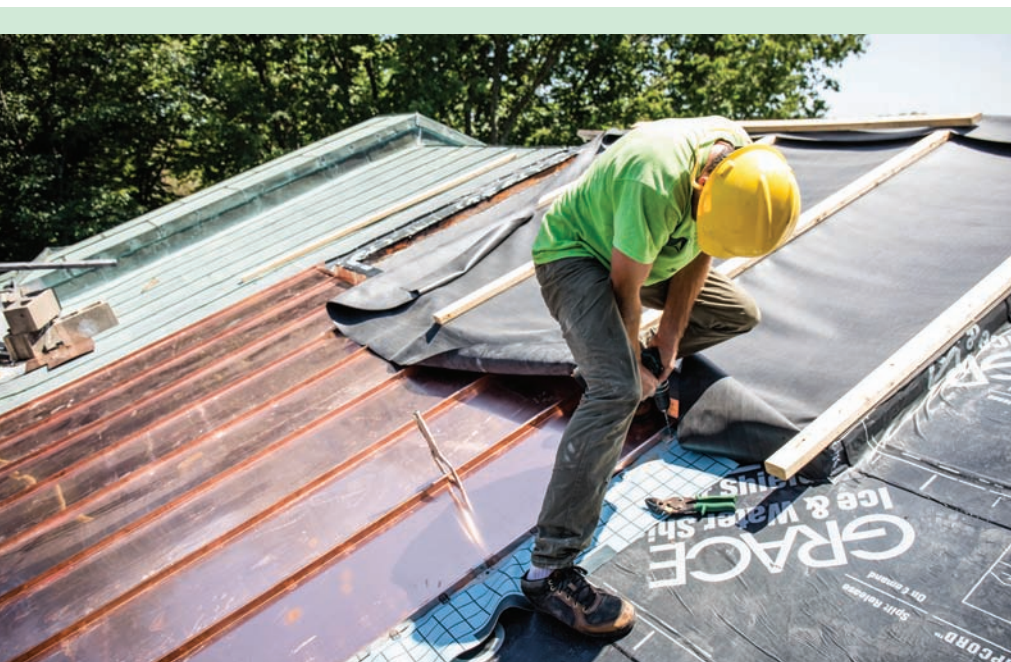


ALMANAC



Replacing the copper roofing on Antiquarian Hall.

All Hands on Deck: Antiquarian Hall Construction Project Nearing Completion

Anyone who has had the opportunity to drive by Antiquarian Hall in recent months will have seen the building addition start to take shape—first with excavating, then a bare steel frame, followed by a shell prepped for its glass window and copper façade. Visitors and readers who have spent time inside Antiquarian Hall during these months may talk about banging and grinding noises coming from somewhere in the bowels of the building, scaffolding erected in the foyer, and an ever-changing array of furniture and equipment in the reading room (see pages 6–7 for more about working in a construction zone).

All the activity is a sure sign of the progress being made toward completion of this transformative project. Though they can't convey the sounds and energy that have accompanied the building project, the following features provide a glimpse of the progress made over the last several months and the excitement around AAS's future.

- [Capital Campaign Update](#), p. 3
- [Construction Photos](#), pp. 4–5
- [Staff Perspective on Construction](#), pp. 6–7
- [History of Antiquarian Hall Additions](#), pp. 10–11

In Memoriam: William Sherman Reese (1955–2018)

With the passing of AAS councilor Bill Reese on June 4th, the world of rare books lost a remarkable man, widely respected as the greatest antiquarian bookseller of his time. To honor him, at its June meeting the AAS Council held a remembrance gathering and passed a resolution designating that funds given in memory of Bill be used to support the building and the capital campaign (see page 3). The following resolution and tributes gathered from his colleagues and friends pay fitting tribute to an extraordinary man.

Resolution of the AAS Council

“One of the great bookmen of his or any other generation, Bill Reese was unmatched in his multidimensional generosity as a scholar, collector, dealer, educator, and philanthropist. Perhaps no institution benefitted as much from his counsel and support in as many ways and for as many years as the American Antiquarian Society.

(continued on pages 2–3)





Above: Bill Reese over his years with AAS, including at the White House ceremony for the National Humanities Medal in 2014, speaking at the annual meeting in 1989, and discussing the travel fund for newspaper acquisitions with curator Vincent Golden in 2014.



(continued from previous page)

Bill became one of our youngest members ever at twenty-five; served as a councilor for over two decades; was a longtime member of the executive committee; and took more than a little pleasure in his official positions, which alternated between the Society's Secretary for Foreign Correspondence and Secretary for Domestic Correspondence. Every aspect of the American Antiquarian Society—our collections, our fellowship programs, our cataloging proficiency, our strategies, our overall governance, and our treasury—has been enriched by Bill. He will long be celebrated as one of the AAS 'greats'—an exemplary leader who fused gravitas, imagination, curiosity, common sense, and the good humor needed to help the Society move with confidence into our third century.

