

## Boston History Resource Guide

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This guide provides selected information resources on Boston History. Included in this guide are the Mildred F. Sawyer Library subscription databases, selected web resources, and a brief list of print resources. Use the [American History Resources Guide](#) to obtain useful U.S. history resources. For specific book and periodical titles, check the [Suffolk University Library Catalog](#).

### Library Databases

The Sawyer Library subscription periodical indexes and full-text resources are available to current Suffolk University students and faculty.

#### [JSTOR](#)

Contains back runs of over 700 scholarly publications in various academic fields. Search by category or within a particular journal.

#### [LEXIS/NEXIS. Primary Sources in U.S. History](#)

Provides primary and secondary sources in African American History and Women's History. Includes manuscripts, speeches, laws, court cases, photographs, and secondary articles.

#### [Historic Documents Online](#)

"Published annually since 1972, the Historic Documents Series now contains 32 volumes of primary sources. Each volume includes approximately one hundred documents covering the most

significant events of the year. These documents range from presidential speeches, international agreements, and Supreme Court decisions to U.S. governmental reports, scientific findings, and cultural discussions." Browse by title, topic, or index term or search the database.

### [The New York Times \(1851-2001\)](#)

This database offers searchable full-text and full-image articles from the New York Times from 1851 through 2001. The database includes digital reproductions of every page from every issue in downloadable PDF files.

### [Project Muse](#)

Provides full-text scholarly journals of the Johns Hopkins University Press and its publishing partners. Journal categories include economics, history, literature, and philosophy.

### [Biography Resource Center](#)

Combines over 422,000 biographies from over 135 Gale Group reference sources. Includes the complete *Marquis Who's Who* and full-text articles from nearly 300 magazines.

### [Social and Cultural History: Letters and Diaries Online](#)

This primary document database provides over 96,740 documents including letters, diaries, oral histories, and other personal narratives. Focus is on North America.

### [Academic Search Complete](#)

A full-text database with more than 5,500 full-text periodicals, including more than 4,600 peer-reviewed journals. Covers all academic subjects, including history.

### [Humanities International Complete](#)

Provides full text of hundreds of journals, books and other sources. Includes all data from American Humanities Index and Humanities International Index plus other full text content.

### [Academic OneFile \(InfoTrac\)](#)

Academic OneFile is Gale's major source for peer-reviewed, full-text articles. It provides extensive coverage in all academic subjects and offers millions of articles in both PDF and HTML full-text. Offers extensive coverage of the physical sciences, technology, medicine, social sciences, the arts, theology, literature and other subjects.

### [Cambridge Histories Online](#)

A historical reference resource which allows access to the texts of the Cambridge Histories series. Includes *The Cambridge History of American Foreign Relations*, *The Cambridge Economic History of the United States*, and *The Cambridge History of the Native Peoples of America*. All volumes are grouped by topic, and the user may browse or search.

### [Oxford Journals Online](#)

Provides online access to most Oxford journals. Includes well over a dozen historical journals.

### [LEXIS/NEXIS Academic](#)

Contains a massive database of worldwide general, legal, health, and business news. Provides full-text searching of newspapers, trade journals, wire services, and transcripts of broadcasts. Business, legal, medical, and reference sections are included. Newspaper coverage generally starts in the late eighties or early nineties.

### [Historical Statistics of the United States](#)

Provides searchable statistics from over 1000 sources and includes over 37,000 data series. Download tables in Excel, CSV, or entire groups as a zip file.

### [Massachusetts History Online](#)

Massachusetts History Online contains abstracts and full-text articles gathered from almost 50 sources that relate to Massachusetts history.

### [Oxford African American Studies Center](#)

The African American Studies Center is an online, searchable collection of quality reference works, including *African*, the *Encyclopedia of African American History, 1619-1895*, the *Encyclopedia of African American History, 1896 to the Present*, *Black Women in America, Second Edition*, and *African American National Biography*.

### [Gale Virtual Reference Library](#)

This database includes searchable encyclopedias, such as *Dictionary of American History*, and *Americans at War*.

