American Broadsides and Ephemera
Series I, 1760-1900
An Archive of Americana® collection

Short-lived printed materials that provide fascinating insight into everyday American life
In cooperation with the American Antiquarian Society

- Offers perspectives not found in any other printed materials on the lives of ordinary Americans
- Illuminates in profound and unique ways a wide range of local and national issues and events
- Reveals the social, cultural and daily fabric of the American past
- Provides fully searchable, full-color facsimiles of approximately 15,000 broadsides and
  15,000 pieces of ephemera
- Fully catalogued by the American Antiquarian Society
- Cross-searchable with all other Archive of Americana® digital collections

“Broadsides and ephemera are visual, easy to get a quick sense of, and have an immediate impact
on students. As research interests move more towards interdisciplinary subjects, visual culture,
and popular culture, broadsides and ephemera will be increasingly important.”

—J. Andrew Armacost, Collection Development Librarian, Duke University

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announcements, promotional pieces, schedules, trade cards—anything that was printed to
generate immediate attention and then thrown away. . . . Extraordinary and wondrous phenomena
are described in local terms. Quick proverbs and proverbs with naive beliefs and superstitions. Slang
phrases and expressions spill out from hack writers whose output would never reach print
in a sophisticated setting. Dramatic illustrations and headlines vie for the attention of the
wondering multitude. . . . This kind of research was unthinkable only a few years ago.”

—Kate Van Winkle Keller, Scholar

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Broadside—a wealth of valuable information on local and national subjects

While books were written and read by professionals, merchants and others in the upper class, broadsides appealed to all, including the middling and lower classes. About broadsides, we now recognize, and some were distributed freely. The nearly 13,000 broadsides in this digital edition cover remarkably diverse subjects, ranging from contemporary accounts of the Civil War, exploration of the West, and discovery of gold in California. Trade cards—generally, printed notices of goods or services—provide insight into consumer culture and business practices, often with vignettes describing items, workers or establishments. Billheads, usually illustrated, not only offer information on tradesmen’s prices and locations but also document the goods and services consumers purchased. Theater and music programs chronicle popular genres and performers from across the century and abroad. In short, these wide-ranging primary sources offer invaluable perspectives not found elsewhere.

About the Archive of Americana®

The Archive of Americana® is a collection of authoritative, high-quality editions of materials printed in America between 1639 and 1950. It encompasses more than 13,000 broadsides and ephemera. The Archive of Americana® currently includes:

- American Broadsides and Ephemera, Series I: 1760-1900
- American Broadsides and Ephemera, Series II: 1900-1950
- American Broadsides and Ephemera, Series III: 1950-1957
- American Broadsides and Ephemera, Series IV: 1957-2006
- American Broadsides and Ephemera, Series V: 2007-present
- Early American Newspapers, Series I: 1690-1700
- Early American Newspapers, Series II: 1701-1720
- Early American Newspapers, Series III: 1721-1750
- Early American Newspapers, Series IV: 1751-1769
- Early American Newspapers, Series V: 1770-1780
- Early American Newspapers, Series VI: 1781-1796
- Early American Newspapers, Series VII: 1797-1800
- Early American Newspapers, Series VIII: 1801-1805
- Early American Newspapers, Series IX: 1806-1810
- Early American Newspapers, Series X: 1811-1815
- Early American Newspapers, Series XI: 1816-1820
- Early American Newspapers, Series XII: 1821-1825
- Early American Newspapers, Series XIII: 1826-1830
- Early American Newspapers, Series XIV: 1831-1835
- Early American Newspapers, Series XV: 1836-1840
- Early American Newspapers, Series XVI: 1841-1845
- Early American Newspapers, Series XVII: 1846-1850
- Early American Newspapers, Series XVIII: 1851-1855
- Early American Newspapers, Series XIX: 1856-1860
- Early American Newspapers, Series XX: 1861-1865
- Early American Newspapers, Series XXI: 1866-1870
- Early American Newspapers, Series XXII: 1871-1875
- Early American Newspapers, Series XXIII: 1876-1880
- Early American Newspapers, Series XXIV: 1881-1885
- Early American Newspapers, Series XXV: 1886-1890
- Early American Newspapers, Series XXVI: 1891-1895
- Early American Newspapers, Series XXVII: 1896-1900
- Early American Newspapers, Series XXVIII: 1901-1905
- Early American Newspapers, Series XXIX: 1906-1910
- Early American Newspapers, Series XXX: 1911-1915
- Early American Newspapers, Series XXXI: 1916-1920
- Early American Newspapers, Series XXXII: 1921-1925
- Early American Newspapers, Series XXXIII: 1926-1930
- Early American Newspapers, Series XXXIV: 1931-1935
- Early American Newspapers, Series XXXV: 1936-1940
- Early American Newspapers, Series XXXVI: 1941-1945
- Early American Newspapers, Series XXXVII: 1946-1950

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Many other fields.

arts and theater, cultural studies, the history of science and many others.