Bill was deeply committed to the essential importance of the current capital campaign:

in particular, the system renovations needed to protect our collections; the technically sophisticated community room to broaden access to our collections; and the new conservation lab to preserve our collections. In an especially touching gesture, Bill and his wife and dear friend, Dorothy Hurt, directed that gifts in his memory be directed to the American Antiquarian Society. Knowing how instrumental Bill was in shaping the scope and focus of the campaign, we, the Council of the American Antiquarian Society, resolve that all contributions to the Society in Bill's memory be designated for the construction of the new addition and the completion of the capital campaign."



Right and opposite: AAS councilor Jock Herron, AAS President Ellen Dunlap, and AAS members and friends gave tributes and explored Bill's legacy at the June remembrance gathering.

Tributes to Bill

"Bill was a man of integrity and intelligence, a rarity in any field."

—Leonard Milberg, AAS Member

"During the twenty-plus years I served with Bill on the Council, I came to admire his keen insights, vast knowledge, and remarkable judgement. To me he was the exemplar of what a councilor should be. He shared his brilliance and his patience with the Council. And his strategic impatience moved AAS forward at critical times. His generosity in small things and large exemplified character traits that are all too rare. It was inspiring to be a colleague of Bill Reese."

—Richard D. Brown, AAS Councilor

"Bill was a giant in the book world and he was a giant in our AAS world. He will long be remembered as one of the finest, smartest, and most influential people we have ever had the privilege of knowing. He will be so sorely missed by all who knew him."

—Sidney Lapidus, AAS Council Chair

"I admired Bill enormously. I always thought of him as the wunderkind of books, rare books especially, who had magic at his fingertips and knew what was good and what wasn't good, and got most of [the good things] himself."

—John Hench, Former AAS Vice President for Collections and Programs and AAS Member

"It's been said many times and it will be continually felt that we will miss him a great deal. What a wonderful gentleman and good friend to institutions and people all over this country and abroad."

—Gigi Barnhill, Former AAS Curator of Graphic Arts and AAS Member

"Bill was a wonderful person with a generous spirit. We will always appreciate the Reese Fellows, who will carry on that spirit."

—Nan Wolverton, AAS Director of Fellowships



For a full memorial by AAS President Ellen S. Dunlap, links to other obituaries, and to donate to AAS in Bill's memory, please visit americanantiquarian.org/reese.

Update: Safeguarding the American Story Campaign

While the construction project continues (see page 1), please know that the fundraising effort to support it is keeping pace! This ambitious project—our largest capacity-building initiative in more than a century—has been making steady progress thanks to the leadership of our Council and generous early contributing members and friends. With the inspiring encouragement of these farsighted donors, the Safeguarding the American Story Campaign is moving strongly toward its goal. **The fund now stands at 74 percent (\$14,753,000) of our \$20 million goal (as of August 21, 2018).**

While progress has been steady and successful, we are reliant on everyone who knows and appreciates the mission of AAS to help us reach our goal. **Now is the time to consider your gift to this singular undertaking.** It is only through the full participation of all our supporters and friends that we will be able to succeed. We have just over \$5 million left to raise, and every gift is important in advancing this project to transform AAS and greatly improve the ways we fulfill our mission for generations to come.

To contribute to the Safeguarding the American Story Campaign, please visit americanantiquarian.org/campaign.



A.



B.



C.



D.



E.



F.



G.

This page: **A.** Foundation work with excavator (June '17) **B.** Foundation wall formwork (Sept. '17) **C.** Steel between two floors of addition (Nov. '17) **D.** Frame for conservation lab skylight (May '18) **E.** Pouring the concrete for the pits (July '17) **F.** Ironwork on steel frame (Nov. '17) **G.** New air handling unit in addition basement with piping (May '18) **H.** Addition roof rebar with mesh (Apr. '18) **I.** Protection on exterior with trenching for utilities (Winter '17-'18) **J.** Crane truck framing the structure (Feb. '18)



H.



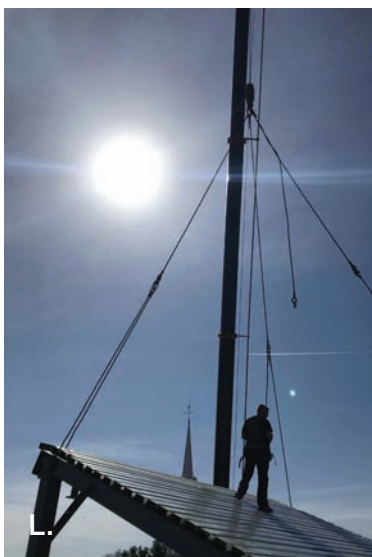
I.



J.



K.



L.



M.



N.



O.



P.



Q.

