

THE CENTER FOR ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS  
IN THE CLASS OF 1945 LIBRARY



Northampton Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> March 29<sup>th</sup> 1781 Recorded Lib 4 Vol 176 Examined  
The 10<sup>th</sup> of April 1781 at 10 o'clock

I the said John Phillips, for myself, my heirs execu-  
tors & administrators, do hereby covenant grant and  
agree to & with the said Trustees & their successors, that I  
will warrant and defend the before printed promises  
to them forever, against the lawful claims and  
demands of any person or persons whomsoever, holding  
claim by or under me, Likewise, Elizabeth, my wife  
doth hereby freely & voluntarily relinquish all right of  
Dower and power of Thirds in the Premises.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our  
hands & seals the seventeenth day of May  
1781 Dominus me thousand seven hundred  
and eighty one.

Signed Sealed and Delivered  
in presence of

White  
Jacob Abbott  
John Phillips  
Elizabeth Phillips

Rockingham 7<sup>th</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> 1782  
John Phillips Esq. & Elizabeth his wife  
did this Instrument to be their free  
act and deed before me

Rockingham ss Received Phillips White J Secy  
& Recorded 11<sup>th</sup> March 1782  
Lib 113 Vol 499 Sam Brooks Adr

The contents in red ink are made by a copy  
attested by Joseph Weston Esq.

State of New Hampshire } In the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred & eighty one.



An Act to incorporate an  
Academy in the Town of Exeter,  
by the name of the  
Phillips Exeter Academy.

Whereas the Education of Youth has  
ever been considered by the wise and good, as an  
object of the highest consequence to the safety and  
happiness of a People; and at an early period in life  
the mind easily receives, and retains impressions;  
and is most susceptible of the rudiments of useful  
knowledge; And whereas the Honorable John  
Phillips of Exeter, in the County of Rockingham being  
desirous of giving to Trustees, herein after to be  
appointed, certain lands and personal estate, to be  
by said Trustees for ever appropriated, & expended  
for the support of a publick Free School, or Academy  
in the Town of Exeter; And whereas the execution  
of such an important design, will be attended with  
very great embarrassments, unless, by an Act of  
Incorporation, said Trustees, and their successors  
shall be authorised to commence & prosecute  
actions at Law; and transact such other matters,  
in a corporate capacity, as the Interest of said  
Academy shall require.

Be it therefore enacted by the Council  
and

Original Deed of Gift by John & Elizabeth Phillips, 1781



**THE ROLE OF LIBRARIES** in the digital age, and questions surrounding their relevance, has received increased attention in recent years.

But at Phillips Exeter Academy, the Class of 1945 Library remains central to the intellectual and social life of our community.

Continuous investment in Louis Kahn's architectural marvel underscores the Academy's commitment to enhancing programs for current Exonians while maintaining focus on future generations.

This is a particularly exciting time for  
Exeter's famous library.

A multiyear building repair and renovation endeavor is poised to deliver much-needed improvements to the library's basement level. This effort will unite and showcase the Archives and the Special Collections in a new way, improving their access for Exeter students and teachers, as well as visiting alumni and scholars.

You can help.

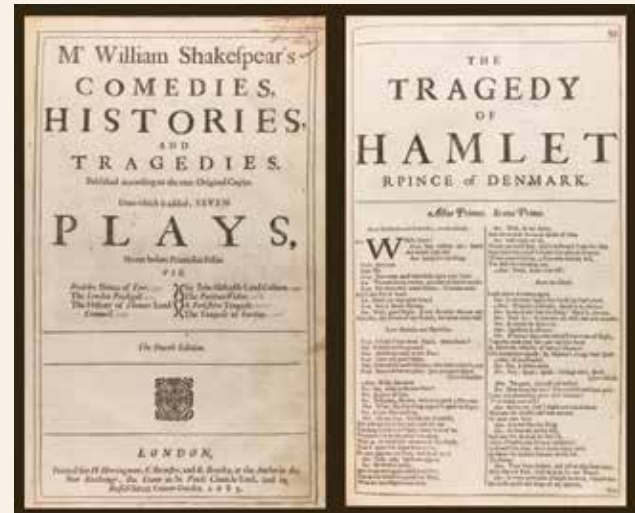
## *The Center for Archives and Special Collections*

**PHILLIPS EXETER ACADEMY** maintains an impressive and valuable assortment of historical materials, many of which are not studied or appreciated due to the limitations of the physical space in which they are stored.

