

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 Lenore and Howard Winkler Files, 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*

Images of America: Arlington by Richard A. Duffy* *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. 917.444 ARL

Town Directories 1869-1940
[*Reference Room microfilm*]

True List of Persons 1921- present
Hist. Coll. 974.444 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 CUT

Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England
Hist. Coll. 929.1 SAV

MASSACHUSETTS TOWNS

Massachusetts town histories
Hist. Coll. 974.423-974.49

History of Middlesex County, Massachusetts by Samuel Drake (1880) *Hist. Coll. 974.44D*

History of Middlesex County, Massachusetts by D.H. Hurd (1890) *Hist. Coll. 974.44H*

Middlesex County and Its People by Edwin P.. Conklin (1927) *Hist. Coll. 974.44C*

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*]

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps--Arlington, Mass, 1885-1951 [*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 5pm

*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> 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

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

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

Massachusetts Vital Records
150 Mt. Vernon Street
Dorchester, MA 02125
(617) 249-0323 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

New England Historic Genealogical Society
99 - 101 Newbury Street
Boston, MA 02116
(888) 296-3447 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 Historical Boston Globe

A GUIDE TO THE LOCAL HISTORY ROOM



ROBBINS LIBRARY
700 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE
ARLINGTON, MA 02476
(781) 316-3200