

collect | preserve | share | *animate history!*



New England Archivist Fall Meeting – October 14, 2016
"Building Bridges: Theory and Practice for Collections and
User Access Across Boundaries"
Amita Kiley, Collections Manager, Lawrence History Center



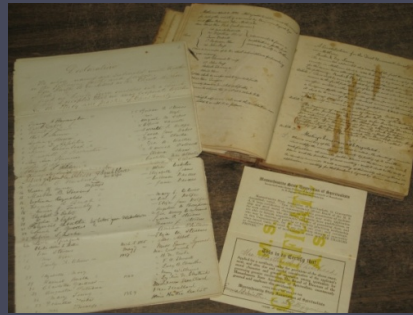


About the Lawrence History Center



Founded in 1978 as the Immigrant City Archives by German immigrant Eartha Dengler, the Lawrence History Center's mission is *to collect, preserve, share, and animate the history and heritage of Lawrence and its people.*

Our initial collection was started at the YWCA and consisted of documents of resident women immigrants. Thirty eight years later, we own and are located in our property at 6 Essex Street, Lawrence, Massachusetts in the former Essex Company complex – a site on the National Register of Historic Places built in 1883 that includes a main office building, carpenter shop, blacksmith shop, stable, and warehouse. Our largest single collection is the Essex Company business and planning records that meticulously document the building of the City of Lawrence starting in 1845. Other collections include over 20,000 photographs and glass plate negatives, 800 digitally mastered oral histories, mayoral papers, non-current municipal records, church records, organizational records from local businesses and agencies, and an array of family and individual records that document the ethnically diverse and intellectually challenging nature of Lawrence. We engage the community by employing these materials through physical and online exhibits, symposia, educational programs, and research services to foster understanding of the interaction of the built community and the lives of those who live and work there.



