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Connecting Families.

The desire to understand and connect to our family history is universal. This understanding represents who we are and how we came to live the lives we each have. Whether we are fully aware of it or not, the journeys our ancestors took and the choices they made have a profound effect on who we are today. Good fortune and bad, triumph and tragedy, prosperity and opportunity all comprise the incredible, winding path that leads from our ancestors to each of us. And while our stories may seem unique to us, we learn that they are also shared by many.

At NEHGS, we understand that as we uncover our families, we learn about history, too. The records we use, the sources we uncover, the information we gather, all need to be maintained and preserved. It is our mission to make sure everyone, everywhere, has access to their family's story for generations to come.

Advancing History.



Report of the President and CEO

"The incredibly positive momentum of our capital campaign success, coupled with close attention to meeting or exceeding the goals of our strategic plan, swept across all activity areas of our Society . . . "

Greetings to our friends, far and wide. I am delighted to communicate our recent accomplishments at the New England Historic Genealogical Society and American Ancestors in this Annual Report. In the following pages, Ryan J. Woods and Ted MacMahon will set the stage for some of our future activities: in particular, our plans for 2020—the 400th anniversary of the Pilgrim landing and the 175th anniversary of the founding of our Society—and our Cornerstone Project at 97 Newbury Street, an urgently-needed expansion of our headquarters.

The incredibly positive momentum of our capital campaign success, coupled with close attention to meeting or exceeding the goals of our strategic plan, swept across all activity areas of our Society in our fiscal year ending August 31, 2016, propelling us to a position of stronger financial well-being with unprecedented scholarly and web-based activity, robust earned revenue growth, and a dramatic expansion of our membership. Viewed through the lens of our four "Cornerstones," here are a few of the highlights of a truly remarkable year.

SUSTAINABILITY

The most ambitious financial undertaking in our history, the groundbreaking **Connecting Families. Advancing History Capital Campaign**, concluded \$7.2+ million over a \$55 million target (previously revised upward from an initial goal of \$50 million). The success of this comprehensive campaign at \$62,219,472—which supported our endowment, infrastructure, website expansion, and collections development—is a credit to 8,569 donors who made more than 25,000 gifts to support our purpose and our growth. Not only did this historic campaign deepen our connections with thousands of supporters, but it made

a permanent positive impact on our long-term financial sustainability and provided a highly visible platform from which we demonstrated our skills in preserving the past, creating excellence, sharing expertise, building collections, expanding resources, and embracing the future. Finally, it gave us the opportunity to take a significant step in fulfilling the future vision of our strategic plan by purchasing the adjacent building located at 97 Newbury Street, for which we will develop expansion plans and into which expand our operations and services in the coming years.

On an operating level, our performance in fiscal year 2016 was outstanding: we exceeded budget and achieved a \$479,000+ cash-positive position. Earned revenue was especially strong, and membership generated \$2.5+ million in income—a robust 14% over budgetary expectations. Donated support for operations, and other campaign contributions, crested \$5 million for the year, a remarkable achievement made possible by our generous members and a dedicated staff and volunteer team.

Shortly after the close of the fiscal year, we received our largest cash gift ever: \$5.3 million. An anonymous donor who previously made our Society the beneficiary of a trust as part of our capital campaign, converted that planned gift into a current gift, so those funds begin to benefit the Society sooner. This historic gift marks an important moment, perhaps even a key turning point, in the long-term success and prosperity of this organization, and we gratefully thank this generous individual who made such a magnificent act of philanthropy possible.

RELATIONSHIPS

During this period, we cultivated relationships broadly and expanded the number of our constituents into the hundreds of thousands—a first for our organization and for any society of our kind in America. We refined the benefits of membership in contributing, regular, and guest categories and defined strategies for serving these classes of members and numerous subcategories. As of the date of this report, our current membership stands at over 226,000 individuals, an historic accomplishment and a testament to our reputation, relationships, and high-quality offerings. We continued to reach new audiences as the anchor location of the PBS series Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates, Jr., as well as through key appearances on two other genealogy-based television shows, Who

"... we demonstrated our skills in preserving the past, creating excellence, sharing expertise, building collections, expanding resources, and embracing the future." Do You Think You Are? and The Genealogy Roadshow. David Allen Lambert, our Chief Genealogist, serves as co-host of Extreme Genes, a weekly radio show and podcast carried over 42 radio stations nationwide and downloaded more than 50,000 times per month. Our work was covered frequently in print and online media, including several articles in The New York Times and elsewhere. External partnerships were a key to developing or retaining new relationships and, accordingly, we developed or advanced affiliations with FamilySearch and FindMyPast, both of which generated many new memberships, much commerce, and useful content. Throughout the year, we organized programs with a host of like-minded organizations, including a national conference of The Sons of the American Revolution, held in Boston.

Our library extended relationships by offering an array of increasingly popular, highly personalized consultation offerings. These consultations, conducted between our staff genealogists and visiting members or guests, help forge closer connections and share our expertise. In addition, we hired a collections curator, Curt DiCamillo, to organize our fine arts collection, orchestrate heritage tours, and, in so doing, strengthen new relationships for the organization. Finally, we hosted two Family History Benefit Dinners, honoring best-selling author Nathaniel Philbrick and Emmy-winning television anchors Bob Schieffer, longtime moderator of Face the Nation, and David Hartman, formerly host of Good Morning, America. Both dinners attracted hundreds of our members, as well as corporate sponsors and numerous guests. These events, like many others, afforded us the opportunity to showcase our genealogical talents and create goodwill among our constituents and with the public.

SCHOLARSHIP

Our scholarly and educational activities thrived in this period, with major online resource additions, key publications, the introduction of a new activity center, recruitment of a venerable journal, and innumerable learning opportunities both in person and online. Among our most highly anticipated publications was the *Genealogist's Handbook for Irish Research*, by Marie E. Daly with Judith Lucey. This book, hailed for excellence by independent reviewers, will educate thousands of readers in the techniques, long taught at NEHGS, that will advance Irish genealogical research goals. The first volume of a long-term study project, *Early New England Families*, 1641–1700, Volume One,

by Alicia Crane Williams, FASG, was published and a groundbreaking memoir by Bill Griffeth, *The Stranger in My Genes*, told the moving story of a shocking DNA test discovery. That book became the most successful single volume in our publishing history, with 10,000 units sold to date, and its author made numerous public appearances, including a *Today* show interview in September. Our depth of scholarly activity grew with the addition of the *Mayflower Descendant: A Journal of Pilgrim Genealogy & History*, now edited by Christopher C. Child, published twice annually in our suite of periodical offerings.

Our scholarship was conveyed to members by many means, most especially through scores of educational programs, online seminars, and tours. During fiscal year 2016, we served more than 8,200 members in educational programs at our headquarters, online, and afield. Our eighteen online programs during the fiscal year—

which included monthly webinars and in-depth online courses on a wide range of topics, such as newspaper research for genealogy, Native American resources for family history research, choosing a genealogical software program, and Chinese-American family history—served more than 4,000 people from across the country, and indeed, around the world. Special activities included a "Great Migration: By Sea and By Land" tour and an Atlantic crossing onboard the Queen Mary II with Robert Charles Anderson, FASG; a "New England Captives Taken to Canada Tour" to Quebec and Montreal with Donald R. Friary; "NEHGS Roadshows" in Carlsbad, California, and The Villages, Florida; and guided research tours to London, Salt Lake City, New York City, Albany, New York, and Hartford, Connecticut, among many others. The reach of our scholarship was expanded through the development and launch of a Jewish Heritage Center at NEHGS, an extension of our productive affiliation with



the American Jewish Historical Society – New England Archives. The JHC will eventually make its home in our annex at 97 Newbury Street and will continue in its program of developing webbased content and special exhibitions, and soon begin to produce more compiled family histories of Jewish families.

TECHNOLOGY

AmericanAncestors.org, far and away our most popular offering, was voted a Best US Genealogy Website 2016 by Family Tree Magazine, an honor that recognizes the position of our website in the uppermost echelons of worldwide Internetbased genealogical resources. We continued to add millions of new searchable records to an already huge corpus of more than one billion records while annual page views of our site topped 23 million—a 25% increase over the prior fiscal year—with more than 2.4 million unique visits. Online content added to American Ancestors.org in this period emphasized original record sets for all New England states, New York, the South, the United Kingdom, and the Caribbean. Throughout the year, our web team continued to enhance

the online experience for our members and build our technology infrastructure behind the scenes. Likewise, our Digital Collections grew substantially. This online offering includes books and manuscripts previously only available in our library and today features more than 5,000 fully digitized materials. As an industry leader, we again participated in the RootsTech conference in Salt Lake City, where we presented on trends in technology as it relates to genealogical research at a national forum that attracted more than 30,000 visitors. Lastly, we continued to increase our profile in the area of genetics scholarship through publications, and in the following fiscal year, a "DNA Day" of educational programming and a partnership with FamilyTree DNA. These and many other activities kept us busily engaged in stewarding multiple technology platforms and disciplines.

