



# The National Endowment for the Humanities: Funding Cutting-Edge Research for All

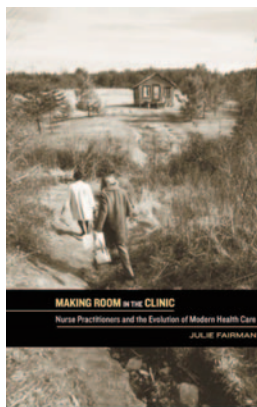
Humanities research offers critical insights into our past and present, helping us prepare for the future.

Through its fellowship programs, the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) supports groundbreaking work in fields like history, literature, philosophy, linguistics, and archaeology.

With funding for preservation, digital humanities, and public programs, the NEH also supports a broader research ecosystem, ensuring that archival collections necessary to research are preserved and made accessible and that the public benefits from humanities research.

In her book *Making Room in the Clinic*, Julie Fairman investigates the history of nurse practitioners and their practice in the United States and explores their contributions to current public health policy. ▶

The *IMPACT Radiological Mummy Database*, an online clearinghouse of medical images taken of mummified human remains, provides research insights for subjects ranging from ancient burial practices to heart disease. ▼



## NEH-funded research informs us as we grapple with major challenges.

- Julie Fairman's research on the history of nurse practitioners prepared her to work with state legislatures and other organizations to improve healthcare regulations.
- Alan Kraut's research into U.S. immigration law helped him serve as a historical consultant to the Office of Special Investigations at the U.S. Department of Justice while the office investigated Nazi war criminals living in the United States.
- The *IMPACT Radiological Mummy Database* brought together teams of cardiologists, anthropologists, and archaeologists to offer new insights into the origination of heart disease in ancient peoples, work that is having a continued impact on heart health research today.





The Valley of the Shadow paved the way for digital archives by putting Civil War images, letters, and manuscripts online.

## NEH support for digital research has made new and more comprehensive archives available to more researchers.

- In the 1990s, NEH funding for projects such as *The Valley of the Shadow*, an archive of Civil War-era materials, paved the way for other online archives that facilitate humanities research.
- Today, *Slave Voyages*, the *Digital Archive of Comparative Slavery*, and other projects enable data-rich approaches to research, allowing scholars a more comprehensive view of the lives of people who would otherwise be lost to history.



Chronicling America digitizes and makes accessible historical newspapers from every state.

## NEH support for archival collections ensures that researchers can glean new insights from the past.

- Preservation grants ensure that major collections—such as the Founding Fathers’ papers and the *Chronicling America* collection of historical newspapers—are accessible now and preserved for future generations.
- Funding for conservation ensures that everything from fragile manuscripts to images, videos, and digital files (formats that are surprisingly unstable) are preserved and accessible to researchers.



Plymouth Plantation relies on archaeological and historical research to interpret the history of the seventeenth-century colony for its visitors.

## The NEH ensures that the public benefits from humanities research.

- Through support for organizations like Plimoth Plantation, Jamestown Rediscovery, and Thomas Jefferson’s Monticello, the NEH ensures that the public has access to compelling and accurate representations of our past that are informed by up-to-date humanities research.
- NEH support of the public radio show *American Routes* and the popular history podcast *BackStory* helps listening audiences, including rural audiences and high school students, benefit from the best and most current humanities scholarship.
- The NEH has provided more than \$13 million to document and preserve languages that are in danger of dying out.

**NEH-funded research has led to 17 Pulitzer and 22 Bancroft Prize-winning books.**

