

## Collection Update for March 2019

3,131 new items were added in March including:

### Hosted

- ✓ Boston Public Library - American Artists (23 items)\*
- ✓ Boston Public Library - Frank W. Benson (1862-1951). Prints and Drawings (677 items)
- ✓ Boston Public Library - Joseph Pennell (1857-1926). Prints and Drawings (529 items)
- ✓ Harvard Forest Archives - The Harvard Forest Map Collection (648 items)
- ✓ Holyoke Community College - Frank N. Fowler Postcard Collection (24 items)

\* items added to existing collection

### Harvested

- ✓ Wheaton College - Marion B. Gebbie Archives Image Collection (1,230 items)

136,052 Item views

698,423 Total item-level records

284,261 Total hosted items

## Conference Quotes

"Peter Hirtle's keynote was the highlight of the conference for me."

"As a non-technical person, I was expecting "Repository Systems Updates" to be rather dry, but Eben was excellent! Having a better understanding of the work happening behind the scenes to keep Digital Commonwealth up and running and constantly growing was fascinating."



Long-time supporter of Digital Commonwealth conferences, Jim Trafidlo, from VT Boston at his exhibit table

## 2019 Conference Report...

We had a record 158 people sign up for this year's conference, a number rivalled only by attendance at the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary event in 2016. A big thank you to everyone that attended, to all our speakers, and to our exhibitors and sponsors! You all helped to make the day an overwhelming success.

Thanks also to everyone that filled out our post-conference survey. Your comments and feedback help inform our decisions for next year's conference. So far, we've had 71 responses of which an amazing 97% rated the overall conference as good or excellent!

The day began with DC President, Sadie Roosa, addressing a packed ballroom in the Hogan Center, at the College of the Holy Cross. Sadie talked about increasing transparency between the Board and the membership. Once Board meeting minutes have been approved, they will be uploaded to the Membership & Programming website [here](#). The Board usually meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday each month, so expect to see the latest set of minutes on the website shortly thereafter. Keynote speaker, Peter Hirtle, gave an excellent presentation on copyright reminding us what the law says, how to assess risk and what some organizations are getting away with! Morning exhibitor time saw the lounge and lobby area full of people interacting with our vendors and speaker demos. Our vendors traveled from around the Greater Boston area but also from as far away as Portland, Oregon and Provo, Utah!!



Tom and Jeff from Backstage Library Works come from Utah and Oregon

This year's vegan/gluten free/dairy free luncheon entrée from HC dining was a tasty Mexican stuffed pepper which everyone seemed to enjoy. Eben English presented his annual update on the collection, giving an impassioned and thought-provoking discourse on the issues of what we digitize and decontextualization in digital collections. His comments were based on the number of views of a historical KKK Application. Some of his thoughts were echoed in Whitney Battle-Baptiste's afternoon breakout session. Maybe food for thought for another conference??

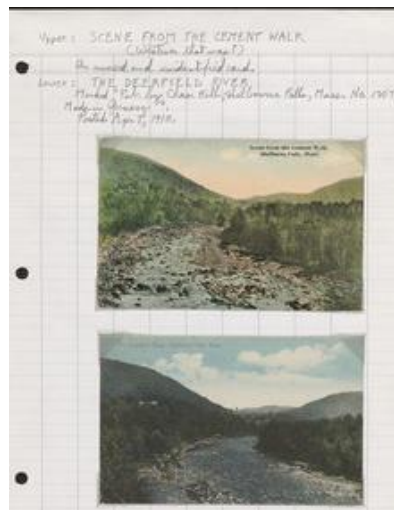
### More Photos from the Conference...

Left to right: spring flowers welcome conference attendees; Peter Hirtle; Jim McGrath from Brown University speaks to a session of nearly 80 attendees; speaker Whitney Battle-Baptiste receives her Certificate of Appreciation from DC VP, Alan Karass.



### Featured New Collection...

The [Frank N. Fowler Postcard Collection](#) from Holyoke Community College is a rich compilation of historical information about various towns and cities in Massachusetts. Fowler traveled around collecting postcards. He then visited the sights portrayed on the cards, meeting with and talking to local people who shared wonderful stories of the town and the history of various places. Fowler assembled these stories and the postcards into an amazing collection occupying 77 binders!



*Shelburne Falls (upper) and the Deerfield River (lower)*  
© Frank N. Fowler

### Membership News

Welcome new members!

- Bellingham Public Library
- Yiddish Book Center

Welcome back all our returning members!

- Boston University Libraries
- CLAMS
- Franklin Historical Museum
- Leominster Public Library
- Malden Catholic High School
- Medford Historical Society & Museum
- Sharon Public Library
- Silver Lake Regional High School
- Taft Public Library, Mendon
- Whately Historical Society
- Worcester Academy

### Important Advocacy Update...

The State legislature has begun its work on the FY 2020 budget. The budget for Line Item 7000-9401, which funds the Mass Library System and the Library for the Commonwealth is currently approx. \$1.2M below the requested level. The Library for the Commonwealth program provides funding to the BPL for the Digital Commonwealth online repository.

Representatives are now filing amendments to the budget. Please ask your State Representative to support **Amendment 337** sponsored by Representatives Natalie Higgins of Leominster and Brian Murray of Milford.

As a reminder, we have placed a link on the [Legislative Support page](#) of the website so that you can [identify your state representatives](#) and also a [sample letter](#) that you can use to contact them. Click on the representative's name under the photo, to get their room number at the State House to insert in the letter.

### Winslow Homer & April Showers...

Something from the repository apropos of the somewhat more than showery weather we've had over the past few days....a wood engraving print by Winslow Homer, dated April 1859, entitled "[April Showers](#)" from the BPL's print department.



**Collections in the Classroom, May 1, 2019, 10:30AM-12:00PM, Canton Public Library**  
There are still a few spaces open for this event! Don't miss out, register online [here](#).