Our institutional progress in Fiscal Year 2017 continues unabated, and NEHGS is flourishing. In January 2017, we finalized and announced an historic partnership with the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston that will bring millions of sacramental records online for the first time, including births, baptisms, marriages, and deaths.





This multi-year endeavor will make records of 154 parishes in eastern Massachusetts available for the critical period of 1789–1900. We also entered into an agreement with the General Society of Mayflower Descendants to bring online the complete fifth generation of its "silver books" series for *Mayflower* descents, in what is sure to be an important offering on American Ancestors.org.

In closing, I wish to thank David H. Burnham, a good friend to NEHGS and a mentor to many, for five years of loyal service as Chairman of our Board of Trustees. During David's tenure, our organization has achieved tremendous successes, due in no small part to his wise counsel and guidance. As David retires, we warmly welcome Nancy S. Maulsby as our Chairman. Nancy has ably served the Society in numerous capacities, including as an officer, trustee, committee chair, councilor, and patron. She brings many wonderful attributes to this important role, and we look forward to her increased board leadership as the Society continues to evolve.

Finally, we have much work ahead of us. We are preparing for major national and international commemorations in 2020 for the 400th anniversary of the *Mayflower's* arrival (see page 13) and to advance our Cornerstone Project by the renovation of 97 Newbury Street in the coming years (see pages 14–15).

As you can see, your support of this Society makes great things happen. With your help, these strong positive trends will continue in the coming months and years. Please accept my heartfelt thanks to you, to members of our staff, volunteers, Board, Council, and to other friends as we advance our most worthy cause and tell the great story of our nation and her peoples. This work has an important impact on our national identity and in keeping our collective American heritage alive for centuries to come.

Respectfully submitted, D. Brenton Simons President and CEO



People at NEHGS

To advance the study of family history in America and beyond, we educate, inspire, and connect <u>people</u> through our scholarship, collections, and expertise.

There is an innate yearning amongst people to know from where they come. Here at the New England Historic Genealogical Society, we give light to those opportunities that provide for discovery, understanding, and pleasure to all those who seek the knowledge and context of their heritage.

What we do, and what we help others to do, is uncover the histories— the stories—of people, their families, and their unique place in the human experience.

As the nation's leading resource for genealogical research and the most respected name in family history, we provide comprehensive family history services to help family historians of all levels explore their past and make connections across generations:

Expert staff: Our professional genealogists are among the most respected and advanced in the profession. With research specialties including early American, New England, New York, Irish,

English, Italian, Scottish, Atlantic and French Canadian, African American, Native American, Chinese, and Jewish genealogy, our expert staff can assist family historians by providing research advice in person, over the phone, or in writing. Our expert staff can also conduct research on behalf of family historians, providing authoritative, documented research reports and family tree charts.

Original scholarship: We produce the most significant original research and important publications in genealogy, including, since 1847, the longest continually published academic journal in the field, the Register. In addition to the quarterly journal, we publish the quarterly magazine American Ancestors, the biannual Mayflower Descendant journal, twenty to thirty books per year, and a weekly electronic newsletter, The Weekly Genealogist. As the leader in genealogical scholarship, we also produce important study projects such as The Great Migration Study Project, an endeavor to create genealogical and biographical sketches of the some 20,000 individuals who arrived in New England between 1620 and 1640; The Early New England Families Study Project, 1641–1700, a successor study project to the Great Migration period; Families of Western Massachusetts in 1790, which captures families heading west at the time of the 1790 census; and the Early Vermont Settlers to 1784, which covers families that settled Vermont, the last frontier of New England.



World-class research center: We offer the largest collection of original family history research materials in the country. Our collection, which continues to grow through acquisition and preservation activities, dates from the fourteenth century to the present and spans North America, Europe, and beyond. It includes more than 28 million diaries, letters, photographs, and other manuscripts, and more than 200,000 books and microforms.

Award-winning website: We offer family history researchers the most-used genealogical society website in the world. AmericanAncestors.org provides access to more than 1.4 billion records spanning twenty-two countries covering the United States, the British Isles, continental Europe, and beyond, including one of the most extensive online collections of early American genealogical records, the largest searchable collection of published genealogical research journals and magazines, and the largest collection of U.S. Catholic records online.

Education opportunities: We provide exclusive, in-depth learning opportunities through more than 100 annual lectures, seminars, intensive research programs, tours, online courses and webinars, and special

events designed to benefit family history researchers of all levels.

For more than 172 years, we have been guided by a passion and a purpose that places people at the center of our work to advance history and connect families. Today, we continue to cultivate relationships to reflect excellence and diversity in family history, while abounding with an innovative spirit and a vibrant energy to be helpful, engaging, and inspiring to people everywhere who want to advance the understanding of these precious components of life: family and community.

Above, left to right: Ryan Woods, Vice President and COO; Ted MacMahon, Vice President of Development and Member Services; Claire Vail, Director of Digital Strategy; Scott Steward, Editor-in-Chief; Lindsay Fulton, Director of Research Services; Jim Power, Director of Marketing and Sales; Sharon Inglis, Publishing Director; Meghan Walsh, Director of Constituent Relations; Judi Garner, Director, Jewish Heritage Center at NEHGS; Jeremy Bento, Controller; Jean Maguire, Library Director; Ginevra Morse, Director of Education and Online Programs; Stephen Shilcusky, Director of Information Technology; Sarah Liebenrood, Senior Manager of Member Services.

Administration



D. BRENTON SIMONS PRESIDENT AND CEO

For more than a decade, Brenton Simons, an award-winning historian and author, has led our organization in unprecedented growth and to its pivotal role in the widespread popular interest in genealogy today.

He recently spearheaded a \$62+ million capital campaign for NEHGS and in 2017 launched two major initiatives: The Cornerstone Project, to expand the Society's headquarters, and the organization's Massachusetts 400 Commemorations through 2020. Brenton has been featured on CNN, FOX, and PBS, and in the New York Times. At annual NEHGS galas in Boston, he has presented family histories to distinguished guests including Ken Burns, Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Doris Kearns Goodwin, Angela Lansbury, Cokie Roberts, David Hartman, and Bob Schieffer. Brenton's most recent book, *Boston Beheld*: Antique Town and Country Views, was praised by historian Douglass Shand-Tucci as "the book Jane Austen might have written had she run into Charles Dickens after his return from his Boston visit of 1842." For his first volume in a trilogy of Boston histories, Witches, Rakes, and Roques: True Stories of Scam, Scandal, Murder, and Mayhem in Boston, 1630–1775, Simons received the Award of Merit from the American Association for State and Local History. In 2016 he received the Spirit of 1812 Award, with a special citation for excellence in non-profit leadership. He is a fellow of the Massachusetts Historical Society, life member of the Colonial Society, a member of the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of Connecticut, the Club of Odd Volumes, the Somerset Club, a proprietor of The Boston Athenæum, and a board member of Plymouth 400 and The New England Quarterly.



RYAN J. WOODS VICE PRESIDENT AND COO

A ten-year veteran of key management positions at NEHGS, Ryan J. Woods was promoted to Vice President and COO of our organization in 2013. In this role, he oversees all our day-to-day operations, including content and collection development, web services, publishing activities, research services, educational programming, financial operations, facilities management, and marketing strategies. Working closely with Brenton Simons to articulate the long-range goals for the institution and manage current business, our performance has blossomed in his tenure with substantial increases in earned revenue centers and massive growth in our total constituency. He has played a pivotal role developing and managing collaborations with commercial and nonprofit partners, including overseeing the recruitment of more than 1 billion searchable records to AmericanAncestors.org. Earlier roles here included developing and leading research tours and education programs, spearheading a business and technology initiative, and modernizing the services and scope of our research library.