### [ACLS Humanities E-Book Project](#)

"A digital collection of nearly 2,000 full-text titles offered by the ACLS [American Council of Learned Societies] in collaboration with fourteen learned societies, nearly 100 contributing publishers, and librarians at the University of Michigan's Scholarly Publishing Office." This database is a searchable collection of high-quality books in the Humanities.

### [History Resource Center: U.S.](#)

This database offers U.S. History primary and secondary sources, including encyclopedias and monographs, pamphlets, and first-person accounts.

### [Credo reference \(xreferplus\)](#)

This searchable database contains the *Great American History Fact-Finder*, *The Reader's Companion to U.S. Women's History*, and more.

### [Oxford Reference Online Premium](#)

Provides searchable online access to Oxford reference sources, such as *The Oxford Companion to U.S. History* and *The Oxford Dictionary of Local and Family History*.

## Web Resources

### Documents and Archives

#### [American Memory: Historical Collections for the National Digital Library](http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amhome.html)

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amhome.html>

This website provides links to multimedia collections of digitized documents, photographs, recorded sound, moving pictures, and text from the Americana collections of the Library of Congress. There are just under 100 collections in the American Memory Historical Collections, and they are part of the Library of Congress' "National Digital Library Program." Includes links to Boston documents and images.

#### [A Century of Lawmaking for a New Nation: U.S. Congressional Documents and Debates 1774-1873.](http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lawhome.html)

<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lawhome.html>

Includes information on the Constitutional Convention and the Continental Congress, provided by the American Memory site at the Library of Congress. It contains statutes and documents, Congressional journals, *Annals of Congress*, *Register of Debates*, the *Congressional Globe*, and much more. Includes extensive documents and Congressional debates pertaining to Boston.

#### [The Avalon Project at Yale University](http://avalon.law.yale.edu/default.asp)

<http://avalon.law.yale.edu/default.asp>

Contains digitized U.S. documents in law, history, and diplomacy, including treaties, international agreements, trials, important Presidential papers, and more. Links to early (1700's) Boston town records, Colonial Society Publications, and legal documents pertaining to Boston.

#### [AMDOCS: Documents for the Study of American History](http://www.vlib.us/amdocs/)

<http://www.vlib.us/amdocs/>

Created by Lynn Nelson, Professor Emeritus of History at the University of Kansas, this site provides links to selected documents from the fifteenth century to contemporary times. Includes links to Boston and/or Massachusetts historical documents, including accounts of the Boston Massacre, John Winthrop speeches, the Mass Bay Charter, a Ralph Waldo Emerson speech, and more.

#### [National Archives and Records Administration](http://www.archives.gov/)

<http://www.archives.gov/>

The [Archival Research Catalog \(ARC\)](http://www.archives.gov/) is the online catalog of NARA's holdings in Washington, DC, Regional Archives and Presidential Libraries. With ARC, the researcher may perform a keyword, image and location search. Advanced functions allow the researcher to search by organization, person, or topic. For local records, see [Northeast Region, Waltham, MA \(Boston\)](http://www.archives.gov/).

#### [Making of America](http://www.hti.umich.edu/m/moagrp/)

<http://www.hti.umich.edu/m/moagrp/>

"Making of America (MoA) is a digital library of primary sources on American social history from the antebellum period through reconstruction." A University of Michigan project, the MoA digital library currently contains 9,500 books and 50,000 journal articles, published in the 19th century. A corresponding site is [Cornell University's Making of America](#), which focuses on major serials of the period. Both websites cover historic issues in Boston.

### [Massachusetts Archives](#)

<http://www.state.ma.us/sec/arc/arcidx.htm>

"The Massachusetts Archives holds the official records created by Massachusetts state government. Holdings are organized by agency and date from 1629 to the present," including vital records, state and federal census records, colonial and revolutionary documents, and probate and military records.