BIRDSEYE VIEW OF LAWRENCE MILL SECTION SHOWING AREAS OCCUPIED BY DIFFERENT NATIONALITIES

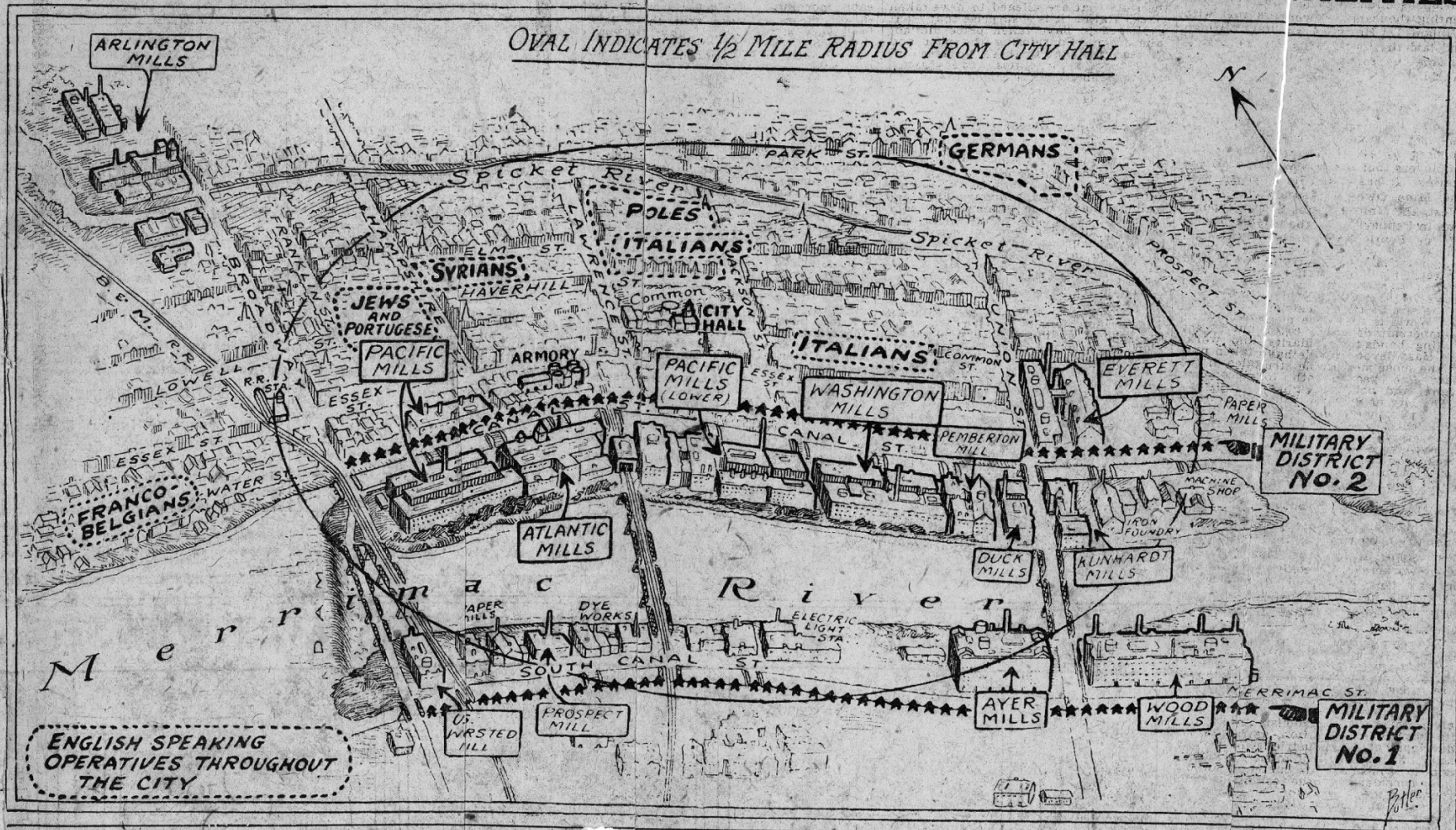




Exhibit Mural:
"Faces of Immigration"



Lawrence High School Students

According to Mary Guerrero, co-director of the Rising Loaves and LHC board member:

“As immigrants, and sons and daughters of immigrants, their struggles are often viewed as a language barrier, a cultural barrier, or an economic barrier, but there is also a narrative barrier. If a negative narrative becomes the accepted perception, that is what gets internalized. In well-off communities, the positive narratives of people with economic and civic successes, align with the hopes and dreams of the citizens. But in poorer minority immigrant neighborhoods, there is a disconnect between the [negative] narrative and the positive hopes and dreams of the citizens.”

Perhaps the most meaningful evaluative measure of how the program served our youth were remarks made by one of our student’s mothers at our Annual Meeting in September 2015. She told our group (in Spanish) that she “used to ride the bus around Lawrence with her head down.” Soon her son, Angell, began to ask her to look up as he pointed to different sites around the city. He would say, “Look, Mommy, do you know what happened in that building? Do you know how many people worked in that mill? Did you know that this city has long accepted immigrants like us from all over the world?” She now looks up as she travels on the bus and has a greater and has a greater sense of herself and her new home because of her son and because of the Rising Loaves summer program at the Lawrence History Center.

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About

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Sobre el Centro de Historia de Lawrence

Sobre el Centro de Historia de Lawrence

Desde 1978, el Centro de Historia de Lawrence —anteriormente conocido como el Archivo de la Ciudad de los Inmigrantes (Immigrant City Archives)— recopila y conserva documentos y objetos relacionados con la historia de Lawrence y su población. Su colección alberga:

- * la mayor parte de la documentación sobre negocios y planificación de la Essex Company—compañía que creó la ciudad de Lawrence,

- * registros municipales antiguos,

- * miles de fotografías históricas y negativos en placas de vidrio,

- * documentos organizativos de negocios y agencias locales

- * 800 historias orales con testimonios que datan de 1910 en adelante,

- * finalmente, multitud de documentos familiares e individuales que atestiguan la diversidad y estimulante atmósfera intelectual que han caracterizado la vida en Lawrence.