Raised along Lake Champlain in Vermont, Ryan earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Boston University with concentrations in history education and program management. He has served in several key capacities at other Boston cultural and historical institutions, including the National Archives and Records Administration at the John F. Kennedy Presidential

Library and Museum. While at the Kennedy Library he was recognized by members of Congress and by the Archivist of the United States with a special commendation for outstanding achievement in public service. A licensed educator, he is the author of several education and genealogical articles and a frequent speaker at national conferences. Ryan serves on several nonprofit boards and committees, including as Chairman of the Committee on Heraldry, as a Director of the Seven and Eight Park Street Foundation, as a member of the Committee on Pretensions of the Society of the Cincinnati in the State of Connecticut, as Secretary of the Society of Colonial Wars in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as Assistant Genealogist of the Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem—Priory of St. David of Wales, as a Governor of the Union Club of Boston, and immediate past-President of the Boston University School of Education Alumni Association. Ryan and his wife, Karen, are members of Plimoth Plantation and the Boston Symphony Orchestra.



EDWARD G. MACMAHON VICE PRESIDENT OF DEVELOPMENT AND MEMBER SERVICES

Since joining NEHGS in 2008, Ted MacMahon has helped implement philanthropic strategies that have resulted in historic fundraising gains for our organization. Utilizing twenty-five years of experience as a professional fundraiser and nonprofit leader, he helped to develop and expand a culture that provides compelling opportunities for constituents to invest in NEHGS. In 2012, he was promoted to his present executive role, including providing direction to our Member Services and Constituent Relations team, a unit central to unprecedented growth in our constituency. Ted oversaw all aspects of the Connecting Families. Advancing History Capital Campaign, which was completed in September 2016 with more than 25,000 gifts totaling \$62.2 million, a tenfold increase over earlier efforts. As a result of the campaign, gift commitments were made to more than double our endowment, to redevelop and launch American Ancestors.org, acquire 97 Newbury Street, greatly expand collections and online databases, build a new garden/entranceway, construct a conservation laboratory, launch the Jewish Heritage Center, and quadruple annual giving.

Originally from Lincoln, Massachusetts, Ted attended the Belmont Hill School in Belmont, Massachusetts, before earning a bachelor of arts from St. Lawrence University and masters of science in Fundraising Management and Institutional Development from Lesley University. Serving on senior staff or as a Trustee, Ted has provided leadership to several prestigious institutions in Massachusetts, including the Home for Little Wanderers, the Head of the Charles Regatta, Belmont Hill School, the Fenn School, and the Harvard Conservation Trust. Elected by his peers, he served as the President of the Massachusetts Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals. During his tenure, Ted has greatly enjoyed exploring his family roots in New England, Nova Scotia, and Quebec.

Officers 2017—2018



NANCY S. MAULSBY CHAIRMAN

Nancy S. Maulsby of Greenwich, Connecticut, is former Vice President of Corporate Communications and Protocol at Chase Manhattan Bank and co-founder of Development Unlimited, Inc., a provider of management services for not-for-profits. She has served on several boards of not-forprofits and educational organizations, including the Historical Society of the Town of Greenwich, the Buckley School, Grosvenor Neighborhood House, the Metropolitan Opera Guild, and Hartwick College. She is a member of the Venerable Order of St. John of Jerusalem, which supports the international humanitarian endeavors of the St. John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group. While living in Greenwich, Connecticut, she was actively involved with Christ Church Greenwich, having served on its vestry and in the Junior and Senior Warden positions. Nancy is the immediate past Vice Chairman of NEHGS, a past Trustee and past Councilor, has served on the Strategic Planning Committee, is the immediate past Chair of the Development Committee, and is currently Co-Chair of the Future Expansion Committee and a member of the Executive, Human Resources, and Garden Advisory Committees. She has been a member of NEHGS since 2002, a Life Member since 2009, and is a member of the Founders' Society for Lifetime Giving and the Cornerstone Society for Giving. She is presently working on a genealogy of the Sands and Van Volkenburgh families for publication in 2018.

CHAIRMEN OF THE BOARD, 1845—PRESENT*

2017–	Nancy Sands Maulsby	1942–1948	Frederic Alonzo Turner
2012–2017	David Henderson Burnham	1936-1941	Frederick Silsbee Whitwell
2008-2012	Eric Baxter Schultz	1922–1936	John Carroll Chase
2002-2008	David Watson Kruger	1901–1921	James Phinney Baxter
1996-2002	John Godfrey Lowell Cabot	1899–1900	Edward Griffin Porter
1991–1996	William Morgan Fowler, Jr.	1892–1898	William Claflin
1987–1991	Theodore Chase	1887–1892	Abner Cheney Goodell
1982–1987	Arthur A. Dunn	1868–1886	Marshall Pinckney Wilder
1977–1982	Rodney Armstrong	1866–1867	John Albion Andrew
1974–1977	Richard Brigham Johnson	1861–1866	Winslow Lewis
1971–1974	Robert Churchill Vose, Jr.	1859–1861	Almon Danforth Hodges
1963–1971	Walter Muir Whitehill	1858–1859	Samuel Gardner Drake
1961–1963	Charles Moorfield Storey	1853–1858	William Whiting
1954–1961	Thomas Temple Pond	1850–1853	Joseph Barlow Felt
1948-1954	Walter Merriam Pratt	1845-1850	Charles Ewer

*Prior to 2006, the Chairman of the Board was titled "President".



STEPHEN H. CASE **VICE CHAIRMAN**

Stephen H. Case of New York, New York, is Managing Director and General Counsel of Emerald Development Managers LP, Vice Chairman of the Museum of the American Revolution, a retired Partner of Davis Polk & Wardwell, a former Chairman of the Board, Motors Liquidation Company (f/k/a General Motors Corporation), and a Trustee Emeritus of Columbia University, New York Presbyterian Hospital, and Glimmerglass Opera Company. He is the co-author of Treacherous Beauty: Peggy Shippen, the Woman Behind Benedict Arnold's Plot to Betray America (2012). Having joined NEHGS in 2007, he is a past Trustee and Councilor, serves on the Executive and Development Committees, and is a member of the Charles Ewer Society for Lifetime Giving and the Cornerstone Society for Giving.



BILL GRIFFETH TREASURER

Bill Griffeth of Park Ridge, New Jersey, is a veteran financial journalist who has been covering Wall Street on television since 1981. He currently co-anchors CNBC's Closing Bell each weekday from the New York Stock Exchange. He has been nominated for six Cable ACE awards, including Best News Anchor, and one Emmy for the CNBC documentary Game On! In 2001 he was the recipient of the National Association of Investors' Distinguished Service Award in Investor Education. Bill is the author of By Faith Alone: One Family's Epic Journey Through American Protestantism, Ten Steps to Financial Prosperity, The Mutual Fund Masters, and The Stranger in My Genes, and he has contributed articles to American Ancestors magazine. He is a past NEHGS Trustee and Councilor, current Chair of the Finance Committee, and a member of the Executive, Investment, and Development Committees. He has been a member of the Society since 2005, a Benefactor member since 2016, and has emceed our Family History Benefit Dinners for several years.



NANCY CLAY WEBSTER **SECRETARY**

Nancy Clay Webster of Omaha, Nebraska, is a past member of the Joslyn Art Museum's Board of Governors and its Executive Committee, and is a past president of the Joslyn Art Museum Association. She has served on the boards of the Brownell Talbot School, Salvation Army, American Lung Association, Omaha Symphony Guild, Children's Hospital Guild, Ronald McDonald House, Omaha Public Library, and Webster Family Foundation. She is a past NEHGS Trustee and past Councilor; a member of the Executive, Development and Future Expansion Committees; a member of the Charles Ewer Society for Lifetime Giving and the Cornerstone Society for Giving; and has been a Life Member since 2013, having joined the Society in 1990.

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Stephen H. Case Vice Chairman

Bill Griffeth Treasurer

Nancy Clay Webster Secretary

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2020 Commemorations

In the year 2020, our nation and this institution will each commemorate significant milestones. The 400th anniversary of the landing of the *Mayflower* and the 175th anniversary of the founding of the New England Historic Genealogical Society are events of national and international significance.

The story of the Pilgrims and the native people of the Wampanoag Nation is no less than the story of the founding of America.

The creation of the New England Historic Genealogical Society as the first genealogical organization in the world has allowed for countless millions of people to explore their heritage in ways not possible elsewhere and as a result, our work has forever influenced the way people see history and themselves.

