



Women Who Made History

Profiles from the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area

FREEDOM'SWAY
National Heritage Area

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First Edition

Freedom's Way National Heritage Area includes 45 communities in Massachusetts: Acton, Arlington, Ashburnham, Ashby, Ayer, Bedford, Bolton, Boxborough, Carlisle, Clinton, Concord, Dunstable, Fitchburg, Gardner, Groton, Harvard, Hudson, Lancaster, Leominster, Lexington, Lincoln, Littleton, Lunenburg, Malden, Maynard, Medford, Pepperell, Princeton, Shirley, Sterling, Stow, Sudbury, Townsend, Westford, Westminster, Winchendon, Woburn; and New Hampshire: Amherst, Brookline, Hollis, Greenville, Mason, Milford, Nashua, New Ipswich.
Learn more at FreedomsWay.org.

FREEDOM'S WAY
National Heritage Area



Freedom's Way National Heritage Area connects people, places and communities through preservation, conservation and educational initiatives to protect and promote the region's shared resources. Freedom's Way National Heritage Area is managed by Freedom's Way Heritage Association, Inc., a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that works in partnership with the National Park Service to promote the regional identity of 45 communities in Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

Women Who Made History

Profiles from the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area

Commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment

This book is dedicated to the **Founders of the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area:**
Marjorie "Marge" Darby, who devoted countless hours to bring the idea of a
National Heritage Area to life and posthumously, **Mildred "Millie" Chandler**, who
dreamed of celebrating the unique stories of the women within the National Heritage Area.

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hen we set out to commemorate the Centennial of the ratification of the 19th Amendment by researching the stories of women who lived within the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area, we had no idea where the journey would take us. While we originally began with the suffragists, one story led to another. Before long we had discovered a collection of stories of extraordinary women from within the 45 communities of our region. These are shared within the following pages.

Some of the women are well-known. Others less so. Many are 'firsts,' serving as trailblazers in professions dominated by men. Some worked in obscurity while others shone on the national stage, lauded for their accomplishments during their lifetimes, yet somehow left behind when history books were written.

Innovators, experimenters, visionaries—the women profiled share powerful intellectual and creative talents. They are a diverse lot, spanning historical eras, ethnicities, socioeconomic status, religious beliefs and professions. Yet, their stories are interwoven in a compelling narrative of accomplishment—they made a difference.

Choosing who to include has been an ongoing process and we welcome input on stories of women that we have missed. Profiled at the beginning of the book are women who have been included in our year-long [*Heritage Stories: Visionaries & Experimenters*](#) vodcast series. These have been extensively researched to create the scripts for those stories. Following are, loosely categorized, women who were Founders and Firsts, and then Notable Women who lived within the Heritage Area briefly and/or for whom information was not easily accessible.

One hundred years ago the 19th Amendment was adopted, guaranteeing women the right to vote. Almost eighty years in the making, this milestone was accomplished through the tireless work and dedication of many, including countless women who lived and worked within the Freedom's Way National Heritage Area. That our commemoration of their accomplishment has motivated us to explore the rich history of women within the Heritage Area seems a fitting tribute to their success.

We hope that you will find this collection of profiles both informative and inspiring and that you will take some time to reflect upon the women who have served as inspiration during your lifetime. We imagine that there are many untold stories we have missed and hope you will consider sharing them with us as well.

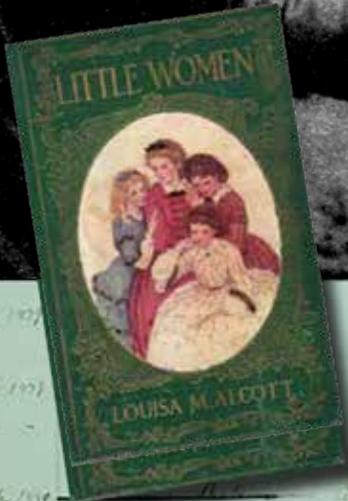
Patrice Todisco
Executive Director
Freedom's Way National Heritage Area

Register of Voters in the Town of Concord July 1876

When Registered	NAME	RESIDENCE	OCCUPATION	When Counted to be a Voter	Why Counted to be a Voter
23 July 76	Miss Louisa May	North St.	Widow		



LOUISA MAY ALCOTT
1832-1888 | Concord, MA



Author, Abolitionist, and Suffragist

Novelist and poet, Louisa May Alcott, is best known for her novel *Little Women*, and its sequels, *Little Men* and *Jo's Boys*. Born in Germantown, PA in 1832, Alcott and her three sisters spent their childhood in Concord and Boston, MA. Educated by transcendentalist parents, Amos Bronson Alcott and Abigail May, her days included visits to Ralph Waldo Emerson's library and explorations into nature with Henry David Thoreau.

Passionate about writing from an early age, Alcott's rich imagination created stories often performed in theatricals by her siblings for their friends in the barn, now known as Hawthorne's "Wayside." She was very much a tomboy, like her character, Jo March, in *Little Women*.

As her family struggled financially, Alcott worked to help support them with jobs such as seamstress, teacher, governess and household servant. While finding work where she was able in a society that provided few opportunities for women, she continued to write.

Her career as an author began with submissions to popular magazines of poetry and short stories. Her first book, *Flower Fables*, was published in 1854 at the age of twenty-two. In 1863, *Hospital Sketches*, a book based on her letters home while a nurse in Washington, DC during the American Civil War, was published in the abolitionist magazine *Boston Commonwealth*.

Little Women, written at Orchard House in Concord during 1868, began as a request from her publisher to write a book for girls. Based on Alcott's life with her sisters as they came of age in New England during the Civil War, Jo March, the principal protagonist, was the first realistic American heroine, a contrast to the idealized stereotype found in contemporary children's literature.

The book's success secured her career as a writer, yet she was never comfortable

with her fame. Often tourists knocked on her door unaware that it was Alcott herself dressed in a maid's apron who sent them away.

A strong advocate for social reform, she campaigned tirelessly for women's suffrage and attended the Women's Congress of 1875 in Syracuse, NY. She wrote articles advocating for women's rights for the Boston-based *Woman's Journal*.

In 1879, when Massachusetts passed a law giving women the right to vote in town elections on issues involving education and children, Alcott was the first woman to register to vote in Concord. Frustrated by the lack of interest by many Concord women in voting rights, she canvassed the community to convince other women to join her.

Alcott and nineteen women cast their ballots at the Concord Town Meeting on March 29, 1880. "No bolt fell on our audacious heads, no earthquake shook the town," she reported.

Her final novel, *Jo's Boys*, published in 1886, contained arguments for women's rights and other social reforms. She continued her tireless campaign to persuade women to register to vote until her death in 1888.

Louisa May Alcott published more than 200 literary works in many genres that have been translated into over 54 languages. However, it is the timeless story of the March sisters in *Little Women* that remains most closely associated with the author.

[To learn more, view: Heritage Stories: Visionaries & Experimenters Author, Abolitionist and Suffragist—Louisa May Alcott](#)

America's Earliest and Most Successful Woman Architect

The only daughter in a family of four children, Josephine Wright Chapman was born to affluent and civic-minded parents. Her father, James Levi Chapman, was president of the Fitchburg Machine Works and her mother, Mary E. Wright, was actively involved in the Fitchburg Woman's Club. When she chose to become an architect, her parents were unsupportive, marking the beginning of many challenges she would encounter in her pursuit of a career perceived as "masculine" employment. Undeterred, Chapman left home for Boston at age 24 to pursue architecture, choosing the oldest and least costly route to learn—an apprenticeship. She pawned jewelry and clothing to support herself and her office, disclosing that, "though her people were well-to-do, she began her professional career without a cent."

Chapman undertook her apprenticeship at a time when architects were struggling to differentiate themselves from builders. Programs in architectural training excluded women outright or had policies in place that discouraged their admittance. Not until 1910 at Cornell University would an American woman receive a degree in architecture.

In light of this, securing an apprenticeship with the prestigious Boston firm of Blackall, Clapp and Whittemore was an impressive accomplishment for Chapman. A draftsman from 1892 to 1896, she took full advantage of the opportunities available to her, working tirelessly to develop skills and gain exposure and confidence in public buildings and cutting-edge technologies, including steel-frame construction.

Moving to Grundmann Studios, a women's artist collective in Boston, Chapman received her first commission,

to design Craigie Arms, a private dormitory for students at Harvard University. A prestigious commission for a woman just starting out, the Georgian Revival style building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and has recently been renamed Chapman Arms in her honor.

Chapman opened an office on Park Street in Boston. Her projects included St. Mark's Episcopal Church, financed by her first female patron, Minerva C. Crocker, a wealthy, distinguished woman from her hometown. In 1901, she won a competition for the New England Building at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, NY. Her structure was the only entry created by a woman.

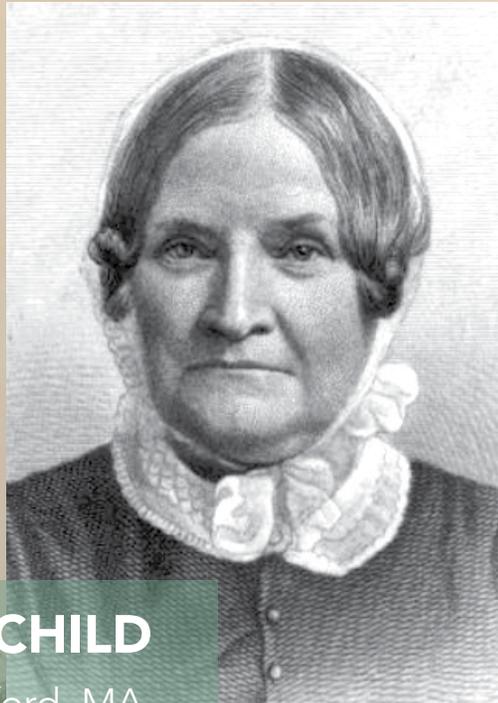
Despite her success, Chapman's application for membership to the American Institute of Architects was denied and she was also refused membership by the Boston Architectural Club. Nonetheless, this was a groundbreaking period in her career. She eventually moved to New York and was accepted into the New York Society of Architects.

A true pioneer in designing public buildings, the National Register nomination form for Harvard's Craigie Arms dormitory describes her, "as one of the earliest successful woman architects in New England."

Three of Chapman's buildings are on the National Register of Historic Places and her work was featured in popular periodicals of the day. Her tireless persistence in the field of architecture contributed to the advancement of women in her field.



L. Maria Child. Feb. 11. 1802.
New York, July. 1861



LYDIA MARIA CHILD

1802-1880 | Medford, MA

First Woman in the Republic

Despite being warned by female acquaintances that no woman could expect to be regarded as a lady after writing a book, Lydia Maria Child became one of the first American women to earn an income from her writing. A prolific and talented author, she championed the rights of women, Native Americans and African Americans. Her words shaped history.

Child was the youngest of six children. Her father, Convers Francis, was a baker noted for his famous "Medford Crackers," and her mother, Susannah, was a homemaker. From earliest childhood, she was precocious and fiercely independent with a passion for books and an affinity for the natural world—qualities that endured throughout her lifetime. Early on she decided to be called by her middle name, Maria.

Following her mother's death when she was 12, Child went to live with her sister in Norridgewock, ME. Her experiences there would inform her first book, *Hobomok, A Tale of Early Times*, the story of an interracial marriage between a white woman and indigenous man. Considered the first New England historical novel, the book's controversial content garnered mixed reviews, nevertheless she continued to write.

In the following ten years, Child published eleven books and founded and edited the country's first children's magazine, *The Juvenile Miscellany*. Many of her publications focused on motherhood and domestic endeavors, including the popular *The American Frugal Housewife*, which unlike earlier English and American advice and "cookery" books, appealed to lower-income American families without servants.

While her marriage to idealist David Lee Child, an influential journalist and lawyer, introduced her to the abolitionist causes which she would go on to champion in her writings, it also propelled her to

continue to write, as he was financially unsuccessful. In 1833, Child published the book that would change her life, *An Appeal in Favor of that Class of Americans Called Africans*. The most comprehensive anti-slavery book ever published in America, it proved instrumental in convincing many Americans of the need for the abolition of slavery.

In the controversial book, both the North and South are blamed for the existence of slavery and Child called for the immediate eradication of all forms of racial discrimination while openly defending interracial marriage. She was attacked for her views and for being a woman who dared to comment on politics. Publishers rejected her; the Boston Athenaeum, where she was one of the only women given a private study, revoked her privileges; her book sales dropped.

Undeterred, Child continued the fight against slavery by publishing more books on the subject and editing *The National Anti-Slavery Standard* with her husband.

A founding member of the Massachusetts Woman Suffrage Association, Child authored *The History of the Condition of Women in Various Ages and Nations*, the first comparative history of women. She donated time and money to the suffrage movement, drafting a petition insisting Congress give men and women the right to vote through the Fourteenth Amendment to the US Constitution.

A household name in America for more than half a century, Child's writings influenced prominent social reformers, profoundly inspiring William Lloyd Garrison, the famous anti-slavery agitator, to hail her as "the first woman in the republic."

Author of the Cookbook that Changed the World

Often called the “mother of level measurements,” Fannie Farmer is best known as the author of *The Boston Cooking-School Cookbook*. This was the first cookbook to use standardized measurements in recipes, assuring both novice and experienced cooks the same results.

Farmer was born in 1857 to parents who believed in education for women. At age 16, while attending Medford High School, she suffered a paralytic stroke, leaving her unable to walk. Taking up cooking and housekeeping to help support the family, she eventually turned her parents’ home into a boarding house known for its quality meals.

At age 30, having recovered her ability to walk, Farmer enrolled in the Boston Cooking School at the height of the domestic science movement. The school believed in a scientific approach to cooking and housekeeping, teaching nutrition and diet, sanitation, chemical analysis and household management, in addition to the techniques of cooking and baking. Excelling in her studies, she became the assistant to the director upon graduation and principal of the school two years later.

A force of nature and smart business-woman, Farmer transformed the school, taking it from a struggling, philanthropic venture, to a popular cooking school for middle and upper-class housewives. Limping across her elevated kitchen platform, she would teach as many as two hundred students at a time. Interestingly, despite her ability to teach cooking, her niece, Wilma Lord, described her as more of, “a great executive food detective and gourmet, than a great cook herself,” with her maid doing much of the cooking.

In 1896, the Little Brown & Company published her pioneering book, *The Boston Cooking-School Cookbook*, but limited the printing to 3,000 copies due to a poor sales prediction. Quite to the contrary, it was an immediate success, selling over 4 million copies during Farmer’s lifetime. Including tips on housekeeping and cleaning, food preservation, nutritional information, and, most importantly, a discussion of level measurement in relation to recipes, the publication single-handedly changed the way Americans cooked food.

In 1902, Farmer opened Miss Farmer’s School of Cookery, which was designed to train housewives, instead of teachers, institutional cooks or servants. She developed a program of diet and nutrition for convalescents. A popular lecturer, she was invited to speak to the medical students at Harvard Medical School. She wrote several additional cooking-related books before her death in 1915. Miss Farmer’s School of Cookery remained open until 1944.

A revised copy of her book, now entitled *The Fannie Farmer Cookbook*, is still in print today, over one hundred years since its first edition and is one of the highest selling cookbooks. Introducing science into the art of cooking, it became one of the most influential books in the world.

[To learn more, view: Heritage Stories: Visionaries & Experimenters Author of the Cookbook that Changed the World—Fannie Farmer](#)

Measuring Liquids. A cupful of liquid is all the cup will hold.

A tea or table spoonful is all the spoon will hold.

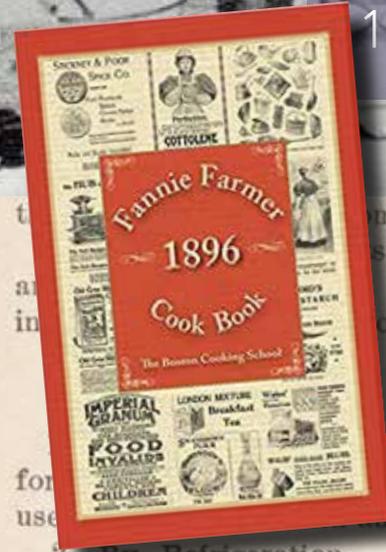
Measuring Butter, Lard, etc. To measure butter, lard, and other solid fats, pack solidly into cup or spoon, and level with a knife.

