Architectural College  
Boston Latin School - Harry Keefe Library  
Boston University Libraries  
Boylston Historical Society  
Brandeis University, Archives & Special Collections, Goldfarb Library  
d'Alzon Library, Assumption College  
Fisher College  
Fitchburg Public Library  
Forbes Library  
Framingham State University  
Governor's Academy, Pescosolido Library  
Grafton Public Library  
Harvard Forest Archives

Lancaster Historical Society  
Little Red Shop Museum  
Massachusetts College of Art and Design  
McLean Hospital  
National Park Service  
New England Conservatory  
Norwell Public Library  
Paul S. Russell, MD Museum of Medical History and Innovation at Massachusetts General Hospital  
Plainville Public Library  
Project SAVE Armenian Photograph Archives  
Scituate Town Library  
Simmons University  
Springfield College  
University of Massachusetts Lowell  
Upper Housatonic Valley NHA  
Ventford Hall  
Ventress Memorial Library  
Westborough Public Library  
Wilmington Memorial Library  
Yiddish Book Center

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# Digital Commonwealth



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## Digital Commonwealth BLM Statement

## Digital Commonwealth Land Acknowledgment Statement