Beginning in 2017 and continuing through 2020, we will engage in a series of programs, publications, exhibitions, and tours that will touch on the key themes of exploration, innovation, religious freedom, self-governance, immigration, and Thanksgiving as we commemorate the enduring legacies of a country and an institution.

Specific activities will include 400th anniversary tours with the General Society of Mayflower Descendants and Plimoth Planation to places of historical and cultural importance. The first of three tours in our series Pilgrim Pathways: Celebrating 400 Years of History and Heritage Since the Mayflower Crossing will be a 2018 tour to Scrooby Manor and environs led by Robert Charles Anderson, where we will follow the paths of William Bradford, William Brewster, and others in the important years leading up to the decision to leave England. The second tour in the series will be a 2019 visit to the Netherlands, where we will explore Leiden, the Leiden congregation, Delft, and Amsterdam to gain an understanding of Pilgrim life before the voyage to the New World. The third tour of the series will bring us to the south of England to see Plymouth, Southampton, London, Sandwich, and Canterbury to illuminate the moments before the launch of the Mayflower and the journey that would change the world.

Planning for domestic tours is also underway as Plymouth and Massachusetts are foundational to American history and genealogy.

During the commemorations, we will be proud to host a ground-breaking exhibition: "Our Story: 400 Years of Wampanoag History which will be an essential educational resource for telling an often passed over part of early American history. The exhibit teaches that the Pilgrims did not, of course, arrive in a New World devoid of people or culture. They arrived in the Wampanoag Nation. Amongst other key aspects of Wampanoag history, visitors will learn of the kidnappings and enslavement of Wampanoag people by Europeans in the years prior to 1620; the messenger runners who carried news throughout the nation, often traveling up to ninety miles per day by foot; and visitors will see some of the devastating effects of the Europeanbrought plague that wiped out up to 90% of the Wampanoag people in a two year span.

Understanding the triumphs and tragedies of life in New England in the seventeenth century is vital to understanding the birth of the nation.

New scholarship will also emerge from our commemorations; four new books from the Great Migration Study Project are in the works—a narrative history of the period: Puritan Pedigrees: The Deep Roots of the Great Migration to New England, and three research compendia: The East Anglian Migration, The West Country Migration, and The Mayflower Migration.

We are proud to hold leadership positions in the national and international planning and execution of commemoration activities for 2020 with Brenton Simons serving on the Board of Directors of Plymouth 400, the lead organization charged with 400th anniversary events, and many other members of the staff are participating with key partners to make 2020 a success.

Our institution is well poised to be at the forefront of our country's celebrations and remembrance because as the first institution dedicated to genealogy, we are the nation's collective memory and we serve a broad and diverse audience by educating, inspiring, and connecting people through our scholarship, collections, and expertise.

Mayflower illustration courtesy of Ashley Turner. www.onnendesign.com

The Cornerstone Project at 97 Newbury Street

In April 2013, NEHGS approved a strategic plan that called for communicating "our compelling and clearly articulated purpose that places *people* first and explains why what we do is important." The plan continues, "We will express ourselves effectively to national and international audiences through a greatly enriched website, *AmericanAncestors.org*, and an enhanced range of personalized services provided at our expanded headquarters. . . . The expanded space will allow us to reach out to a broader audience of local visitors and tourists."

The vision for expanded facilities began to be realized in 2012 with an agreement to purchase the four-story 1874 brownstone next door at 97 Newbury Street. The initial funds for acquiring the building were raised during the final stages of the **Connecting Families. Advancing History – A National Campaign for the New England Historic Genealogical Society**, which concluded in September 2016. Working with the renowned Boston architectural firm, Schwartz/Silver, NEHGS is now moving forward with planning for the ways in which 97 Newbury can be renovated and expanded to serve individuals and families by offering compelling experiences that will educate, inspire, and connect them to NEHGS through our scholarship, collections, and expertise.

The goal of architectural planning is to encourage larger audiences of diverse backgrounds and varying ages to become involved in researching and understanding their heritage by creating, at 97 Newbury, a set of *inviting* spaces that are *people-centric*, focused on direct and personal interactions with members and the public:

A new, open, and welcoming PUBLIC ENTRANCE to our headquarters that will invite visitors to enter an intimate retail space and encourage further engagement with other experiences in the building.

A street-level MUSEUM SHOP offering family history resources and gifts from NEHGS and other collaborating nonprofit organizations.

An engaging, high-tech DISCOVERY CENTER where visitors of all ages can experience family history and explore the stories of four centuries of immigration to America through interactive museum installations and smart technology platforms, including a groundbreaking exhibit on DNA and genetics.

A state-of-the-art LEARNING CENTER with expanded programming for younger people and more diverse communities, and with quiet study spaces and flexible classrooms equipped for the production and broadcasting of seminars and webinars on family history.

A COLLABORATION CENTER with offices for the newly launched Jewish Heritage Center (a collaboration with the American Jewish Historical Society) and similar groundbreaking research centers (e.g., African-American, Irish, etc.) and collaborative initiatives (e.g., DNA screening) that will enable us to reach broader, previously underserved audiences.

We look forward to keeping our members apprised of this exciting development as it progresses in the years ahead. If you would like more information about the Cornerstone Project at 97 Newbury Street, including its naming opportunities, please contact Ted MacMahon, Vice President, at tmacmahon@nehgs.org or 617-226-1218.

THE CORNERSTONE SOCIETY

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Anonvmous (4)

Bold indicates new members of the Cornerstone Society.

RIGHT: 97 NEWBURY STREET FAÇADE RENDERING. BELOW: RENDERING OF FUTURE MUSEUM SHOP.





RAI ANCE SHEET

SUMMARY BALANCE SHEET AS OF YEAR-END AUGUST 31, 2016

EV16

EV15

EV1/

BALANCE SHEET	FY16	FY15	FY14
Total Assets	\$49,268,007	\$49,078,871	\$52,211,328
Liabilities	\$5,621,312	\$5,468,447	\$5,815,384
Net Assets	\$43,646,695	\$43,610,424	\$46,395,944
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$49,268,007	\$49,078,871	\$52,211,328
OPERATING FINANCIAL STATEMENT® SEPTEN	IBER 1, 2015—AUGUST	31, 2016	
REVENUE	FY16	FY15	FY14
Investment Return Designated for Operations ^b	\$1,480,732	\$1,501,521	\$1,306,000
Income from Operations	\$4,292,073	\$4,069,941	\$3,345,046
Contributed Income	\$3,323,618	\$2,706,819	\$2,776,705
Total Revenue	\$9,096,423	\$8,278,281	\$7,427,751
EXPENSES	FY16	FY15	FY14
Member Services	\$805,009	\$600,201	\$630,966
Research Library	\$2,599,673	\$2,268,674	\$2,094,034
Tours and Seminars	\$800,620	\$921,031	\$599,305
Retail Store	\$237,625	\$260,806	\$149,972
Publications	\$1,507,094	\$1,379,769	\$1,353,449
Website	\$1,298,401	\$1,239,614	\$1,083,279
General and Administrative	\$1,220,921	\$1,345,897	\$1,329,568
Fundraising	\$633,938	\$701,591	\$551,225
Total Expenses	\$9,103,281	\$8,717,583	\$7,791,798
Net Income from Operations	-\$6,858	-\$439,302	-\$364,047
Endowment Assets ^{cd}	\$19,937,475	\$19,386,226	\$20,651,472

a. This financial statement represents the general operating activities for New England Historic Genealogical Society only. Other non-operating activity, including $realized\ and\ unrealized\ gains\ on\ restricted\ assets, can\ be\ found\ within\ the\ audited\ financial\ statements.$