When dry ingredients, liquids and fats are called for



FANNIE FARMER
1857-1915 | Medford, MA

Photo courtesy of Getty Images

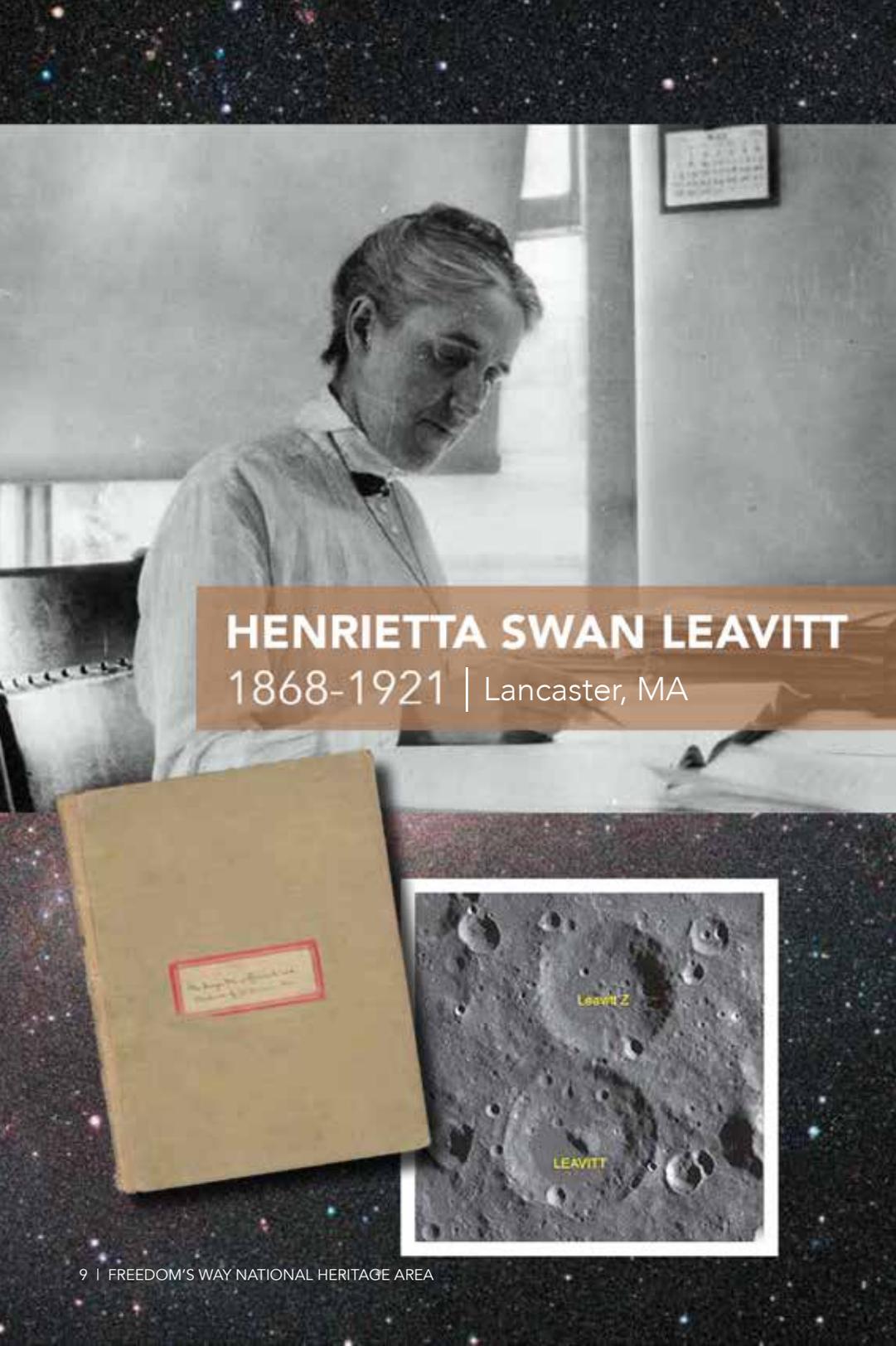


...mplished.
...s are mixed; *by beating*, a large
... *by cutting and folding*, air already
...om escaping.

of Preserving

...s which spoil readily are frozen
... must be kept packed in ice until
... use
... poultry.

2. **By Refrigeration.** Foods so preserved are kept in cold storage. The cooling is accomplished by means of



HENRIETTA SWAN LEAVITT

1868-1921 | Lancaster, MA

Trailblazing Pioneer of Modern Astronomy

Henrietta Swan Leavitt made a discovery that forever changed the field of astronomy.

Born in Lancaster, MA on July 4th, 1868, to Congregational minister Dr. George Roswell Leavitt and his wife, Henrietta Swan Kendrick, Leavitt was the oldest of seven children. She attended Oberlin College, the earliest coeducational college in the United States, and later enrolled in the Society for the Collegiate Instruction for Women—later known as Radcliffe College—where many Harvard professors had informal teaching arrangements with women studying astronomy at the Harvard College Observatory. Graduating in 1892, Leavitt received a certificate which would have been equivalent to a Harvard College Bachelor of Arts Degree, had she been a man.

In 1895, with the financial support of her parents, Leavitt volunteered at the Harvard College Observatory where Director Edward C. Pickering engaged her to study the observatory telescope's photographic plates to tabulate the color, position and magnitude of the stars with particular attention on variable stars.

Pickering eventually offered Leavitt a paid position as a "computer" at thirty cents an hour.

During this time computers were not machines, but primarily women who did the tedious, repetitive calculations and record keeping necessary to track the observatory's findings. Working in a dingy room beside other well-educated women, she analyzed and documented the growing volume of telescope images and related notations made by men who worked at night with the telescopes. These women, known as "*Pickering's harem*," were rarely credited for their diligent research and intelligence.

Leavitt identified 1,777 variable stars—those that change from bright to dim and back over fairly regular periods—in

the Small and Large Magellan Clouds. Working with a magnifying glass, she painstakingly examined the positive and negative photographic plates and observed a direct relationship between the time it took a star to go from bright to dim and its absolute brightness, or magnitude and distance, from Earth. Her discovery of the Cepheid Variable Period-Luminosity relationship, known today as Leavitt's Law, documented the ability to accurately calculate distances from the Earth and was published in a 1912 paper, under the name of Director Pickering.

Leavitt ultimately identified over 2,400 variable stars. She developed the internationally accepted Harvard Standard, a standard of photographic measurement that ordered stars over seventeen magnitudes of brightness. She was named Head of Stellar Photometry at the Harvard College Observatory in 1921, but did not live long enough to enjoy her new role. She died on December 12, 1921 at the age of 53.

Her death was largely unnoticed by the scientific community. Four years later, the head of the Swedish Academy of Sciences sent a letter to her, writing, "*your admirable discovery ... has impressed me so deeply that I feel seriously inclined to nominate you to the Nobel Prize in Physics for 1926.*" As Nobel Prizes are not awarded posthumously, her work could not receive this prestigious recognition.

Leavitt's groundbreaking discovery—now over 100 years ago—paved the way for discoveries by many other astronomers, including Edwin Hubble, and shines brightly in a universe of women who changed our world.

[To learn more, view: *Heritage Stories: Visionaries & Experimenters Trailblazing Pioneer of Modern Astronomy—Henrietta Swan Leavitt*](#)

Pageantry and Passion for Women's Suffrage

On March 3, 1913, the eve of President Woodrow Wilson's inauguration, the first national women's suffrage parade was held in Washington, DC. As part of the event, *Allegory*, a pageant written by playwright Hazel MacKaye, of Shirley, MA, was performed on the majestic, marble steps of the United States Treasury Building.

A skilled theatrical professional, MacKaye added her skills to the many diverse approaches used to argue the cause of voting rights for women. Using her talents for designing, directing and writing, she created four pageants about women's rights for the suffragists. Deeply engaged in the fight for women's right to vote, she was a charter member of the Congressional Union for Woman Suffrage, which became the National Woman's Party, the more militant wing of the suffrage movement.

Born in New York on August 24, 1880 into a famous theatrical family, MacKaye was exposed to the dramatic arts from an early age. Her father, Steele MacKaye, was a prominent actor, playwright and producer, and her older brother, Percy, a distinguished dramatist and poet.

As children, MacKaye and her younger brother, Benton, creator of the Appalachian Trail, acted in their brother's early plays in Shirley's Center Town Hall during summer vacations at their Aunt Sadie's cottage. This bucolic New England community became the family's permanent home and years later the Grove House on Parker Road Hazel's residence.

Following in her family's footsteps, MacKaye attended Radcliffe College's theater and pageantry courses, becoming an honorary member of the Class of 1910. She acted with the Castle Square Theatre Company of Boston and The Coburn Players, often in

productions of her brother Percy's plays. At the time she joined the suffrage movement, she was both an author and producer of pageants, including the inspirational *Susan B. Anthony* performed at Convention Hall in Washington DC to raise much-needed funds for the cause.

On August 18, 1920, victory was achieved when Tennessee's vote completed the ratification of the 19th Amendment, guaranteeing women's right to vote. When the news reached Shirley Center, MacKaye quickly gathered her family and friends at the Shirley Meeting House to ring its old bell in celebration. Held in her hands was a portrait of Susan B. Anthony, one of the leaders of the women's rights movement. An observer could not help but recall that from that colonial meeting house marched the Shirley militia to the first battles for independence in the American Revolution 145 years earlier.

MacKaye directed the 75th anniversary celebration of the Seneca Falls Convention at the White House in 1923. Thousands attended. This would be her last pageant.

She died in 1944 and is buried in Shirley Center Cemetery beside her family. Her heartfelt words found in a letter to her mother in 1922 express her devotion to the cause of women's rights:

"Remember I am doing really big things...significant things...using my faculties to their utmost in a great cause. This is life for me."

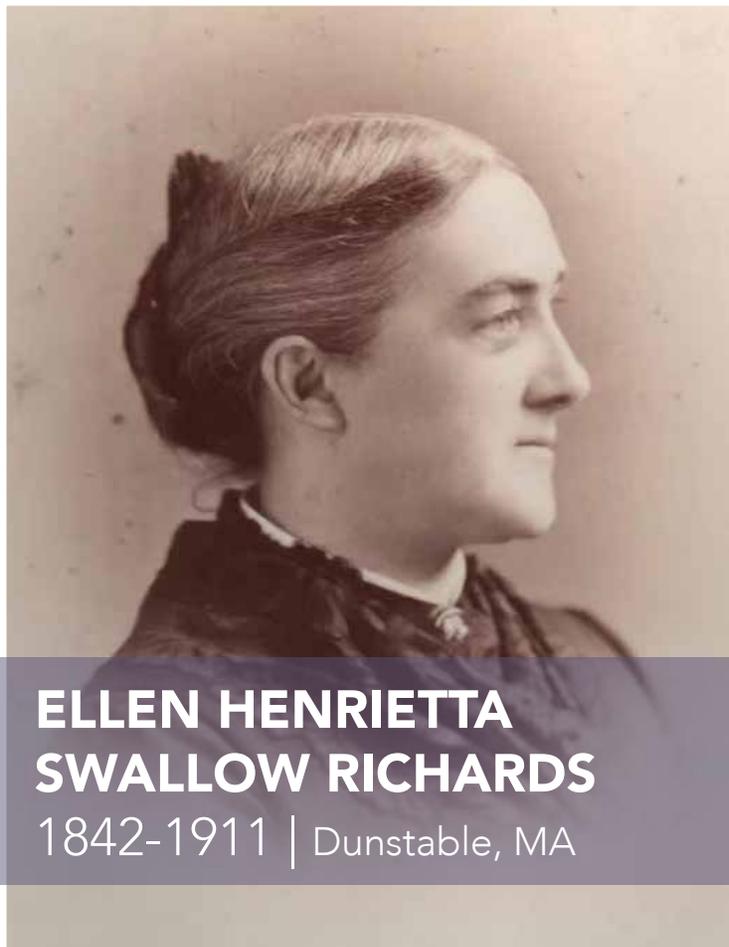
[To learn more, view: *Heritage Stories: Visionaries & Experimenters Pageantry and Passion for Women's Suffrage—Hazel MacKaye*](#)

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.



HAZEL MACKAYE

1880-1944 | Shirley, MA



**ELLEN HENRIETTA
SWALLOW RICHARDS**
1842-1911 | Dunstable, MA

Chemist, Professor and Social Reformer

When Ellen Henrietta Swallow Richards—one of the most influential chemistry minds of the late-19th century—found herself the first female student at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, she calmed her doubters by offering not just scientific knowledge, but her sewing skills. Mending the clothes of her male classmates made her intellect less threatening, a strategy she felt the need to employ at a school that, at the time, prioritized gender over genius.

Richards's practical application of science impacted many things we take for granted: clean drinking water, sanitation, school lunches... we can thank her for them all.

Born on a farm in rural Dunstable, MA, Richards was home-schooled by her parents prior to attending Westford Academy, the oldest continuously operating co-educational school in the country. She taught briefly before enrolling in Vassar College, eventually becoming the first American woman to earn a degree in chemistry.

After being denied an industrial chemistry apprenticeship, Richards applied to MIT in Cambridge, MA, where she became the first American woman accepted into any school of science and technology. While there she completed a second bachelor's degree and her master's thesis from Vassar; however, she was not allowed to present herself as a candidate for an advanced degree as the Institute was unwilling to award her a doctorate. Richards would not only have been the first woman to receive an MIT doctorate at that time but, she would have achieved the unimaginable—earning that degree ahead of any man.

Richards recognized the need to educate more women to teach science and persuaded MIT to provide space for that purpose, procuring funding for the purchase of laboratory equipment. When the MIT Women's Laboratory opened in

1876, she donated her services, teaching nearly 500 women and, upon its closure, receiving a faculty appointment as

instructor in sanitary chemistry—a position she held for twenty-seven years.

In the late 1880s, Richards directed a comprehensive Massachusetts water survey, generating the famous Normal Chlorine Map. Tracking man-made pollution, the survey led to the first water-quality standards and first modern municipal sewage treatment plant in America, both established in Massachusetts.

Believing the environment had the greatest impact on quality of life, she created the term "euthenics" to refer to the improvement of the environment both outside—and inside—the home, inspiring the "Home Ecology" or Home Economics movement. In 1908, the American Home Economics Association was formed, and Richards named its first president.

Richards pioneered the New England Kitchen, a "scientific take-out restaurant," offering economical, nutritious meals to the urban poor, while demonstrating sanitary cooking methods. This led to the development of a school lunch program for Boston Latin High School, a model for other cities. Her book *Food Materials and Their Adulterations* led to the passage of the first Pure Food and Drug Act in Massachusetts.

Once overlooked by virtue of being a woman, she became a force for social reform, improving the quality of American life. Well respected at the time of her death, her memory is honored through MIT's Ellen Swallow Richards Professorship for distinguished female faculty members.

[To learn more, view: Heritage Stories: Visionaries & Experimenters Chemist, Professor and Social Reformer—Ellen Henrietta Swallow Richards](#)

Mill Girl, Suffragist and Author

From the crowded factory floors of Lowell, MA to the national stage, Harriet Hanson Robinson both made, and recorded, history. A respected author and passionate women's suffrage advocate, she wrote compelling accounts of life during the Industrial Revolution and the fight to obtain equal rights for women.

Born in Boston to Harriet Browne and William Hanson, her father died when she was just six years old, leaving her mother a widow with four small children. The family moved to Lowell, a leading economic and innovative force in America's Industrial Revolution, where the city's textile factories employed, and housed, thousands of local women known as "mill girls."

Robinson's mother worked as a boardinghouse keeper to support the family, cooking and cleaning for between 25 and 40 mill girls daily. To help make ends meet, Robinson worked in the mills. When the mills erupted into a full-blown strike, or "turn out," in 1836, one of the earliest in American history and led mainly by women, she was just eleven years old. Despite her young age, she rose up saying, "I don't care what you do, I am going to turn out, whether anyone else does or not..." leading the other mill girls out of the factory. She lost her job that day and the corporation terminated her mother as well.

Undaunted, Robinson pursued an education attending night classes at a local competitive high school and buying books and poetry to read while at work in other mills. She wrote for the *Lowell Offering*, a popular and

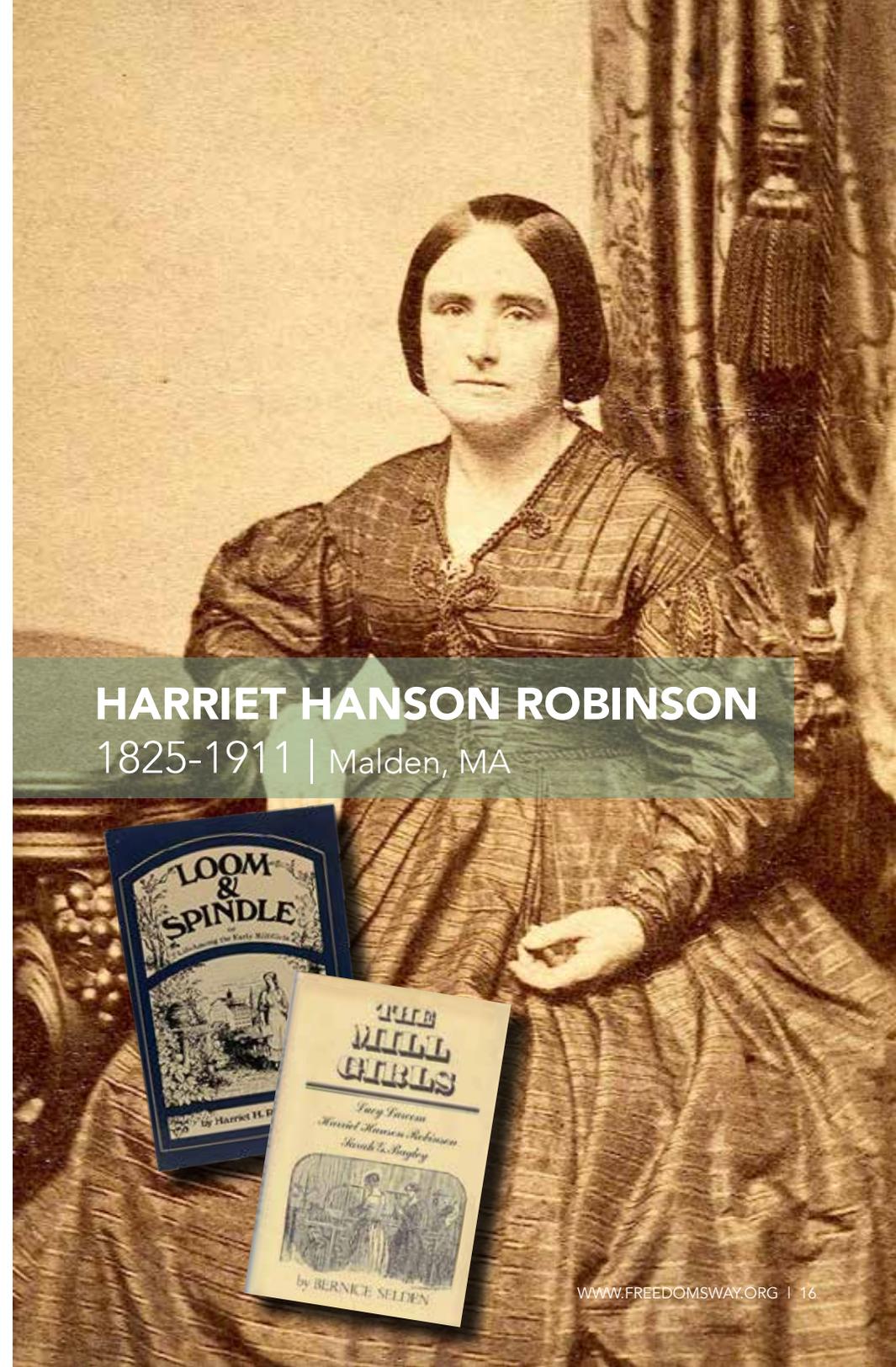
well-reviewed collection of poetry and short stories published by other mill girls. Through her writing, she met her husband, journalist and abolitionist, William Stevens Robinson. They settled in Malden, MA, where she spent the rest of her life.