### [City of Boston Archives and Records](#)

<http://www.cityofboston.gov/archivesandrecords/default.asp>

Holdings include city census summaries from select years in the 1800s; tax records from 1822 - 1895 and 1945 to 1973; voter registration records 1857-1920; selected series for Boston and annexed towns 1802-1911; business registrations 1907-1993; deeds 1825-1911; voter registration lists 1857-1940; minutes and documents from the City Council 1822-1987; School Committee minutes and records 1845-1996; inspectional services records 1871-1980; and selected mayoral documents.

### [State Library of Massachusetts](#)

<http://www.mass.gov/lib/>

Holdings include Massachusetts city and town directories and voting lists from 1789; publications of Massachusetts state agencies; numerous maps and atlases for Massachusetts communities; index to Massachusetts newspapers (ca 1878-1937); and many current Massachusetts newspapers.

### [Boston Public Library](#)

<http://www.bpl.org/>

Holdings include microform copies of New England Federal census records; a collection of colonial US and Massachusetts newspapers from the 1700s; and a full-length obituary database from the *Boston Globe* and the *Boston Herald* from the 1970s. The BPL also houses a comprehensive collection of Boston City Ordinances, Boston Redevelopment Authority documents, Early American Imprints, and selected Boston city records. The BPL's [Microtext Collection](#) contains over 5,000 newspaper titles in microform.

### [Boston Population Statistics 1638-1900](#)

<http://www.bpl.org/research/govdocs/boststats.htm>

From the Boston Public Library's Government Documents Department. Statistics are available in HTML or Excel.

## [Boston History of Landfills. A Digital Archive of American Architecture](#)

[http://www.bc.edu/bc\\_org/avp/cas/fnart/fa267/bos\\_fill3.html](http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/avp/cas/fnart/fa267/bos_fill3.html)

Color slides and text by Professor Jeffery Howe of Boston College, showing Boston's landfill and population changes through the centuries.

## [Boston Gas Company Photos](#)

[http://dlib.bc.edu:8881/R/XSIC9T5T3K1QN5SKYFJ8K29UUYH9RTCD4KNAUY28GS7XSCLTUK-00653?func=search&local\\_base=gen01-bcd01-gs&func=base-list&local\\_base=gen01-bcd01&pds\\_handle=GUEST](http://dlib.bc.edu:8881/R/XSIC9T5T3K1QN5SKYFJ8K29UUYH9RTCD4KNAUY28GS7XSCLTUK-00653?func=search&local_base=gen01-bcd01-gs&func=base-list&local_base=gen01-bcd01&pds_handle=GUEST)

A Boston College digital collection of over 400 images from the Boston Gas Company Records. Photographs date from 1882 to 1972 and show various Boston neighborhoods at the turn of the century. Content is searchable or may be browsed by subject.

## [Suffolk University Archives](#)

The Suffolk University Archives, located at 120 Tremont Street, includes collections, such as the John Joseph Moakley Oral History Project, Congressman John Joseph Moakely Papers, Records of Suffolk University, and Suffolk University Oral History Project. The Suffolk/Moakley Archives Research Tool ([SMART](#)) is an online catalog that allows users to search Suffolk University's archival records. In addition, some bibliographies and [finding aids](#) are provided online. When using the University Archives, specific policies must be followed. Please read the Archive's ["Policies and Procedures."](#)

## **Museums and Historic Structures**

### [John F. Kennedy Library and Museum](#)

<http://www.jfklibrary.org/>

The John F. Kennedy Library and Museum is dedicated to the memory of our nation's thirty-fifth president. The website includes online speeches and exhibits, a photo gallery, biography, teacher resources, and more. Offers an online newsletter and event information.

### [Bostonian Society](#)

<http://www.bostonhistory.org>

The Bostonian Society houses a museum within the 1713 Old State House, a research library, and provides programs and events. The Library collects and conserves material about Boston's history, including books, newspapers, magazines, broadsides, maps, printed ephemera, sheet music, manuscripts, paper currency, architectural drawings, and more. The website describes events, exhibits, and resources for teachers, students, and the general public.