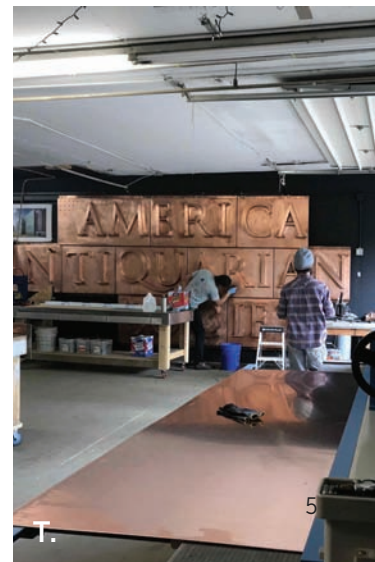
This page: **K.** Scaffolding on mezzanine with boxed printing press (June '18) **L.** Steel detailing on skylight structure (Feb. '18) **M.** Addition with completed elevator shaft (Apr. '18) **N.** View of Park Avenue from inside the first-floor addition (May '18) **O.** New wiring and lighting in the collection stacks (July '18) **P.** New ductwork in the stacks (Jan. '18) **Q.** Removal of old boilers (Summer '18) **R.** Vapor barrier installation on expansion (July '18) **S.** Demolition and abatement work in basement (Nov. '17) **T.** Copper fabrication for façade of building (June '18)



R.



S.



T.

The View from Here: A Staff Perspective on Construction

From dodging scaffolding to the boxing up of Isaiah Thomas's press to the perpetual shifting of collection materials, staff has been up to the (sometimes quirky) challenges of continuing work in a construction zone. The shifting of collections alone has involved—from time to time—nineteen regular staff members and three seasonal staff members from ten different departments. During that process, some materials have been reorganized to create nine new collection categories. And we won't even mention the excellent exercise involved in all that moving. These pages provide a glimpse into a day in the life of AAS staff during construction.



To-Dos:

- ☐ Contact the art handlers
- ☐ Pack up Staffordshire
- ☐ Measure Old No. 1 for protective box
- ☐ Move desk for floor drilling
- ☐ Assign AAS staff to cover weekend construction work
- ☐ Protect ranges 121-147
- ☐ Photograph cases in Council Room
- ☐ Stop the clocks because of vibration
- ☐ Take construction pictures for website
- ☐ Move air purifier to different space
- ☐ Attend (so many) building meetings
- ☐ Write weekly update reports for staff
- ☐ Change call number range labels on stacks
- ☐ Make redirection signs to avoid construction
- ☐ Update staff on temporary collection locations
- ☐ Try out chairs for new spaces
- ☐ Set up temporary entrance to Antiquarian Hall
- ☐ Set up cart of flashlights for paging
- ☐ Test electrical outlets for power outages
- ☐ Choose colors for the new staff lockers
- ☐ Explore security options for new copper façade
- ☐ Interview teleconferencing companies



This page: Plastic sheeting protecting the collections in the stacks; moving artwork with curatorial assistance in June '17; moving the book press out of the old conservation lab in Dec. '17. Opposite page: Babette Gehnrich viewing architectural plans during a hard-hat tour for staff in June '18; the current state of the reading room with microfilm cabinets and boxes in the alcove areas.

"My life at AAS as I had known it for nearly thirty years took a very different turn when President Ellen Dunlap assigned me the task of being the 'eyes and the ears of the library' during this massive construction and renovation project. Not only was I suddenly responsible for the design and furnishing of the new conservation lab, but also for the safety of AAS collections and staff.

On a new mission that demanded organizational skills of a different scale, I put in place a system to ensure timely and transparent communications between the staff and construction team. My schedule swiftly changed from one that had afforded me nearly unlimited flexibility to one filled with deadlines, meetings, a constant flow of new challenges, and ever-mounting tasks.

Not long after the groundbreaking it became clear that, aside from the weekly construction team meetings, regular consultations with the project superintendents would be crucial in coordinating sensitive tasks in occupied spaces. And so began my 'Tuesday Coffee' with the AAS maintenance team and the Erland Construction superintendent. These are the times, congenial and productive, when we have kept one another abreast of imminent activities, pondered perplexing problems, and hashed out solutions, as well as commiserated during particularly vexing periods. Together Andy Cariglia, head of buildings and grounds, and I have moved colleagues and collections out of harm's way, relocated furniture and equipment, dealt with noises and troubling odors, navigated obstacles in stacks and offices, and moved the conservation lab to temporary quarters.

Having now filled four notebooks with meeting notes and to-do lists, I have gained a new understanding of the complexities of construction and an appreciation for the work of architects, construction workers, tradespeople, and engineers—no doubt a rewarding and transformative experience for me, personally and professionally."

—Babette Gehrich, Chief Conservator



So Many Questions:

- ✓ Where do we eat lunch?
- ✓ Bathrooms?
- ✓ Can we go down that hallway?
- ✓ How do we get into the building today? Tomorrow?
- ✓ What is that smell?
- ✓ Why is it so cold today?
- ✓ Why is it so hot today?
- ✓ Are they drilling to the center of the earth?



