



▲ (Left) Hagley Museum and Library collections focus on the history of American enterprise. (Top) Photograph of students at Avery Normal Institute, a school for African American students founded in South Carolina immediately after the Civil War, from the Amistad Research Center's collections. (Bottom) Stereograph of William F. Cody riding a running horse, c.1887, from the Buffalo Bill Center of the West's archives. (Right) Works of pottery from the Arizona State Museum are among the thousands of items being digitized through an NEH grant.

The National Endowment for the Humanities: Preserving Our Nation's History

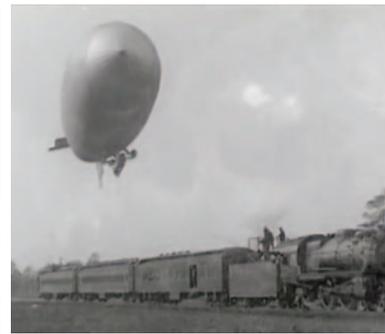
Museums, libraries, and archives in every state hold nationally-significant collections that document our country's history and culture. The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) offers critical support for these institutions so that their collections are preserved for the future and made accessible now.

In the United States,
31,000
collecting institutions
hold more than
13 billion
items documenting
our cultural and
ecological heritage.

The NEH helps organizations house their collections in stable, safe environments.

- Hagley Museum and Library expanded its world-class storage facilities, making it possible for the organization to continue housing records from the American Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers, and other American business entities.
- The Buffalo Bill Center of the West is upgrading the Cody Firearms Museum, which holds more than 27,000 items documenting the development of firearms since 1425.





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 (Left) The Buffalo Bill Center of the West's collections include rare images documenting indigenous cultures.
 (Middle) Helen Keller communicates by reading another woman's fingers.
 (Right) Fox Movietone newsreels from the Moving Image Research Collections document newsworthy events such as the first airmail (transported by blimp).

NEH support helps organizations document and describe their collections, ensuring that they are accessible to researchers.

- The Arizona State Museum is creating a database of its ethnographic and archaeological collections—more than 360,000 items documenting more than 13,000 years of cultural heritage in the Southwest.
- The Amistad Research Center assessed more than 90 hours of film recording Civil Rights Era Mississippi and organized records from the Federation of Southern Cooperatives and Emergency Land Fund that document the history of African American land ownership in the South.

NEH support for digitization ensures that archival holdings are readily available to the public.

- The University of South Carolina Moving Image Research Collections digitized more than 8,000 newsreel films recorded by the Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation. The films document American and world history between 1919 and 1944, including the bombing of Pearl Harbor, and are available online.
- The Philadelphia Area Consortium of Special Collections Libraries, comprised of more than 40 institutions, is digitizing letters, diaries, photographs, and other records documenting the fight for women's suffrage between 1820 and 1920.
- The American Foundation for the Blind created the online Helen Keller Archive, making more than 160,000 materials related to Keller's life available to the public. The groundbreaking project is accessible to blind, deaf, and deafblind audiences.

NEH funding helps preserve unique cultural heritage held by smaller institutions.

- The Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society purchased storage cabinets and shelving to safely house its collection of items related to the author's life, including personal correspondence and historic newspapers.
- The Fort Fairfield Public Library preserved more than 2,000 genealogical volumes that were gifted to the library by a Civil War veteran upon his death, making the library an emerging center for historical and genealogical research in northern Maine.

Between 2007 and 2019, the NEH awarded more than **1,224** Preservation Assistance Grants to institutions in every state and the District of Columbia, helping small and mid-sized institutions build their capacity to preserve our heritage.