\$1,302,936

-\$724,570

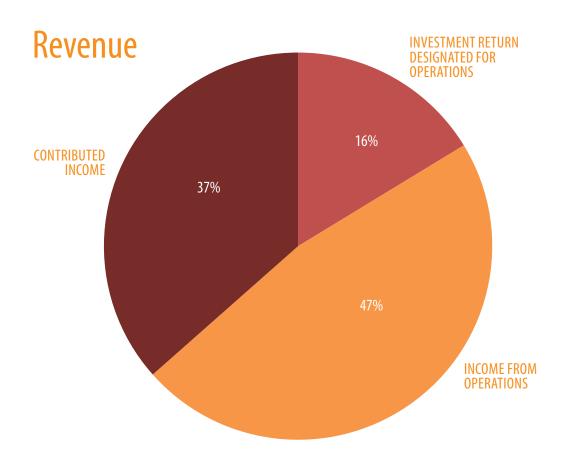
\$3,047,207

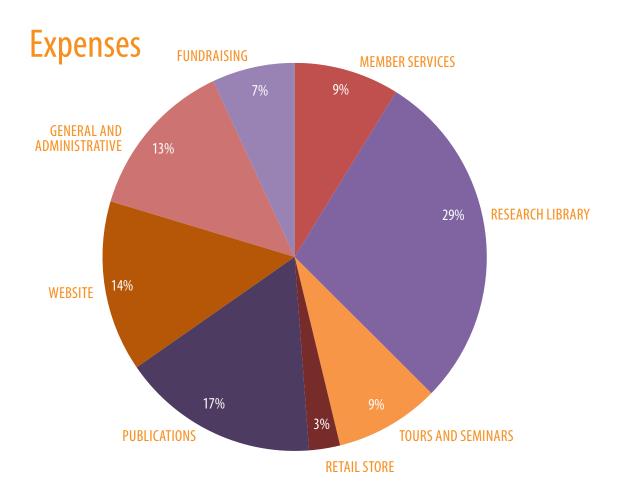
Gain/(Loss) on Investments^d

b. "Investment Return Designated for Operations" represent capital campaign, endowment funds and additional Family History funds approved by the Board of Trustees to support annual operations and implement capital campaign components. The annual draw is based on appropriating 4.45% of the preceding twelve quarter fair market value of the investments. The released Family History board designated funds amounted to \$675,000 in FY16; \$650,000 in FY15; and \$550,000 in FY14.

c. Excludes beneficial interest in pooled income funds and charitable gift annuities.

d. FY15 was an anomaly: poor market performance, net asset adjustment for bequests, and release of campaign funds.







The Founders' Society

The Founders' Society recognizes the generosity of individuals who have given \$1,000,000 or more to the New England Historic Genealogical Society in their lifetimes.

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The R. Stanton Avery Foundation

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Bold indicates new members of the Founders' Society.

*Deceased

The John Quincy Adams Society

This Society is named in honor of John Quincy Adams, a member of the New England Historic Genealogical Society in 1845. It recognizes the generosity of individuals who have made cumulative gifts of \$500,000 to \$999,999 in their lifetimes.

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The Charles Ewer Society

The Charles Ewer Society is named in honor of the Society's founding president, Charles Ewer, and recognizes the generosity of individuals who have made cumulative gifts of \$100,000 to \$499,999 in their lifetimes.

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Bold indicates new members of the

Charles Ewer Society.

The Daniel Webster Society

The Daniel Webster Society, named after a prominent New England statesman and senator, and early member of NEHGS, recognizes the generosity of corporations, and institutions that support the New England Historic Genealogical Society with cumulative gifts of \$100,000 to \$999,999.

Cabot Family Charitable Trust

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The Dr. Henry Bond Heritage Society

The Dr. Henry Bond Heritage Society recognizes those donors who have invested in the future of NEHGS through their estate plans. It is named for Dr. Henry Bond, a preeminent genealogist known for his work on the history of Watertown, Massachusetts, and who left NEHGS its first bequest in 1859.

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Ryan J. and Karen K. Woods Anonymous (11)

Bold indicates members of the Ashburton Circle, named for the site of NEHGS's first permanent home, who have given an irrevocable gift to the Society.



The Benjamin Franklin Society

The Benjamin Franklin Society recognizes the generosity of individuals who donated materials to our archives, including the R. Stanton Avery Collection, and made a gift of \$10,000 or more to support its long-term care. In 1856, NEHGS participated in the construction of a statue in Boston commemorating Benjamin Franklin, who recounted his family history in his famous autobiography.

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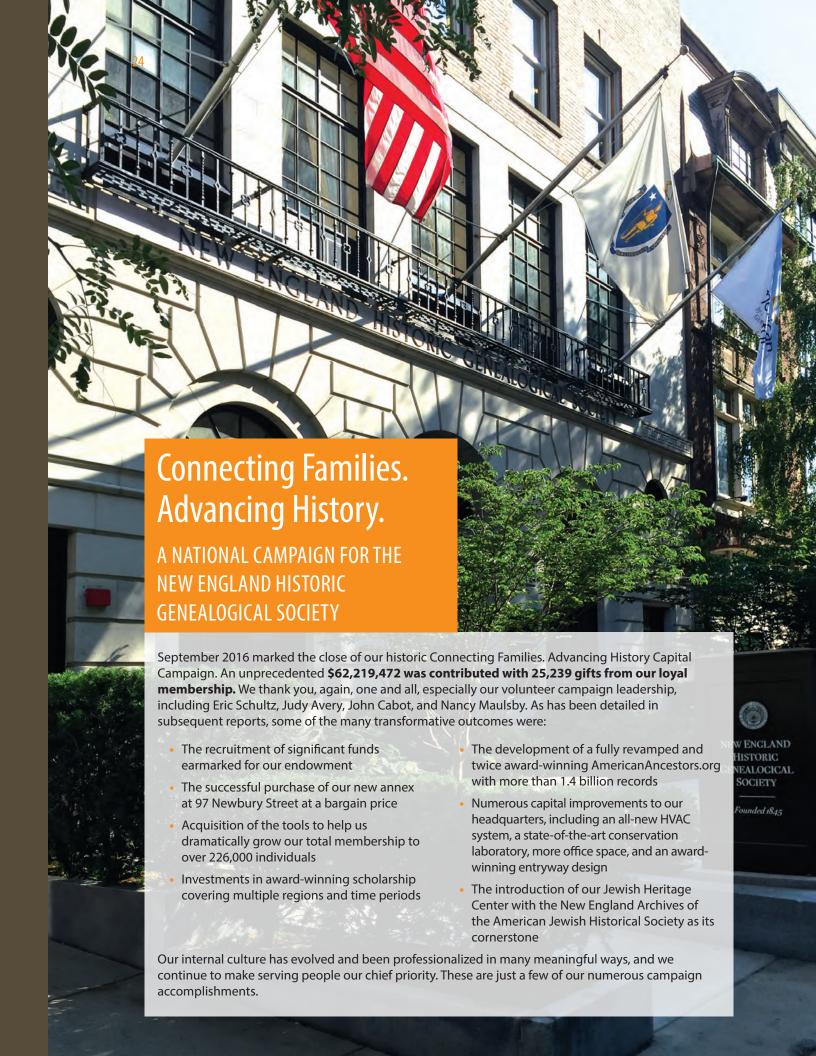
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William Howard Taft Circle, \$25,000+

The 27th President of the United States and the 10th Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, William Howard Taft was, like many other presidents before and after, a member of the New England Historic Genealogical Society. For his keen interest in genealogy, William Howard Taft is commemorated with an oak table in our Reading Room.

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Projects or Family History Fund.



Grace Goodhue Coolidge Circle, \$10,000 to \$24,999

First Lady of the United States from 1923 to 1929 and a champion of the deaf, Grace Goodhue Coolidge was elected a member of the New England Historic Genealogical Society in 1935, the first of many American First Ladies to be so honored.

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William E. Gladstone Circle, \$5,000 to \$9,999

Consistently ranked as one of Britain's greatest Prime Ministers, William E. Gladstone served in the office four times, the most of any person. He was elected a member of the New England Historic Genealogical Society in 1884.

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Mary Anne Z. Wheeler Anonymous (2)

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Henry Clay Circle, \$2,500 to \$4,999

One of the great figures of 19th-century American politics, Henry Clay was a member of the United States Senate, a three-time Speaker of the House of Representatives, Secretary of State, and a presidential candidate in 1824, 1832 and 1844. He was elected a member of the New England Historic Genealogical Society in 1847.

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Washington Irving Circle, \$1,000 to \$2,499

The prolific American author and Minister to Spain, who is best known for "Rip Van Winkle" and "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," Irving was elected to membership in the New England Historic Genealogical Society in 1847.

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A successful Boston businessman, Otis was a member of the House of Representatives (1797–1801), the United States Senate (1817–1822), and Mayor of Boston (1829–1831), and was elected a member of the New England Historic Genealogical Society in 1846.

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*On July 1, 2016 Life Membership rates increased from \$3,000 to \$5,000 and Life Benefactor rates increased from \$6,000 to \$7,500.

