

# Social Change





Special Collections & University Archives, UMass Amherst Libraries  
**The Archive of Social Change**

**2020**

For W. E. B. Du Bois, movements for social justice were never easily compartmentalized. The struggles for racial, gender, or economic equity, for example, were so deeply intertwined that to make progress in one required attention to all. To create lasting change required both a holistic vision and an international awareness. Special Collections and University Archives (SCUA) follows in Du Bois's footsteps, focusing its collecting not on individual social movements, but on connections between and among them and on the process and experience of social change itself: the myriad ways in which people seek to better the world around them.

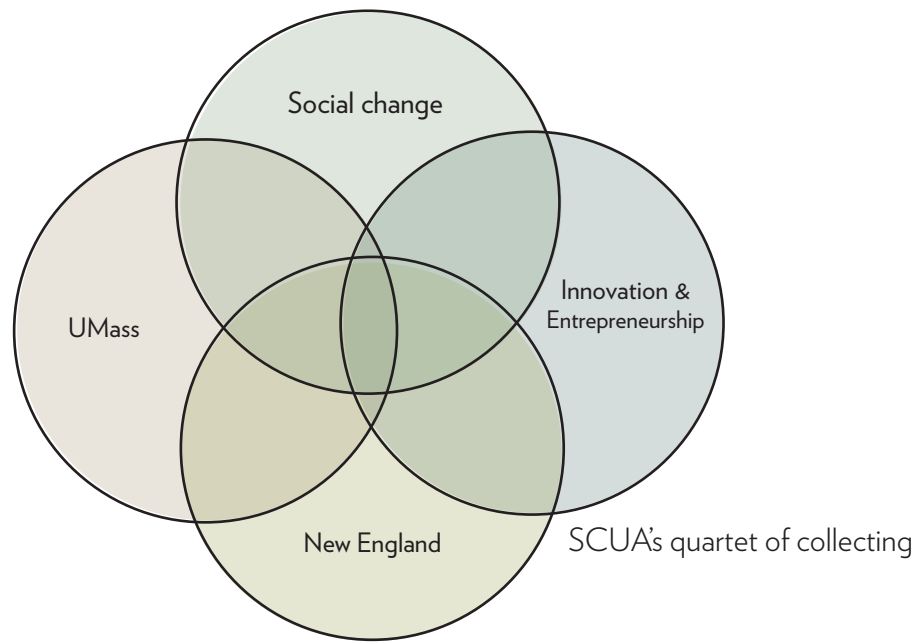






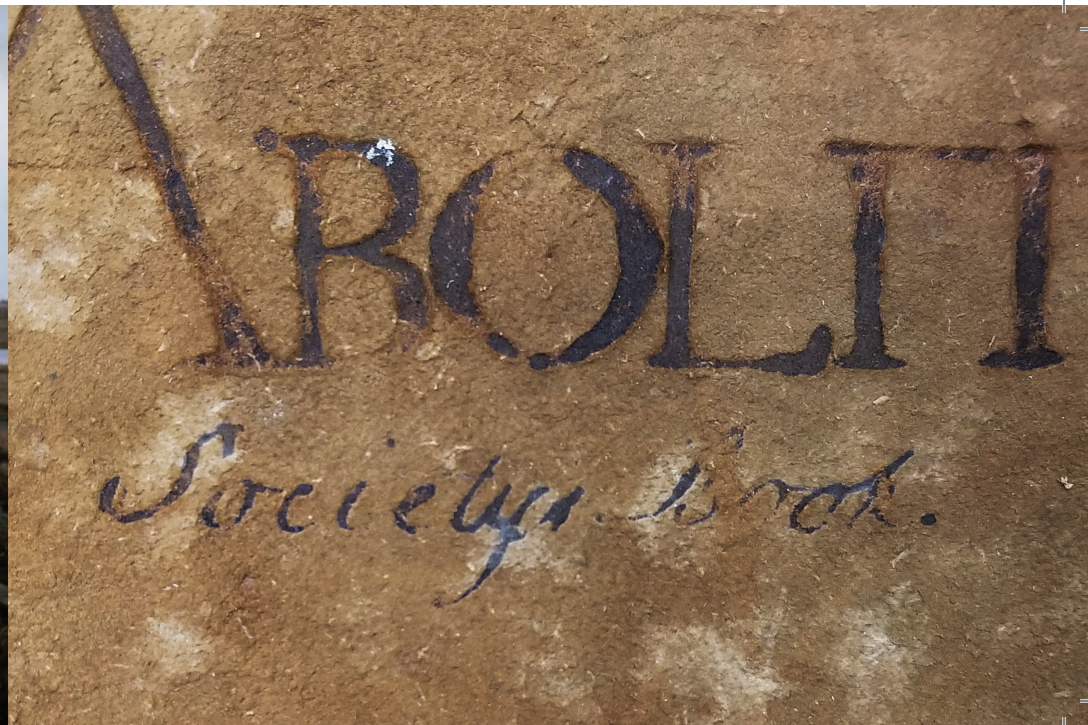
Known as the archival home of W. E. B. Du Bois, Daniel Ellsberg, Theodore Allen, Kenneth R. Feinberg, Brother David Steindl-Rast, and the New England Yearly Meeting of Friends, SCUA cares for hundreds of collections from important activists, organizers, analysts, thinkers, writers, and doers. In addition to the personal and professional papers of individuals, these collections include the records of a wide range of organizations and institutions, from the International Center for the Disabled to the Liberation News Service, and the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws.

Augmenting the written record, SCUA is a center for the visual documentation of social change, both in still photography and, increasingly, film and video. Notable collections include the photographic archives of Jeff Albertson, Diana Mara Henry, Janet Knott, Peter Simon, and Rowland Scherman.