El Centro de Historia de Lawrence utiliza todos estos materiales para preparar exposiciones, programas educativos y servicios de investigación, con el objetivo de difundir la interacción entre la comunidad histórica y las vidas de la gente corriente en Lawrence. El Centro de Historia de Lawrence: Archivo de la Ciudad de los Inmigrantes se encuentra en el antiguo complejo industrial de la Essex Company, localización que consta en el Registro nacional de lugares de interés histórico

La comunidad del Centro de Historia de Lawrence incluye a todos y todas aquellos/as interesados/as en la historia de Lawrence, sobre todo en lo que tiene que ofrecer en cuanto a ingeniería del siglo XIX, industrialización de los siglos XIX al XXI, organización y lucha sindical, etnicidad e inmigración, cambios sociales y en la salud y pautas de desarrollo económico.

Por favor, consulte nuestro calendario para asegurarse de que no hay cambios en los horarios de apertura al público.



Highlights:

[Annual Report 2015 | 2016](#)[Like our Facebook page for daily posts!](#)[October 5, 2016: LHC Annual Meeting/Speaker Christopher Muller](#)[LHC Strategic Plan, 2016-2018](#)[September 16, 2016: Join us for "Blacksmithing Friday in the Forge"](#)[2016 Lawrence Student Writing Workshop: The Rising Loaves](#)[Event Videos: 2016 Eartha Dengler History Award Ceremony honoring Martha Lopez-Velez](#)[Press Release and Event Photos: 3rd Annual Lawrence History Center North Canal Classic Highlights Local Talent](#)[Press Release and Event Photos: Lawrence History Center Symposium on Urban Renewal Attracts Interest from All Levels of Scholars](#)[ABC News: The Role of Lawrence, Massachusetts in the U.S. Minimum Wage](#)[March 2016: New Storm Window Installation at 6 Essex Street, Lawrence](#)[2014 | 2015 Annual Report](#)[Video: Community Conversation](#)[About History Research: November 5](#)

<http://www.lawrencehistory.org/sobre>



Image credits (top to bottom):
 Top: Photo by Robert Lussier
 Images 2-5: Map of Different Nationalities, 1910; Theatre Row, Broadway, 1970s; Old Lawrence Police Department, 1960s; Lawrence Post Office, 1950s (Lawrence History Center Photograph Collection)
 Bottom: Urban Renewal Planning Process 2015-2016 (Lawrence Redevelopment Authority)

PLEASE JOIN US FOR

A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION
 ABOUT **URBAN RENEWAL**
 IN LAWRENCE

THEN & NOW

Thursday, November 5, 2015
 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
 60 Island Street, Room 104
 Lawrence, MA

Refreshments will be served

Co-sponsored by the Lawrence History Center
 and the Lawrence Redevelopment Authority

Please RSVP by Tuesday, November 3, 2015
 to Susan Grabski, LHC executive director
director@lawrencehistory.org or 978-686-9230



Fuentes de las imágenes (desde arriba para abajo):
 Arriba: Foto de Robert Lussier
 Imágenes 2 a 5: Mapa de las Distintas Nacionalidades, 1910; Calle de los Teatros, Broadway, 1970; La Viejas Sucursal del Departamento de Policía de Lawrence, 1950 (Centro de Historia de Lawrence, Colección Fotográfica).
 Abajo: Plano de la área de estudio del Plan de Renovación Urbana de 2015-2016 (Autoridad del Redesarrollo de Lawrence [LRA]).

