

# GIBSON HOUSE MUSEUM

Historic ✨ Authentic ✨ Illuminating

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*Massachusetts History Day 2020*  
*Breaking Barriers*

## Resources for Research

- Papers of Freeman Henry Allen (1870–1930)
  - *Themes:* Mental health, substance abuse, courtship, travel abroad, medicine, family relationships
- Papers of Charles Hammond Gibson, Jr. (1874–1954)
  - *Themes:* Family history, family relationships, literary Boston, LGBT experience, travel abroad, preservation
- Material culture at the GHM (includes furniture, decorative arts, architecture, etc.)
  - *Themes:* history of technology, early global society, class, domestic life
- Servants at the GHM (Materials include: census records, some biographical sketches of servants, objects of kitchen and laundry work, call bells, etc.)
  - *Themes:* immigration, domestic life, work, class

### *About the Gibson House Museum*

The Gibson House is a historic house museum located in the Back Bay neighborhood of Boston. A National Historic Landmark, it served as residence to three generations of the Gibson family and their household staff between 1860 and 1954. The Museum's four floors of period rooms are a time capsule of domestic life in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. 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material related to Gibson family members, including daily journals, scrapbooks, correspondence, and both published and unpublished manuscripts.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.