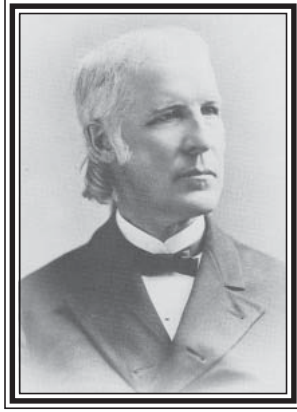


The Elder Henry C. Blinn Research Fellowship Program



Center for New England Culture,
University of New Hampshire Library,
Milne Special Collections,
Canterbury Shaker Village

The Elder Henry C. Blinn Research Fellowship supports research by academics, museum and library professionals, independent scholars, and doctoral candidates in the collections of Canterbury Shaker Village and in The Shaker Collection in the University of New Hampshire Library, Milne Special Collections. A senior fellowship offers a stipend of \$1000 a month for up to three months of study. A junior fellowship for doctoral candidates will be \$500 a month for up to three months of study. Housing at Canterbury Shaker Village may be available. Fellows will be selected based on the relationship of subject matter to collections, and priority will be given to projects drawing on materials from both institutions. The tenure of the fellowship will be at the convenience of the sponsoring institutions, during the months of April through November.

Fellows will make two presentations—one seminar-style meeting at Canterbury Shaker Village during the tenure of the fellowship and one lecture in the Heritage New Hampshire Lecture Series sponsored by the Center for New England Culture during or after the tenure of the fellowship.

The Elder Henry C. Blinn Research Fellowship Program is a collaborative program established to further research and publication on the New Hampshire Shakers. The Center for New England Culture promotes public understanding of the distinctive traditions and contemporary presentations of New England culture through its Heritage New Hampshire Lecture Series. The Shaker Collection of the UNH Milne Special Collections (<http://www.izaak.unh.edu/specoll/mancoll/shaker.htm>) is a diverse archive of printed materials, manuscripts, and photographs, with an emphasis on Canterbury Shaker Village materials in the Eleanor Parmenter Churchill Papers. The University of New Hampshire Library contains deep holdings in Shaker secondary materials and in microfilm collections, such as the Western Reserve Historical Society Shaker archive. Canterbury Shaker Village's collection is of national significance because it is the largest and most comprehensive body of material remaining in an original Shaker community, representing two hundred years of Shaker community life. The collections include the following major categories: architectural collections, landscape collections, archival collections (including 10,000 photographic images and 35,000 manuscript items), archeological collections, and artifact collections (including approximately 21,000 artifacts).

Elder Henry Clay Blinn was born in Providence, Rhode Island, and entered the Church Family at Canterbury in 1838, when he was 14 years of age. As a young man, Blinn was assigned to the numerous tasks required in a large community: he worked in the Blacksmith's Shop, sawed staves for pails, carded wool, took his turn as a night watchman, and helped with the fall harvest. From 1843 to 1849 Blinn taught at the Shaker school; in 1852 he was appointed to the Ministry. Henry Blinn was known for his skills as a writer, editor, and printer. He started a small museum at the Village, and also practiced the trades of beekeeping, furniture making, stonecutting, and dentistry. Elder Henry C. Blinn died at Canterbury in 1905 at the age of 81.

Applications may be submitted at any time, specifying the anticipated work period between April and November. Notification will be made within for weeks of submission of the application. The application should include: a letter of no more than three single-spaced pages describing the project and its connection to relevant collections, a plan of work, and a schedule for work during the tenure of the fellowship, including plans for publication or exhibit of research results; a vita; and two letters of recommendation. Questions about the program may be addressed to David Watters, Center for New England Culture (david.watters@unh.edu); questions about the holdings at the University of New Hampshire and Canterbury Shaker Village can be directed to William Ross (wer@cisunix.unh.edu) and Scott Swank (sswank@shakers.org). Applications should be addressed to:

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