### [Boston Athenaeum](#)

<http://www.bostonathenaeum.org/>

The Boston Athenaeum is "one of the oldest and most distinguished independent libraries in the United States. It was founded in 1807 by members of the Anthology Society. Today its

collections include over half a million volumes, with particular emphasis on Boston history, New England state and local history, biography, English and American literature, and the fine and decorative arts. Includes an art gallery.

### [Massachusetts Commonwealth Museum](#)

<http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mus/museum/index.htm>

Provides a few virtual tours of current exhibits, as well as links to the Massachusetts Archives and the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

### [Old North Church](#)

<http://www.oldnorth.com/hist.htm>

The Old North Church is an active Episcopal (Anglican) parish founded in 1723. It became nationally known for its role in the American Revolution. The church offers visitors different tours to address the needs of varying age groups or grade levels.

### [Old South Meeting House](#)

<http://www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org/>

On December 16, 1773, 5,000 colonists gathered at the Old South Meeting House to protest a tax and initiated a revolution with the Boston Tea Party. Built in 1729, the Old South Meeting House was the largest building in colonial Boston. Tours, hours, and admission costs are available on the website.

### [Paul Revere House](#)

<http://paulreverehouse.org/>

On the night of April 18, 1775, Paul Revere left his home in Boston's North End and began a journey that would make him a legend. The home was first built about 1680. When Paul Revere bought the home in 1770, a third story had been added to the 90-year-old building. Today Revere's home is still standing at 19 North Square and has become a national historic landmark.

### [USS Constitution Museum](#)

<http://www.usconstitutionmuseum.org/>

Located adjacent to USS Constitution, the USS Constitution Museum offers "hands-on exhibits, displays of historic artifacts, computer simulated re-enactments, and public programming." Admission is currently free.

### [USS Constitution. U.S. Navy](#)

<http://www.history.navy.mil/ussconstitution/index.html>

This is an official U.S. Navy website. Provides a virtual tour of this famous historic ship and its current crew. Includes a detailed history of the USS Constitution's escapades.

### [Old State House](#)

<http://www.bostonhistory.org/?s=osh>

"The Old State House, the oldest surviving public building in Boston, was built in 1713 to house

the government offices of the Massachusetts Bay Colony. It stands on the site of Boston's first Town House of 1657-8, which burned in 1711."

### [Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum](#)

<http://www.bostonteatartyship.com/>

The Boston Tea Party Ship & Museum is closed for renovations until 2010. The Museum will be nearly double its original size, and two tall ships (replicas of the *Dartmouth* and the *Eleanor*) will be added to the current *Brig Beaver*.

### [Charles River Museum of Industry](#)

<http://www.crmi.org/>

Located in Waltham on the Charles River in the 1814 Boston Manufacturing Company textile mill, listed on the National Register of Historic Places as America's first factory. Here Francis Cabot Lowell established America's first capitalized corporation, the Boston Manufacturing Company. The Museum contains a re-created machine shop, special mechanical exhibits, a library, speakers series, and more.

### [Faneuil Hall](#)

<http://www.nps.gov/bost/historyculture/fh.htm>

Part of Boston National Historic Park, this market building was first built in 1742 and resides at the site of the old town dock. Town meetings were held here between 1764 and 1774 and included speeches by Samuel Adams and others protesting against the British taxes on the colonies. The building was enlarged in 1806. Further history of the building can be found at [Celebrate Boston](#).

### [Bunker Hill Monument](#)

<http://www.nps.gov/bost/historyculture/bhm.htm>

The Bunker Hill Monument is made of granite and stands 221 feet tall. It is located on the summit of Breed's Hill, where the first major battle of the American Revolution was fought on June 17, 1775.

## **[Neighborhoods and Historic Trails](#)**

### [Boston Neighborhoods](#)

<http://www.bostonredevelopmentauthority.org/neighborhoods/Neighborhoods.asp>

Provided by the Boston Redevelopment Authority, this site offers photos and maps, as well as information on planning initiatives, development projects, and community programs. Includes full-text publications.

