

Commonwealth Museum

“Our Commonwealth: The Massachusetts Experiment in Democracy 1620 -Today
Mass State Archives, Boston, MA

Designer: Cambridge Seven Associates, Cambridge, MA

Date completed: April, 2009

The collections of the Massachusetts Archives document the history of Massachusetts from its colonial beginnings to the present day. Included among these collections are some of our nation's most important historical treasures, foundation documents of both the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the new United States.

On display are originals of:

- The Declaration of Independence
- The 1629 Charter of Massachusetts Bay
- The 1692 Charter of the Province of Massachusetts Bay
- The Bill of Rights
- The Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 1780

The exhibit traces the Massachusetts experience through the colonial, revolutionary, federal, and nineteenth century reform periods. The sub-theme, “Tracing our Roots,” tells the story of four representative Massachusetts families of Native American, English, African-American and Irish heritage.