POR FAVOR ACOMPÁÑENOS

UNA CONVERSACIÓN PARA LA COMUNIDAD SOBRE
 EL PLAN DE RENOVACIÓN URBANA
 EN LAWRENCE

ANTES Y AHORA

Jueves, 5 de noviembre de 2015
 6:00pm a las 8:00pm
 60 Island Street, Cuarto 104
 Lawrence, MA

Bebidas y aperitivos serán servidos

Co-patrocinado por el Centro de Historia de Lawrence
 (Lawrence History Center) y la Autoridad del Redesarrollo
 de Lawrence (Lawrence Redevelopment Authority)

Si le interesa ir a este evento, por favor reserve su lugar
 antes del martes, 3 de noviembre de 2015.
 Contacte Susan Grabski, la directora ejecutiva
 del Centro de Historia de Lawrence a
director@lawrencehistory.org o al 978-686-9230



Reclaiming Urban Renewal
 Community Efforts and Impacts in Lawrence, Massachusetts
 and Other Industrial Cities

SAVE THE DATE:
 Saturday, May 7, 2016

“SHORT PAY! ALL OUT!”

“POCA PAGA! TODOS AFUERA!”

THE LAWRENCE TEXTILE STRIKE OF 1912 prompted the nation to confront conflicting visions of community identity, civic struggle, and industry. Today, the strike acts as a lens for examining these issues in contemporary Lawrence and around the country.

LA HUELGA DE LAWRENCE DE 1912 empujó a la nación a enfrentar visiones conflictivas de la identidad de la comunidad, lucha cívica y de la industria. Hoy en día, esta huelga nos sirve como un lente para examinar los temas del Lawrence contemporáneo y en todo el país.

Throughout 2012, we led a city-wide effort to commemorate the centennial anniversary of the 1912 Bread and Roses Strike. We created a bilingual exhibit that acted as a cultural event space in which a rich programmatic series took place. Over 70 events were attended by over 5,000 people across the year and a community dialogue flourished about issues that led to the strike – labor and living conditions, social justice, immigration and diversity, and the effectiveness of collective action – as current populations explored how these themes still resonate in their lives today.



Nosotros, el pueblo: Voces de la Ciudad de Inmigrantes

We, the People: Voices of the Immigrant City

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<https://nosotroelpueblo.wordpress.com/>

Bilingual Interviews with Urban Educators, Business Owners,
Residents from Multi-Generations & Ethnicities, Students,
Poets, Artists, Government Officials, Etc.!



Recipient of the
2016 Eartha Dengler History Award

Martha Lopez-Velez

Born in Cuba, an immigrant to Lawrence at age five, Martha and her family came to the United States with the hope of a better life. Anchored in love for her family and her new city, Martha has wrapped her arms around all who live in Lawrence by creating a bridge between diverse cultures and by giving a voice, dignity, and respect to all she meets. Her leadership at the Lawrence Council on Aging and her commitment as director of the Lawrence Senior Center to a holistic approach in creating community has resulted in a vibrant, enriching environment that serves thousands of people a year—seniors, veterans, and entire families. In all that Martha does, she brings together her hard working nature, her grateful spirit, and her deep personal understanding of the sacrifices immigrant families make when they come to this country, to help lift up and strengthen the city of Lawrence for the future.

Murals (above and background) were painted by volunteers from the Merrimack Valley Community Service Corps and are located at the Lawrence Senior Center.

Lawrence History Center
2016 Eartha Dengler History Award Ceremony
Lawrence Senior Center, 155 Haverhill Street, Lawrence, MA
Thursday, June 23, 2016



From the Program Co-Directors

Dear Families & Friends of Rising Loaves,

This anthology is a selection of collected work produced by Lawrence scholars in the 2016 Rising Loaves Program. Our theme this year was **"Lawrence... Home To Me"** in which students were asked to discover their home and as a result discover their city of Lawrence. Our students explored their personal connection to the city, its history, culture and people to further their understanding of their community. They worked with poets, artists, musicians, and historians like: Harlym 125, Ceci Lewis, Ummi Modeste, Alan Nuñez and Marquis Victor. Our scholars observed the acquisition of historical objects including the original passport owned by our city's namesake, Abbott Lawrence. During the three weeks our students thought critically about our city by investigating the historical archives and engaging in discussions around topics of social change. **Discover your home: Lawrence!**