### [Neighborhoods. Boston Online](#)

<http://www.boston-online.com/Neighborhoods/>

Boston Online provides links to community, cultural, business, and civic information.

## [The Freedom Trail Foundation](http://www.thefreedomtrail.org/)

<http://www.thefreedomtrail.org/>

This is the "official site" of the well-known walking tour of Boston's historical sites. Includes an online tour with plenty of photo images, selected links, and educator suggestions for further resources and lesson plans.

## [Black Heritage Trail](http://www.afroammuseum.org/trail.htm)

<http://www.afroammuseum.org/trail.htm>

The Museum of Afro American History (located very near Suffolk, at Joy Street and Smith Court, Beacon Hill) sponsors this walking tour of African-American historical sites. There is a clickable map, as well as details on all 14 locales featured on the trail.

## [The Boston Women's Heritage Trail](http://www.bwht.org)

<http://www.bwht.org>

This site actually offers several walking tours of the Boston area, featuring locales significant to Boston herstory. Includes a list of research resources and publications about Boston women.

## **National Parks**

### [Boston National Historical Site](http://www.nps.gov/bost/)

<http://www.nps.gov/bost/>

"Boston National Historical Park is an association of sites that together give the visitor a coherent view of the city's role in the nation's history." It includes Old South Meeting House, Old State House, Faneuil Hall, the Paul Revere House and Old North Church, and more. "Seven of the eight privately, municipally and federally owned and managed historic sites that comprise Boston National Historical Park are connected by the Freedom Trail, a 2.5-mile (4km) walking tour of 16 sites and structures of historic importance in downtown Boston and Charlestown." See the [Granary Burial Ground](#) for tombstones of famous Americans, such as John Hancock, Paul Revere, James Otis, Robert Treat Paine, and Samuel Adams.

### [Boston African American National Historic Site](http://www.nps.gov/boaf/)

<http://www.nps.gov/boaf/>

"Located in the heart of Boston's Beacon Hill neighborhood, the site includes 15 pre-Civil War structures relating to the history of Boston's 19th century African-American community, including: the African Meeting House, the oldest standing African-American church in the United States. The sites are linked by the 1.6 mile (2.5 km) Black Heritage Trail®. Augustus Saint-Gaudens', memorial to Robert Gould Shaw and the African-American Massachusetts 54th Regiment, stands on the trail." Buildings include the [African Meeting House](#), the oldest standing Black church, the [Abiel Smith School](#), the first schoolhouse in America built to educate Black school children, and the [John J. Smith House](#), home of a abolitionist, and state legislator who lived at 86 Pinckney Street in the 1860s and 1870s. Choose "In-Depth" on the right-hand column of this website for more detailed information.

### [Lewis and Harriet Hayden House](#)

<http://www.nps.gov/boaf/historyculture/lewis-and-harriet-hayden-house.htm>

Lewis Hayden (1815-1859), an escaped Kentucky slave, settled in Boston with his wife Harriet in 1849, and their home is the most well-known of Boston's Underground Railroad stations. The Hayden House is located in the Boston African American National Historic Site which includes 15 pre-Civil War buildings relating to the history of Boston's 19th century African American community.

### [Boston Harbor Islands](#)

<http://www.nps.gov/boha/>

"Boston Harbor Islands national park area includes 34 islands situated within the Greater Boston shoreline." For in-depth information, see the official [Harbor website](#) which provides activities, maps, and ferry schedules.

### [Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site](#)

<http://www.nps.gov/frla/>

Frederick Law Olmsted NHS is currently Closed in order to conduct a construction project involving its buildings, grounds, and archives. "Frederick Law Olmsted (1822-1903) is recognized as the founder of American landscape architecture and the nation's foremost parkmaker." Park resources include the "Fairsted" historic landscape and a century-old design office. Within the office complex are nearly 1,000,000 original design records detailing work on many of America's famous landscapes, such as the U. S. Capitol and White House Grounds; Great Smoky Mountains and Acadia National Parks; Yosemite Valley; New York's Central Park; and whole park systems in cities such as Seattle, Boston, and Louisville. Currently closed for renovations.

