

# GIBSON HOUSE MUSEUM

Historic ✧ Authentic ✧ Illuminating

## *Massachusetts History Day 2023* *Frontiers in History: People, Places, Ideas*

### **Resources for Research**

- Papers of Freeman Henry Allen (1870-1930)
  - *Themes:* Mental health, medicine
  - *Sample research question:* How has the treatment of mental health evolved over the course of the twentieth century?
- Papers of Charles Hammond Gibson, Jr. (1874-1954)
  - *Themes:* Family history, LGBTQ experience, historic preservation
  - *Sample research question:* How have definitions of sexuality expanded and/or contracted since Charlie Gibson's lifetime?
- Servants at the GHM (Materials include: census records, biographical sketches of individual immigrant women, objects related to technological change in the home)
  - *Themes:* immigration, technology
  - *Sample research question:* For immigrants to Boston in the nineteenth century, did their new home feel like a frontier?

### *About the Gibson House Museum*

The Gibson House is a historic house museum in the Back Bay neighborhood of Boston, which housed three generations of Gibson family members and their employees between 1859 and 1954. The Museum's four floors of period rooms serve as a time capsule of domestic life in the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Guided tours interpret class and culture through the stories of the people who lived and worked in the house.

In addition to the collections on view, the Gibson House Museum manages an archive and photograph collection. The archive consists of approximately 25 linear feet of original material related to the Gibson family, including daily journals, scrapbooks, correspondence, and both published and unpublished manuscripts. The Museum has a related collection of approximately 1,500 photographs from individual family photograph albums.

*The Gibson House Museum*  
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