Find temporary homes for:

- X the paintings
- X the lockers
- X the furniture
- X the microfilm
- X the staff

Buy:

- X earplugs
- X extension cords
- X flashlights
- X bubble wrap
- X a rubber mallet
- X colored pencils
- X aspirin





Norton, Philbrick, and DeLucia to Offer Public Programs

Due to the construction of the new building addition (see page 1), we will hold a truncated public program series this fall. Our series will begin on October 25 with the delivery of the fourteenth annual Robert C. Baron Lecture by AAS member Mary Beth Norton (elected 1976). While the Baron Lecture usually features a prominent historian discussing one very influential text, this year Norton will discuss not one book, but four: *Liberty's Daughters: The Revolutionary Experience of American Women, 1750–1800* (1980), *Founding Mothers & Fathers: Gendered Power and the Forming of American Society* (1996, finalist for the Pulitzer Prize), *In the Devil's Snare: The Salem Witchcraft Crisis of 1692* (2002), and *Separated by Their Sex: Women in Public and Private in the Colonial Atlantic World* (2011). Through these four related works, Norton has examined aspects of the same theme: the relationship of women and the public sphere in early America from the beginnings of English settlement through 1800. In this lecture she will trace the trajectory of her work and describe the surprises she encountered along the way.

AAS member and bestselling author Nathaniel Philbrick (elected 2002) will return to the Society on November 13 to discuss his latest book, *In the Hurricane's Eye: The Genius of George Washington and the Victory at Yorktown*, which will be published this October. The book recounts the final year of the Revolution and how Washington's leadership masterminded the Battle of the Chesapeake, during which the French fleet intercepted and defeated the British navy, preventing them from evacuating Lord Cornwallis and his army from the Yorktown peninsula.

Our fall season will conclude on November 27 when former AAS-NEH Fellow Christine DeLucia will revisit Native American and colonial encounters in the seventeenth-century Northeast and the complex ways that they have reverberated in communities' memories for more than three centuries. Focusing on the pivotal conflict known as King Philip's War (1675–78), this lecture will trace how the war's violences and resistances have shaped diverse communities' relationships with the past, present, and future.



Top: Detail of *The Taking of Yorktown*, hand-colored lithograph by Louis Turgis (Paris, ca. 1856). Right: Detail illustration of women at the pulpit from *The History of the Holy Jesus* (Boston, 1748). Left: Wood engraving of an Indian raid from *The Sovereignty [sic] & Goodness of God* by Mary Rowlandson (Lancaster, 1773).



Underlay: Lithographed trade card, "A Happy New Year 1890. Aultman, Miller & Co. Akron, Ohio" by the Henderson Achert Lith. Co., 1890.

Calendar of Events for Fall 2018

Please see the key for event classifications and details.

October

- 5 Deadline for applications for 2019 Creative and Performing Artists and Writers Fellowships (americanantiquarian.org/artistfellowships)
- 15 Deadline for applications for the 2019–20 Hensch Post-Dissertation Fellowship (americanantiquarian.org/longterm.htm)
- 25 14th Annual Robert C. Baron Lecture: "Reflections on Gender and Politics in Anglo-America; or, An Intellectual Journey Encompassing Four Decades and Four Books" by Mary Beth Norton *
- 26 2018 AAS Annual Meeting ±

November

- 8 7–9 p.m., "*Roughing It* Reimagined: A Musical Hands-On History Workshop" with Judy Cook ±
- 13 "The Naval Battle That Won the American Revolution" by Nathaniel Philbrick *
- 27 "Landscapes of Resistance and Resilience after King Philip's War" by Christine DeLucia *

January 2019

- 15 Deadline for applications for the 2019–20 Short-term Fellowships and the AAS-NEH Long-term Fellowship (americanantiquarian.org/fellowships)

KEY:

* *Public Programs: All 7 p.m. at AAS, free of charge*

± *Requires registration and/or payment of fee (please see our website)*

Roughing It Reimagined: A Musical Hands-On History Workshop

This program, to be held on November 8, combines music and literature in a new twist on our popular Hands-On History Workshops. Judy Cook, an internationally touring folk musician, will join AAS staff in using Mark Twain's classic tale of the West, *Roughing It*, as inspiration for exploring the collections and music related to the era. Covering the years 1861 to 1867, *Roughing It* is a semiautobiographical, humorous work with stories about mining, real estate speculation, and visits to Western landmarks. The intertwining of music, historical documents, and excerpts from the book will create a unique opportunity to revisit the story for those who have read it and a rousing introduction to it for those who have not!

More information and registration for the event is available at americanantiquarian.org/hands-history.

Right: "The Miner's Dream," wood engraving in Mark Twain's 1872 *Roughing It*. Illustration by Roswell Morse Shurtleff.



AAS Heritage: A Timeline of Additions to Antiquarian Hall

Over the course of its 206-year history, the Society has had four homes—the first was Isaiah Thomas’s private residence, which was subsequently followed by three purpose-built Antiquarian Halls. The nature of the Society’s mission, however, has never let Antiquarian Hall maintain its status quo for long. More collections, better preservation practices, and expanded access meant that each of those buildings underwent periods of renovation and expansion. Here’s a brief look at two hundred years of construction.

FIRST ANTIQUARIAN HALL



Built: 1820
Location: Lincoln Square

Designed by Peter Banner for five dollars at the request of Isaiah Thomas, the first Antiquarian Hall was a classical building with a librarian’s office, cabinet, and meeting room on

the first floor, and two large rooms for collections on the second floor. Although built with fireplaces along the outer walls, in 1823 Thomas directed that the fireplaces not be used and lights not be lit after dark, for “too much care cannot be taken as it respects fire.”