### [John F. Kennedy National Historic Site](#)

<http://www.nps.gov/jofi/>

John Fitzgerald Kennedy National Historic Site is the birthplace in 1917 and boyhood home of the 35th President of the United States. The modest house at 83 Beals Street in Brookline was the first home shared by the president's father and mother, Joseph P. and Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy. It is open to visitors Wednesday through Sunday.

### [Longfellow National Historic Site](#)

<http://www.nps.gov/long/>

The Longfellow House is located in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and for almost half a century (1837-1882) this was the home of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. Longfellow House is also significant in America's colonial history. General George Washington planned the Siege of Boston here between July, 1775 and April, 1776. Choose "In-Depth" in the right-hand column to access a virtual tour of various rooms and explore the museum collections, including photos and manuscripts.

## **Miscellaneous Websites**

### [State Library of Massachusetts](#)

<http://www.mass.gov/lib/home.htm>

The Library contains historic and current newspapers, legal resources, and special collections. Some digital collections (broadsides, stone bridge exhibit, and others) are available for viewing online. The Library offers a searchable public catalog and the texts of the state annual report.

### [54th Massachusetts Infantry](#)

[http://battleofolustee.org/54th\\_mass\\_inf.html](http://battleofolustee.org/54th_mass_inf.html)

This website offers a detailed account of the life of 54th Massachusetts Infantry. Links to photos, private soldier letters, book excerpts, and more.

### [Tocqueville's Boston](#)

<http://xroads.virginia.edu/~HYPER/DETOC/tour/bostontxt.html>

This is a hypertext project of the American Studies Department of the University of Virginia and includes all of Tocqueville's *Democracy in America*. Tocqueville's Boston is an excerpt from this famous book. It includes illustrations and an outline.

### [Famous Trials](#)

<http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/ftrials.htm>

This site provides information on famous trials, including source documents, images, audio files, and commentary. Information about each trial may include biographies, maps, chronologies, images, and original documents. Produced and maintained by Douglas Linder of the University of Missouri-Kansas City Law School. Includes trials which took place in the Boston area, such as the Sacco-Vanzetti Trial (1921), the Boston Massacre Trials (1770), the Salem Witchcraft Trials (1692), the Lizzie Borden Trial (1893), and the Amistad Trials (1839-1840), in which John Quincy Adams argued the case before the Supreme Court.

### [iBoston](#)

<http://www.iboston.org/>

The opening screen presents a description of "This Day in Boston History." Also includes information on Boston architecture through the years, public art and places, biographies of a few notable Bostonians, and details on a notable events in the city's history.

### [Boston Online History](#)

<http://www.boston-online.com/History/>

Provides annotated links pertaining to Boston's history. Links are arranged in broad categories.

### [Gerald Richman's Annotated Bibliography of Fiction Set in Boston \(working draft\)](#)

<http://webcas.cas.suffolk.edu/richman/Boston/bosbib.htm>

Created by Gerald Richman of Suffolk University in Boston, this website provides a listing of fiction set in Boston. Content is grouped under bibliographies, anthologies, multi-century sagas,

17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st centuries, mysteries, and autobiographies. Offers some links to full-texts. Contains some dead links.

## Societies and Organizations

### [American Antiquarian Society \(AAS\)](#)

<http://www.americanantiquarian.org>

"The American Antiquarian Society (AAS) is an independent research library founded in 1812 in Worcester, Massachusetts. The library's collections document the life of America's people from the colonial era through the Civil War and Reconstruction. Collections include books, pamphlets, newspapers, periodicals, broadsides, manuscripts, music, graphic arts, and local histories."

Includes a searchable online catalogue and publications for purchase. Houses extensive resources on Boston and New England.