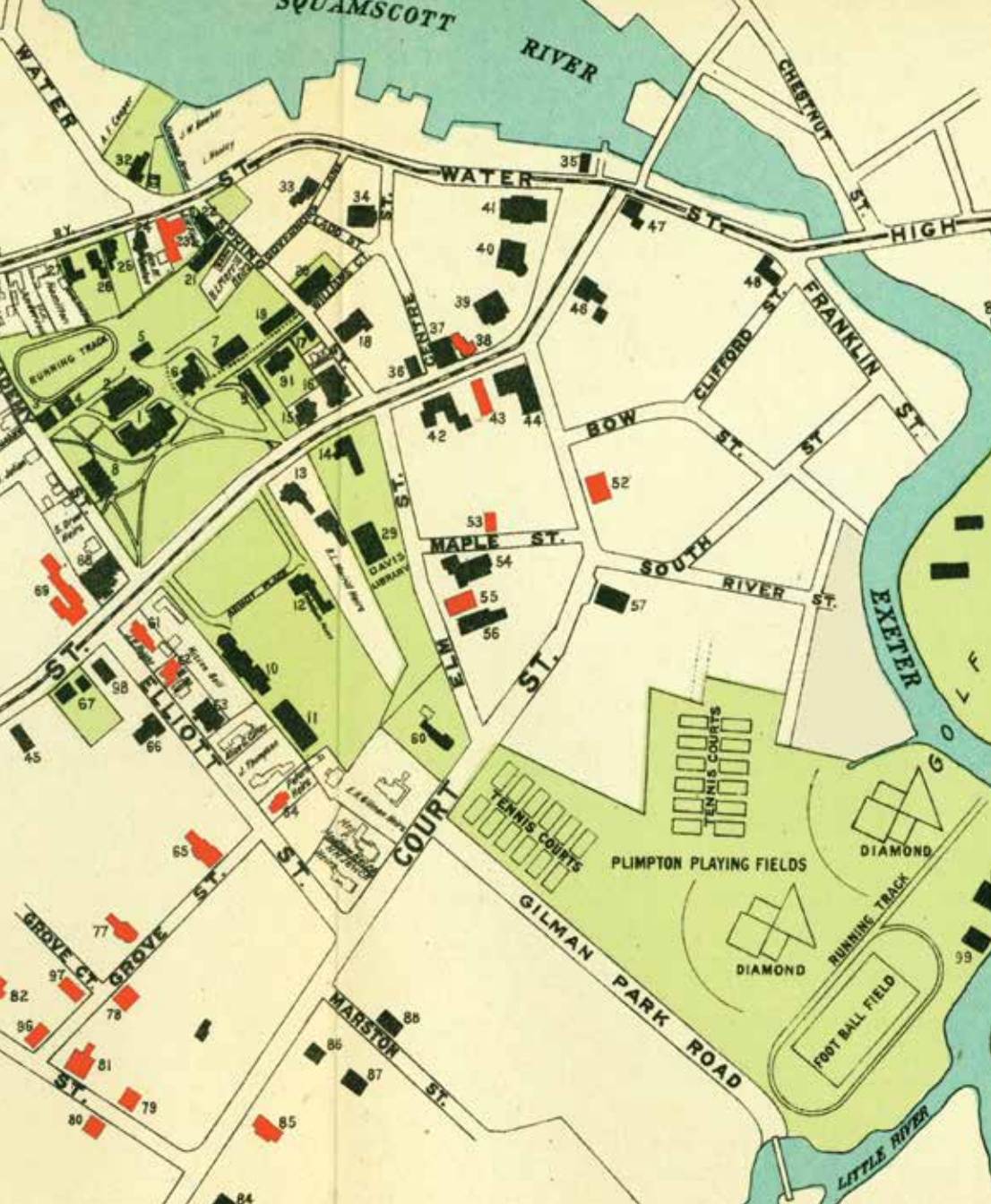
The Academy Archives, located in the library basement, serve as the official repository for the school's founding documents and other records of enduring historical value. The Archives preserve and make available for research a wide range of materials related to the Academy's history and identity, including publications, correspondence, meeting minutes, film footage and photographs.

These collections, with the stories and history they tell, are currently housed in cramped quarters, hidden from view and awaiting discovery. Environmental conditions threaten the long-term preservation of archival records. Limited space for storage and museum-quality exhibition makes it necessary to turn away some large collections.

On the fourth floor, the library's Special Collections contain rare books and maps, artworks and such treasures as leaves from illuminated medieval manuscripts (13th through 16th centuries) and a Shakespeare Second Folio. The Special Collections rooms are available by appointment only, and limited space precludes future growth.



*Shakespeare Second Folio, 1685*



*Bringing together these exquisite collections, and reimagining the space in which they are housed, provides an exciting opportunity to responsibly store and display valuable artifacts, allow for the growth of collections, and increase their use by students and teachers.*

*Phillips Exeter Academy Housing Map, 1914-1915*

SATURDAY, NOV. 10  
2 P. M.



### *Project Features*

The new center for archives and special collections will be an inviting destination for research and scholarship around the Academy's collections. The increased footprint with new lighting and colorful finishes and furnishings will enhance the ambiance and overall function of the library, while following the design aesthetic of the visionary Louis Kahn.