Queridos familiares y amigos de Rising Loaves,

Este antología es una colección de trabajos escrito por estudiantes de Lawrence en el programa "Rising Loaves" 2016. Con el tema **"Lawrence... Mi Hogar"** los estudiantes exploraron sus ideas sobre sus hogares y también su ciudad Lawrence. Nuestros estudiantes exploraron la relación entre la ciudad, historia, cultura y gente para entender mas su comunidad. Ellos trabajaron con poetas, artistas, músicos, y historiadores como: Harlym 125, Ceci Lewis, Ummi Modeste, Alan Nuñez y Marquis Victor. Nuestros estudiantes observaron la adquisición de un objeto histórico incluyendo el pasaporte original de uno de los que financio Lawrence, Abbott Lawrence. Durante las tres semanas nuestros estudiantes usaron sus habilidades de pensamiento crítico sobre nuestra ciudad investigando archivos históricos y participando en discusiones sobre cambios sociales. **Descubre tu hogar: Lawrence!**

Mary Guerrero and Dariana Guerrero

The Anthology is available online at:
<http://www.lawrencehistory.org/education/summer2016/anthology>

"Lawrence Student Writing Workshop: The Rising Loaves" is hosted by the Lawrence History Center, developed in collaboration with Andover Bread Loaf, and funded in part by the ECCF Betty Beland Greater Lawrence Summer Fund, the Joseph G. Russell Trust, the Artemis W. Stearns Trust, UMass Lowell, and the Rogers Family Foundation.



Above, students learn about the fall of the Pemberton Mill in 1860 by visiting, observing, and touching the actual rebuilt structure.

historic courtyard came to life as we welcomed twenty six Lawrence students in grades 5—7 and four writing leaders into the Essex Company complex. The stable acted as their primary classroom, but the archive, grounds, carpenter shop, and blacksmith shop—and the city—were their playground.

Place-based learning begins with asking questions such as, **"Where am I? What is the natural and social history of this place? How does this place fit into the larger world?"** Successful place-based programs involve students as participants in the life of their communities.

the public. Students and writing leaders read their poetry, sang songs, wrote and acted in a brief play, and created murals and exhibits that highlighted what they had learned about Lawrence history and themselves.



Our thanks to co-directors Mary Guerrero and Dariana Guerrero and writing leaders Kate Delaney, Angell Flores, Raissa Kazadi, and Elissa Salas for helping our students **Discover Their Home!**

More information, including the Student Anthology, photos, and videos may be found at:

www.lawrencehistory.org/education/summer2016

Rising Loaves is important because at school we write poems and learn history, but Rising Loaves is where we get deep about our thoughts and we learn history with proof, stories, and pictures.

~ Rising Loaves participant
2016

Our place-based Lawrence Student Writers Workshop: The Rising Loaves, represents a collaboration between the Lawrence History Center and Andover Bread Loaf. Every day for three weeks in July 2016 our

The young people in the program explored their community through writing, poetry, walking tours, photography, art, and music—including writing the lyrics to *Imagine No Lawrence History Center*, set to the tune of John Lennon's *Imagine*.

Many field trips and guest speakers made the program fun and interactive and the location in downtown Lawrence made for an ideal place-based learning experience. Each student made unique and meaningful contributions to discussions and both written and creative work.

On the final day of the program students hosted an open house and celebration for their families and



DIGITAL COLLECTIONS | Online Resources

The Lawrence History Center's growing collections are being digitized and made available through our website, OCLC WorldCat, Internet Archive, Digital Commonwealth, and the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA). As collection materials are made available, we must consider how effective a tool these resources are to users as we move toward providing equal access to information in order to promote education in the broadest sense of the term.



Vincenzo, Vincenzina, and child Anthony Meli [ca. 1860–2011]

Thanks to funding from the Stevens Foundation, the White Fund, the Catharine McCarthy Memorial Trust Fund, and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, we were able to implement a technology upgrade project in support of preserving our data and making our collection materials more accessible to researchers, teachers, students, business people, and local historians.