Inspired by the speeches of Julia Ward Howe and others in the New England Women's Club, Robinson began lobbying for women's suffrage in 1868. One of her primary efforts was fundraising for the cause, an activity that gave her life renewed purpose. She worked with Howe, establishing a Malden chapter of the club.

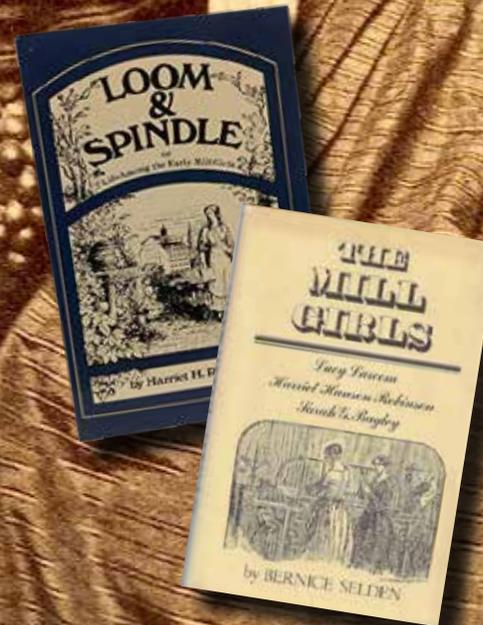
Robinson also worked closely with Lucy Stone, a leader in the Massachusetts Woman Suffrage Association until a misunderstanding led to a falling out between the two. Unable to reconcile, she aligned herself with the rival National Woman Suffrage Association led by Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony. She wrote *Massachusetts in the Woman Suffrage Movement*, an account of suffragists' efforts in the state, omitting the activities of Stone.

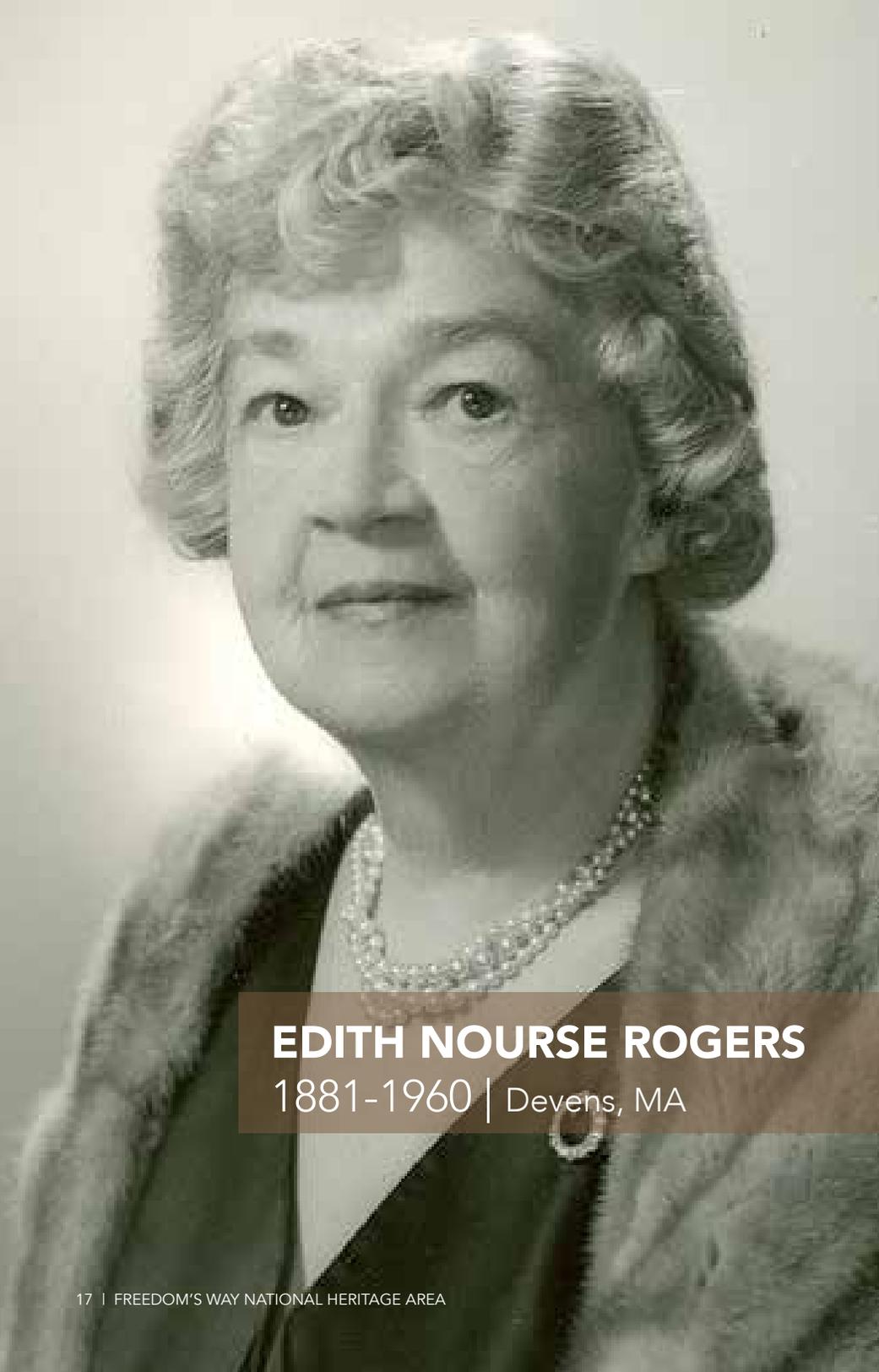
In 1898, Robinson published *Loom and Spindle: or Life Among the Early Mill Girls*, a largely biographical work that includes the stories of other mill girls, and the labor movements they were part of half a century earlier. She also wrote plays, short stories, and children's literature.

Writing and fighting for suffrage until the end, Robinson died eight years prior to the passage of the 19th Amendment, guaranteeing women the right to vote.



HARRIET HANSON ROBINSON
1825-1911 | Malden, MA





EDITH NOURSE ROGERS

1881-1960 | Devens, MA

Congresswoman, Mother of the WACs and Godmother of Fort Devens

In 2020, 127 women hold seats in the US Congress, more than any other time in history. In 1925, Edith Nourse Rogers, the first woman from New England to be elected to Congress and at one time the longest serving woman in Congressional history, was just the seventh to do so. Her words, "Fight hard, fight fair, and persevere," inspired other women to run for office.

Born in Sacco, ME into an affluent family with deep roots in New England, Rogers's Harvard-educated father worked as a manager of large textile mills, moving the family to Lowell, MA in 1895 when she was 14. Rogers was privately tutored as a child and attended a small private girls' school, followed by a finishing school outside of Paris, France. After a grand European tour, she returned to Lowell and became active in civic activities while cultivating an active social life.

At 26, she married John Jacob Rogers, a well-connected lawyer with political ambitions. Five years later he was elected to Congress. On a Congressional visit to France, Nourse was introduced to the "British Women's Army Auxiliary," germinating the idea of a similar model in the United States—an American Women's Army to perform every task possible short of combat duty, if war should ever come to America again.

Rogers volunteered at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center, joined the Women's Auxiliary to the American Legion, and was appointed as a \$1.00 a year inspector of new veterans' hospitals, beginning what became a lifelong commitment to veterans.

Empowered by the passage of the 19th Amendment, Rogers ran for her husband's seat in Congress after he died of Hodgkin's disease in 1925. She won 72 percent of the vote in a special election.

In May 1941, just over six months before Pearl Harbor, Rogers introduced her first bill for a women's army corps. While Congress rejected giving military status to women, in May 1942 it passed and signed into law, "An Act to Establish the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps." WAACs received food, clothing, housing, medical care, training, and stateside pay, but not the same care and death benefits as military men.

Rogers continued her commitment to make women "citizen soldiers" equal to men in the armed forces. During a visit to Fort Devens in Massachusetts in January 1943, Rogers assured the WAACs she would continue to battle for them daily in Washington. Shortly thereafter, they were afforded full military status, including equal pay, benefits, and legal protections, although medical and personal issues still needed resolution.

Rogers championed Fort Devens, saving it from abandonment during the Depression. Instead, Fort Devens expanded and flourished for sixty-five years until deactivated as a military installation in 1996. Today, the Fort Devens Museum, established by volunteers, holds over 5,000 artifacts, documents, and photographs, preserving its legacy.

During thirty-five years of public service, Rogers procured over one billion dollars in contracts for her state and co-sponsored more than 1,200 pieces of legislation pertaining to veterans' benefits and hospitals. Her legacy is recognized in part by The Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital in Bedford, MA.

[To learn more, view: Heritage Stories: Visionaries & Experimenters Congresswoman, Mother of the WACs and Godmother of Fort Devens—Edith Nourse Rogers](#)

Author of the First Novel Published by a Black Woman in America

In 1859, Harriet E. Wilson published *Our Nig; or Sketches From the Life of A Free Black*. The largely autobiographical novel, published at her own expense, tells the story of Frado, a biracial indentured servant living with a white family.

Long thought to be the work of a white author, Wilson's novel fell into obscurity until 1983 when Harvard University Professor and leading scholar of African-American literature, Henry Louis Gates, republished it while working on the Black Periodical Literature Project as a MacArthur Foundation Fellow. His discovery, that the author was an African American woman, secured the book's place in history as a both a classic of African-American literature and the first novel written by an Black woman in America.

The story of Wilson's early life continues to unfold. Much of what is known about her early years is based upon the storyline of *Our Nig*. She is believed to have been born in Milford, NH to a free black man and a white mother. When she was young, her father died and her mother, unable to care for her, sent her to live with a white family as an indentured servant.

For three months a year for three years she attended school. However, Wilson continued to work in a series of domestic roles, moving frequently. According to research by The Harriet Wilson Project, from 1847-1850 she is listed as a town pauper, boarding with local families.

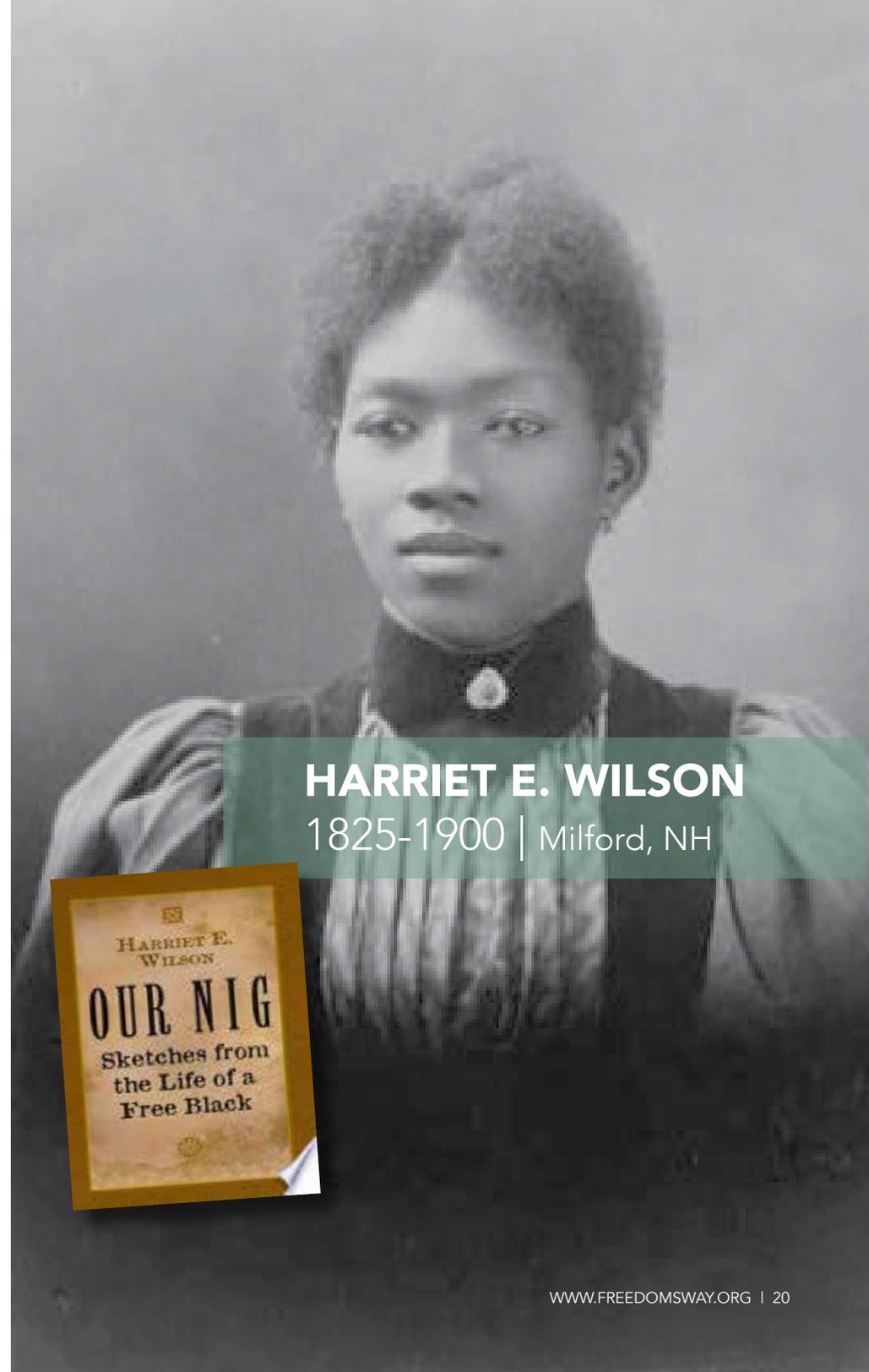
In 1851, she married Thomas Wilson, a fugitive slave. The marriage was not a success and she was left to support their newborn son who was born in a poor

house. Destitute, Wilson wrote *Our Nig*. The novel, published by an abolitionist printer in Boston, was unsettling. Its powerful narrative wasn't one of overcoming adversity but one of struggle and racism. The book, Wilson's only published novel, was not widely read at the time.

In her later years, Wilson became involved with the Spiritualism movement, serving as a public speaker and medium. Her involvement included forming children's progressive lyceums. In 1883, she announced the opening of a new Sunday school for children of "the liberal minded" in the "Ladies' Aid Parlors" in Boston where she lived.

In her role as a spiritualist and trance reader, Wilson traveled throughout New England, often speaking before large gatherings. When she died in 1900 in Quincy, MA, she was identified as a nurse.

In 2003, The Harriet Wilson Project was established in her birthplace of Milford, NH, to promote the state's Black heritage and acknowledge the contributions to its history and culture made by Wilson and other African Americans. In 2006, a sculpture of Wilson by Fern Cunningham, the first monument in NH to honor a person of color, was erected in Milford's Bicentennial Park in her honor.



HARRIET E. WILSON
1825-1900 | Milford, NH





ALICE STANDISH ALLEN

1907-2002 | Lexington, MA

The first female engineering geologist in North America, Alice Standish Allen worked for governmental agencies and institutions including the US Geological Survey and the USGS Military Geology Unit, where she was one of its first members. While there, Allen developed topographic products used by American Forces during World War I, provided geological advice to federal agencies and oversaw the establishment of geologists in major US cities.

Working at the Extraterrestrial Research Agency at the Office of the Chief of Engineers, Allen created a lunar-faced geomorphologic map for the Army's

pre-NASA program, receiving a superior performance award. She concluded her career working for the US Bureau of Mines, where she studied the environmental impacts of mine subsidence, overseeing a project to locate, map and characterize impacted land in former mining districts for which she received an US Department of the Interior Award.

A graduate of Mount Holyoke College, Allen was elected Honorary Member of the Association of Engineering Geologists (AEG) in 1987.

The first Black woman to serve on the School Committee of any community in Massachusetts, Madeleine Dugger Andrews was both a community activist and educator. Born into a tight-knit family in West Medford, she commuted two and half hours on the bus each day to attend Bridgewater State College. This was followed by work late into the night at a burlap factory to earn the funds required to assure her education.

Denied a teaching position in Medford because of her race, once elected to the School Committee Andrews focused her efforts on recruiting highly qualified teachers, especially those of color, to the city's school system. She also worked to create a racial balance plan for Medford public schools,

evaluate school building needs, strengthen existing guidance programs, and initiate a skills-training program for students who did not wish to pursue higher education.

