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Hello Friends!



Danbury Museum garden, spring 2019

As we finish our second week of working from home we wanted to share some highlights of the week with you all and our friends who may not follow us on social media. Brigid, Patrick, and Michele have been phone conferencing daily and while we've yet to attempt a team ZOOM

(online video conferencing) meeting, that's definitely in the future. There are long text chains, numerous webinars (wherein we remind ourselves this will, in all likelihood, be more of a marathon than a sprint), and multiple shared folders we all work from in Google Drive. We love our work and we are grateful that we can still share so much of our community's past and present with you.

We miss all of you a great deal but we know you're home and self-isolating so we can all get through this--together--more quickly.

In the meantime, in these early days of the COVID-19 outbreak, we want YOU to share your thoughts, photos, poems, writings...anything you want us to keep for posterity so that Danburians of the future will understand what we did, how we persevered, and how we came together as a community. Please share this broadly with your friends and family! If you want to mail us something, please mail to *Danbury Museum, 43 Main Street, Danbury, CT 06810*. If you're more of an emailer, please email to b.guertin@danbury-ct.gov and we'll print out and keep what you've sent on.



Working from home means getting to share some more obscure photos from our collection!

Resources

Inspired by the Twitter hashtag #MuseumFromHome, we've added a new page to the museum's website. On this page you'll find new content weekly as we endeavor to you keep informed, engaged, and enriched. We've started off with a Danbury-themed word search for you to download and print at home, and the Tricentennial Committee's book on the Hat City's unusual place names. Our new page is [Museum From Home](#).

We'd like to know what you'd like to see. (Keeping in mind that we are not physically at the museum and some topics might take a little time to research.) Do you want Danbury stories? Danbury's #HiddenHistory? Walking tour ideas? Reach out to us—we'd like to keep our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter feeds lively and full of funny, odd, insightful images, stories, and artifacts.

And if you're not following us, well now is a PERFECT time to start. Click the buttons below and you'll be directed to our social media platforms. We've shared a few of our Twitter posts to entice you to join us on any of our social media platforms.



Danbury Museum
@DanburyMuseum



We can never say THANK YOU enough to our [#HealthcareHeroes](#). Ca 1890s nursing graduates [@DanburyHospital](#). [#MuseumFromHome](#) [#ThankYouCOVID19Heroes](#) [#DanburyCT](#)



08:36 · 3/24/20 · Twitter for iPhone



Danbury Museum
@DanburyMuseum

[#OpeningDayAtHome](#) 🇺🇸 A September 1933 Baisley photo of [@Danbury_PD](#) baseball team, complete with a dog. (We love the fingers and faces of the kids peeking in from behind the bleachers.)
[#MuseumFromHome](#) [#Baseball](#)

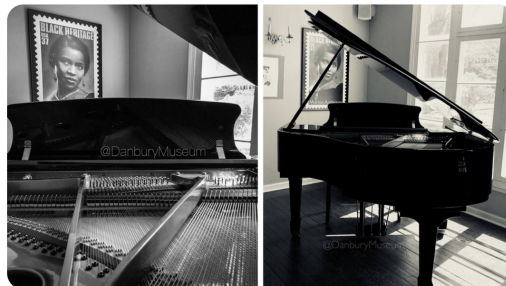


09:55 · 3/26/20 · Twitter for iPhone



Danbury Museum
@DanburyMuseum

A musical [#MuseumMomentofZen](#) from our [#MarianAnderson](#) studio. It's the most contemplative spot on our campus. [#hatcityhistory](#)



11:34 · 3/14/20 from Danbury Historical Society ·
Twitter for iPhone



Danbury Museum
@DanburyMuseum



We are so grateful to the incredible [#HealthcareHeroes](#) [@DanburyHospital](#) who are (and have been) working tirelessly and selflessly. (From this modest building to today's modern marvel!) [#ThankYouHealthWorkers](#)



08:10 · 3/18/20 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

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GENEALOGY RESEARCH

By Bob Young

This is the second in a series of articles on conducting genealogy research, with a focus on greater Danbury families. The Museum has a wealth of information on hundreds of topics which could provide you with useful data and information for your research. This article will cover sources for birth records and data.

At the Danbury Museum and Historical Society there are the following items available for your research.

1) *Danbury News-Times* on Microfilm – This collection spans the years of 1837 to 2014. There are a few gaps in the earliest years. Within this collection are the published births for the greater Danbury area. The data included ranges from sparse to clear identification. Births were not listed in the *News-Times* early on – only marriages and deaths. Museum staff will gladly assist you in locating the roll of film that you might need.

2) Early Danbury Newspapers – The museum also has, on microfilm, the following older newspapers:

- a. *The Farmer Journal* – 1790-1793
- b. *The New England Republican* – 1804-1805
- c. *The Republican Farmer* – 1810-1857

3) Barbour Collection of Vital Records (VRs) – Several volumes of this extensive database are available on microfilm. The local towns that are included are Danbury, Brookfield, New Fairfield, Newtown, New Milford, Redding, Ridgefield and Sherman. Most volumes include VRs to about 1850. The early VRs for Bethel are included in the Danbury volume.

4) Federal Census Records – Beginning with the 1850 Census, all persons living in a household are listed. Before this census only the Head of Household was listed. While all census records are available online at sites such as familysearch.org or ancestry.com, numerous rolls of microfilm from the earlier censuses are available at the Museum.

All local towns are included in the 1850 Census rolls. Census records after 1850 tend to concentrate on towns in Fairfield County. For Danbury, all census rolls are available with the exception of 1860. (Also note that the 1890 census records were destroyed by fire and no copies exist.)

From 1860 to 1900, most all towns are represented with the notable exception of New Milford (because it is in Litchfield County).

Danbury Census Records are included up to 1930. New Fairfield, Newtown, Sherman, Brookfield, and Bethel are included up to 1900. Ridgefield and Redding are included up to 1870.

5) Family Genealogy and data files – The museum has numerous family genealogies on the shelves. We also have 12 file drawers packed with data on Danbury families. Included in many of those files are newspaper articles, letters and correspondence as well as Family Group Sheets from prior research for many of the larger families.

As always, we have a number of additional resources to which we can direct you for your research. We also offer research done by our Research Specialist, Patrick Wells (p.wells@danbury-ct.gov), at a nominal fee.

Next week's article will deal primarily with marriages – the who, what, where, and when of research.



MAIN STREET, DANBURY, CONN.



The COVID-19 health crisis has had a strong impact on the Danbury Museum, not unlike other public service organizations. To help us continue doing the work we love--from home and from behind the scenes over the next few months--please consider making a donation. Your gift, regardless of size, is important to us as we regroup and continue to work toward eventually reopening to the public.

[Donate here.](#)

[Become a member here.](#)

We'll keep in touch, and we hope you will, too. Be well, take care of yourselves, and we'll look forward to meeting here again next week.



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