← **Addition:
1832**

Thomas was so worried about fire that his bequest to expand Antiquarian Hall in 1832 was used to build two fireproof wings on either side of the original building. Lightning rods were also added at a later date.



SECOND ANTIQUARIAN HALL

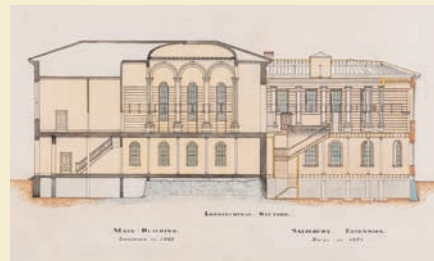


Built: 1854
Location: Lincoln Square, at the corner of Highland Street, beside the Worcester County Courthouse

An inconvenient layout coupled with persistent water and foundation issues in the first building led the Society to build a second Antiquarian Hall. T. A. Tefft, the architect chosen by the Society to design its new home, proposed several ornate treatments of the façade that were rejected by the Council before a simpler design was approved. The new building exterior featured a loggia with three arches and an Italianate roofline; inside, a large, rectangular reading room was surrounded by open alcoves for book storage in an adapted version of the panoptic library plan that influenced Tefft and his mentor, Charles C. Jewett.

← **Addition:
1876**

An addition was added to the second Antiquarian Hall thanks to a gift from Stephen Salisbury II, who also



funded the original portion of the building. The Annex, as it was known, extended the reading room and alcoves and added an extra office, which, while the plans labeled it a second librarian’s room, was actually used by catalogers.



THIRD ANTIQUARIAN HALL

Built: 1910

Location: Corner of Salisbury Street and Park Avenue

The current Antiquarian Hall, designed by architect R. Clipston Sturgis, was conceived when the second building presented a distinct lack of space for growth, especially given the recent construction of a new, larger courthouse next door. With a bequest from Stephen Salisbury III, the Society commissioned a new library with a reading room and a separate, five-floor book stack. The collections were moved there in 1910 and, predictably, continued to grow, leading to additions in 1924, 1950, 1972, and 2002.



← Addition: 1924

It did not take long after the completion of the new building for librarian and later director Clarence Brigham's avid collecting to create the need for additional stack space. The first addition to the current Antiquarian Hall was completed in 1924, five years after plans were first commissioned.

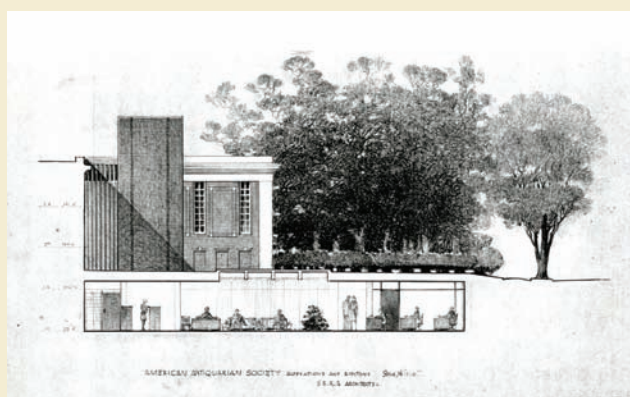
Addition: 1950 →

Brigham's collecting habits—and the rebounding economy after World War II—led to the next addition as well: yet more stack space. The addition came none too soon, as space was so limited that an unused coal bin had been fitted with makeshift stacks several years earlier.



← Addition: 1972

The additions and alterations made in 1972, designed by Shepley Bulfinch Richardson and Abbott (SBRA) Architects, included the renovation of the reading room and additional space adjacent to the library and below grade on the Regent Street side of the building. This new space included offices for the librarian and the administrative staff, stacks and work space for the Manuscript Department, and five carrels for visiting fellows.



Addition: 2002 →

By the time the Society was ready to once again build an additional stack, preservation and storage technology had changed dramatically. The new state-of-the-art stack addition included modern climate control, minimal light penetration, and compact shelving that would give the Society the capacity to nearly double the number of collection items it held at the time of construction. A section of the new addition was also purposely designed for the storage of graphic arts collections, which were seeing increased use by fellows and readers.



Neal Salisbury to Be 2018–19 AAS-Mellon Distinguished Scholar in Residence

Neal Salisbury (elected 1997) will be the twenty-first AAS-Mellon Distinguished Scholar in Residence during the 2018–19 academic year. Salisbury is the Barbara Richmond 1940 Professor Emeritus in the Social Sciences (History) at Smith College. A leading scholar of Native American studies, he is the author, coauthor, or coeditor of six books, including *Manitou and Providence: Indians, Europeans, and the Making of New England, 1500–1643* (1982); *The Indians of New England: A Critical Bibliography* (1982); *A Companion to American Indian History* (2002); and *Reinterpreting New England History and Colonial Experiences* (2003).