Andrews returned to school earning a master's degree in Guidance from Boston State College in 1966 and worked in Roxbury, MA as a guidance counselor specializing in curriculum design. While serving her fourth term on the School Committee, Andrews resigned due to poor health.

Madeleine Dugger Andrews's legacy lives on today at the middle school named in her honor. Constructed in 2000, it is one of Medford's first new schools to be built in almost 80 years.



MADELEINE DUGGER ANDREWS

1922-1986 | Medford, MA

Intensely patriotic, E. Florence Barker was a co-founder, charter member, and the first president of the National Woman's Relief Corps (WRC), the official women's auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), a fraternal organization composed of veterans of the Union Army (US Army), Union Navy (US Navy), Marines Corps and the US Revenue Cutter Service who served in the American Civil War.

Born in Lynnfield, MA, Barker went to public school before attending Thetford Academy, Vermont's oldest secondary school. Her marriage to Colonel Thomas Erskine Barker, commander of the 12th New Hampshire Voluntary Infantry, introduced her to military life when she joined him at the Point Lookout, MD military encampment during the Civil War. Point Lookout included a large Union Army hospital, garrison and a Union prisoner of war camp housing Confederate States Army soldier captives.



E. FLORENCE BARKER

1840-1897 | Malden, MA

Following the Civil War, the GAR was formed as one of the first organizing groups in American politics. Among other activities, the organization supported voting rights for Black veterans, patriotic education and the establishment of Memorial Day as a national holiday. Barker became deeply involved in this effort, first at a local and later at a national level. She served in multiple leadership roles, including President of the WRC, expanding its membership and influence.

An eloquent speaker, Barker addressed patriotic gatherings throughout the country. She continued her advocacy as one of the founders of the Ladies' Aid Association of the Chelsea, MA, Soldiers' Home, as a director of the Union ex-Prisoners of War National Memorial Association and of the Woman's Club House Corporation of Boston, and as a trustee of Malden Hospital.



CAROLYN RICE BROWN

b. 1927 | Fitchburg, MA

A dancer, writer and choreographer, Carolyn Rice Brown is best known as one of the founding members of the Merce Cunningham Dance Company, which explores the relationships between movement and beauty while expanding the possibilities of dance, music and the visual arts as a medium of expression.

Brown's mother, Marion Rice, was a choreographer, dance teacher and producer who founded the Marion Rice Studio of the Dance and operated her own dance company, the Marion Rice Denishawn Dancers in Fitchburg, where Brown received her early training. She first met Merce Cunningham when she attended a master class in 1951.

Cunningham founded his dance company in the summer of 1953 at Black Mountain College in North Carolina. Brown, who is described as one of America's great dancers, emerged as one of the most important female dancers in Cunningham's company. She appeared in more than

40 of his works—virtually every piece he choreographed—often collaborating with him and musician John Cage. She danced with Cunningham for 20 years, retiring in 1973.

Brown, the recipient of a *Dance Magazine* Award, five National Endowment for the Arts grants, a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship and a 100th Anniversary Distinguished Service award from Wheaton College, has remained active in retirement as a freelance choreographer, filmmaker, writer, lecturer, and teacher. She has served on the boards of the Merce Cunningham Trust and the Foundation for Contemporary Arts.

In 2007, Brown published *Chance and Circumstance: Twenty Years with Cage and Cunningham*, a memoir recalling the story of her career and the evolution of the Merce Cunningham Dance Company.



ANNA CHRISTY FALL

1855-1930 | Malden, MA

The first woman lawyer to plead a case before a jury in Massachusetts, Anna Christy Fall was educated in the public schools of her hometown of Chelsea, MA. She attended Boston University receiving a Bachelor of Arts, Master of Arts and Juris Doctor degree from the School of Law, graduating *magna cum laude* in 1891.

Fall's interest in law began while taking notes in the courtroom for her husband, lawyer and mayor George Howard Fall of Malden. She took the admission test for the Massachusetts Bar while still a student, the only woman in a cohort of forty applicants. Working in partnership

with her husband, Fall also became the first woman to argue a case before the Massachusetts Supreme Court.

Author of *The Tragedy of a Widow's Third*, Fall lectured throughout the state on the "Position of Women under the Massachusetts Law." She and her husband were both involved in the women's suffrage movement and civics. She served a three-year term on the Malden School Board. Her daughter, lawyer Emma Latimer Fall Schofield, became the first female judge in New England, along with Sadie Lipner Shulman.

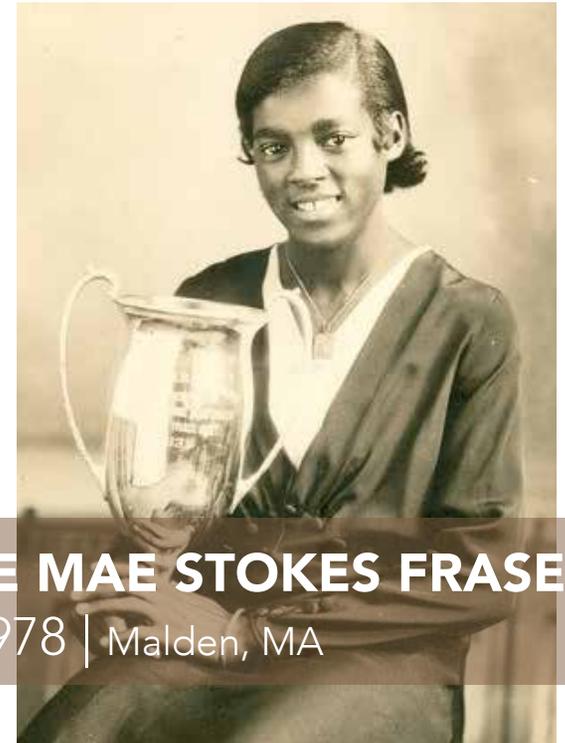
An accomplished track and field athlete, Louise Mae Stokes Fraser was a one of the first two Black women to qualify for an Olympic team and founder of the Colored Women's Bowling League.

Educated in the Malden Public School system, Fraser began running when she was a student at Beebe Junior High School. Attending Malden High School, she continued to excel at track, becoming known as "The Malden Meteor," and received the James Michael Curley Cup for outstanding women's track performance in her senior year. A member of the Onteora Track Club, she set a world record in the standing broad jump.

Invited to attend the Olympic Trials in 1932, Fraser won a spot on the women's 400-meter relay team for the Los Angeles Olympic Games. Tidy Pickett, a runner from Chicago, was

also selected and together they represented the first two Black women to qualify for an Olympic team. Not only were both women treated differently from the other team members—neither actually competed in the Olympics—only white women were selected for the final relay team. In 1936, Fraser and Pickett again made the Olympic Team, as members of the 400-meter relay team, and again they were replaced with white runners that were slower than they.

Upon her retirement from running, Fraser became a professional bowler, founding the Colored Women's Bowling League in 1941 and winning many titles. She is remembered today with a plaque at Roosevelt Park in Malden and a statue in her honor in the Malden High School courtyard.



LOUISE MAE STOKES FRASER

1913-1978 | Malden, MA

Daughter and granddaughter of men who had been enslaved, Ellen Garrison was an anti-slavery activist from an early age. At 12 years old she desegregated the Concord Bicentennial Parade, marching hand-in-hand with her white neighbor, Abba Prescott.

Garrison was born and raised in The Robbins House in Concord, to a progressively active family. Her grandfather was farmer, laborer and Revolutionary War veteran, Caesar Robbins, and her father, Jack Garrison, escaped slavery in New Jersey. Described as bright and intelligent, Garrison attended public school where she was the only Black student.

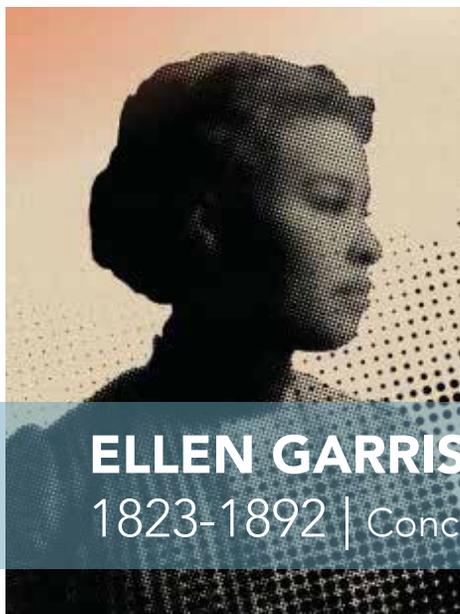
In the 1840's she moved to Boston, became a member of the African American Church and began to teach. With other activists, Garrison promoted the abolitionist community and,

as an activist, worked to eliminate discrimination in the public transportation and school systems.

After the Civil War, she moved to Maryland where she taught newly freed people during Reconstruction.

In 1866, nearly a century before Rosa Parks, Garrison and a friend were forcibly removed from a segregated waiting room in a Baltimore train station. Despite testimony from witnesses and the passage of the month-old Civil Rights Act, a Maryland grand jury dismissed their suit against the railroad.

Following a decade in Kansas, where she continued to teach newly freed people, Garrison moved to Pasadena, CA, where she lived with her family in an egalitarian, anti-slavery community. Here she is buried with anti-slavery activists.



ELLEN GARRISON
1823-1892 | Concord, MA



ELVIRA "ELLA" GIBSON
1821-1901 | Winchendon, MA



The first female chaplain in the US military, Ella Gibson was not recognized for her service for 100 years because she was a woman. It was not until 2001 that the 107th Congress posthumously granted Gibson the rank of captain in the US Army Chaplain Corps.

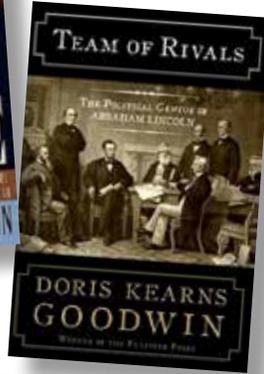
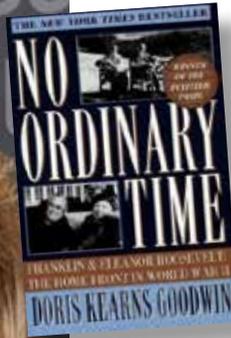
Born in Winchendon, Gibson moved with her family to Rindge, NH when she was five years old. While teaching in the public schools, she began to write and lecture on abolition and other moral issues. Gibson lectured and wrote extensively, advocating for supporting sick and wounded soldiers of the Union Army. Her work appeared in liberal publications including *The Moralist*, which she edited during the early 1890s.

Gibson accompanied her husband, Rev. John Hobart, when he served as the chaplain of the 8th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Regiment during the Civil War, attending to the

Regiment's sick and wounded. "The Soldiers Gift," a pamphlet she wrote during this period, raised funds for the Northwestern Sanitary Commission, an organization dedicated to improving camp conditions.

In 1864, Gibson was elected to the office of the chaplaincy for the 1st Wisconsin Heavy Artillery Regiment. Despite being endorsed by President Abraham Lincoln, the Secretary of War refused to appoint Gibson, fearful of setting a precedent by commissioning a woman. Nonetheless, she remained in her position through the end of the war.

Never officially mustered into the Army, Gibson was ineligible for disability benefits and received no compensation for her service. Through continued advocacy she eventually received back pay but no pension. Her dedication and determination paved the way for women to serve in the Army.



DORIS KEARNS GOODWIN

b. 1943 | Concord, MA

Pulitzer Prize-winning author, Doris Kearns Goodwin, is an acclaimed presidential historian and political commentator. She has authored biographies of several US Presidents, including *Lyndon Johnson and the American Dream*; *The Fitzgeralds and the Kennedys: An American Saga*; *No Ordinary Time: Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt: The Home Front in World War II* (which won the Pulitzer Prize for History in 1995); *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln* (which served as a foundation for the award-winning 2012 Steven Spielberg film, *Lincoln*); and, *The Bully Pulpit: Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, and the Golden Age of Journalism*. Her most recent book, *Leadership in Turbulent Times*, was published in 2018.

Goodwin has been interviewed extensively for documentaries on

President Lyndon B. Johnson, the Kennedy Family, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Abraham and Mary Lincoln, in addition to the Ken Burns PBS series *Baseball* and *The Roosevelts: An Intimate History*.

Awarded the National Endowment for the Humanities Charles Frankel Prize, the Sarah Josepha Hale Medal, the New England Book Award, the Carl Sandburg Literary Award and the Ohioana Book Award, Goodwin is described as America's Historian-in-Chief by *New York* magazine.

Goodwin, an ardent Red Sox fan, holds, among her many honors, the distinction of being the first female journalist to enter the Red Sox locker room.

A physician and toxicologist, Harriet Louise Hardy, the first woman appointed Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School, was committed to social reform and the application of science to improve workplace conditions and the well-being of workers. She is best known for discovering that the element beryllium caused chronic respiratory disease, establishing the National Beryllium Registry, one of the earliest registries tracking data on such an illness.

Born in Arlington, Hardy, having been impacted by the deaths of her father and ten-month-old brother, aspired to be a doctor from a young age. She received a Bachelor of Science degree from Wellesley College and attended Cornell University Medical School, one of the first coeducational medical schools in the country, completing a competitive residency at Philadelphia General Hospital upon graduation. While serving as a physician at the Northfield Seminary for Young Ladies, in Northfield, MA, Hardy initiated her first endocrinological study.

In 1945, Hardy went to work for the Massachusetts Division of Occupational Hygiene, shifting focus to workers' health and safety while studying the correlation of the exposure of fluorescent light bulbs on the incidence of lung cancer in factory workers. She founded the Occupational Medicine Service (later, the Environmental Medical Service) at MIT, one of the first programs of its type in an academic setting.

In 1983, Hardy published her autobiography, *Challenging Man-Made Disease*. She was awarded the William S. Knudsen Award, the highest award in occupational medicine, and the Browning Award from the American Public Health Association.



HARRIET LOUISE HARDY

1906-1993 | Arlington, MA

The Director of the Maria Mitchell Observatory on Nantucket Island for forty-one years, Margaret Harwood was the first, and for a long time, the only woman to serve as director of an independent astronomical observatory.

Born in Littleton, MA, Harwood attended Radcliffe College where she studied astronomy. A frequent visitor to the Harvard College Observatory, she learned to use the telescopes and became acquainted with staff members, including Edward Pickering and Henrietta Swan Leavitt. Upon graduation she was hired as an assistant at the Observatory, supplementing her modest income by teaching science in local schools.

A six-month astronomical fellowship from the Maria Mitchell Association in 1912 brought Harwood to Nantucket's Maria Mitchell Observatory, built as a memorial to the first female astronomer in the United States. While residing at the Mitchell homestead, she curated

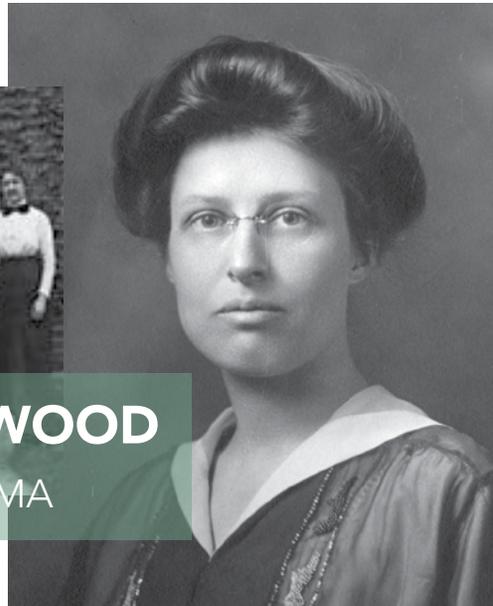
a small museum and library, used the telescope to research asteroids and lectured on astronomy. After receiving the fellowship for several years, she was offered, at age thirty, the directorship of the Maria Mitchell Observatory.

Harwood studied photometry, the measuring of variation in the light of stars and asteroids. Widely acknowledged for her work, she was the first woman to have access to the Mount Wilson Observatory, the world's largest at the time.

Despite her recognition, Harwood was denied credit for the discovery of asteroid 886 Washingtonia because, "it was inappropriate that a woman should be thrust into the limelight with such a claim." In 1960, a minor planet was named in her honor.



MARGARET HARWOOD
1885-1979 | Littleton, MA



MARIE OLIVER JACKSON-THOMPSON
b. 1947 | Medford, MA



The first Black female judge to be appointed to a Massachusetts district court, Marie Oliver Jackson-Thompson has devoted herself to improving the juvenile justice system in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

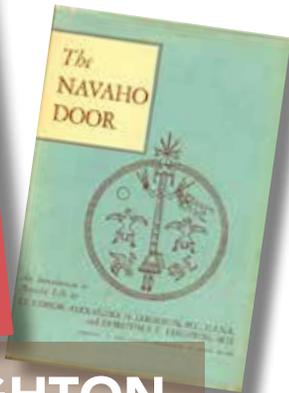
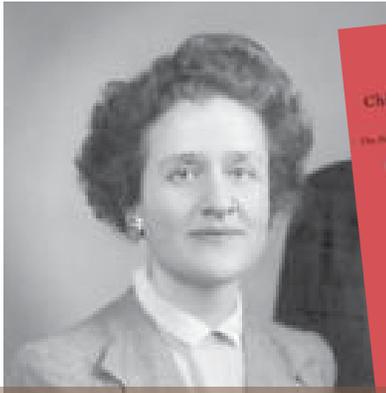
Born in a multiethnic, multiracial neighborhood in Rankin, PA, Jackson-Thompson, the eldest of six children, learned the importance of diversity and the values of education, hard work and religion. She was a member of her high school debate club, enhancing her ability to explore ideas from multiple perspectives while fighting for what she believed in.