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Websites & **New Databases**

The following databases were added to American Ancestors.org during Fiscal Year 2016:

- Early New England Families, 1641-1700 (9 new sketches)
- Western Massachusetts Families in 1790 (73 new sketches)
- Early Vermont Settlers to 1784 (42 new sketches)
- Western Massachusetts: Jewish Cemeteries of Western Massachusetts
- · Worcester County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1731-1881
- The American Genealogist (Volumes 83 & 84)
- The Essex Genealogist (Volumes 28–30)
- Essex County, MA: Early Probate Records, 1635-1681
- The Maine Genealogist (Volume 32)
- New York Evening Post: Death Notices, 1801-1890
- The New England Historical and

- American Ancestors magazine 2015 (Volume 16)
- New Hampshire Gazette: Newspaper Abstracts, 1756–1769
- Norfolk County, MA: Index to Probate Records, 1793-1890
- Brooksville, ME: Vital Records, 1762–1890
- Farmington, ME: Vital Records, 1784–1890
- Fairfield, ME: Vital Records, 1770–1978
- Gov. John Winthrop Papers, Vol. 1–5, 1557 to 1649
- North American Cemetery Transcriptions from the NEHGS Manuscript Collections
- Family Registers by Richard Brunton
- Hampshire County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1660-1858
- Chatham and Harwich, MA Vital Records

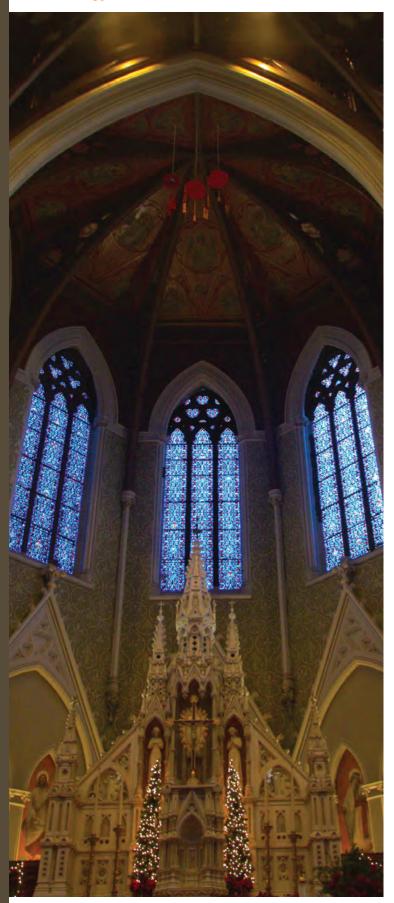


NEHGS/FamilySearch.org partnership databases

- Indiana, Births and Christenings, 1773-1933
- Indiana, Marriages, 1780–1992
- Iowa, Deaths and Burials, 1850–1990
- Iowa, Marriages, 1809–1992
- Norway Burials, 1666–1927
- Norway Census, 1875
- Norway, Baptisms, 1634–1927
- Norway, Marriages, 1660–1926
- Sweden Burials, 1649–1920
- Sweden, Baptisms, 1611–1920
- Sweden, Marriages, 1630–1920
- Costa Rica, Baptisms, 1700–1915
- Costa Rica, Deaths, 1787–1900
- Costa Rica, Marriages, 1750–1920
- Denmark, Baptisms, 1618–1923
- Denmark Burials, 1640–1917
- Denmark, Marriages, 1635–1916
- Finland, Baptisms, 1657–1890
- Finland Burials, 1725–1909
- Finland, Marriages, 1682–1892
- Germany, Births and Baptisms, 1558–1898
- Germany Deaths and Burials, 1582–1958
- Germany, Marriages, 1558–1929
- United States 1900 Census
- United States 1910 Census
- Guatemala Deaths, 1760–1880

- · South Africa, Free State Dutch Reformed Church Records, 1848-1956
- Germany, Baden, Church Book Duplicates, 1810-1869
- · Germany, Prussia, Brandenburg and Posen, Church Book Duplicates, 1794–1874
- Germany, Mecklenburg-Schwerin Census,
- Germany, Mecklenburg-Schwerin Census, 1900
- Germany, Westfalen, Minden Citizen Lists, 1574-1902
- United States 1920 Census
- Wales Deaths and Burials, 1586–1885
- Barbados: Baptisms, 1739-1891
- Barbados: Burials, 1854-1885
- Barbados: Marriages, 1854-1879
- Alabama, Marriages, 1816-1957
- Dominican Republic Baptisms, 1726-1924
- Dominican Republic Marriages, 1743–1929
- Dominican Republic Deaths, 1666–1862
- North Carolina, Deaths, 1931-1994
- Caribbean, Births and Baptisms, 1590-1928
- Caribbean, Marriages, 1591–1905
- Caribbean Deaths and Burials, 1790-1906





Cathedral of the Holy Cross, in the South End neighborhood of Boston, Massachusetts.

Catholic Archdiocese Records at NEHGS

The New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston (RCAB) have announced a multi-year collaboration to create an online searchable database of millions of sacramental records from over 100 parishes across greater Boston. This is the first time a significant number of sacramental records from any U.S.-based archdiocese has been made available in an online digital format.

The project spans parish records from 1789 to 1900, a period of significant growth for the Catholic Church in Boston and surrounding towns. The records to be digitized predate the founding of the first Catholic Church in Boston. They document several sacraments of the Catholic Church, including baptism, confirmation, Holy Communion, marriage, holy orders, and the anointing of the sick.

These historic records contain detailed information about the Catholic parishioners of greater Boston, their relationships with each other, their church, and their community. Historians, genealogists, scholars, and the public at large will now have online access to unique data from the Catholic Church's earliest founding in Boston.

"The Archdiocese of Boston and New England Historic Genealogical Society understand the significance of these records for Catholics, but also for historians and researchers of all backgrounds," said Cardinal Seán P. O'Malley, Archbishop of Boston. "We are grateful for this opportunity to preserve these records for future generations." The Cardinal also noted that the collaboration will provide indispensable assistance to Catholics by consolidating resources and providing a breadth of information unavailable elsewhere.

NEHGS CEO Brenton Simons called the project "a unique opportunity to provide the world with a fascinating and historically important set of records about Boston's Catholic community."

Learn more about the project, and explore the history of Catholic parishes in Boston, at CatholicRecords.AmericanAncestors.org.

Finding Your Roots

NEHGS is proud to be the anchor filming location for a fourth season of the hit PBS TV series Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

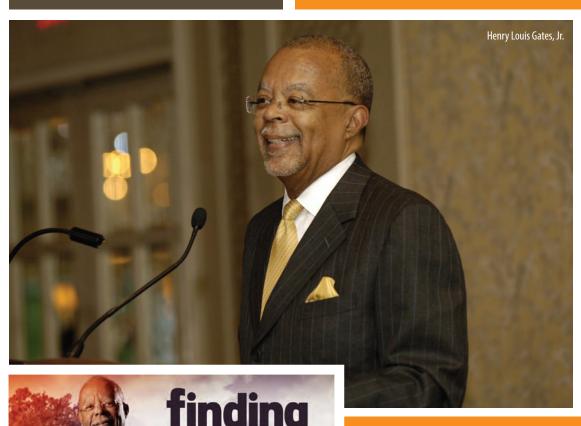
Since 2013 NEHGS Researchers have partnered with Henry Louis Gates, Jr., to cowrite over 150 weekly articles to date for TheRoot.com about African-American genealogy, helping people trace their ancestors. Our researchers provide the nuts and bolts of the genealogical research, looking to solve a specific ancestry question asked by a reader, while Dr. Gates provides historical context, and lends expertise on DNA testing and the history of slavery. These well-read articles receive on average 1,000 views per week.

NEHGS RESEARCHERS AND CO-AUTHORS

Nancy Bernard Katrina Fahy **Lindsay Fulton** Zachary Garceau Kyle Hurst Andrew Krea Eileen Pironti Meaghan Siekman **Daniel Sousa** Julie Wilmot

Henry Louis Gates, Jr. on NEHGS:

"... the greatest genealogical society in the world is the welcome that you gave me from my first approach, the level of sophistication among your researchers, your professional genealogists, the lovely building! The building is a work of art. It's just the perfect combination."

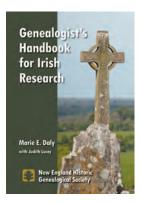


HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR

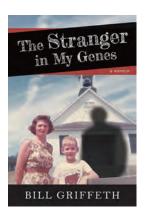
From a reader of *The Root*:

"I am just floored by all the information you and your team and Dr. Gates were able to find about my family fulfilling job this must be for you, helping people find answers to their history. You and everybody involved are amazing and I am eternally grateful to you all!"