American Broadsides and Ephemera, Series I provides extensive access to nearly 30,000 fully searchable items. This unparalleled Web-based resource, *American Broadsides and Ephemera,* provides students and scholars with a unique way to explore and study American history. Offered in early access, the AMERICAN BROADSIDES AND EPHEMERA, SERIES I, 1760-1900 is ideal for student assignments and faculty research in diverse academic disciplines and subjects, including American History, American Studies, Art and Art History, English, Literature, History, Legal Studies, Linguistics, Media and Cultural Studies, Philosophy, Political Science and Society, Religious Studies, Pennsylvania State University

**Ephemera**—a unique look at 18th- and 19th-century American life

American Broadsides and Ephemera. Series II also includes nearly 17,000 pages of ephemera spanning a variety of genres. From inventories and tax rolls to clerical, political, and economic records, this collection includes nearly 15,000 pages of early American ephemera—encompassing all aspects of everyday life. Broadsides—a wealth of valuable information on local and national subjects

American Broadsides and Ephemera, Series III offers an outstanding inventory of rare books and scholarly articles. This unique resource greatly enhances undergraduate and graduate curricula... The unexpected discovery of gold in California. Trade cards—generally, printed notices of goods or services—provide insight into consumer culture and business practices, often with vignettes describing items, workers or establishments. Billheads, usually illustrated, not only offer information on traders’ prices and locations but also document the goods and services consumers purchased. Theater and music programs chronicle popular genres and performances from across the century and abroad. In short, these trade尴尬 varying primary sources often reveal fascinating facts about a subject.

Available through America’s Historical Newspapers, *American Broadsides and Ephemera, Series I, 1760-1900* is a family of authoritative Web-based collections of historical materials printed in America between 1639 and 1980. It features more than 1,000 e-resource titles, including monumental programs of American history and culture, as well as many facets of industry, including agriculture, trade and manufacturing.

—S. F. Haven, Librarian, American Antiquarian Society (circa 1872)

**Broadsides**—a wealth of valuable information on local and national subjects

While books were written and read largely by professionals, merchants and others in the upper class, broadsides appealed to all, including the middle and lower classes. About broadsides new recognitions, and some were distributed locally. The nearly 3,000 broadsides in this digital collection are remarkably diverse. Broadsides, ranging from contemporary accounts of Great American disasters to the often rare broadsides and ephemera in this digital edition.

Broadsides, calendars, charts, city directories, trade catalogs, print illustrations of many sorts, photographs and children’s literature...

—M. A. LaMagna, Cabrini College in *Choice* (September 2006)

“Full indexing allows creative searching and browsing and makes broadsides, calendars, charts, city directories, trade cards, and ephemera accessible in facsimile from a distance. I have found this wonderful resource immensely useful in my own work as a historian of American visual and material culture.”

—M. A. LaMagna, Cabrini College in *Choice* (September 2006)
American Broadsides and Ephemera, Series I, 1760-1900
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An unparalleled Web-based resource, American Broadsides and Ephemera, Series I, provides students and scholars with a unique opportunity to explore and understand America from the mid-18th century to the beginning of the 20th century. Based on the American Antiquarian Society’s landmark American Broadsides and Ephemera collections, this new digital edition offers easy access to nearly 30,000 fully searchable items.

American Broadsides and Ephemera, Series I is ideal for student assignments and faculty research in diverse academic disciplines and subjects, including history, literature, political science, business and economics, women’s studies, art and literature, cultural studies, and history of science and many others. Novice and advanced users can easily browse or search by subject, genre, and even by the name of the person.”

Broadside—a work of valuable information on local and national subjects
While books were written and read largely by professionals, merchants and others in the upper class, broadsides appealed to all, including the elderly and lower classes. About broadsides were inexpensive, and some were distributed free. The nearly 30,000 broadsides in this digital edition cover remarkably diverse subjects, ranging from contemporary accounts of the Civil War, discovery of gold in California, trade cards—generally, printed notices of goods or services—to illustrated stock certificates with manufacturers’ vignettes, these often rare broadsides and ephemera in this digital edition offer full-color, high-resolution facsimile images of approximately 15,000 broadsides between 1650 and 1850. Exquisitely printed and often of short-lived purposes and were subsequently destroyed. However, those that survive are the best evidence of interior conditions of society such as cannot be found in formal narratives.”

“Broadsides... imply a vast deal more than they literally express, and disclose visions and experiences that cannot be described in more conventional terms.”
—Samuel F. Haven, Librarian, American Antiquarian Society (circa 1872)

Ephemera—a unique look at 18th- and 19th-century American life
American Broadsides and Ephemera, Series I also includes nearly 13,000 ephemera spanning a variety of genres. From city directories, trade catalogs, and political parties and a wide variety of local and national organizations to illustrated playbills, sheet almanacs, publishers’ prospectuses, advertisements, newspaper carriers’ addresses and popular songs and poems. {

American Broadsides and Ephemera, Series I offers full-color, high-resolution facsimile images of approximately 13,000 ephemera between 1760 and 1850, representing the 1760-1850 period of ephemera printed between 1760 and 1850. Colored broadsides, newspapers and ephemera from this period of time which were highly visual, many of the other ephemera and other printed documents of a transitory nature that were graphically stunning and vividly illustrate aspects of society across the burgeoning nation. Significantly, many items are digitized in the context of broader primary sources of the time.

Other items describe controversies, reform movements, political parties and a wide variety of local and national organizations, sometimes with vignettes describing items, workers or establishments. Billheads, usually illustrated, not only offer useful insights into the daily life of the 18th and 19th centuries. ... Recommended.”
—M. A. LaMagna, Cabrini College in Choice (September 2006)
AMERICAN BROADSIDES AND EPHEMERA
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