Salisbury received both his undergraduate and graduate education at the University of California, Los Angeles. He has received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Newberry Library, Harvard University, and the American Council for Learned Societies. Salisbury held a 1995–96 long-term NEH Fellowship at AAS, during which he conducted research for a critical edition of Mary Rowlandson's 1682 narrative, *The Sovereignty and Goodness of God* (1997; revised 2017). While in residence this year, he will be working on colonial histories in early New England for a book project with the working title *Lives on the Line*.

The Distinguished Scholar in Residence is the anchor to our fellowship program, serving as a mentor to younger scholars in residence. The endowment for this appointment began in 1988 with a challenge grant to AAS from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Hench Fellow for 2018–19 Welcomed to AAS

AAS is pleased to welcome Don James Brown as the 2018–19 Hench Post-Dissertation Fellow. Brown completed his Ph.D. in English from the University of Pennsylvania and has recently accepted a position as assistant professor of nineteenth-century American literature at the University of Tulsa.

Brown's project at AAS, "Infectious Affect: The Phobic Imagination in American Literature," examines the discursive pathways by which the "phobia" suffix came to shape U.S. politics so profoundly.

In contemporary political discourse, Americans rely on phobia as a concept to understand social inequality. People and policies that negatively impact communities based on sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity, race, or religion are understood to be homophobic, transphobic, xenophobic, or Islamophobic. At the same time, phobia's invocation of fear has earned



skepticism in recent years. Brown's project uncovers the print media circuits in which phobia first gained traction in the nineteenth century and explores how a phobic imagination emerged in politics by way of an experimental comparison between rabies and racism. It traces how language and emotion intersected around phobia and how it began trending across an array of literary genres, including fiction, poetry, political satire, medical case studies, and newspapers.

As with all Hench Fellows, Brown will spend his residency at AAS turning his dissertation project into a book. In addition to conducting research in the AAS collections, Brown will benefit from the input of a "dream team" of scholars in his field, convened by the Society in colloquium format. The group will review his work in progress and provide constructive criticism on the manuscript to help make his stay in Worcester as productive as possible.

News from Members, Fellows & Staff

Members

NICHOLSON BAKER (elected 2000), **JOYCE E. CHAPLIN** (elected 2007), **KATHLEEN DuVAL** (elected 2011), and **JANE KAMENSKY** (elected 2001) were all awarded 2018 Guggenheim Fellowships.

Filmmaker **KEN BURNS's** (elected 1992) private collection of American quilts formed the basis of an exhibition at the International Quilt Study Center & Museum at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln earlier this year titled *Uncovered: The Ken Burns Collection*.



AAS President **ELLEN S. DUNLAP** (elected 1992) was awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters by the College of the Holy Cross at its spring commencement.

HONOREE JEFFERS (elected 2014) received the 2018 Harper Lee Award, given by the Alabama Writers Symposium to “a living, nationally recognized Alabama writer who has made a significant lifelong contribution to Alabama letters.”

TIYA MILES (elected 2011) has received several awards and accolades for her new book, *The Dawn of Detroit: A Chronicle of Slavery and Freedom in the City of the Straits* (2017), including the 2017 James Bradford Best Biography Prize from the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic (SHEAR), and the 2018 Merle Curti Social History Award and the 2018 James A. Rowley prize (cowinner) from the Organization of American Historians, and she is a finalist for the twentieth annual Frederick Douglass Book Prize from Yale University's Gilder Lehrman Center. **ERICA ARMSTRONG DUNBAR** (elected 2017) is also a finalist for the Douglass Book Prize for her book *Never Caught: The Washingtons' Relentless Pursuit of Their Runaway Slave, Ona Judge* (2017).

BARBARA SHAILOR (elected 2002) was elected the new president of the Bibliographical Society of America (BSA). Of the forty-six men and women who have held the office of the president of the BSA, twenty-nine have been members of AAS.

Fellows

KEVIN BUTTERFIELD (Peterson, 2017–18) has been named the new executive director of the Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington.

KYLE ROBERTS (Hench, 2007–8) won the 2018 Herbert H. Lehman Prize for Distinguished Scholarship in New York History from the New York Academy of History for his work *Evangelical Gotham: Religion and the Making of New York City, 1783–1860*.



KATHERINE SMOAK (Last, 2014–15) has been awarded the Morton Prize for her article “The Weight of Necessity: Counterfeit Coins in the British Atlantic World, Circa 1760–1800” (July 2017).

NAZERA WRIGHT's (Ford, 2013–14) book *Black Girlhood in the Nineteenth Century* (2016) was named this year's honor book by the Children's Literature Association.

Staff

This past spring, **BETHANY JARRETT**, acquisitions and library assistant, received a master's of science degree in nonprofit management from Worcester State University.

The Society's catalog for its recent exhibition at the Grolier Club, *Radiant with Color & Art: McLoughlin Brothers and the Business of Picture Books, 1858–1920*, was awarded the Ewell L. Newman Award by the American Historical Print Collectors Society. The award is intended to “recognize and encourage outstanding publications enhancing appreciation of American prints that are 100 or more years old.”

We wished the best of luck to **MOLLY O'HAGAN HARDY**, curator of digital humanities, who left in April to take a position as librarian at the Cape Ann Museum.