Jackson-Thompson attended Mount Holyoke College at a formative time for both the Civil Rights and feminist movements. An activist in her college community, she continued to advocate

for embracing social change, including the abolishment of apartheid, as a student at Harvard Law School.

Moving to West Medford in 1973, Jackson-Thompson became active in her community and the Shiloh Baptist Church. She served on the Board of Directors of the West Medford Community Center, worked with the church's first Black youth association, and co-founded the Family Network.

Jackson-Thompson served as Assistant Secretary and General Counsel for the Massachusetts Executive Office for Administration and Finance from 1976 to 1980. She was appointed Special Justice of the Massachusetts Trial Court in Cambridge in 1980.



DOROTHEA CROSS LEIGHTON

1908-1989 | Lunenburg, MA

Considered the founder of the field of medical anthropology, Dorothea Cross Leighton is known for her work among Native American groups, including the Navajo of New Mexico and Inuit of Alaska. A Special Physician for US Office of Indian Affairs, she authored, in partnership with her husband, *The Navaho Door: An Introduction to Navaho Life*.

Commissioned by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the book, published by Harvard University Press in 1944, recorded observations on Native American medical beliefs and practices to discover the means by which indigenous and white ideas can be mutually modified for the benefit of native health. Written through the lens of those they interviewed, *The Navaho Door* set the stage for the new field of medical anthropology.

Described as a dynamic, humble, earth humanist and scientist, Leighton grew up in a well-educated, propertied Lunenburg family. Like her mother, founder of an early Montessori School,

Leighton, valedictorian of her high school class, attended Bryn Mawr College. She received a complete scholarship to Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, the only medical institution to admit women at the time.

Leighton held a number of academic positions including at Cornell University, the University of North Carolina, the University of California at San Francisco, and the University of California at Berkeley. She collaborated with well-known anthropologists including Clyde Kluckhohn and John Adair. She served as the first president of the Society for Medical Anthropology.

Leighton is quoted in the book, *Their Own Frontier: Women Intellectuals Revisioning the American West* as describing herself as a physician who became an accidental anthropologist and Southwesterner through her approach of learning from people rather than textbooks.

Born in New Haven, CT to architect Sidney Mason Stone, Harriett Mulford Stone Lothrop grew up in a cultured and religious home. She attended private school and enhanced her literary knowledge through her exposure to her father's extensive library.

Lothrop's first two stories, written under the pseudonym Margaret Sidney, were published in *Wide Awake*, a children's periodical published by D. Lothrop Publishing in Boston. These led to the 1881 serialization of "Five Little Peppers and How They Grew" in the magazine. The same year, Lothrop married publisher Daniel Lothrop, a widower, thirty years her senior. Together they purchased Nathaniel Hawthorne's home, The Wayside, in Concord, where their daughter Margaret was born. In this literary home, eleven "Pepper" books were written, five adapted by Columbia Pictures for films.

Lothrop was an early member of the Massachusetts Society of the Daughters

of the American Revolution and founded the National Society of Children of the American Revolution in 1895. Two of her books—*A Little Maid of Concord Town*, a tribute to Concord's role in the American Revolution and *Old Concord, Her Highways and Byways*, a story capturing the town's late 19th century charm—reflect her love of Concord.

Dedicated to preserving Concord's history, Lothrop's preservation efforts focused on saving historical homes, including The Wayside, Louisa May Alcott's Orchard House (which she purchased to prevent it from being torn down in 1902), the "Grapevine Cottage" (where the Concord grape was first produced), and the "old Tolman House." These homes are preserved in Concord today thanks to her foresight and dedication.



HARRIETT MULFORD STONE LOTHROP

1844-1924 | Concord, MA

Founder of the Lowthorpe School of Landscape Architecture, Gardening and Horticulture for Women, Judith Motley Low created the first school intended solely to prepare women as professionals in a field dominated by men. So respected were its students that Ellen Shipman, named the dean of women landscape architects in *House & Garden* magazine (1933), hired only Lowthorpe graduates. Many became pioneers in the profession of landscape architecture.

Low was the great granddaughter of Benjamin Bussey, who bequeathed his estate, Woodland Hill, to Harvard College for the creation of an institution for instruction in farming, horticulture and related fields. This became the Arnold Arboretum. Low, who knew the property well, is believed to have studied horticulture at the Arboretum's Bussey Institute.

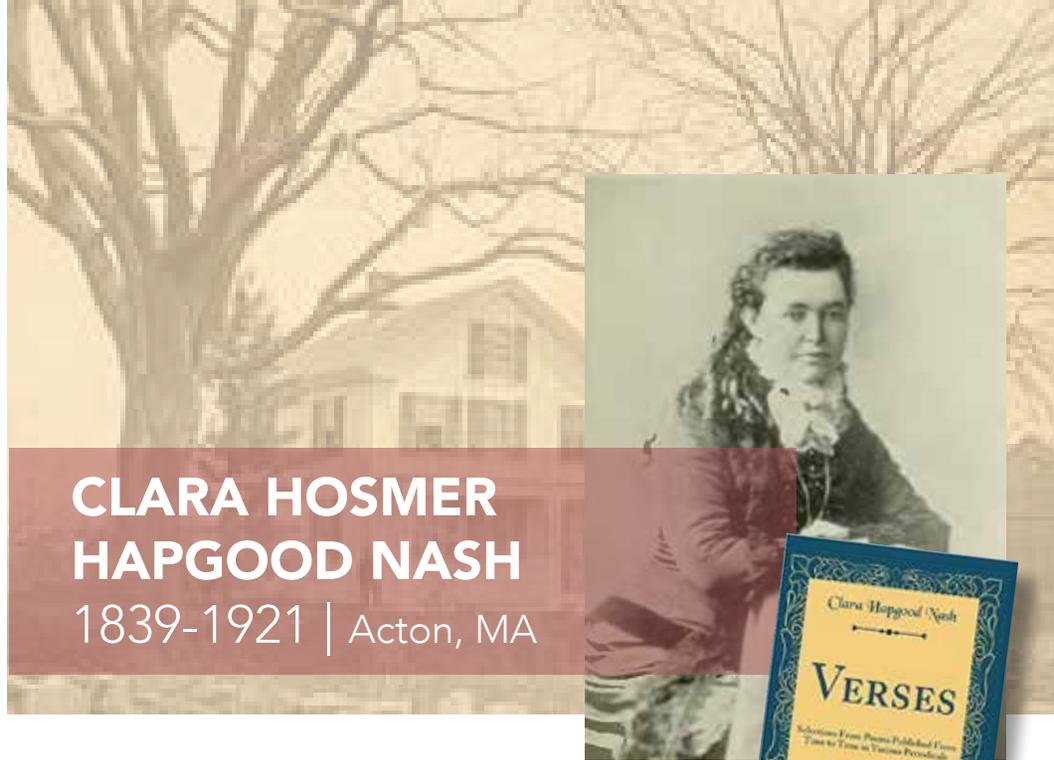


JUDITH ELEANOR MOTLEY LOW
1841-1933 | Groton, MA

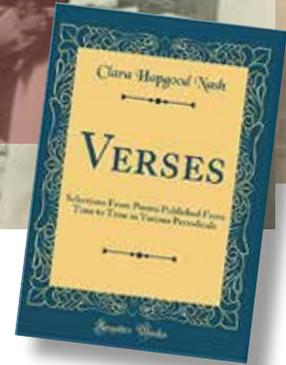


In 1901, she founded the Lowthorpe School on a 17-acre campus in Groton in memory of her husband, Edward Gilchrist Low. Instruction emphasized private residential design rather than public gardens, as this field was considered more suitable for women. Intensive study in plant form, horticultural skills and planting design was also offered. A hands-on approach, along with classroom instruction offered by instructors drawn to the school by the founder's Boston connections, provided a quality program.

The school incorporated eight years later and a Board of Directors, comprised of women, was chosen. Low presided as president. In 1915, the course curriculum expanded from two to three years and diplomas were awarded, with the official name changed to Lowthorpe School of Landscape Architecture for Women. In 1945, the school merged into the Rhode Island School of Design and became the basis of RISD's Landscape Architecture Department.



CLARA HOSMER HAPGOOD NASH
1839-1921 | Acton, MA



An American lawyer, Clara Hosmer Hapgood Nash, was the first woman admitted to the bar in New England and the fifth to do so in the country.

Nash was born in Fitchburg, MA; however, her parents quickly returned to their hometown of Acton, where she and her brothers were raised at her father's farm on Central Street. Related to sculptor Harriet Hosmer and Henry Durant, the founding President of the University of California, Nash attended public schools and studied education at the State Normal School in Framingham, MA. Upon graduation, she taught in Acton, Marlborough and Danvers, while editing *The Crystal Font*, a pro-temperance publication.

Nash moved to Maine with her husband, Frederick C. Nash, an attorney. Serving as an apprentice in his office, she began the study of law. After becoming a Justice of the Peace, she became the first woman

admitted to the Supreme Judicial Court of Maine in 1872, an achievement that was widely publicized. The following year, Nash made the opening remarks in a jury trial, another first for a woman. She was active in the women's suffrage movement in Maine, leading a petition drive to garner support for the cause.

When Nash moved back to Massachusetts, she was no longer able to practice law and instead became the first librarian of the Citizens' Library in West Acton. She remained active in the temperance movement, serving as president of the local affiliate for more than twenty years. In 1909, she authored a book of poetry, entitled *Verses*.



ELEANOR NORCROSS

1854-1923 | Fitchburg, MA



An artist, collector and philanthropist, Eleanor Norcross's bequest of paintings and funds established what would become the Fitchburg Art Museum. She is recognized as its founder.

Born into a comfortable family, Norcross was well educated from earliest childhood. She attended Wheaton Female Seminary (now Wheaton College) and Boston's Massachusetts Normal Art School (now the Massachusetts College of Art and Design). She taught art in Fitchburg briefly before moving to New York City to study with William Merritt Chase. In 1883, she moved to Paris to study with Alfred Stevens, living there for 40 years. During the summer months she returned to Fitchburg.

Norcross exhibited her paintings at the Champ de Mars' Société Nationale des Beaux-Arts as well as in Boston, Chicago

and New York. She did not sell any of her work as her father believed that women should not enter into the male-oriented business world of fine art.

To provide exposure to people that did not have the opportunity to experience fine art directly, Norcross became a collector, purchasing furniture, textiles, porcelain and paintings with the goal of establishing a cultural center in Fitchburg. To that end, in 1923, Norcross provided \$10,000 in her will requiring that the city raise an equal amount as an endowment. Six years later, the Fitchburg Art Center, which later became the Fitchburg Art Museum, opened, "for the joy and inspiration of art," fulfilling her dream.

Norcross's works were shown posthumously in Paris at the Louvre and Salon d'Automne and at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

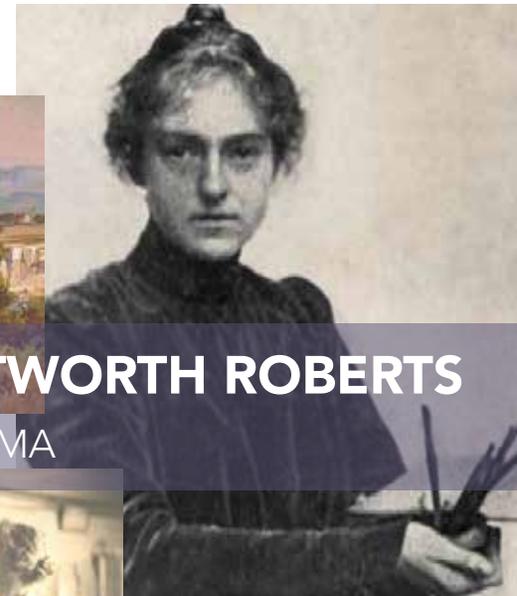
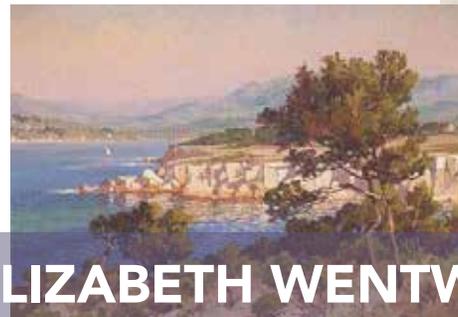
An artist and philanthropist, Elizabeth "Elsie" Wentworth Roberts founded the Concord Center for the Visual Arts (now the Concord Art Association) in 1917. Housed in the historic Jonathan Ball House, its inaugural exhibition of sixty painters and eighteen sculptors included works by Childe Hassam, Claude Monet, Mary Cassatt, Frank W. Benson and John Singer Sargent.

Born in Philadelphia into an affluent family, Elizabeth Wentworth Roberts was an only child. Despite her mother's objections, she was determined to become an artist and at the age of fifteen began training under Henry Rankin Poore and Elizabeth F. Bonsal. Four years later, at age 19, she went to Paris, France where she would study at the Académie Julian for six years followed by two years of study in Florence, Italy.

Upon her return from Europe, Roberts settled in Philadelphia and began to

exhibit her work at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. She moved to Concord following her mother's death where she would live with life-long companion, Grace Keyes, member of a prominent local family. Roberts and Keyes traveled frequently and summered in Annisquam where Roberts painted views of Cape Ann beaches, for which she was well-known.

Roberts retained her deep affinity for Europe and, determined to provide support during World War I, organized groups of artists and citizens to create numerous art exhibitions whose proceeds would provide aid to victims of war. One such extremely successful exhibition, described as the first of its kind ever held to raise funds to "relieve the sufferings of war refugees" sold over 200 items.



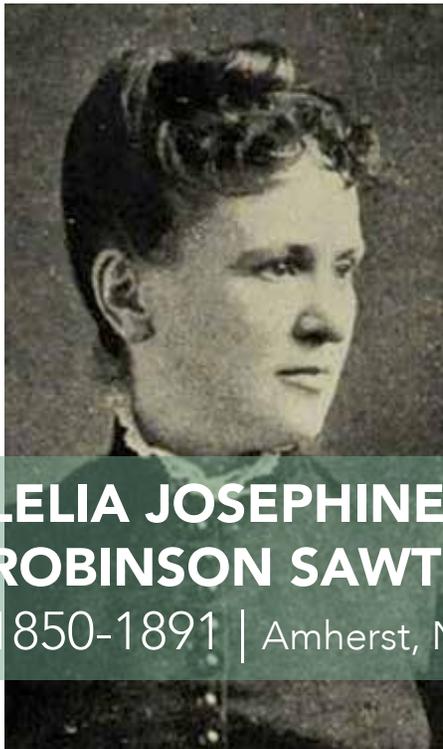
ELIZABETH WENTWORTH ROBERTS

1871-1927 | Concord, MA



The first woman admitted to the bar and practice in the courts of Massachusetts, Lelia Josephine Robinson Sawtelle, graduated *cum laude* from Boston University School of Law in 1878, the first woman to do so.

Drawn to law as a means of support following her divorce at age 27, Sawtelle steadfastly lobbied for women to have the same status as their male counterparts. When denied admission to the Massachusetts Bar based on gender, she opened an independent practice, engaging male lawyers to conduct her cases in court. Sawtelle successfully lobbied the state legislature to change the law to allow both men and women to be admitted to the bar and received her license to practice as a member of the Suffolk County Bar Association.



**LELIA JOSEPHINE
ROBINSON SAWTELLE**
1850-1891 | Amherst, NH

In 1884, Sawtelle moved her practice to Seattle, WA, a state receptive to women in the legal profession. Here, she was the first American female lawyer to argue a case before a jury that included both men and women. Sawtelle wrote extensively including a book on divorce, *The Law of Husband and Wife*.

The Women's Bar Association of Massachusetts remembers Sawtelle with the prestigious "Lelia J. Robinson Award" to honor her mission to extend representation to all classes of people and build a society that is fair and just. Recipients include Elizabeth Warren, Hillary Rodham Clinton and Janet Reno.

Sawtelle, who passed away at age 41, lived briefly in Amherst, NH where she is buried. Her epitaph reads: "*The pioneer woman lawyer of Massachusetts, Author, and Journalist. A lover of the true, the good and the beautiful.*"



CLARA ENDICOTT SEARS

1863-1960 | Harvard, MA



Born into an affluent Yankee family, Clara Endicott Sears devoted her life to literature, historic preservation and philanthropy. Among her many accomplishments was the establishment of the Fruitlands Museum in 1914 at her summer estate in Harvard.

Named for a farmhouse on the property that housed the failed transcendentalist community promoted by Bronson Alcott, father of author Louisa May Alcott, Fruitlands served as a foundation for Sears's exploration of art and culture, including that of utopian communities. She researched and restored the Alcott farmhouse with the aid of the Massachusetts Historical Society and the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities (now Historic New England). She also purchased the first building built by the Harvard Shaker community, a 1794 office building, and moved it to her property where it

was incorporated into the museum in 1922.

Sears worked with the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at Harvard University to acquire a Native American collection, as well as a collection of early 19th century primitive portraits. She also collected Hudson River School paintings and other American folk art and built a gallery to display her collection in 1939.

Sears received numerous awards for her work in historic preservation, including the Medal of Honor of the National Society of New England Women and the first Annual Author's Club Citation of Distinction. An accomplished author, Sears wrote fifteen books of history, poetry, songs and reminiscences, including *The Power Within*, a year's worth of quotations she compiled to "radiate serenity and happiness in its readers."



