THE LOCAL HISTORY ROOM
The Robbins Library Local History Room contains books, scrapbooks, annual reports, directories, atlases, photographs, postcards, slides, vertical files and other materials documenting the history of Arlington. Although the focus of the collection is the historical, social and cultural development of Arlington, relevant materials concerning Middlesex County, Massachusetts and its towns, and New England are also included. Special collections include the Cyrus E. Dallin Papers, Robbins Library History and the Arlington Woman’s Club Archive.

* Also found in the Circulating Collection

A SELECTED LIST OF RESOURCES:

TOWN HISTORY
Arlington Celebrates the Growing Years, 1875-1975* Hist. Coll. 974.44 ARL
History of the Town of Arlington, Mass. 1637-1879 by Benjamin Cutter* Hist. Coll. 974.44 ARL
One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the Town of Arlington’s Part in that Memorable Struggle of April 19, 1775 Hist. Coll. 974.44 ARL

One Hundredth Anniversary of the Incorporation of the Town of Arlington, Massachusetts 1807-1907 Hist. Coll. 974.44 ARL
Our Local Interests: Arlington Advocate Souvenir 1872-1897 Hist. Coll. 974.44 ARL
Stories of Early Twentieth Century Life, edited by Oakes Plimpton* Hist. Coll. 974.44 ARL
Town of Arlington, Past and Present 1637 to 1907 by Charles S. Parker* Hist. Coll. 974.44 ARL

TOWN RECORDS, DIRECTORIES & YEARBOOKS
Annual Report 1842-present Hist. Coll. 974.44 ARL
Arlington High School Yearbooks 1923, 1927-2001 [Reference Room microfilm]
2002-present – Attic Storage
Arlington High School Literary Magazine, The Clarion, 1897-1931 [Reference Room microfilm]
Arlington Vital Records to 1850 Hist. Coll. 917.44 ARL
Town Directories 1869-1940 [Reference Room microfilm]
True List of Persons 1921-present Hist. Coll. 974.44 ARL

HOUSES
Arlington Historical Commission Publications:
Inventory of Historically and/or Architecturally Significant Properties in Arlington Hist. Coll. 974.44 ARL
Ice, Crops and Commuters: South and East Arlington’s Historical & Architectural Heritage* Hist. Coll. 974.44 ARL
Northwest Arlington, Massachusetts: An Architectural and Historical Study* Hist. Coll. 974.44 ARL
Mill Brook Valley: An Historical and Architectural Survey* Hist. Coll. 974.44 ARL

MILITARY HISTORY
Arlington’s War Records - Revolutionary, Civil, Spanish American, Philippine Insurrection, Mexican Border, World Hist. Coll. 974.44 ARL
Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War Hist. Coll. 973.3M
Massachusetts Soldiers, Sailors and Marines in the Civil War Hist. Coll. 973.7M
West Cambridge on the Nineteenth of April, 1775 by Samuel A. Smith* Hist. Coll. 974.44 ARL

GENEALOGICAL RESOURCES
Complete Book of Emigrants 1607-1660 Hist. Coll. 929.3 COL
Genealogical and Personal Memoirs Relating to the Families of Boston and Eastern Massachusetts Hist. Coll. 929.1 SAV
Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England Hist. Coll. 929.1 SAV
Massachusetts town histories Hist. Coll. 974.423-974.49
History of Middlesex County, Massachusetts by Samuel Drake (1880) Hist. Coll. 974.44 D
History of Middlesex County, Massachusetts by D.H. Hurd (1890) Hist. Coll. 974.44 H
Middlesex County and Its People by Edwin P. Conklin (1927) Hist. Coll. 974.44 C
Vital Records to 1850 (Massachusetts towns) Hist. Coll. 929.3

ATLASES
Atlas of the Towns of Watertown, Belmont, Arlington & Lexington, Middlesex County, Mass. (Stadly, 1898) [Reference Room microfilm]
County Atlas of Middlesex, Mass. (Beers, 1875) [Reference Room microfilm]
Official Topographical Atlas of Massachusetts (Walling & Gray, 1871)

NEWSPAPERS [Reference Room microfilm]
Arlington Advocate 1871- (Index 1871-1946)
Arlington Enterprise 1898-1903 (Index 1898-1903)
Arlington News 1932-63, 66, 69 (Index 1932-38)
Arlington Press 1948-1952 No index

DIGITAL IMAGES digitalcommonwealth.org
**HOURS**

Monday through Wednesday: 9am to 9pm  
Thursday: 1 to 9 PM  
Friday & Saturday: 9am to 5 pm  
*Open Sundays: 2pm – 5 pm Oct - June

**ACCESS TO MATERIALS**

Patrons who would like to use the Local History Room for research complete an application at the Reference Desk.

Patrons with applications on file sign the log & leave an ID each time they use the room. All bags must be left at the Reference Desk.

Materials can be brought from the Local History Room to the Reference Room for short-term research. Patrons just need to leave identification with the reference librarian.

Many local history materials are now digitized and accessible via digitalcommonwealth.org or the Internet Archive: [https://archive.org](https://archive.org) Included are historical Photograph/Postcard Collection, Arlington High Yearbooks & Literary Magazine (the Clarion), town street directories, newspapers, town annual reports. Some atlases are available on microfilm.

**CARE OF MATERIALS**

Care must be taken when handling fragile books, atlases and pamphlets. Please use pencils when taking notes.

**REPRODUCTIONS**

Reference librarian should be consulted before photocopying fragile material found in the Local History Room. Copy machines are available in the Reference Room. Professional reproductions can be arranged. Contact Library for details.

**OTHER RESOURCES**

Town Clerk’s Office  
Robbins Memorial Town Hall  
730 Massachusetts Avenue  
Arlington, MA 02476  
(781) 316-3070

Arlington Historical Society  
7 Jason Street  
Arlington, MA 02476  
(781) 648-4300  [arlingtonhistorical.org](http://arlingtonhistorical.org)

Middlesex South Registry of Deeds  
208 Cambridge Street  
Cambridge, MA 02141  
(617) 679-6300  [middlesexsouthregistry.com](http://middlesexsouthregistry.com)

Massachusetts Archives  
220 Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, MA 02125  
(617) 727-2816  [sec.state.ma.us/arc](http://sec.state.ma.us/arc)

Massachusetts Vital Records  
150 Mt. Vernon Street  
Dorchester, MA 02125  
(617) 249-0323  [mass-doc.com/vitals_research.htm](http://mass-doc.com/vitals_research.htm)

Boston Public Library  
Copley Square  
Boston, MA 02117  
(617) 536-5400

National Archives at Boston  
380 Trapelo Road  
Waltham, MA 02454  
(781) 663-0154  [archives.gov/boston](http://archives.gov/boston)

New England Historic Genealogical Society  
99 - 101 Newbury Street  
Boston, MA 02116  
(888) 296-3447  [americanancestors.org](http://americanancestors.org)

**Databases provided by Robbins Library**

- American Ancestors  [in-library use only]
- Ancestry Library  [in-library use only]
- Arlington Advocate  (2005 – present)
- Heritage Quest Online  Heritage Boston Globe