

Local History Resource Center, Peabody Institute Library
82 Main Street, Peabody MA 01960

Peabody Historical Society & Museum Collection, 1896-2004

Collection Summary

Repository: Local History Resource Center, Peabody Institute Library, Peabody, Massachusetts.

Call Number: PHS

Creator: Peabody Historical Society.

Title: Peabody Historical Society & Museum Collection.

Dates: 1869-2004

Size: 1.251 linear feet.

Language(s): Collection materials are in English.

Abstract: The Peabody Historical Society & Museum Collection covers the history of the Society through the use of Annual Reports, newsletters and postcards. Though the annual reports do not give a history of the Society they do provide insight as to what the Society found to be important and some of the included articles relating to local history.

Organizational History

The Peabody Historical Society and Museum was founded in 1896 by Elizabeth Cheever Osborne and is one of the oldest historical societies in Massachusetts. The Society's collections are of local and national significance. The Peabody Historical Society, at this time, owns eight historic properties scattered throughout Peabody. Among the properties is the General Gideon Foster House; the Society also manages the Elizabeth Cassidy Folk Art Museum & Peabody Art Association Gallery; Nathaniel Felton Sr. House; the Nathaniel Felton Jr. House; the Orchard House; the Apple Barn and the Peabody Engine Company No. 3. In addition the Society has a library and archive; along with a collection of furniture; dresses and costumes and the decorative arts.

Arrangement

Series 1: Peabody Historical Society Reports and Ephemera, 1896-2000

Subseries 1.1: Annual Reports, 1896-1910

Subseries 1.2 Brochures and Ephemera, 1990-2000

Series 2: South Danvers Wizard Newsletter & Related Materials, 1989-2004

Scope and Content Note

This collection documents the history of the Historical Society. Included in the collection are annual reports that list the officers of the society from 1896-1904. In latter issues the annual reports included articles by members of the society relating to Peabody's history. Also included are brochures related to the Society and the properties that it owns.

In addition, the Society also publishes the *South Danvers Wizard* newsletter. The newsletter is named after the local paper that was published in Peabody from 1859-1868. Each issue covered news and events, programs and volunteer opportunities at the Society along with recent acquisitions to the Societies collection the years covered in this collection range from 1989-2004. The collection also includes postcards that were printed by local and national companies, but several from smaller towns are photographic prints. There are also postcards that relate to George Peabody and his philanthropic work; these postcards can be found in the postcard collection.

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation: [Identify the item] Peabody Historical Society Collection, Local History Resource Center, Peabody Institute Library.

Provenance: While it is unknown exactly when some of the materials in the collection were donated, much of the collection was compiled from several donations and library purchased over the years. Edward J. O'Connor, a long time Library Trustee, donated some of the Annual Reports and a book on John Proctor.

Acquisition Information: Unknown.

Processing Information: Processed by Nancy Barthelemy, 2006; reprocessed by Erik R. Bauer, 2013.

Access Rights: Collection is open for research.

Physical Access Restrictions: None.

Tech. Access Restrictions: None.

Copyright: When copyright has not been assigned to the Local History Resource Center. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the archivist. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the Local History Resource Center as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained by the researcher. *This does not apply to items where the copyright has expired.*

Conservation Notes: When necessary staples were removed.

Related Collections: Postcard Collection.

Subject headings:

Flint, Captain, Samuel

Flint, William

Foster, Gideon, 1749-1845

Peabody (Mass.)

Peabody (Mass.)--History

Peabody (Mass.)--Pictorial works

Peabody, George (1795-1869)
 Peabody Institute Library (Peabody, Mass.)
 Peabody Historical Society (Peabody, Mass.)
 Salem (Mass.)
 Salem (Mass.)—History
 South Danvers (Mass.)--History

Detailed description of the collection

Note to Researchers: To request materials please note the box and folder number.

Collection Inventory

Series 1: Peabody Historical Society Reports and Ephemera, 1896-2000

Series one contains materials that annual reports and bulletins of the Society along with various publications. There are a variety of ephemera such as brochures, pamphlet and handouts that were used to raise awareness about the Society.

Subseries 1.1 Peabody Historical Society Reports and Ephemera, 1896-1911

Box contains Annual reports for the Peabody Historical Society. In some cases, the annual reports also include articles on the Flints; Lexington Monument and the Battle of Stillwater among others.

Box	Folder	File Title	Dates (if know)
1			
	1	Annual Bulletins	1896-1900
	2	Annual Reports	1901-1905
	3	Annual Reports	1905-1907
	4	Annual Reports	1907-1908
	5	Annual Reports	1907-1908
	6	Annual Reports	1908-1911
	7	Duplicate Annual Reports	1896-1905
	8	Duplicate Annual Reports	1905-1908
	9	Duplicate Annual Report	1908-1910
	10	Annual Reports	1900-1904

Subseries 1.2 Subseries 1.2 Brochures and Ephemera, 1990-2000

This series contains brochures and ephemera that the Peabody Historical Society published as a way to publicize the organization or to point out important places and people in Peabody.

Box	Folder	File Title	Dates (if know)
2			
	11	Peabody Historical Society Publications	1900-1904
	12	Unsorted Papers	1900-1930
	13	Queen Victoria Image	ca. 1900-1950
	14	Peabody Historical Society Pamphlet	ca. 1980s
	15	Peabody Historical Society Coloring Book	1988

16	Brochures about the Society	1990-2000
17	Pamphlet on the Societies Costume Collection	1991
18	Fire Engine #3 Firehouse History	1993
19	George Peabody Bicentennial Papers	1995
20	George Peabody Calendar	1995
21	Gideon Foster pamphlets	1988-2000
22	History of Peabody Schools 19 th Century	2000s

Series 2: *South Danvers Wizard* Newsletter & Other Documents, 1989-2004

The *South Danvers Wizard* is the newsletter of the Peabody Historical Society. Also in the series are other materials relating to the Peabody Historical Society. One item is from the George Peabody House Museum, but there is not enough material to create its own collection.

Box	Folder	File Title	Dates (if know)
2	23	Newsletters and member listings	1989-1992
	24	Newsletters	1993-1994
	25	Newsletters	1995-1996
	26	Newsletters	1997-1998
	27	Newsletters	1999-2000
	28	Newsletters	2001-2002
	29	Newsletters	2003-2004