NETTIE MARIA STEVENS

1861-1912 | Westford, MA

One of the first American women recognized for contributions to science, biologist and geneticist Nettie Maria Stevens is credited with discovering that sex is determined by a distinct arrangement of chromosomes, known as the X and Y.

Educated at Westford Academy, one of the oldest public high schools in the United States, Stevens excelled academically. She graduated in 1880 near the top of her class and taught for several years to earn money to further her education. Stevens enrolled in Westfield Normal School and graduated with the highest scores in her class. She went on to receive both bachelor's and master's degrees in biology from Stanford University and in 1903 was awarded a PhD from Bryn Mawr College,

where she studied the fields of genetics, cytology and embryology.

As a research scientist, Stevens was interested in the process of sex determination, studying mealworms. Her discovery, that sex is inherited as a chromosomal factor and that males determine the gender of their offspring, was only accepted after a male colleague made a similar observation.

Stevens passed away at the age of 50, publishing more than forty research papers in her lifetime. She was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in 1994 and celebrated with a Google Doodle showing her looking through a microscope at XY chromosomes. The Dr. Nettie Maria Stevens Science and Innovation Center at Westfield State University is named in her honor.

Founder and first president of the Nashua River Watershed Association, Marion Stoddart has worked tirelessly to advocate for clean water and waterways. Through her efforts the first anti-water pollution bill enacted by any state in the United States, the 1965 Massachusetts Clean Water Act, was passed.

Born in Reno, NV, Stoddart studied anthropology and sociology at Occidental College in Los Angeles, CA and education at the University of California at Berkley. She moved with her husband and family to Groton in 1962, where she lived just three-quarters of a mile from the Nashua River. Heavily used for industry, it was one of the ten most polluted rivers in the United States at that time. Having grown up in an environment where water was a scarce and valued resource, Stoddart made the clean-up

of the Nashua River her life's goal. And she succeeded.

Stoddart has been widely recognized for her work. She has been honored with a United Nations Environmental Programme Global 500 Award, and profiled by the National Geographic Society and Today Show. The children's book, *A River Ran Wild*, chronicles her work and is widely used in fourth grades throughout the country. *The Work of 1000*, an award-winning documentary tells her story and is used as a tool for civic engagement.

In March of 2019, the "Nashua Wild and Scenic Rivers Act" was signed into law, officially designating sections of the Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Rivers as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, a fitting tribute to Stoddart's legacy.



MARION STODDART

b. 1928 | Groton, MA

Philanthropist and preservationist, Helen “Nell” Osborne Storrow, founded the civic organizations Women’s City Club of Boston and the Country Dance Society, which introduced English folk dance to the United States. To improve the lives of immigrants in Boston’s North End, she sponsored the Saturday Evening Girls reading club and the woman-run Paul Revere Pottery.

Born into a prosperous New York family—Storrow’s father was founder of a firm that became International Harvester—her mother was a socially-conscious Quaker and niece of the abolitionist Lucretia Mott, one of the organizers of the Seneca Falls Convention of 1848. Storrow’s marriage to Boston Brahmin James Jackson Storrow, a lawyer and banker, brought her to Boston where they both dedicated themselves to civic causes, including the

creation of the Esplanade and Storrow Drive Embankment, which bears their name.

The Storrows summered in Lincoln. In 1938, intrigued by the work of Bauhaus architect Walter Gropius, she provided a piece of land on her property and financial support to build what is considered a masterpiece of modern architecture—the Gropius House. Fellow architects and designers soon followed, including Marcel Breuer.

Deeply involved in scouting, Storrow also used the Lincoln property to hold Girl Scout training courses. A prominent leader at the local, state, national and international levels of Girl Scouting, she is one of only three American women granted the Silver Fish Award by Lady Baden-Powell. The Helen Storrow Heritage Award is presented yearly by the Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts Council to individuals that have made a significant contribution to scouting.



**HELEN “NELL”
OSBORNE STORROW**
1864-1944 | Lincoln, MA



BARBARA WASHBURN
1914-2014 | Lexington, MA



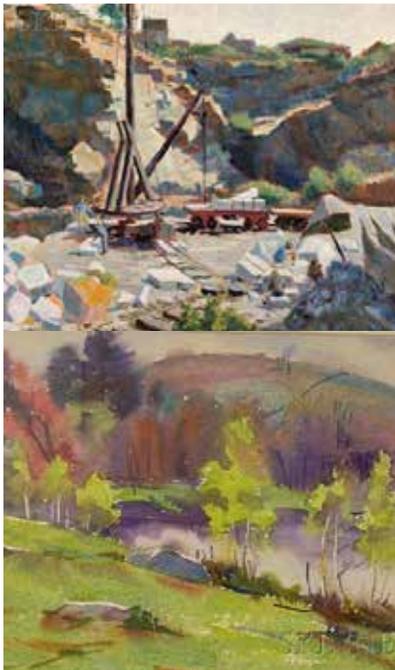
Mountaineer and cartographer, Barbara Washburn, was the first woman to climb Denali (Mount McKinley), the highest mountain peak in North America. While she titled her 2001 memoir *The Accidental Adventurer: Memoir of the First Woman to Climb Mount McKinley*, her determination and willingness to “buck the status quo” in a field that was male dominated, makes her accomplishments anything but accidental. In a 2010 interview, Washburn relayed that she was not out to make history and had, “no real feeling about being a pioneering woman on an Alaskan expedition,” noting that as the only woman she just had to “measure-up.”

Born in the Boston, MA neighborhood of West Roxbury, Washburn attended Boston Girls’ Latin School and Smith College. She met husband Brad Washburn when working as a secretary at the New England Museum

of Natural History (now the Boston Museum of Science) an institution both would remain associated with throughout their lifetimes.

As a team, the Washburns worked together closely, growing the museum while continuing their mountain explorations. They undertook extensive mapping projects, including of Mount Everest and the Grand Canyon, a seven-year effort for the National Geographic Society that earned them the rarely awarded Alexander Graham Bell Medal for exceptional contributions to geographic research.

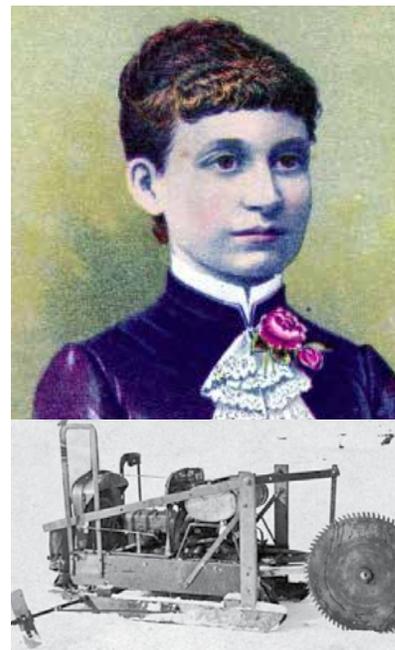
Washburn raised three children, making the not always easy decision to leave them behind while she accompanied her husband on their expeditions. The “Mother of Mount McKinley” balanced work and family at a time when women were still expected to remain at home.



AGNES ANNE ABBOT

1897-1992 | Harvard, MA

Born in Germany, painter, designer and watercolorist, Agnes Anne Abbot taught at Wellesley College in Wellesley, MA for forty-three years, serving as chair of the Art Department. Educated at the Berlin Academy and the School of Fine Arts and Crafts in Boston, she studied extensively with well-known artists such as Aldro Hibbard and Frank Robinson. Abbot was known for her paintings of New England, including those of Harvard, where she, and her family, lived. Abbot traveled extensively throughout Africa, Europe and the United States continuing to paint and work until her death. Her paintings have been exhibited at the Copley Society and Wellesley College.



SARAH "TABITHA" BABBITT

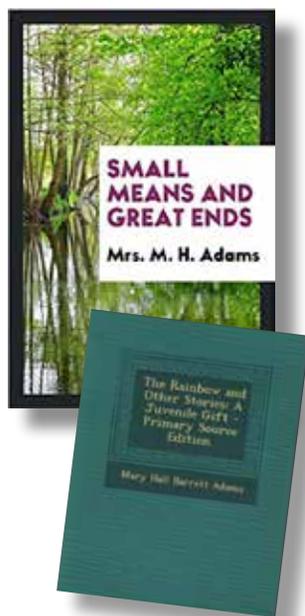
1779-1853 | Harvard, MA

A member of the Harvard Shaker Community, Tabitha Babbitt was a tool-maker and inventor. She is credited with inventing the first circular saw for use in a saw mill, the spinning wheel head and false teeth. Purportedly, Babbitt developed the idea for the circular saw, which could be connected to a water powered machine, after watching workers struggle while using a whipsaw, which was a highly inefficient tool. Unfortunately, she did not patent any of her inventions, leaving the veracity of her legacy in doubt.

MARY HALL BARRETT ADAMS

1816-1860 | Malden, MA

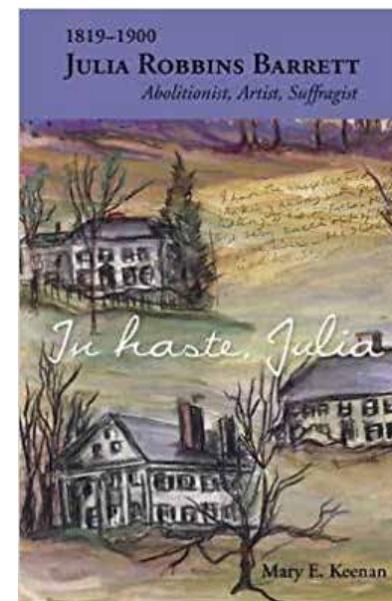
A book editor, Mary Hall Barrett Adams worked with prominent Universalist authors to produce the *Sabbath-School Annual* and *Small Means and Great Ends*, publications containing instructive readings for young people. Her work was informed by her belief in Christian Universalism, the lessons of which were instilled in her during her childhood in Malden. Married to the Rev. John Greenleaf Adams, D.D., her prodigious letters record both the joys of her daily life and deeply held religious beliefs. Frail throughout her lifetime, Adams died of pneumonia at the age of forty-eight and is buried at Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, MA.



JULIA ANN ROBBINS BARRETT

1819-1900 | Lexington, MA

Born in 1819 into an affluent, patriotic family with deep roots in Lexington, Julia Ann Robbins Barrett was an independent-minded woman who dedicated her life to progressive social causes, including abolitionism and the suffrage movement. Actively involved in the campaign for women's rights, she was the second woman, following Louisa May Alcott, who registered to vote in Concord, MA, on the July 1878 school committee voter registration log. Upon her death in 1900, Barrett bequeathed a sum of \$2,000 "to be applied... to the advancement of the woman's cause in the Commonwealth..." supporting the cause in perpetuity.





RITA BRIGGS

1929-1994 | Ayer, MA

A catcher who played from 1947 through 1954 in the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League, Rita Briggs honed her skills at Ayer High School where she was the first and only female baseball player in the school's history. Described professionally as a consistent and durable player, Briggs played for seven teams while in the League and recorded an all-time mark for most games played by a catcher in a single season. She played in the 1952 All-Star Game. In 2009, Rita Briggs Field, a softball park in her hometown of Ayer was dedicated in her honor.



MARY DALY

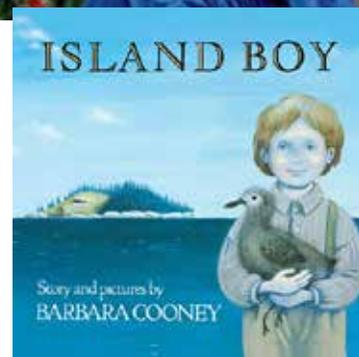
1928-2010 | Gardner, MA

An academic who taught for many years at the Jesuit-run Boston College, Mary Daly was a radical feminist philosopher and theologian. She published a number of books, including *Beyond God the Father*, a foundational book in feminist theology, and *The Church and the Second Sex*, arguing that religion and equality between women and men are not mutually exclusive. Creating her own theological anthropology based around the context of what it means to be a woman, Daly's work continues to influence feminism and feminist theology, as well as the concept of biophilia through which humans seek connections to nature and other forms of life.

BARBARA COONEY

1917-2000 | Pepperell, MA

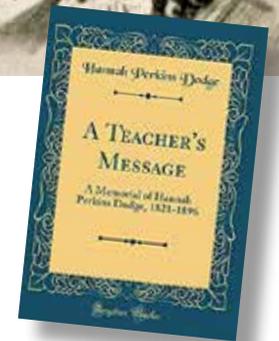
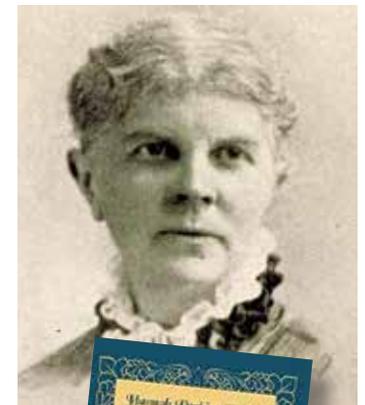
During a career that spanned sixty years, author and illustrator Barbara Cooney created more than one hundred and ten children's books. While many of her stories take place in New England, including the beloved classic *Miss Rumphius* (The Lupine Lady), she traveled widely researching and illustrating folktales from around the world. Fascinated by the struggles of individuals to make their way in life, Cooney's stories portray memorable characters within beautifully illustrated pages. For her work she was honored with many awards, including two Caldecott Medals, reminding us that we "must do something to make the world more beautiful."



HANNAH PERKINS DODGE

1821-1896 | Littleton, MA

A teacher, principal, and superintendent of schools, Hannah Perkins Dodge devoted her accomplished career to the field of education, particularly of young women. Born on a farm in Littleton, she began teaching in a neighboring town at the age of seventeen. To further her education, Dodge attended Lawrence Academy in Groton, MA, and the Townsend Female Seminary in Townsend, MA, where she taught upon graduation. Administrative positions as a principal in Worcester, MA, and the Codman Hill Young Ladies School in Dorchester, MA, followed. Upon retirement, Dodge returned home to Littleton where she devoted herself to philanthropic causes.





SARAH DOUBLET "WUNNUHHEW"

c.1650-1736 | Littleton, MA

Namesake of Littleton's Sarah Doublet Forest and Nature Preserve, Sarah Doublet was an Indian princess, the daughter of the Chief of the Wamesit Praying Village. She married John Tahattawan, future Chief of the Nashobah Tribe and lived in the Praying Indian Village of Nashobah Plantation, in what is now Littleton. The Nashobah Praying Indians were forced from their land during the English-Indian War of 1675-76 and were interred on Deer Island in Boston Harbor, where many died of exposure and starvation. Upon returning to Nashobah, Doublet became sole heir to what was left of the Village, living there until she was unable to do so. In 1735, she sold the land to Elnathan and Ephraim Jones of Acton and died a year later.



PATRICIA CUNNINGHAM FITZMAURICE

1933-2001 | Arlington, MA

Community leader and historic preservation advocate, Patricia Cunningham Fitzmaurice is credited with saving the historic Schwamb Mill, the oldest, continuously operating mill site in the US. When the mill closed in 1969, Fitzmaurice established the Schwamb Mill Preservation Trust, filed for recognition from the US Department of the Interior to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places and tirelessly advocated within the community to raise funds for the mill's preservation. Her vision realized, the mill continues to create made-to-order, hand-turned, wooden frames using the original 1860s belt-driven oval lathes in their original setting.



AMELIA EARHART

1897-1939 | Medford, MA

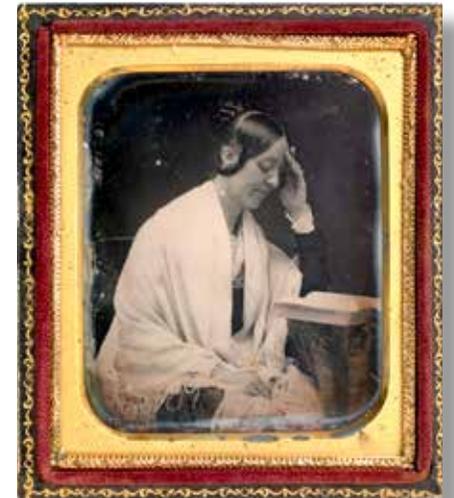
The first female aviator to fly solo across the Atlantic, Amelia Earhart was the author of best-selling books and instrumental in the formation of an organization for female pilots, The Ninety Nines. Early in her career, she worked in Boston as a teacher and social worker while living in Medford where a plaque dedicated to her memory reads, "Amelia Earhart: The Famed Flyer Lived Here From 1925 Until She Left To Make The First Transatlantic Flight By A Woman on July 17, 1928. Here She Wrote The Poem 'Courage.'" On July 2, 1937, Earhart disappeared on a round-the-world flight.



MARGARET FULLER

1810-1850 | Concord, MA

Associated with the transcendentalist movement centered in Concord, Margaret Fuller was a journalist, editor, critic, translator and women's rights advocate. She was the first editor of the transcendentalist journal, *The Dial* and the first female war correspondent. Reputed to be the best-read woman in New England, in 1845 Fuller wrote *Women in the Nineteenth Century*, which examined the place of women in society and is considered the earliest major feminist work in the country. Cited as a source of inspiration for women's rights advocates, Fuller championed education, prison reform, and the abolition of slavery.