We also gave heartfelt goodbyes to two longtime staff members who retired: **DR. EDMOND KOURY**, receptionist, retired at the end of July after almost nineteen years at AAS, and **THOMAS KNOLES**, curator of manuscripts, officially retired at the end of August. Knoles held four positions over his twenty-eight years at the Society: curator of manuscripts (1990–2018), director of reference services (1994–2000), head librarian (2006), and Marcus A. McCorison Librarian (2006–2018).

In May we were very pleased to welcome to the AAS staff **NATHAN FISKE** as photographer.

New Members

Sixteen new members were elected at the annual meeting on April 13, 2018.

John Bassick

Paxton, Massachusetts

Jack Bassick is the longtime director of the David Clark Company, a pioneer of air and space crew protective equipment design, development, and manufacture since 1941. He has been called “the walking encyclopedia of pressure suits” and was asked to write the foreword to NASA’s *Dressing for Altitude: U.S. Aviation Pressure Suits—Wiley Post to Space Shuttle* (2012).

Michael Buehler

Southampton, Massachusetts

Michael Buehler is president and founder of Boston Rare Maps. He has published articles on early American mapmaking, acted as guest curator of map exhibitions at the Harvard Map Collection, and served on the governing boards of both the Boston Map Society and the American Historical Print Collectors Society. He is a member of the Antiquarian Booksellers’ Association of America and the International League of Antiquarian Booksellers.

Ric Burns

New York, New York

Ric Burns has written, directed, and produced many historical documentaries, beginning with his collaboration on the celebrated PBS series *The Civil War* (1990), which he produced with his brother, Ken Burns, and wrote with Geoffrey C. Ward. His other films include *The Donner Party* (1992), *The Way West* (1995), *New York: A Documentary Film* (1999; expanded 2003), *Into the Deep: America, Whaling & the World* (2010), *Nantucket* (2011), *Death and the Civil War* (2012), and *The Pilgrims* (2015).

Harriette Chandler

Worcester, Massachusetts

Harriette Chandler is the Massachusetts State Senator for the First Worcester District, in which AAS is situated, and served as the ninety-fourth president of the Massachusetts Senate, only the second woman to hold that office. From 1995 to 2001 she was a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives and from 1991 to 1994 served on the Worcester School Committee. She is the first woman from Worcester ever to be elected to the Massachusetts Senate.

Michael F. Collins

Worcester, Massachusetts

Michael Collins is a physician and has been the chancellor of UMass Medical School since 2008, where he is also a professor of quantitative health sciences and medicine. He directs the school’s institutional advancement, fundraising, and external outreach efforts, working to expand and enhance relationships with the communities served by the medical school, including state and federal governmental entities, foundations, corporations, the philanthropic community, and international partners.

John Davis

Washington, D.C.

John Davis is undersecretary for museums and research /

provost at the Smithsonian Institution. He is the first person to hold this position created to lead and promote multidisciplinary activities across the Smithsonian. Davis was formerly the Alice Pratt Brown Professor of Art at Smith College for twenty-five years and served as executive director of the Terra Foundation for American Art’s Global Academic Programs and Terra Foundation Europe.

Carol Donnelly

Worcester, Massachusetts

Carol Donnelly is a professor of education at Worcester State University, currently serving as early childhood graduate coordinator. Active as a community volunteer, she served from 2008 to 2012 as interim director of the Worcester Center for Crafts (founded in 1856 as one of the first organizations of its kind in the United States), thus ensuring the center’s independence while guiding a then-new strategic partnership between Worcester State University and the crafts center.

P. Gabrielle Foreman

Wilmington, Delaware

Gabrielle Foreman is the Ned B. Allen Professor of English and professor of African American studies and history at the University of Delaware. Foreman has a long-standing commitment to the intersection of digital technologies, race, and public history, and is the founding faculty director of the Colored Conventions Project, which since 2012 has digitally brought to life nineteenth-century Black political organizing that overlapped with and was obscured by the abolitionist movement.

Josephine Barnes Iselin

New York and Ghent, New York

Lea Iselin is a retired attorney and widow of John Jay Iselin, tenth president of the Cooper Union and former president of WNET (Channel 13 in New York). Iselin is a collector of nineteenth- and twentieth-century illustrated books, caricatures, and political cartoons and is an active member of the Grolier Club. Her grandfather Reginald Washburn (1871–1955) and great-uncle Charles Grenfill Washburn (1857–1928) were both active members of the American Antiquarian Society.

Ellen Fogelman Liman

Rye, New York

Ellen Liman is an artist and writer. She assembled, with her late husband, attorney Arthur Liman, an extensive collection of historical children’s books and board games, including many produced by the McLoughlin Brothers firm. Her book on her collection of Georgian and Victorian board games from England was published in 2017.

Claire Parfait

Paris, France

Claire Parfait is a professor of American studies at L’Université de Paris, where she also teaches book history. Parfait is author of *The Publishing History of Uncle Tom’s Cabin, 1852–2002* (2007) and coeditor of *Writing History for*

the Margins: African Americans and the Quest for Freedom (2016).

John C. Thomson

Washington, D.C.