In addition to building the necessary internal hardware and software infrastructure to support digital content, the project has enabled us to better deliver educational materials to students and teachers in the city (and elsewhere) through our web site.

With an eye toward increasing student and resident awareness of the city's history, we will foster civic engagement in the future of Lawrence by engaging teachers. Through teachers, we will effectively reach more students.

Across 2015 and 2016, we continue to improve our in-house and web-based educational components for teachers using visually rich materials and technology, opportunities for hands-on collaborative activity, language translation of content, personal stories, and connections to their own heritage in a way that will increase teacher effectiveness and impact. *Stay tuned!*

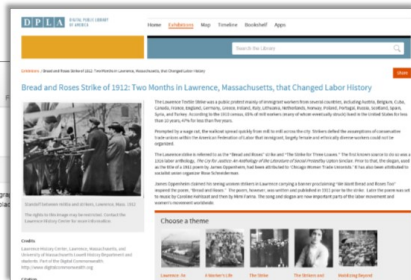


PBS VIDEO:
THE ITALIAN AMERICANS:
Becoming Americans (1910-1930)

Fruits of Thy Labor

This 11+ minute segment covers the 1912 Textile Strike in Lawrence, the role of Italians, and the strike's effect on labor nationwide. Author Bruce Watson is interviewed as is the grandson of strike leader Arturo Giovannitti, David Giovannitti. David says that the strike was, "A momentous turning point in the struggle for human dignity..."

Several of the images used in the piece are from the Lawrence History Center Photograph Collection!



Scholars from Columbia University and UC Berkeley to Illuminate Lawrence History

The Lawrence History Center has entered into an exciting new collaboration with scholars from Columbia University and the University of California, Berkeley that will provide new and detailed information about life in Lawrence around the time of the 1912 Bread and Roses Strike.

This year LHC researcher Kathy Flynn and collections manager Amita Kiley worked for many months to organize and prepare collection materials for a journey to Columbia University as part of a post-doctoral research and digitization project that is being funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Project scholars include:

- Peter Bearman, Jonathan R. Cole Professor of the Social Sciences, Columbia University
- Kinga Makovi, Ph.D. candidate, Department of Sociology, Columbia University
- Christopher Muller, Robert Wood Johnson Health & Society Scholar, Columbia University
- Sameer Srivastava, Assistant Professor, Haas School of Business, University of California Berkeley

Columbia University's Christopher Muller describes the project which is now underway:

"We will be producing archival-quality photographs and digital copies of death records, contagious disease records, and Essex County Jail Records for the city of Lawrence from 1911 to 1913. The death and disease records will enable us to study the effects of the 1912 strike on health and mortality throughout the city. The jail records will give us new insights into strike participation as well as the offenses for which strikers were arrested. Combining these records with census records will allow us to study whether neighbors or members of the same ethnic group were arrested and jailed together for strike activity." Muller adds, "We couldn't be more grateful to the Lawrence History Center for its extraordinary support of this project. We hope to produce scholarship that will illuminate the city's remarkable history as well as generate new findings of general interest to scholars of health, labor history, and social movements."

"We are thrilled about the opportunity this project presents for LHC and for researchers going forward. Digitizing primary source documents such as these is as much about preservation as it is about access. And, it is most certainly a mutually beneficial undertaking which will make the work all the more meaningful," explains LHC director Susan Grabski.

The history of Lawrence, the 1912 Bread and Roses strike in particular, has sparked the interest of scholars locally, nationally, and internationally.

According to UMass Lowell History Professor Robert Farrant:

"This project is further affirmation that the Lawrence History Center has become one of the leading research centers in the country for those interested in doing labor, social, and immigration history."



Above (L to R): Professor Robert Farrant (UMass Lowell), Susan Grabski (LHC director), Christopher Muller (Columbia University), Alex Gourevitch (Brown University), Kathy Flynn (LHC researcher), Amita Kiley (LHC collection manager)



Thank you New England Archivists!