SARAH BRADLEE FULTON

1740-1835 | Medford, MA

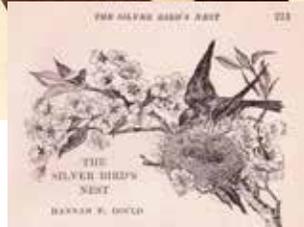
Considered the “Mother of the Boston Tea Party,” Sarah Bradlee Fulton is credited with the idea of disguising the patriots who dumped tea into Boston Harbor as Native Americans. A prominent member and leader of the Daughters of Liberty, she organized efforts to tend to the wounded soldiers at the Battle of Bunker Hill and delivered an urgent message behind enemy lines to General George Washington for Major John Brooks. In an altercation with British Soldiers over confiscated wood, Fulton bravely dared them to shoot her, so disarming her adversaries that they surrendered the wood without resistance.



HANNAH FLAGG GOULD

1789-1865 | Lancaster, MA

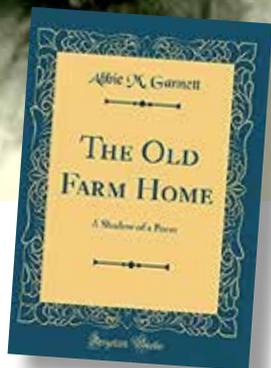
Born in Lancaster, Hannah Flagg Gould wrote eleven volumes of poetry and *Gathered Leaves*, a volume of short prose, during her career. Close to her father, she moved with him to Newburyport, MA, as a companion upon her mother’s death. His service in the Revolutionary War inspired several of her pieces, including “The Scar of Lexington,” “The Revolutionary Soldier’s Request,” and “The Veteran and the Child.” Gould’s poetry, written primarily for children, embraced both domestic themes and the natural world; she was one of two women of her time to publish a piece on geology.



ABBIE M. GANNETT

1845-1895 | Malden, MA

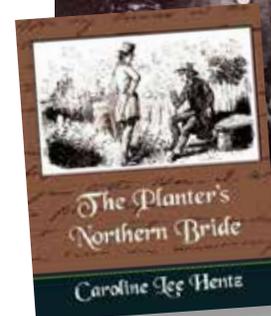
Author of essays, poems, sketches and stories, Abbie M. Gannett was widely read and published, her work appearing in popular magazines and periodicals. Deeply concerned about the welfare and higher education of women, she wrote a paper titled *The Intellectuality of Women* for the *International Review*. Gannett advocated and raised financial support for Anna Ella Carroll, a political writer and aide to Presidents Lincoln and Grant during the Civil War and Reconstruction. Her philanthropic activities were enhanced by a love of country and duty to local service as a member of the City of Malden’s School Committee.



CAROLINE LEE WHITING HENTZ

1800-1856 | Lancaster, MA

A 19th-century novelist and major literary figure, Caroline Lee Whiting Hentz, was one of the most popular women writers in antebellum America. Born into a patriotic family and raised in Lancaster, Hentz lived and worked for many years in the South and lived for fourteen years in Alabama. While she advanced domestic fiction with strong female characters that are both assertive and independent, Hentz is most remembered for her staunch opposition to abolition. Her best-known novel, *The Planter’s Northern Bride*, was written in response to Harriet Beecher Stowe’s popular anti-slavery novel, *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*.





MARY E. HEWITT

1818-1894 | Malden, MA

A poet and editor, Mary E. Hewitt published verse in various periodicals including *The Knickerbocker* and the *Southern Literary Messenger*. She edited the 1850 gift book, *The Gem of the Western World*, a memorial to poet Frances S. Osgood and *Heroines of History*, a compilation of the lives of illustrious women as depicted through "truthful and soul stirring incidents." Described by Edgar Allan Poe as "sincere, fervent, benevolent, with a heart full of the truest charity," Hewitt was born in Malden and spent much of her life in New York City, where her portrait adorns its historical society.



LOUISE FREELAND JENKINS

1888-1970 | Fitchburg, MA

An American astronomer, Louise Freeland Jenkins compiled a valuable catalogue of stars within ten parsecs of the sun and was noted for researching the trigonometric parallax of nearby stars and the study of variable stars. She edited the third edition of the Yale Bright Star Catalogue, was a staff member of the Yale University Observatory and was the co-editor of *The Astronomical Journal*. A graduate of Mount Holyoke College, Jenkins taught there upon graduation. She served as a missionary in Japan, a country to which she would return multiple times.



FLORENCE HOSMER

1880-1978 | Sudbury, MA

A well-known artist, Florence Hosmer attended the Massachusetts College of Art, later serving on its faculty. Active in artistic circles, she operated a studio and tearoom on prestigious Newbury Street in Boston and spent summers at artist colonies in Peterborough, NH, Ogunquit, ME, and Cape Cod. Her paintings were displayed by the Copley Society and The International Institute of Boston, and are owned by the Essex Institute, Dartmouth College, the Danforth Museum and many private collections. Hosmer supported herself fully through her work. In 1959, she deeded her family home, the Hosmer House, its contents and 450 paintings to the Town of Sudbury as a permanent memorial to her family.

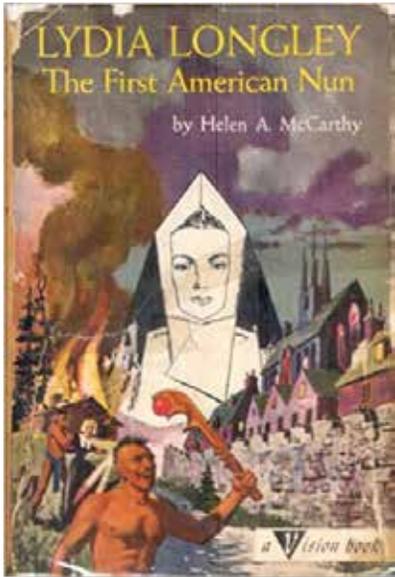


ELIZABETH "TWIG" ORTON JONES

1910-2005 | Mason, NH

A Caldecott award-winning illustrator and author of children's books, Elizabeth Orton Jones found inspiration in the rural community of Mason where her home served as the setting of one of her most beloved books, *Little Red Riding Hood*. Before settling in Mason, Jones traveled widely and attended prestigious art institutions at Fontainebleau and in Paris and Chicago. Arriving in Mason in 1945, Jones became a beloved member of the community, known by her nickname "Twig." She worked to safeguard Mason's history and culture, supporting the historical society and Andy's Summer Playhouse, a local children's theater.





LYDIA LONGLEY

1674-1758 | Groton, MA

Taken captive by the Abenaki from her home in Groton during the American-Indian Wars, Lydia Longley was enslaved and later bartered to the Pennacook Tribe. With them she traveled to their winter home, Ville-Marie (Montreal, Canada). Ransomed by the wealthy Frenchman, Jacques Le Ber, Longley converted to Catholicism, abandoning her Puritan background. She became a nun, entering the Congrégation of Notre Dame, where she lived for the rest of her life, rising to the rank of Sister Superior. Despite being described as the "The First American Nun," Longley never returned to her home in America.



SARAH CARTER EDGARTON MAYO

1819-1848 | Shirley, MA

An author and editor, Sarah Carter Edgerton Mayo was one of fifteen children born into an affluent family. In girlhood, she excelled at academics, spending a period of time at Westford Academy. Her interests included geography, the natural sciences, botany and poetry. At seventeen, she joined the Universalist Church and contributed financially to her family by publishing pieces in the Universalist periodical *Ladies' Repository*, and the *Rose of Sharon*, an annual compilation of writings by Universalists. She became an editor of both while also publishing poems, letters, and two didactic novels with themes relating to nature, love and religion.

MARGARET LOTHROP

1884-1970 | Concord, MA

Born to Daniel and Harriett Lothrop of Concord, Margaret was the only child of parents deeply engaged with literature and interested in history and historic preservation. Her mother authored books, including the *Five Little Peppers* children's series, under the pseudonym Margaret Sidney and her father was the founder of D. Lothrop Publishing Co. She grew up in the Wayside, home to many famous authors. Following a career working in social services and time spent volunteering, Margaret returned to Concord, dedicating herself to the Wayside's preservation. She sold the house to Minute Man National Historical Park in 1965.



JULIA SARFIELD O'CONNOR

1890-1972 | Woburn, MA

A labor leader and organizer, Julia Sarsfield O'Connor began her career as a telephone operator, rising to become the head of the National Telephone Operators' Department of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW). She served on the Ryan Commission established during WWI to oversee the nation's telegraph and telephone industries, resigning after only a few months to support the rights of telephone workers. Following strikes in 1919 and 1923 and the introduction of the dial phone, the Telephone Operators' Union was disbanded in 1938. O'Connor continued to work as a labor organizer until her retirement, including with the American Federation of Labor.

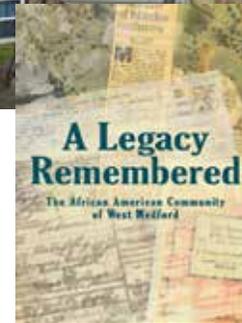




ABBY HUTCHINSON PATTON

1829-1892 | Milford, NH

A member of the Hutchinson Family Singers, Abby Hutchinson Patton dedicated her musical talents to social causes. Born the fourth daughter, and the youngest in a family of sixteen siblings (only thirteen would survive into adulthood), Patton grew up in a musical family, making her first appearance on stage at age ten. An ardent abolitionist and suffragist, she traveled the world with her brothers advocating for freedom, human rights and temperance through song. The most popular performers of their day, The Hutchinson Family Singers originated a unique American musical tradition that later informed the development of folk music. A poet and journalist, Patton published a compilation of her work entitled "A Handful of Pebbles" in 1891 and frequently contributed to American newspapers.



MIRIAM FAULCON PHILLIPS

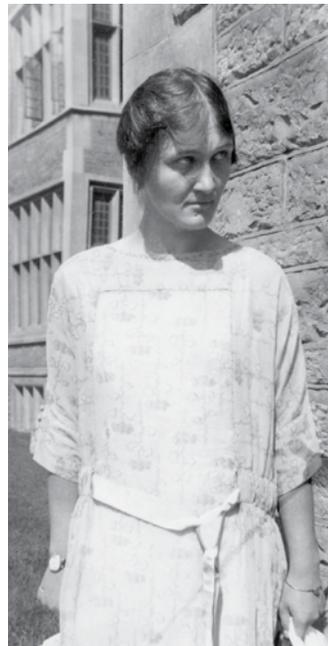
1918-2009 | Medford, MA

A writer, activist, social worker and organizer, Miriam Faulcon Phillips was active in the civil rights movement and a friend of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. She co-founded the Medford branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), was active in the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) and served as a commissioner of the Medford Housing Authority. Married to Rev. Oscar G. Phillips, the longest-serving pastor of the Shiloh Baptist Church in West Medford, Phillips assisted in integrating the American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts and Church Women United. Fond of literature and creative writing, she earned a Master of Arts in English Composition from UMass Boston, writing a memoir, *Gentle Wisdom from the Fishbowl*.

CECILIA PAYNE-GAPOSCHKIN

1900-1979 | Lexington, MA

A British-born American astronomer and astrophysicist, Cecilia Payne-Gaposchkin discovered that stars are composed mainly of hydrogen, oxygen and helium and can be classified according to their temperatures. Educated at the University of Cambridge and seeking enhanced opportunities for women scientists, she accepted a fellowship to the Harvard College Observatory in Cambridge, MA, to study with preeminent astronomers, including Edward Pickering. As Harvard did not confer doctoral degrees to women, Gaposchkin received the first PhD in astronomy from Radcliffe College. Her thesis was later considered "the most brilliant PhD thesis ever written in astronomy" by astronomers Otto Struve and Velta Zeberg.



MARJORIE PIERCE

1900-1999 | Malden, MA

During her seventy-year architectural career, Marjorie Pierce designed hundreds of residences and commercial buildings, mainly in Massachusetts. A dual graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, she supported the school's architectural programs, served as president of its Women's Association, and endowed the Ellen Swallow Richards Professorship and the William Emerson Fellowship for graduate students. Pierce donated her professional archive of more than eighty rolls of architectural drawings to the MIT Museum. When she died in 1999, she was MIT's oldest living alumna and the Marjorie Pierce House, a student residence, is named in her honor.





SARAH ALDEN BRADFORD RIPLEY

1793-1867 | Concord, MA

Described by the Father of American Botany, Asa Gray, as the best botanist in the surrounding country, Sarah Alden Bradford Ripley was a self-educated classical scholar versed in languages and the sciences. Reputedly “one of the most learned women of the nineteenth century,” she raised seven children while running a boarding school with her Unitarian minister husband to prepare boys for Harvard College. A contemporary of Emerson, Hawthorne and the Alcotts, Ripley and her husband retired to “The Old Manse,” his family home in Concord, MA, where she lived for just over twenty years. She is buried in the Emerson family plot in Sleepy Hollow Cemetery.



ELSIE LOUISE SHAW

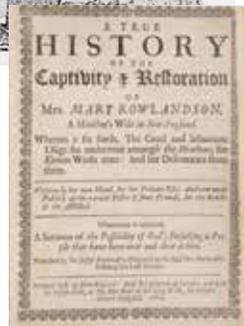
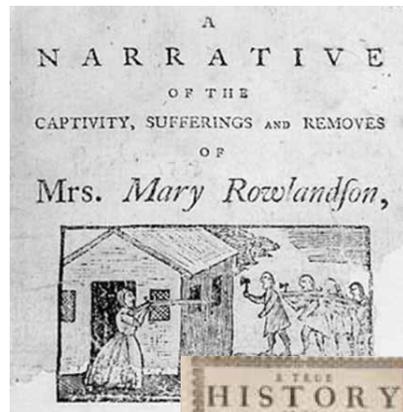
1862-1940 | Lexington, MA

A naturalist and botanical illustrator, Elsie Louise Shaw collected eastern North American wildflower specimens for Harvard University’s Gray Herbarium, the University of Maine and the New England Botanical Club, often painting watercolors of the them while in the field. Shaw provided 48 full-page color plates for the first field guide to North American wildflowers, *How to Know the Wild Flowers* (1893) and 32 full-color plates for *According to Season* (1902), both written by Frances Theodora Parsons. Following her death, Shaw’s family donated eight folios of her paintings, dating from 1887–1934 to the Gray Herbarium.

MARY ROWLANDSON

c. 1637-1711 | Lancaster, MA

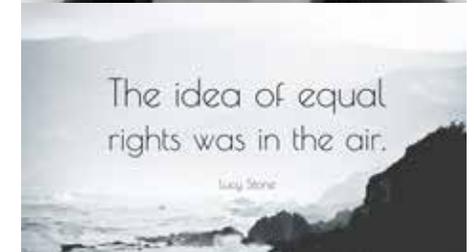
In 1676, during King Philip’s War, Mary Rowlandson and her three children were captured by Native Americans. Held for eleven weeks, she was ransomed at Redemption Rock in Princeton, MA using funds raised by the women of Boston in a public subscription. Six years following her captivity, Rowlandson wrote and published, *A True History of the Captivity and Restoration of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson, A Minister’s Wife in New England*. Popular in both the New England Colonies and England, the book is considered a seminal work in the literary genre of captivity narratives and one of the earliest American “best sellers.”

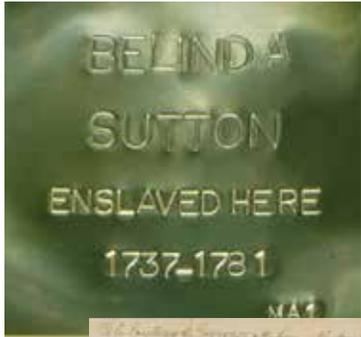


LUCY STONE

1818-1893 | Gardner, MA

A prominent suffragist and abolitionist, Lucy Stone dedicated herself to fighting inequality. From earliest childhood, she was fiercely independent and committed to obtaining an education, despite being a girl. She was the first woman from Massachusetts to earn a college degree. A lecturer for the American Anti-Slavery Society, Stone served on the executive committee of the American Equal Rights Association and helped form the American Woman Suffrage Association. Her first public speech on women’s rights took place in 1847 at the former Evangelical Congregational Church in Gardner, where her brother was the pastor.





BELINDA SUTTON

c. 1713 | Medford, MA

Born in Ghana, West Africa around 1713, Belinda Sutton was enslaved by the Royall Family in Medford. When the Royall's fled to Nova Scotia at the beginning of the American Revolution, she was abandoned and left to fend for herself. The sixty-three-year-old Sutton asserted that she had the right to compensation for her years of service to the Royall Family and successfully petitioned the Massachusetts General Court for proceeds from their estate. Her award of an annual pension of fifteen pounds and twelve shillings is one of the earliest cases of reparations for slavery and the slave trade.



LUCY GOODALE THURSTON

1795-1876 | Hudson, MA

At twenty-four years of age, Lucy Goodale Thurston and her husband, Asa, set sail for Hawaii, where she became the first American Christian missionary wife on the islands. She resided in Hawaii for most of her life. Born at the Goodale Homestead in Marlborough (now Hudson), she was educated at Bradford Academy, later becoming a teacher. As a missionary wife, Thurston recorded and transcribed the Hawaiian language, taught reading, helped establish a printing press and built churches and houses, while managing household chores and family. Thurston's letters and writings, published in 1876 as the *Life and Times of Mrs. Lucy G. Thurston*, provide a vivid account of early missionary days.



ALICE CRANE HASKINS SWINGLE

1880-1971 | Acton, MA

An American government botanist, Alice Crane Haskins Swingle was educated at Smith College, whose campus was designed as a botanic garden integral to the education of its students. Upon her graduation, she worked as a research assistant in the Plant Pathology Laboratory of the US Department of Agriculture. Here, with a cohort of female researchers, Swingle was tasked with finding solutions to agricultural problems including crown galls, citrus cankers, and corn and chestnut blight. In 1928, she partnered with her husband, botanist Deane Bret Swingle, to co-author *A Textbook of Systematic Botany*.