John Thomson is proprietor of Bartleby's Books in Chevy Chase, Maryland, which specializes in African Americana, Americana, economics, law, literature, history, and Southern Americana. Thomson served as president of the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association of America from 2012 to 2014, having previously served on the board of the organization for many years.

Robert M. Thorson

Storrs, Connecticut

Bob Thorson is a professor of geology at the University of Connecticut. He writes opinion pieces on science for the *Hartford Courant* and serves as a consultant for diverse projects in field geo-forensics, museums, and public education. The author of seven books, most recently *The Guide to Walden Pond* (2018), Thorson is coordinator of the Stone Wall Initiative, a principal resource for anyone interested in the historic stone walls of New England.

George K. Tonna

Worcester, Massachusetts

George Tonna is a commercial real-estate investor and is principal at K&L Realty. His father was Theodore T. Tonna, a Greek immigrant to Worcester who, in 1924, was a founder of Table Talk Pies, a bakery that today sells more than two million pies per week across the nation.

Charles S. Weiss

Worcester, Massachusetts

Chick Weiss is associate professor emeritus of psychology at the College of the Holy Cross, where he also held many key administrative positions over the course of his thirty-two years with the college. Most recently Weiss served as director of the Office of Strategic Initiatives and Corporate and Foundation Relations. In the Worcester community he has been active as a board member of the Nativity School of Worcester (of which he is a founder), the American Red Cross, Children's Friend, the Ecotarium, and the Greater Worcester Community Foundation.

Kevin Young

New York, New York

Kevin Young is director of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture at the New York Public Library. The author of twelve books of poetry and prose—including his most recent nonfiction book, *Bunk: The Rise of Hoaxes, Humbug, Plagiarists, Phonies, Post-Facts and Fake News* (2017)—he is also poetry editor of *The New Yorker* and was named University Distinguished Professor at Emory University, where he previously taught English and creative writing and served as a curator of the special collections library.

Immersed in Manuscripts: Volunteer and Member Jane K. Dewey

The Society's longest-serving current volunteer, AAS member Jane K. Dewey is celebrating her twenty-ninth year helping to process collections for the Manuscript Department. Jane's interest in working with family papers and diaries began as a personal one.

In the 1970s, her husband, AAS member Harry B. Dewey (elected 1966), inherited the bulk of his family's archives. A rich collection going back to 1779, the Dewey-Bliss Family Papers document five generations of the Dewey family of Williamstown, Northampton, and Worcester, Massachusetts, as well as four generations of Blisses from Royalston and Worcester. As she began reading through them, Jane quickly became interested in organizing the papers to learn the family's history. When the decision was made to donate the collection to AAS, Jane offered to help. "Marcus McCorison, then AAS director and librarian, just assumed that I would come with them," she jokes. The collection was one of the largest manuscript donations ever given to AAS, and it took her several years to organize, read through, and take notes on it before a finding aid could be created.

After work on the Dewey-Bliss papers was completed, it didn't take much to persuade Jane to take on another project, and to date she has processed approximately forty manuscript collections and continues to volunteer three mornings a week. In 1994 she was elected to membership in the Society.

Asked why she enjoys working with old letters and diaries, Jane said that they have "expanded my horizons of time, place, and people. As I learn more about the interior lives of people long dead, I see not only differences but also similarities between people of the past and of the present." And, she added, "the immediacy gets you."





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Recent Acquisition: Twelve Civil War–Era Erotic Lithographs, circa 1860–1865



When former AAS director and librarian Marcus McCorison created his bibliography of risqué American literature published before 1877, he transcribed several listings of erotic prints, including one from an undated fragment of a handbill-sized advertisement held at the Library Company of Philadelphia headed “Rich, Rare, and Racy: Bedroom Engravings for Gentlemen Only.” A number of the titles from that ad also appear on a flyer (“New Pictures for Bachelors,” held at the National Archives) sent to President Abraham Lincoln in March 1864 by a commanding officer complaining about the circulation of immoral material among his troops. The prints retailed at twelve to twenty-five cents apiece, could be purchased in sets of ten or twelve, and seemed to have had a wide circulation. McCorison never saw any examples of the prints themselves and very few have come to light—they are known mostly through the written descriptions published in the original advertisements.

Recently, however, the Society purchased a collection of twelve erotic lithographs, eleven of which appear on one or both of the advertisements. One sheet includes the imprint “C. Follet publisher N. York and Paris,” which appears to be a false imprint used by the printer and perhaps was intended as a play on the French *follet*, which translates as scatterbrained. The scenes include images of women bathing, lifting their skirts to cross streams, and preparing for bed, as well as nudes tempting St. Anthony and Circassian women being sold as concubines. This significant acquisition has already drawn several scholars of American erotica and Civil War history to visit the Society or contact us for images.

One of the original advertisements says about its twenty entries, “The above list of spicy and interesting colored prints are superior to anything in the market and any gentleman who buys one will surely have the rest.” We would like to have the rest as well, but are very pleased to now be the holding institution of record for these important images!

Left: Detail from Don't Be Peeping Alfred!, hand-colored lithograph (New York, between 1855 and 1865).