*Exeter vs. Andover Program Cover, 1945*

## The project offers the following opportunities for naming and recognition:

- **A NEW, CENTRAL EXHIBITION HALL** providing a distinct and welcoming space for study, lectures and events. Exhibition cases will showcase changing displays of the rarest and most interesting objects in the collection, and open bookshelves will display the library's considerable collection of Exeter authors. Tables and comfortable seating for casual study will be easily reconfigured for coursework using collections, and for lectures and events with an audience of 50-75 people.
- **A SECURE VAULT WITH A FLOOR-TO-CEILING GLASS WALL** providing an up-close view on the contents and activities within. This unique, 700-square-foot windowed vault will invite spectators to learn about highlighted rare objects in the collection and observe how artifacts are conserved, stored and curated.
- **A DEDICATED READING ROOM AND CLASSROOM** for secure, efficient and comfortable use of the collections.
- **A TECHNOLOGY SUITE** equipped with advanced systems and work stations for the processing and digitization of archival materials.
- **CONSERVATION AREAS** dedicated to the professional processing and restoration of collections. These spaces, attached to the vault, will allow staff to efficiently work with items in the collections, as well as share preservation processes with interested students and faculty.
- **THE OFFICES OF THE HEAD ARCHIVIST AND ASSISTANT ARCHIVIST.** These staff offices will flank the reading room, ensuring professional assistance is always nearby.
- **THREE SECURE STORAGE ROOMS**, totaling nearly 2,000 square feet of climate-controlled archival space. These rooms will enhance preservation of sensitive materials and provide room for the Academy collections to grow.

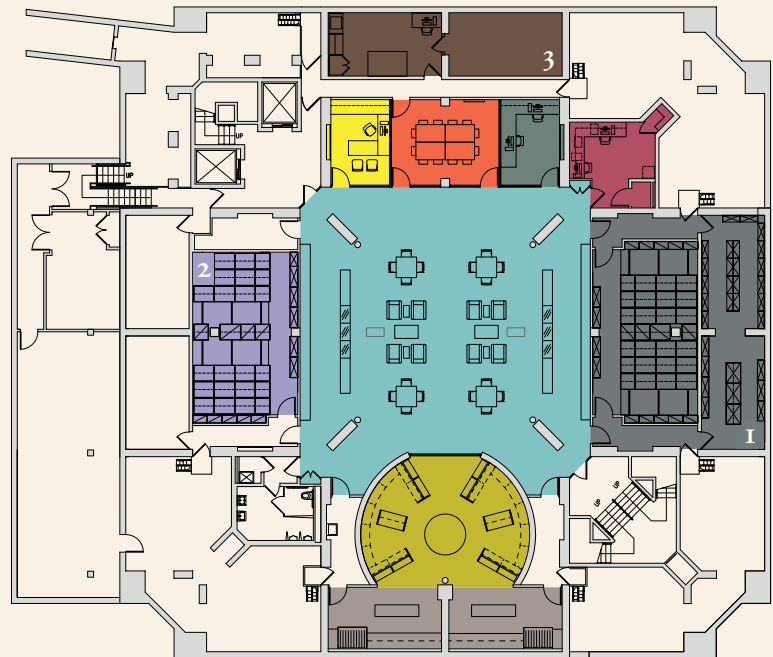


# *The Center for Archives and Special Collections Naming and Recognition Opportunities*

**THE CENTER FOR ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**                      **\$ 3,000,000**

**ENDOWED HEAD OF ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**                      **\$ 2,000,000**

	<b>EXHIBITION HALL</b>	<b>\$ 1,500,000</b>
	<b>VAULT</b>	<b>\$ 500,000</b>
	<b>READING ROOM</b>	<b>\$ 150,000</b>
	<b>TECHNOLOGY SUITE</b>	<b>\$ 100,000</b>
	<b>CONSERVATION AREAS</b>	<b>\$ 100,000</b>
	<b>ARCHIVIST OFFICE</b>	<b>\$ 100,000</b>
	<b>ASSISTANT ARCHIVIST OFFICE</b>	<b>\$ 50,000</b>
	<b>ARCHIVAL PRESERVATION STORAGE (1)</b>	<b>\$ 75,000</b>
	<b>ARCHIVAL PRESERVATION STORAGE (2)</b>	<b>\$ 50,000</b>
	<b>ARCHIVAL PRESERVATION STORAGE (3)</b>	<b>\$ 50,000</b>



*Archives & Special Collections Architectural Plan*



*If you are interested in learning more, please contact  
Director of Principal and Major Gifts Chuck Ramsay:  
603-777-3482 or [cramsay@exeter.edu](mailto:cramsay@exeter.edu)*