MARY SAWYER TYLER

1806-1889 | Sterling, MA

The well-known nursery rhyme, *Mary Had a Little Lamb*, purportedly tells the story of a real lamb and its owner, Mary Sawyer, who as a young girl was followed by her pet to the Redstone School in Sterling. While questions remain about the veracity of Mary Sawyer Tyler's claim, what is definitively true is that as an adult she was one of the founding preservationists who saved Boston's Old South Meeting House from demolition. Tyler did so by donating wool from her stockings and attaching it to cards claiming, "Knitted wool from the first fleece of Mary's Little Lamb."





VIVIAN WALWORTH

1922-2016 | Concord, MA

A close colleague of Polaroid founder, Edwin Land, Vivian Walworth worked on 3D imaging for aerial reconnaissance during World War II. Following her retirement in 1985, she was a consultant at The Rowland Institute for Science, and in 2009 co-founded StereoJet, Inc., providing innovative technology to produce high-quality 3D images. More than fifteen patents are held in her name. In 2015, Walworth was instrumental in having the laboratory where Land invented instant photography designated a National Historic Chemical Landmark. Active in local community activities in the town of Concord, Walworth was involved in early recycling efforts.

PRUDENCE CUMMINGS WRIGHT

1740-1823 | Pepperell, MA

A patriot, soldier and hero during the American Revolution, Prudence Cummings Wright organized a militia of local women. Dubbed the "Prudence Wright Guard," they dressed as men and brandishing muskets and pitchforks, successfully apprehended and captured several loyalist spies at Jewett's Bridge over the Nashua River in Pepperell, intercepting vital dispatches regarding troop movements. The "Minutewomen" were compensated for their heroism at a town meeting on March 19, 1777. Wright continued to support the patriot cause while raising eleven children. Her epitaph reads: "In Memory of the Captain of the Bridge Guard April 1775"



Acknowledgements

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TIMELINE

1675-1676 King Philip's War (Metacom's War), part of the American-Indian Wars

1682 Mary Rowlandson writes and publishes *A True History of the Captivity and Restoration of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson, A Minister's Wife* in New England, considered a seminal work in the literary genre of captivity narratives and one of the earliest American "best sellers."

1694 Lydia Longley is abducted by Abenaki Indians and later taken to Montreal, Canada where she is ransomed and converts to Catholicism becoming the "First American Nun."

1756 Lydia Taft of Uxbridge, MA votes as her recently deceased husband's proxy at a town meeting regarding the town's involvement in the French and Indian War. She is the first white woman to vote in what was to become the United States.

1765-1783 American Revolution

1773 Sarah Bradlee Fulton assists patriots dumping tea into Boston Harbor, earning her the moniker "Mother of the Boston Tea Party."

1775 Prudence Cummings Wright and her militia of local women successfully guard Jewett's Bridge in Pepperell, MA from loyalist spies.

1783 Belinda Sutton successfully petitions the Massachusetts General Court for proceeds from the Royall Family estate following years of enslavement, one of the earliest cases of reparations being paid for slavery and the slave trade.

1787 The United States Constitutional Convention is held at what is now Independence Hall in Philadelphia, PA. Here it is decided that states have the right to determine qualifications required to vote.

1813 Sarah "Tabitha" Babbitt is credited with inventing the first circular saw, the spinning wheel head, and false teeth.

1820 Lucy Goodale Thurston becomes the first American Christian missionary wife on the Hawaiian Islands.

1824 Lydia Maria Child publishes her first novel, *Hobomok: A Tale of Early Times*, considered the first New England historical novel.

1826 Lydia Maria Child founds *The Juvenile Miscellany*, the first children's magazine in the US.

1833 Lydia Maria Child publishes, *An Appeal in Favor of that Class of Americans Called Africans*, the first scholarly American overview of the history of slavery and the first major study of that institution in the US.

1835 Ellen Garrison, age 12, desegregates the Concord Bicentennial Parade.

Lydia Maria Child publishes *The History of the Condition of Women, in Various Ages and Nations*, detailing the status of women from biblical times to the mid-19th century.

1836 Led by women, one of the earliest textile mill strikes in American history erupts in Lowell, MA. At just 11 years old, Harriet Hanson Robinson, leads workers from the mill. She and her mother are terminated from their jobs as a consequence of her involvement.

1840 Margaret Fuller becomes the first editor of the transcendentalist journal *The Dial*, making her the first woman in America to edit an intellectual publication.

1845 Abby Hutchinson Patton and the Hutchinson Family Singers host their first public concert at Niblo's Garden in New York City, featuring an antislavery song "Get Off The Track." The performance stirs controversy and evens draws death threats.

Margaret Fuller writes *Women in the Nineteenth Century*, considered the earliest major feminist work in the US.

1847 Lucy Stone delivers her first public speech on women's rights in Gardner, MA.

Hannah Flagg Gould writes "The Mastodon," becoming one of two women of her time to publish poems about geology.

Lucy Stone graduates from Oberlin College, becoming the first woman from Massachusetts to earn a college degree.

1848 **The first Women's Rights Convention in the US is held in Seneca Falls, NY.**

Margaret Fuller becomes the first female war correspondent.

1850 **The first National Women's Rights Convention is held in Worcester, MA.**

1854 Caroline Lee Whiting Hentz publishes *The Planter's Northern Bride* in response to Harriet Beecher Stowe's *Uncle Tom's Cabin*.

1857 **The US Supreme Court rules in *Dred Scott v. Sanford* that the US Constitution is not meant to include Black people, which is later overturned by the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Amendments.**

1859 Harriet E. Wilson publishes *Our Nig; or Sketches From the Life of A Free Black*, the first novel written by a Black woman in America.

1861-1865 American Civil War

1861 Elvira "Ella" Gibson becomes the first female chaplain to serve in the US military.

1866 **The Civil Rights Act of 1866 is passed, but not ratified until 1870, becoming the nation's first federal law to define citizenship and affirm that all citizens are equally protected by the law.**

Ellen Garrison and a friend are forcibly ejected from their seats in a segregated Baltimore train station.

1868 **The Fourteenth Amendment becomes law, defining a citizen as "all persons born or naturalized in the United States."**
The New England Woman Suffrage Association is founded.

1869 Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony and others establish the National Woman Suffrage Association (NWSA).

Lucy Stone co-founds the American Woman Suffrage Association (AWSA) made up mostly of women from the New England Woman Suffrage Association.

Louisa May Alcott publishes *Little Women*.

1870 Julia Ward Howe, Lucy Stone, Henry Browne Blackwell and others co-found the Massachusetts Woman Suffrage Association. The Fifteenth Amendment becomes law, prohibiting exclusion from voting "on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude." This prompts many former Confederate states to pass Jim Crow laws.

Ellen Swallow Richards graduates from Vassar College, becoming the first American woman to earn a degree in chemistry.

Ellen Swallow Richards becomes the first woman admitted to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), thereby becoming the first woman in America accepted into any school of science and technology.

1872 Victoria Woodhull runs for the US Presidency, becoming the first woman to do so.

Clara Hosmer Hapgood Nash is admitted to the bar of the Supreme Judicial Court of Maine, making her the first woman admitted to the bar in New England and one of the earliest female lawyers in the US.

1876 *The Life and Times of Mrs. Lucy G. Thurston*, is published, providing a vivid account of early missionary days.

Mary Sawyer Tyler works to save Boston's Old South Meeting House from demolition.

1879 Louisa May Alcott and Julia Ann Robbins Barrett are the first two women to register to vote in Concord, MA following the Commonwealth passing a law granting women the right to vote in town elections on issues involving education and children.

1881 Harriett Mulford Stone Lothrop's "Five Little Peppers" and "How They Grew" stories are serialized in the magazine *Wide Awake*.

Lelia Josephine Robinson Sawtelle graduates *cum laude* from Boston University School of Law, becoming the school's first woman graduate.

1882 Lelia Josephine Robinson Sawtelle successfully lobbies the Massachusetts legislature to pass a bill, reversing an earlier ruling from the Supreme Court of Massachusetts, allowing women admission to the Massachusetts Bar. She thereby becomes the first woman admitted to the bar in Massachusetts.

1883 Clara Hosmer Hapgood Nash becomes the first librarian of the Citizens' Library in West Acton. E. Florence Barker co-founds the Woman's Relief Corps (WRC) and is elected its first president. Harriett Mulford Stone Lothrop and her husband purchase Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Wayside* to preserve it as a "Home of Authors."

1886 Ellen Swallow Richards publishes *Food Materials and Their Adulterations*, leading to the passing of the first Pure Food and Drug Act in Massachusetts.

1887 Ellen Swallow Richards conducts a comprehensive survey in Massachusetts, leading to the first state water-quality standards in the nation and first modern municipal sewage treatment plant.

1890 **The National Woman Suffrage Association and the American Woman Suffrage Association merge to form the National American Woman Suffrage Association.**

Wyoming becomes the first state to guarantee women's right to vote.

Ellen Swallow Richards opens the New England Kitchen of Boston, leading to the development of school lunch programs.

1891 Anna Christy Fall becomes the first woman lawyer in Massachusetts to argue a case before a jury, and to plead a case before the Supreme Court.

1893 Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton memorialize Abby Hutchinson Patton at the National American Woman Suffrage Association's Annual Convention.
Frances Theodora Parsons publishes the first field guide to North American wildflowers, *How to Know the Wild Flowers*, with illustrations by Elsie Louise Shaw.

1895 **The First National Conference of the Colored Women of America convenes in Boston, MA. From this meeting comes the National Federation of Afro-American Women, the forerunner of the National Association of Colored Women.**

Harriett Mulford Stone Lothrop founds the National Society of Children of the American Revolution.

1896 Fannie Farmer publishes *The Boston Cooking-School Cookbook*, the first cookbook to use standardized measurements in recipes.

1897 Architect Josephine Wright Chapman receives her first commission, to design the Craigie Arms dormitory at Harvard University.

1898 Anna Christy Fall publishes *The Tragedy of a Widow's Third*.

Harriet Hanson Robinson publishes *Loom and Spindle: or Life Among the Early Mill Girls*.

1901 Josephine Wright Chapman is the only woman to enter a competition at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, NY. Her design of the New England Building wins.

Judith Motley Low founds the Lowthorpe School of Landscape Architecture, the first school intended to prepare women as professionals in a field dominated by men.

1902 Harriett Mulford Stone Lothrop saves Louisa May Alcott's Orchard House from demolition.

Fannie Farmer opens Miss Farmer's School of Cookery.

1905 Nettie Maria Stevens discovers that sex is determined by a distinct arrangement of chromosomes, known as the X and Y, becoming one of the first American women to be recognized for contributions to science.

1908 The American Home Economics Association is formed, with Ellen Swallow Richards as its first president.

1909 The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is formed by white and black members, an important voice for suffrage of both women and black men.

Clara Hosmer Hapgood Nash publishes a book of poetry titled, *Verses*.

1910 Cornell University grants the first degree in architecture to be earned by a woman in America.

1912 Henrietta Swan Leavitt discovers Leavitt's Law, documenting the ability to accurately calculate distances from Earth.

1913 The first national women's suffrage parade is held in Washington, DC, featuring *Allegory*, a pageant written by Hazel MacKaye.

Henrietta Swan Leavitt develops the Harvard Standard for photographic measurements.

1914 Clara Endicott Sears establishes the Fruitlands Museum at her summer estate in Harvard, MA.

1915 Labor activist Julia Sarsfield O'Connor is elected president of the Boston Women's Trade Union League.

1916 Margaret Harwood becomes the first woman to serve as director of an independent astronomical observatory.

1917-1918 United States' Involvement in World War I

1917 Elizabeth Wentworth Roberts founds the Concord Center for the Visual Arts, now the Concord Art Association.

1918 Congresswoman Jeanette Rankin of Montana introduces the 19th Amendment in the US House of Representatives.

1919 The 19th Amendment legislation passes both the US House of Representatives and the US Senate, the race to ratification begins.

Massachusetts becomes the 8th state to ratify the 19th Amendment, on June 25th.

New Hampshire becomes the 17th state to ratify the 19th Amendment, on September 10.

1920 Tennessee becomes the 36th state to ratify the 19th Amendment, all but guaranteeing women's right to vote.

1921 Helen Osborne Storrow receives the Silver Fish Award for her dedication to Girl Scouting, one of only three American women to ever receive the award.

1923 Hazel MacKaye directs the 75th Anniversary Celebration of the Seneca Falls Convention at the White House.

Margaret Harwood becomes the first woman to access the Mount Wilson Observatory, the world's largest at the time.

1925 Edith Nourse Rogers becomes the first woman from New England to be elected to the US Congress.

Cecilia Payne-Gaposchkin discovers that stars are composed mainly of hydrogen, oxygen and helium and can be classified according to their temperature.

1928 Alice Crane Haskins Swingle and her husband publish *A Textbook of Systematic Botany*.

- 1929** Cecilia Payne-Gaposchkin receives the first PhD in astronomy from Radcliffe College.
Eleanor Norcross's dream of creating a cultural center in Fitchburg is realized with the establishment of the Fitchburg Art Center, now the Fitchburg Art Museum.
- 1931** Edith Nourse Rogers helps Camp Devens become Fort Devens.
- 1932** Amelia Earhart becomes the first female aviator to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean.
Louise Mae Stokes Fraser becomes one of the first two Black women to qualify for an Olympic team.
- 1936** Alice Standish Allen becomes the first female engineering geologist in North America.
- 1938** Helen Osborne Storrow provides a parcel of land and financial support for Walter Gropius to build Gropius House, what is considered a masterpiece of modern architecture.

1941-1945 United States' Involvement in World War II

- 1941** Louise Mae Stokes Fraser founds the Colored Women's Bowling League.
- 1942** Edith Nourse Rogers's bill for a women's army corps is signed into law as "An Act to Establish the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC).
Alice Standish Allen becomes one of the first affiliated members of the USGS Military Geology Unit.
- 1943** The Women's Army Corps (WAC) is established, granting full military status to women. Edith Nourse Rogers is instrumental in making this happen.

- 1944** Dorothea Cross Leighton co-publishes, *The Navaho Door: An Introduction to Navaho Life*, establishing the field of medical anthropology.
- 1945** Rita Briggs becomes the first and only female baseball player in the history of Ayer High School.
- 1947** Barbara Washburn becomes the first woman to climb Denali, the highest mountain peak in North America, giving her the moniker, "Mother of Mount McKinley."
- 1948** Elizabeth Orton Jones's illustrations appear in the Little Golden Book version of *Little Red Riding Hood*.
- 1952** Harriet Louise Hardy creates the US Beryllium Case Registry after discovering that the element beryllium causes chronic respiratory disease.
- 1953** Carolyn Rice Brown is a founding member of the Merce Cunningham Dance Company.
- 1958** Harriet Louise Hardy becomes the first woman appointed Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School.
- 1959** Florence Hosmer deeds her family home, the Hosmer House, its contents and 450 paintings to the Town of Sudbury as a permanent memorial to her family.
- 1963** Madeleine Dugger Andrews becomes the first Black woman elected to a School Committee in Massachusetts.

1964 Passage of the Civil Rights Act

- 1965** Marion Stoddart's efforts result in the passage of the Massachusetts Clean Water Act, the first state-level anti-water-pollution bill enacted anywhere in the US.
Margaret Lothrop sells The Wayside to Minute Man National Historical Park, ensuring its preservation.
- 1969** Marion Stoddart founds the Nashua River Watershed Association, becoming its first president.
Patricia Cunningham Fitzmaurice founds the Schwamb Mill Preservation Trust, saving the oldest continuously operating mill site in the US from demolition.
- 1970** **The Equal Rights Amendment, drafted by Alice Paul in the 1920s, is passed by the US House of Representatives.**
Dorothea Cross Leighton serves as the first president of the Society for Medical Anthropology.
- 1972** **The Equal Rights Amendment is passed by the US Senate and sent to the states for ratification.**
- 1973** Mary Daly publishes *Beyond God the Father: Toward a Philosophy of Women's Liberation*, a foundational book in feminist theology.
- 1977** Miriam Faulcon Phillips co-founds the Medford branch of the NAACP.
- 1979** Doris Kearns Goodwin becomes the first female journalist to enter the Boston Red Sox locker room.
- 1980** Marie Oliver Jackson-Thompson becomes the first Black female judge appointed to a Massachusetts district court.
- 1982** Barbara Cooney publishes *Miss Rumphius*.

- 1983** Harriet Louise Hardy publishes her autobiography, *Challenging Man-Made Disease*.
- 1987** Marion Stoddart is honored with the United Nations Environmental Programme's Global 500 Award.
- 1994** Nettie Maria Stevens is inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame.
- 2001** Barbara Washburn publishes her memoir, *The Accidental Adventurer: Memoir of the First Woman to Climb Mount McKinley*.
Congress posthumously grants Elvira "Ella" Gibson the rank of captain in the US Army Chaplain Corps.
- 2003** The Harriet Wilson Project is established in Milford, NH to promote the State of New Hampshire's Black heritage.
- 2006** A sculpture of Harriet Wilson, the first commemorating a person of color in NH, is erected in Milford.
- 2007** Carolyn Rice Brown publishes her memoir, *Chance and Circumstance: Twenty Years with Cage and Cunningham*.
- 2015** Vivian Walworth is successful in having the laboratory where Edwin Land invented instant photography designated a National Historic Chemical Landmark.
- 2019** Spearheaded by the Nashua River Watershed Association, the Nashua River Wild & Scenic Rivers Act was signed into law, officially designating sections of the Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Rivers as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

FREEDOM'SWAY National Heritage Area

Freedom's Way National Heritage Area
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