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Primary Sources relating to early UU history around Boston

Sermons, Essays, Stories

[“A Letter from Rev. Hosea Ballou to Rev. Dr. Lyman Beecher”](#) by Hosea Ballou

[The Universalist Pulpit](#) by Hosea Ballou and others

Note: Ballou’s sermon, *The Author’s Ministry*, written near the end of life, acts as a summation of his theological position and a capstone of his ministerial work. He died shortly after writing this sermon at the age of 81.

[“Unitarian Christianity”](#) by William Ellery Channing

[“Slavery’s Pleasant Homes”](#) by Lydia Maria Child

[Nature](#) by Ralph Waldo Emerson*

[“The Harvard Divinity School Address”](#) by Ralph Waldo Emerson*

[“The Celestial Railroad”](#) by Nathaniel Hawthorne

[“On the Equality of the Sexes”](#) by Judith Murray

[“The Transient and the Permanent in Christianity”](#) by Theodore Parker

[“Walking”](#) by Henry David Thoreau*

[“Civil Disobedience”](#) by Henry David Thoreau*

Note: If anyone reads The Aesthetic Papers, it is in there as well under its original name.

[Winchester Profession](#) and other professions of faith

Periodicals & Journals relating to early UU history around Boston

[The Aesthetic Papers](#) by Elizabeth Peabody

[The Dial](#) volume 1 of particular interest are:

The Editors to the Reader – Emerson and Fuller

The Divine Presence in Nature and in the Soul – Parker

Letter to a Theological Student – Ripley

Orphic Sayings – Alcott

The Unitarian Movement in New England – William Dexter Wilson

Books relating to early UU history around Boston

[*Little Women*](#) by Louisa May Alcott*

[*Moods*](#) by Louisa May Alcott

[*The Ancient History of Universalism by Hosea*](#) Ballou

[*The Blithedale Romance*](#) by Nathaniel Hawthorne*

[*Woman in the 19th Century*](#) by Margaret Fuller

[*Walden*](#) by Henry David Thoreau*

Secondary Sources relating to early UU history around Boston

[*Affinities and Antipathies: Universalists and Unitarians in the Formative Period*](#) by Ernest Cassara

[*Hosea Ballou: The Challenge to Orthodoxy*](#) by Ernest Cassara

American Bloomsbury by Susan Cheever*

The Transcendentalists and their World by Robert A. Gross*

The Peabody Sisters by Megan Marshall*

Eden's Outcasts by John Matteson*

["Theodore Parker and the Moral Universe"](#) NPR

Secondary sources relating to UU history more broadly

["A Timeline of the Black Empowerment Controversy in American Unitarian Universalism"](#) compiled by Julie Kain

Revisiting the Empowerment Controversy by Mark D. Morrison-Reed

American Universalism by George Hunston Williams

Universalists and Unitarians in America: A People's History by John A. Buehrens

[*The Universalist Church of America: A Short History*](#) by Clinton Lee Scott