

Joseph E. O'Donnell Library Research Internship Exhibit Curator

The Library offers an internship for the summer of 2017 focused on research related to the Penn Treaty Elm and its afterlives. The intern will serve as curator of an exhibit scheduled for 2018, and will spend the summer researching and contextualizing materials, formulating an argument, writing label text, creating an installation plan, and contributing to the digital component of the exhibit. The internship presents excellent opportunities to work with rare materials and to strengthen both research capacity and digital skills.

Project

The Penn Treaty Elm was a tree near the banks of the Delaware River in present-day Philadelphia under which William Penn met with the Lenape Chief Tamanend in 1682. This exhibit will explore the question “Where is the Penn Treaty Elm?” and deal with issues around William Penn, the Treaty Elm and its scions, Penn Treaty Park, and the cultural mythos and representation of the Penn Treaty Elm and Penn’s Treaty. There may be opportunities to collaborate with Philadelphia-area arts organizations such as Monument Lab.

Research will draw from rich Special Collections holdings, including pieces of the Elm, early Philadelphia maps and documents, images depicting the signing of Penn’s Treaty, and works by and about William Penn.

Previous examples of student-curated exhibits can be found at <http://library.haverford.edu/exhibits>.

Oversight

The Haverford faculty supervisor for this project is Paul Farber. Sarah Horowitz, Curator of Rare Books & Manuscripts and Head of Quaker & Special Collections will serve as the project supervisor and will meet regularly with the student to offer direction and advice. A team of advisors will also meet with the intern throughout the internship.

Skills required

The successful applicant will have: 1) an interest in public history, Philadelphia history, Quakerism, and/or exhibitions; 2) strong research skills; 3) strong written and oral communication skills; and 4) attention to detail.

The student will be selected by the Head Librarian of Haverford College on the basis of the scholarly merits of the research project and the student intern's enthusiastic commitment to hard work, good humor and kindness, all characteristics that embody the legacy of Joe O'Donnell on Haverford campus.

Duration & Funding:

- 11 weeks; May 15, 2017 – July 28
- 35 hours per week between 9am and 5pm
- \$11.00/ hour

To apply

To apply, please fill out the library's summer internship application form and provide a short statement (500 words or less) describing why you are interested in this internship and why you think it would be a good fit. Please describe any experience you have working with special collections materials or digital projects and provide the name of a faculty member who we can contact as a reference. Applications are due by February 15.