### [Massachusetts Historical Society \(MHS\)](#)

<http://www.masshist.org/>

The Massachusetts Historical Society (MHS) is a major research library and manuscript repository, holding millions of documents and artifacts significant to the study of American history. Its "mission is to collect, preserve, and communicate historical information about Massachusetts and the nation to the widest possible audience." The institution consists of six departments—Library, Publication & Research Programs, The Adams Papers, *The New England Quarterly*, Education, and Administration. The Society's website includes a searchable online catalogue, searchable manuscript and photograph finding aids, research guides, and biographical sketches of famous Americans. See a description of the [Battle of Bunker Hill](#) here.

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### [Boston History & Innovation Collaborative](#)

<http://www.bostonhistorycollaborative.org/>

The Collaborative aids Boston by helping to maintain Boston's history and culture of innovation. The organization develops educational plays, books, and tours, conducts research, and creates performances and online resources.

### [Historic Boston Incorporated](http://www.historicboston.org/)

<http://www.historicboston.org/>

Historic Boston Incorporated (HBI) is a private, non-profit organization that joins people and resources in order to preserve historic sites in Boston. Projects have included the Hurd House in Charlestown, the Edward Everett Hale House in Roxbury, and the Old Corner Book Store Building in downtown Boston.

### [Boston Preservation Alliance](http://www.bostonpreservation.org/)

<http://www.bostonpreservation.org/>

"A non-profit preservation organization founded in 1978, the Boston Preservation Alliance provides advocacy, leadership, and education to preserve Boston's historic places." The organization provides education, technical assistance, and public policy initiatives affecting Boston's historic buildings, neighborhoods, and landscapes.

### [Boston Landmarks Commission \(BLC\)](http://www.cityofboston.gov/environment/landmarks.asp)

<http://www.cityofboston.gov/environment/landmarks.asp>

The BLC serves in conjunction with the local Historic District Commissions as the City's stewards of Boston's historic buildings, places, and neighborhoods. The City's preservation commissions provide information and assistance with the regulatory process, preservation planning, archaeology, historical information, and technical help.

## **Selected Print Sources**

[American Eras](#) REF. E58+

[American Decades](#) REF. E169.12 +

These two sets work together to cover U.S. history from earliest civilizations through the 1990's. Topics covered include world history, arts, education, government, science, commerce, warfare, and more. American Decades available online through [Gale Virtual Reference](#).

### [African-American Newspapers and Periodicals : a National Bibliography](#)

REF. PN4882.5 .A35 1998

A bibliography of more than 6500 newspapers and journals, from 1827 to the present, edited and published by African-Americans.

### [Antislavery Newspapers and Periodicals](#)

REF. AI3 .B55 5 volumes.

Annotated index of letters in the following periodicals: V. 1. Philanthropist, Emancipator, Genius of Universal Emancipation, Abolition Intelligencer, African Observer, and the Liberator, 1817-1845. V. 2. Liberator, Anti-Slavery Record, Human Rights Observer, 1835-1865. V. 3. Friend of

Man, Pennsylvania Freeman, Advocate of Freedom, American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Reporter, 1836-1854. V. 4. National Anti-Slavery Standard, 1840-1860. V. 6. National Anti-Slavery Standard, 1861-1871. Each periodical is briefly described, and there is an index of correspondents.

### [Black Abolitionist Papers, 1830-1865 : a Guide to the Microfilm Edition](#)

REF. E446 .B5

Guide to the microfilm of over 14,000 documents written by Black men and women abolitionists. Examples include editorials in Black newspapers and letters by Black abolitionists which appeared in White newspapers. A list of the newspapers and periodicals from which the material is derived is also included. The [Black Abolitionist Papers, 1830-1865](#) microform is available for use in the Sawyer Library.

### [Chronology of African American History](#) 2d Ed.

REF. E185 .H64 1997

A selective compilation of important people, places, and events in the history of African Americans from 1492 to the present.

### [Dictionary of American History](#) (10 vols.)

A comprehensive, multivolume, dictionary of over 6,000 entries, each written by subject scholars, available through the [Gale Virtual Reference Library](#).