Publications A YEAR OF BEST SELLERS

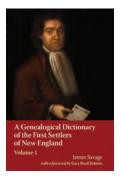


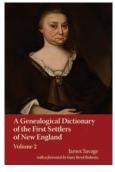
Marie E. Daly and Judith Lucey's long-awaited Genealogist's Handbook for Irish Research was published in the summer of 2016 and has joined Bob Anderson's The Great Migration Directory and Elements of Genealogical Analysis on our list of top sellers. Commonly referred to as the "Irish guide," the book was hailed by FamilySearch's David Rencher as "The first real methodology book for identifying your Irish ancestors in America." John Grenham, author of Tracing Your Irish Ancestors, called it "the best book ever written on how to research Irish-American ancestors." Our NEHGS experts' step-by-step approach and real-life examples have made this book a must-have for every genealogist with Irish forebears.

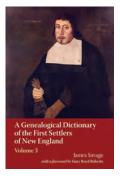


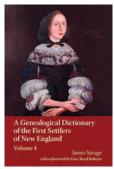
NEHGS Treasurer Bill Griffeth is a respected financial journalist, co-anchor of CNBC's Closing Bell, and a longtime family historian. His memoir, The Stranger in My Genes, takes readers along on a journey that began with a DNA test Bill took in the name of genealogical research and led to his rediscovering what "family" really means. Bill's courageous personal account, published at the end of summer 2016, quickly surpassed sales of any other title that NEHGS has ever published. Bill's book is also our first to come out in an e-book format.









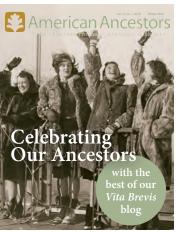


James Savage's A Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England is the first "democratic" genealogical dictionary of New England settlers. Originally published between 1860 and 1862, it has been a crucial resource for American genealogists for more than 150 years. This "Experts' Choice" reprint includes a foreword by Gary Boyd Roberts and an all-new by-volume supplemental index that covers males as well as females. The four-volume set also became one of our best-selling titles this year.

A SEASON OF CHANGE

On June 10, 2016—almost ten years to the day that she started—Penny Stratton retired from her position as Publishing Director. tributions with a tea in the Treat Rotunda. In addition to producing more than 65 books during her tenure, Penny helped launch our series of very successful Portable Genealogist reference guides and "Experts' Choice" reprints of genealogical classics. She is author of several Portable Genealogists and co-author (with *Register* editor Henry Hoff) of our very popular *Guide to Genealogical* Writing. Penny received the Jefferson Cup for extraordinary service at our 2015 Annual Meeting. Penny will continue to work on select projects as a freelancer and appear at events on behalf of the society as Publishing Director Emerita. Formerly the Assistant Publishing Director, Sharon Inglis has moved to the Publishing Director role.









New Publications

- Ancestral Lines: From Maine to North Carolina by Carl Boyer 3rd
- Ancestry of Micajah Stokes Stude and Lucy Agatha Binyon by Patricia Law Hatcher and Kelvin L. Meyers
- Early New England Families, 1641–1700, Volume 1 (paperback) by Alicia Crane Williams
- Genealogist's Handbook for Irish Research by Marie E. Daly with Judith Lucey
- The Great Migration, Volumes I–VII (paperback) by Robert Charles Anderson
- The Scotts of Pittsburgh by Chip Rowe
- The Stranger in My Genes by Bill Griffeth
- Western Massachusetts Families in 1790, Volume 2 by Helen Schatvet Ullmann

REPRINTS OF GENEALOGICAL CLASSICS

 A Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England by James Savage, foreword by Gary Boyd Roberts

PORTABLE GENEALOGISTS

- · Compiling a Bibliography by Kyle Hurst
- Rhode Island State Census by Zachary Garceau
- Using the Federal Census: 1790–1840 by Lindsay Fulton
- Using the Federal Census: 1850–1940 by Lindsay Fulton

SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS

- Ancestors of Nathaniel Philbrick by David Allen Lambert
- Ancestors of Bob Schieffer by Rhonda R. McClure
- Ancestors of David Hartman by Rhonda R. McClure with Andrew Krea

NEWBURY STREET PRESS TITLES UNDERTAKEN

- Ancestors and Descendants of John Shepherd and Emilie Beaumont
- Ancestors of Anna Louise Worrell and William Harvey Lawshe
- Ancestors of Leonard Harold Walker DeBernardi and Judith Elaine Ontko
- Ancestors of Stephen King and Tabitha Spruce King
- The Goodwins of New England and Nova Scotia and Allied Families



Tours and Programs

FY2016

A History of Stepfamilies in **Early America** September 2, 2015 Mining the Treasures in **Newspapers**

September 4, 2015

Paper Love

September 9, 2015 Guild of One Name Studies workshop

September 24-25, 2015 **Daisy Turners Kin**

September 30, 2015 **Great Migration:**

By Sea and By Land

September 4–16, 2015 Welcome to NEHGS Open House

October 2, 2015 **Family History Day**

October 3, 2015

Fall Research Getaway

October 15-17, 2015 Home Movie Day

October 17, 2015

Salt Lake City Research Tour

October 25-November 1, 2015

Book Event: Paul Zoll

October 28, 2015

Stirring Up the Past: Puritan **Beliefs About Food**

November 4, 2015

Mapping Your Ancestors November 6, 2015

Taking Your Family History

Hobby to the Next Level November 14, 2015

Genealogical Resources at the **Boston Public Library**

December 4, 2015

Family Day at NEHGS

December 5, 2015 **Getting Started in Genealogy**

January 16, 23, and 30, 2016 Jewish Genetic Genealogy:

A Study in Endogamy January 27, 2016

RUSA Librarian Open House

January 8, 2016

Crime and Punishment in Early **New England**

February 5, 2016 **Scout Day**

February 16, 2016

Winter Research Getaway

February 25–27, 2016 **Getting Started in Genealogy**

March 12, 19, and 26, 2015

Catholic R, ords in New England

March 4, 2016

Irish Family History Day March 6, 2016

Hartford Research Tour

March 7–12, 2016 Handel and Haydn Concert

March 19, 2016

English Court Records

April 1, 2016

NEHGS Comes to Florida

April 1, 2016

Lincoln and the Jews: A History

April 6, 2016

London Research Tour April 8, 2016

Tartan Tales: Stories from **Historic Scottish Houses**

April 21, 2016

A History of Boston in 50 **Artifacts**

April 23, 2016

Choosing a Genealogical Software Program

April 23, 2016

Writing & Publishing Your

Family History April 24, 2016

Researching Polish Ancestors

May 6, 2016

Gentry, Generals and **Industrialists: English Country** Houses in the Thames Valley

May 10, 2016

New York City Research Tour May 15-22, 2016 Saturday Evening Girls May 18, 2016 Albany Research Tour

May 22-26, 2016

The Atkinson Lancaster Collection

June 3, 2016

When God Looked Down and Wept

June 8, 2016

Ancestry of American Presidents

June 11, 2016

French-Canadian Genealogy Workshop

June 25, 2016

Quebec Notarial Records

July 1, 2016

The Culinary Lives of the Adams

July 6, 2016

Making America: Researching Early New England and **Revolutionary War Ancestors**

July 9, 2016 **Quebec Heritage Tour**

July 16-23, 2016

Nathaniel Bowditch and the **Power of Numbers**

July 27, 2016

Women's Voices in the Archives

August 5, 2016

Finding Your Family's Role in **American History**

August 8, 2016

Come Home to New England

August 9, 2016

Free Fun Friday

August 19, 2016

Appraisal Day

August 20, 2016 Italian Genealogy

August 31, 2016

PRAISE FOR RESEARCH TOURS

"Your trips are so well done and professional. I always get more from my research when I travel with NEHGS."

Tour participant

"The tour included all the places I had wanted to visit and it was great to be able to do it with others that have the same

—Vicki Rodda, New York City Research

the past, but to do it with NEHGS meant getting straight to the sources, with good introductions to what's available, and access to professional genealogists to help you target your search."

