



AMERICAN
ANTIQUARIAN
SOCIETY

A national research library of American history and culture

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 4, 2022

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**AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY AWARDED MAJOR GRANT
\$300,000 from Save America's Treasures to help repair National Historic Landmark
Antiquarian Hall**

The American Antiquarian Society has been awarded a \$300,000 Save America's Treasures grant to repair and restore the marble, brickwork, and windows of Antiquarian Hall, the Society's principal building, which was named a National Historic Landmark in 1968.

Save America's Treasures, funded through the Historic Preservation Fund and administered by the National Park Service, provided \$356 million to more than 1,326 projects between 1999 and 2020. Requiring a dollar-for-dollar private match, these grants have leveraged more than \$500 million in private investment and contributed more than 16,000 jobs to local and state economies.

Opened in 1912, with additions over the decades, Antiquarian Hall houses the Society's irreplaceable collections of more than four million items that represent primary sources for all aspects of pre-twentieth-century American history and culture, including books, newspapers, periodicals, manuscripts, children's literature, music, and graphic arts material.

Most of the building's exterior walls—except those of the most recent addition, opened in 2019—have been degraded by time and the New England weather, with cracked bricks, crumbling mortar, and other types of wear typical for a building of this age. The Save America's Treasures grant will enable work to begin this fall; it is expected to take less than a year.

The American Antiquarian Society, founded in Worcester in 1812 by patriot and publisher Isaiah Thomas, cultivates understanding of the American past, grounded in its ever-growing collection of printed and manuscript sources. The Society fosters a broad community of inquiry through inclusive programming and generous support for scholarship. In 2013, the Society was the first independent research library to be awarded the National Humanities Medal and was cited for “safeguarding the American story.”

For more information about the project, contact Kristen Balash at AAS, kbalash@mwa.org.

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