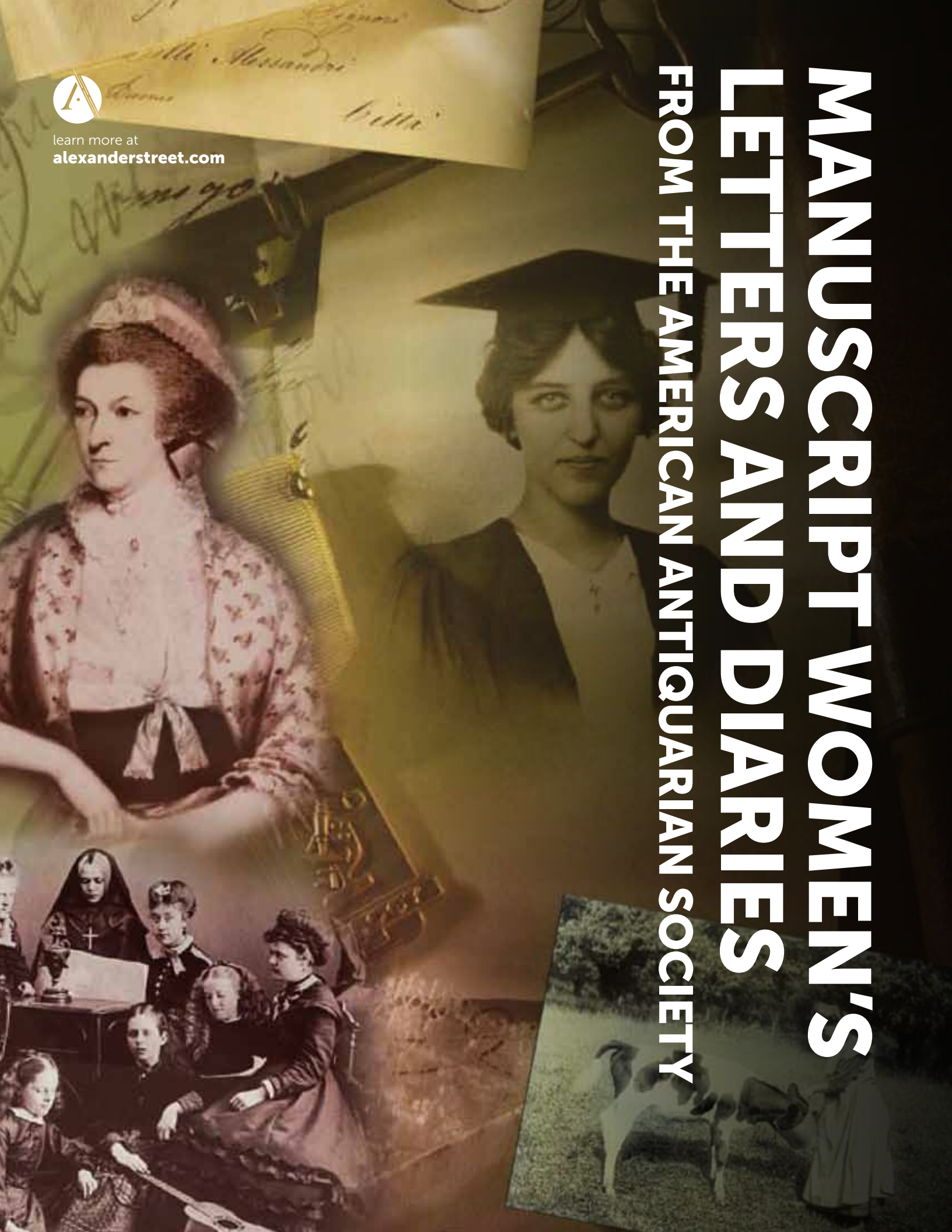




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# MANUSCRIPT WOMEN'S LETTERS AND DIARIES FROM THE AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY



# Manuscript Women's Letters and Diaries: From the American Antiquarian Society, 1750–1950

Alexander Street's *Manuscript Women's Letters and Diaries from the American Antiquarian Society* brings together 100,000 pages of the personal writings of women of the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries, displayed as high-quality images of the original manuscripts, extensively indexed, and online for the first time. The collection is drawn exclusively from the extensive holdings of the American Antiquarian Society.

## Content

Spanning 1750 to 1950, the collection is particularly strong in 19th-century material. Highlights include the letters of Annie Sullivan detailing her teaching of Helen Keller, written to Michael Anagnos, director of the Perkins Institution and Massachusetts School of the Blind; 100 letters written by Ellen Tucker Emerson, eldest daughter of Ralph Waldo Emerson, describing life in Concord during the Civil War; and the papers of Abby Foster Kelley, noted women's rights advocate and abolitionist, depicting the activities of the antislavery movement in New England, New York, and Ohio.

Thousands of letters and diary entries from less well known women vividly document even the smallest details of their lives and shed light on the roles women played within their families, their communities, and the social and political movements of their times. In many cases, we also include the replies, from both men and women, placing the letters in their full context. Detailed biographical notes illuminate the lives of the authors, including multigenerational details, as exemplified in the letters and diaries of three generations of women within the same family.

The writings in *Manuscript Women's Letters and Diaries* are by women from New England families, but this is by no means a New England-specific collection. The women wrote from the many places throughout the US in which they lived, traveled, worked, studied, and observed the lives and historical events around them. Texts include:

- Writings on John Brown's raid, the activities of the Ku Klux Klan, and numerous wars
- Nancy Colburn Hartford's log of her in a Colorado mining camp
- Julia Ann Draper Lazelle's descriptions of frontier conditions in Florida in 1830
- Lizzie Bliss Dewey's correspondence with friends in service about World War I Army training camps and the American Expeditionary Forces in France
- The Chase sisters' writings about charitable work in the South

Other topics include female education and intellectual development, medical conditions, religious life, and domestic work, such as Lizzie Wilson Goodenough's documentation of the life of a servant in Brattleboro, Vermont.

## Alexander Street's Semantic Indexing

Each letter and diary entry is indexed using Alexander Street Press's semantic indexing, allowing researchers to identify and locate content in ways never before possible, with pinpoint searching to the level of the individual letter and passage. The letters and diaries are displayed as high-resolution images of the manuscripts, giving users access not only to the women's words, but also to details revealed by the physical documents themselves.

## Publication Details

*Manuscript Women's Letters and Diaries from the American Antiquarian Society* is an online collection available to academic, public, and school libraries via annual subscription or outright purchase of perpetual rights. For more information, visit [www.alexanderstreet.com](http://www.alexanderstreet.com) or email [sales@alexanderstreet.com](mailto:sales@alexanderstreet.com).



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