Online Programs FY2016

Mining the Treasures in Newspapers September 30, 2015

Advanced Search Techniques on American Ancestors.org

October 20, 2015

French Canadian Resources November 12, 2015

Atlantic Canadian Resources

December 10, 2015 Writing and Publishing Your

Family History

January 13—February 10, 2016 Chinese-American Genealogy

January 21, 2016

Choosing a Genealogical Software Program

January 26, 2016 **Using the Federal Census**

February 18, 2016

Advanced Records: Land, Court, and Probate

March 16, 23, and 30, 2016

Digital Collections at NEHGS

March 22, 2016

Researching Native American Ancestors

April 27, 2016

Writing for NEHGS Publications

April 28, 2016

Using New England Probate Records

May 31, 2016

Researching Italian Ancestors

June 8, 15, and 22, 2016 Searching Study Projects on AmericanAncestors.org

June 21, 2016

French Canadian Genealogy August 17, 24, and 31, 2016

Native American Resources at NEHGS

August 25, 2016

PRAISE FOR ONLINE PROGRAMS

been using census records for 20+ years, and I still learned from this!" —Mary-Kay Canfield, webinar participant

speaking as though in same room with clear visual displays. Thank you." —Barbara Hill, webinar participant

"Although I have visited the library on numerous out-of-state researcher. It is very easy for me to watch a provided during the webinar are useful."

—Carol Sutton, webinar participant



Heritage Tours

NEHGS Heritage Tours provide our constituents and their friends and families with educational opportunities that illuminate the lives of our ancestors through exclusive, behind-the-scenes experiences. Led by one of our experts—including Director of the Great Migration Study Project Robert Charles Anderson, historian Donald R. Friary, or Curator of Special Collections Curt DiCamillo—each tour explores the art, architecture, history, and landscape of our forbearers.

GREAT MIGRATION TOUR: BY SEA & BY LAND

Our popular Great Migration tour series, led by Robert Charles Anderson, FASG, continued in September 2015. More than 30 participants embarked on the journey of a lifetime, crossing the Atlantic aboard the *Queen Mary 2* and headed for Southampton, England. During the Atlantic crossing, guests enjoyed lectures from NEHGS experts and social gatherings. The adventure continued with an exploration of the Hampshire and Wiltshire environs, filled with the churches, manors, and historic sites that made up the world of a number of important Great Migration settlers.

QUÉBEC AND MONTRÉAL HERITAGE TOUR: NEW ENGLAND CAPTIVES CARRIED TO CANADA

In July 2016, expert guide Donald R. Friary led a group of 20 from our headquarters in Boston along the path of 17th- and 18th-century captives taken from the New England frontier to Canada. Participants were immersed in fascinating history while enjoying two of Canada's most enchanting cities at the height of their summer beauty.

For more information on Heritage Tours, please contact Meghan Walsh, Director of Constituent Relations at 617-266-1253 or meghan.walsh@nehgs.org.



Jewish Heritage Center

In 2016 the Jewish Heritage Center has expanded community outreach and engagement through programming, exhibits, collections development and reference. Our goal, going forward, is to increase awareness of what we have to offer historically and to those doing family research. We continue to emphasize the importance of preserving the history of the community for future generations.

COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES HIGHLIGHTS

- We accessioned 15 collections, including those
 of the Jewish Historical Society of Western
 Massachusetts, Jewish Heritage Center of
 the North Shore, Records of the Synagogue
 Council of Massachusetts, Records of the
 American Physicians and Friends of Israel, and
 Records of the Jewish Agency for Israel.
- We continue to scan, create metadata, and put online the 234 boxes of Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society Records (HIAS).
- Over 120,000 documents were added to the digital archives.
- 165,000 viewers from the United States, Israel, Australia, Germany, and other countries accessed documents from the archive electronically.
- Our staff fielded over 550 research inquiries.

PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

Using the Digital Collection at NEHGS and AJHS-NEA Webinar March 22, 2016

Lincoln and the Jews book release with Jonathan Sarna and Barry Shrage, April 2, 2016

Saturday Evening Girls lecture with Dorothy King, May 18, 2016

When God Looked Down and Wept lecture and book signing with Fred Golder, June 8, 2016

Mitzi! Jewish Photographers and Stars of Broadway and Hollywood exhibit opening and lecture with Scott C. Steward, September 25, 2016

From Haven to Home: 350 Years of Jewish Life in America exhibit opening with Dr. Michael Feldberg and Jerry Wyner, June 8, 2016



MEMBERS OF THE JEWISH HERITAGE CENTER ADVISORY COUNCIL

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Ronald C. Curhan
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Elizabeth Wilson
Jerry Wyner



Family History Benefit Dinner with Bob Schieffer and David Hartman

On April 22, more than 200 guests gathered at the Four Seasons Hotel in Boston to honor two legendary television anchors, Bob Schieffer and David Hartman. Bob Schieffer—immediate past anchor of the CBS Evening News, moderator of Face the Nation, and former 60 Minutes correspondent—along with David Hartman documentary journalist and beloved former host of ABC's Good Morning America—were both given our Lifetime Achievement Award for their contributions to history through distinguished broadcast journalism.

Each honoree also received a genealogy, researched by our experts, which revealed the detailed—and sometimes surprising—stories of their respective ancestries. Bob Schieffer learned that he has Native American heritage, and David Hartman discovered that he is descended from Massachusetts Bay Colony exile Anne Hutchinson.

Guests were treated to a spirited discussion between the honorees, moderated by NEHGS Trustee and CNBC Closing Bell anchor Bill Griffeth. Topics ranged from early journalistic ventures to current events and personal interests.

Contributing to the celebratory mood was the announcement from President and CEO Brenton Simons that our Connecting Families. Advancing History capital campaign had exceeded its \$55 million goal by \$3 million, a record achievement.

RECENT KEYNOTE **SPEAKERS & HONOREES**

2017 Stacy Schiff

2016 David Hartman **Bob Schieffer** Cokie Roberts

2015 Nathaniel Philbrick HRH Princess Michael of Kent James Carville and Mary Matalin

2014 Doris Kearns Goodwin Dame Angela Lansbury

2013 David Gergen

2012 Michael and Kitty Dukakis Bryan Sykes

2011 Ken Burns

2010 Henry Louis Gates, Jr. Annette Gordon-Reed

2009 Bill Griffeth Mayor Thomas M. Menino

2008 Mary Beth Norton

2007 David Hackett Fischer

Fall Family History Benefit Dinner with Cokie Roberts

On October 27, we gathered with 175 guests at the Taj Hotel in Boston to honor historian and journalist Cokie Roberts, who was presented with the NEHGS Lifetime Achievement Award in History and Biography.

Cokie Roberts is the author of several New York Times bestsellers and highly acclaimed memoirs, including Our Haggadah: Uniting Traditions for Interfaith Families. In her more than 40 years in broadcasting she has won numerous awards, including three Emmys and the Edward R. Murrow Award. The Library of Congress named her a "Living Legend."

Born in New Orleans, she is a daughter of Hale Boggs, Democratic Congressman from Louisiana, Majority Leader in the House of Representatives, and member of the Warren Commission. Her mother, Lindy Boggs, was a longtime Congresswoman from Louisiana and Ambassador to the Holy See. Cokie's immigrant forebears hailed from France, (French) Canada, Switzerland, Spain, Scotland, and England, and she has connections to Lady Mary Boleyn, three kings, and Princess Diana. Her ancestors settled in Massachusetts, Virginia, Louisiana, and Alabama.

After President and CEO Brenton Simons presented Cokie with her genealogy, guests were treated to a lively discussion between Cokie and our Emcee, NEHGS Treasurer and co-anchor of CNBC's Closing Bell Bill Griffeth. Bill had captivated the audience earlier in the evening with a behindthe-scenes look at his best-selling memoir, The Stranger in My Genes. Attendees also enjoyed Cokie's thoughtful, straightforward take on the history of women in America, Southern family traditions, and the upcoming election. It was an evening not to be missed!







Top, left: Patron member Carron Leigh Haight, Cokie Roberts, and **Councilor and Life Benefactor** Thomas Bailey Hagen. Top, right: Cokie Roberts with **NEHGS Chair and Life Member** Nancy S. Maulsby. Left: Silver Benefactors Lynn and Tom Trowbridge, Brenton Simons, Cokie Roberts, and Steve Solomon.

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Robert Shaw

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Trustees and Councilors are listed on page 12.

Opposite page, top: NEHGS volunteers at our annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon. Opposite page, bottom: Volunteers Becky Philio and Ned Schultz demonstrate the work they do in our conservation lab.

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Newbury Street Press

Kyle Hurst

Genealogist of the

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Eileen Curley Pironti

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Kaldis, Julie Wilmot

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