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Mass. Memories Road Show heads to Wayland, Allston-Brighton, the West End, and UMass Boston

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Mass. Memories Road Show heads to Wayland, Allston-Brighton, the West End, and UMass Boston

University Archives & Special Collections in the Joseph P. Healey Library at the University of Massachusetts Boston, in collaboration with communities throughout Massachusetts

Summary/Abstract

The Mass. Memories Road Show is an event-based public history project that digitizes personal photographs and stories shared by the people of Massachusetts. We work with local communities to organize free public events where everyone is invited to bring photographs to be scanned and included in the archives at UMass Boston. The goal of the Road Show is not only to document local history, but to build and strengthen connections within the communities of Massachusetts.



Approaches and Methods

Each Road Show is held in a public space and consists of “stations” devoted to specific functions. Contributors move from one station to another having their photographs digitized and their stories recorded. Contributors complete paperwork providing data on their photos and granting permission to include their photos in our collection, and are invited to share a brief story about their photographs on camera. Local historians and archivists are on site to provide advice on organizing, dating, and preserving their photographs.

Results/Impact

Following each Road Show, UMass Boston archivists process all digitized photographs and stories and work to ensure the permanent inclusion of the materials in University Archives & Special Collections. Archivists work with researchers to access and use photographs and stories from the collection. To date, the project has digitized more than 6,000 photographs and stories from nearly 2,000 contributors in 31 communities across the Commonwealth, creating a digital archive of primary sources related to Massachusetts history, culture, and community.



**UMass Boston 50th Anniversary
May 2 & 3, 2014**
University of Massachusetts Boston

Wayland, Mass. | March 8, 2014
Wayland Middle School
Wayland, Mass.



2014 Community Partners

Town of Wayland 375th Anniversary Committee, Brighton-Allston Historical Society and Heritage Museum, Veronica B. Smith Multi-Service Senior Center, Allston Village Main Streets, Brighton Main Streets, Boston Public Library (Faneuil Branch), Allston-Brighton Community Dev. Corp., the West End Museum, and UMass Boston.



West End (Boston) | Nov. 15, 2014
West End Museum
Boston, Mass.

Allston-Brighton (Boston) | Oct. 26, 2014
Veronica B. Smith Multi-Service Senior Center
Boston, Mass.



For More Information

The Mass. Memories Road Show is an initiative of the University Archives & Special Collections in the Joseph P. Healey Library at UMass Boston and is supported in part by the Patricia C. Flaherty '81 Endowment Fund.

To learn more about the Road Show, visit openarchives.umb.edu or email library.archives@umb.edu.