SCUA's collections are deeply interconnected, reflecting some of the major currents of cultural, political, and personal change shaping this country, with an emphasis on the twentieth century and beyond. Among areas of particularly rich research potential, we document:

- |                         |                                  |                                   |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Aging                   | Counterculture                   | LGBTQ rights                      |
| Alternative energy      | Disability rights                | Organic & sustainable agriculture |
| Alternative press       | Drug policy reform               | Peace and non violence            |
| Antifluoridation        | Economic justice                 | Political radicalism              |
| Antinuclear             | Environment & conservation       | Prison issues                     |
| Antiracism              | Esperanto and universal language | Racial justice                    |
| Arts and communities    | Folk and roots music             | Spiritual renewal                 |
| Civil rights            | Intentional communities          | Social equity                     |
| Cold War culture        | Labor movement                   | Visual culture of change          |
| Communism and Socialism |                                  |                                   |







Join us as a fellow traveler in preserving the history of social change. In addition to excellent long-term care for collections, SCUA offers a robust digitization program and superior service for scholars, students, and communities who wish to learn from their pasts. Online and in person, we are open to all, free of charge: collections here are seen and used.

Your support is the key. To inquire or contribute, please contact the SCUA archivists ([scua@library.umass.edu](mailto:scua@library.umass.edu)). Your donation may be eligible for a tax deduction.

**Donate to SCUA**

SCUA documents the whole lives of people who create social change and the whole communities in which they work, all with an eye toward providing the richest possible context for future researchers. We place a priority on preserving unpublished materials such as letters and diaries, minutes of meetings, ephemera, photographs, and audio and video recordings, hoping to lay a foundation for understanding the ebb and flow of ideas, individuals, and organizations that comprise the larger stories of how lasting social change is created and experienced.

**What can I contribute?**

## Credits: in order

*Counterinaugural demonstrations*, Washington, D.C., Jan. 1969 (Rowland Scherman Collection)

*Young girl on Columbia Street, Cambridge*, 1968 (Peter Simon Collection)

*Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party protest at Democratic National Convention*, Aug. 1964 (Gloria Xifaras Clark Papers)

*W. E. B. Du Bois*, 1907 (W. E. B. Du Bois Papers), and *Daniel Ellsberg*, 1971 (Jeff Albertson Collection)

*Occupation of Seabrook*, by Susan Kramer, May 1, 1977 (Kramer-Mathews Collection)

*Minute book*, 1789 (Providence Society for Abolishing the Slave-Trade Minute Book)

*MIT I-lab demonstration*, 1970 (Jeff Albertson Collection)

*March for Sacco and Vanzetti*, 1927 (Alton H. Blackington Collection)

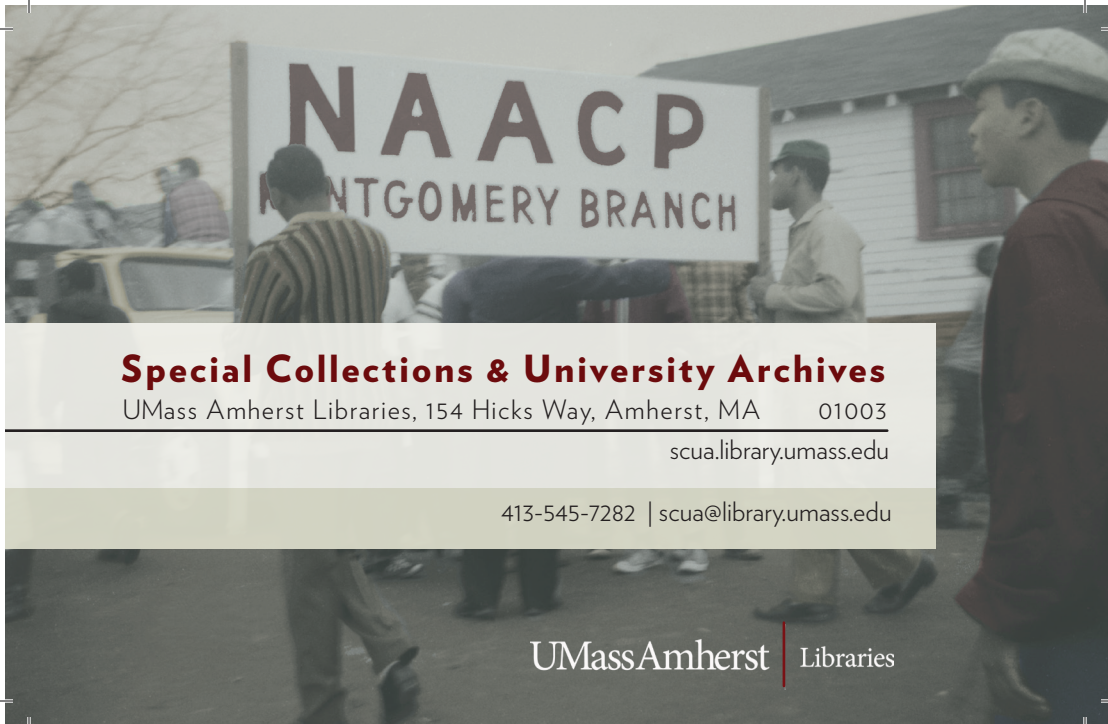
*Spirit in Flesh band members*, photo by Gary Cohen, 1971 (Daniel Brown Collection)

*Ploughing at the Hillside School*, ca.1910 (Burt V. Brooks Collection)

*Selma to Montgomery Civil Rights march*, Mar. 25, 1965 (Herman B. Nash Papers)







## **Special Collections & University Archives**

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