

1: Literary Treasures: The American Antiquarian Society at | HuffPost

In the Spring of , AAS published The American Antiquarian Society, A Bicentennial History by Philip F. Gura. To supplement this publication, the Society digitized and made available in high-resolution the images and descriptions from the text.

But they are also an opportunity for reflection and reinvestment. This year, the American Antiquarian Society celebrates its bicentennial. For me our celebrations of this event renewed my own understanding of what the core mission of the organization is and its great importance to our sense of ourselves as Americans. As former president Bill Clinton attested in a short video tribute , from its very beginning the Society has been a very democratic institution. Isaiah Thomas , who was concerned that Americans were losing a sense of their heritage, founded us in . He gathered both diverse objects and people together to create the first national historical organization. He sought members from all professions and from throughout the states and territories that then comprised this country and encouraged them to send materials both historic and contemporary to the headquarters of the organization in Worcester, where they would be safe from the marauding British Navy. Thomas vision would prove to be amazingly enduring it still guides the Society today as our bicentennial celebrations attest. We began our celebrations with the creation of a new book. We commissioned Philip F. Gura to write *The American Antiquarian Society*, Gura traces the history of AAS by concentrating on the intellectual development of the institution as a cultural repository and center for scholarly study on American writing and publishing. The book also explores how AAS has played major roles in the rise of library professionalism and the growth of American bibliography and historical scholarship. We also created an online companion piece to this volume that appears on our website at www.aas.org. We also published a fully-illustrated page color catalog of *In Pursuit of a Vision*, and created a digital version of the exhibition which is available through our website. Photo by Abby Hutchinson To help those not familiar with the Society gain a greater understanding of our collections and programs, we produced a new orientation film. We now show this film before all our public events and have placed it online and made it accessible through our own website. Neil Gustafson as Isaiah Thomas shares some of the items that make up the collections of the American Antiquarian Society with fifth grade students at the Tatnuck Elementary school in Worcester. The book is at the heart of this theatrical presentation. He assumes it is the year and shares some of his collection of American imprints with students and then brainstorms founding the Society. Throughout we celebrated the bicentennial with a series of signature public programs featuring some of our most notable members and distinguished artists. Lecturers also spoke eloquently about why AAS matters as they discussed the essence and vitality of historic primary source texts and images and the need to preserve them for the future. Photo by Frank Armstrong For two hundred years AAS has been the library of record for the American people, holding both the greatest works of literature and the most trivial expressions of doggerel in perpetuity for all Americans to study and discuss. Celebrating our bicentennial gave me an opportunity to reexamine and reinvigorate this democratic mission. Photos, top to bottom: Photo by Abby Hutchinson Neil Gustafson as Isaiah Thomas shares some of the items that make up the collections of the American Antiquarian Society with fifth grade students at the Tatnuck Elementary school in Worcester. Photo by Frank Armstrong.

2: The American Antiquarian Society, A Bicentennial History | ILAB

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Gura to write *The American Antiquarian Society*, Gura traces the history of AAS by concentrating on the intellectual development of the institution as a cultural repository and center for scholarly study on American writing and publishing. The bicentennial history also explores how the Society played major roles in the rise of library professionalism and the growth of American bibliography. The library was at the forefront of designing reading rooms and housing collections that would prove influential to other libraries throughout the country. The Society was actively involved in many bibliographical projects including the multivolume works of Joseph Sabin *Bibliotheca Americana*: A signature outcome of this program was the publication of the five-volume *A History of the Book in America*. The book also describes the advent of the card catalog and of microprint technology that led AAS to become a pioneer in filming the earliest literature of the nation for distribution to colleges and universities through its partnership with Readex Microprint Corporation. Ted Shipton in and did much to expand and transform the scholarship of early American studies in the second half of the twentieth century. It continues to work with Readex and other commercial partners to digitize the collections and make them available to libraries and universities through subscription-based products. The American Antiquarian Society has played a vital role in historical scholarship for the last two hundred years. Over the course of its history many distinguished scholars and writers have visited and used the collections, including: Gura the author of *The American Antiquarian Society, A Bicentennial History* is the William S. He is the author of many books on a wide variety of subjects, including: *The Banjo in the Nineteenth Century* ; *C. The Rise of the American Novel*, which will be published in *The American Antiquarian Society*, She also selected and researched the images that appear in the page volume. The book is published by the Society and distributed by Oak Knoll Press. The AAS library today houses the largest and most accessible collection of books, pamphlets, broadsides, newspapers, periodicals, sheet music, and graphic arts material printed through in what is now the United States, as well as manuscripts and a substantial collection of secondary works, bibliographies, and other reference works related to all aspects of American history and culture before the twentieth century. The Society sponsors a broad range of programs-visiting research fellowships, research, education, publications, lectures, and concerts-for constituencies ranging from school children and their teachers through undergraduate and graduate students, postdoctoral scholars, creative and performing artists and writers, and the general public. It is closed on all legal holidays. The library is open to serious researchers, free of charge. Complimentary public tours are held Wednesdays at 3: The Society can be found on the worldwide web at www. The American Antiquarian Society is funded in part by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency that supports public programs in the arts, humanities, and sciences.

3: American Antiquarian Society - Wikipedia

The American Antiquarian Society, A Bicentennial History Philip F. Gura's brilliant new book traces the development of the American Antiquarian Society library and the role its librarians have played as collectors, scholars of American writing and publishing, and stewards of the nation's history.

4: The American Antiquarian Society: America's Library of Record for Years - Mass Humanities

The book is the bicentennial history of the American Antiquarian Society The library contains a very extensive collection on books and newspapers related to America's up to

5: Philip F. Gura - Wikipedia

THE AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY, 1812-2012 pdf

The American Antiquarian Society, A Bicentennial History by Philip F. Gura () [Philip F. Gura] on www.enganchecubano.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers.

6: American Antiquarian Society's Bicentennial Book - In The News

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