### [Encyclopedia of African-American Civil Rights](#)

REF. E185.61 .E54 1992

Includes discussion of the significant legal cases, organizations, people, and events which occurred during the civil rights era in the United States.

### [Encyclopedia of African-American Culture and History](#) (5 vols.)

REF. E185 .E54 1996

About two-thirds of the 2,200 entries are biographies that begin in the seventeenth century and continue through the twentieth. The remaining entries deal with historical eras, legal cases, cultural achievement, and sports. The 2006 edition is available through [Gale Virtual Reference](#).

### [Encyclopedia of the American Civil War](#) (5 vols.)

REF. E468 .E53 2000

A comprehensive, authoritative, cross-referenced encyclopedia, containing over 1600 articles, covering people, causes, course and consequences of the Civil War.

### [Encyclopedia of American Cultural and Intellectual History](#) (3 vols.)

REF. E169.1 E624 2001

Contains over 220 essays which survey broad topics in American cultural and intellectual history. The first sections are arranged chronologically. Other sections cover people, groups, and places, and the final section is theoretically oriented.

### [Encyclopedia of Colonial and Revolutionary America](#)

REF. E188 .E63 1990

A quick reference to topics in the history of Colonial and Revolutionary America. Entries are cross referenced and include bibliographies.

### [Encyclopedia of Massachusetts](#) (2 vols.)

REF. F64 .E53 1999

Includes sections on history, governors, cities and towns, and historic places.

### [Encyclopedia of the Irish in America](#)

REF. E184 .I6E53 1999

Alphabetically arranged, this comprehensive volume includes specific historical topics, biographies, and entries for each state and major U.S. city. Entries are signed and include bibliographies.

### [Encyclopedia of the United States in the Nineteenth Century](#) (3 vols.)

REF. E169.1 .E626 2001

Contains nearly 600 comprehensive articles, covering events, trends, movements, technologies, and culture. Bibliographies are included with each article. Available online through [Credo reference](#)

### [Encyclopedia of the United States in the Twentieth Century](#) (5 vols.)

REF. E740.7 .E53 1996

An analysis of major topics of the twentieth century, ranging from politics, social issues, and science, to economic life. Each topic is written by a well-known historian.

### [Historic Documents](#) (1972+)

Significant documents taken from current events occurring in a given year. Available through CQ Press.

### [Historical Dictionary of New England](#)

REF. F2 .H65 2003

Provides alphabetical entries covering facts, histories, institutions, literature, names, places, topics, and words unique to the New England states.

### [History in Dispute](#) (21 vols.)

REF. D20 .H56

These volumes cover American social and political movements from 1900 to 2000. Significant historical events are discussed from opposing viewpoints. Arrangement is chronological.

### [The Reader's Companion to American History](#)

REF. E174 .R43 1991

A one volume encyclopedia which includes interpretive essays and biographies, as well as information entries. Sponsored by the Society of American Historians. Available online through [Credo reference](#).

### [A Short History of Boston](#)

F73.3 .A45 2004

Provides a very brief history of Boston. Includes an extensive chronology and numerous photos.

## **American Biographical Sources**

### [Dictionary of American Biography](#) (20+ vols.)

REF. E176 .D56

An authoritative dictionary of American national biography. (1928-1958)

### [Notable American Women 1607-1950](#) (3 vols.)

REF. CT3260 .N57

A biographical dictionary of over 1,330 notable American women, selected on the basis of achievement. Available electronically in [Credo reference](#).

### [Encyclopedia of the United States Cabinet](#) (3 vols.)

REF. E176 .G89 2000

Provides biographical profiles for all U.S. Cabinet members. Each entry includes a bibliography.

### [Who Was Who in America](#) (10 vols.)

REF. E176 .W64

Brief biographies of deceased notable Americans, taken from the *Who's Who in America*. Available online through [Credo reference](#) and [Biography Resource Center](#).

### [The Presidents: a Reference History](#) 2d. Ed.

REF. E176.1 .P918 1996

A history of the American Presidency through President Clinton. Also available online through [Gale Virtual Reference](#).