

# AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

GUIDE TO

RECORD GROUP XVII: PUBLICATIONS – *MEMOIRS*.

ILLUSTRATIONS FOR “A HISTORY OF THE FISHES OF MASSACHUSETTS,”  
ca. 1853-1867



Archives

American Academy of Arts and Sciences  
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## AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES ARCHIVES

### Record Group XVII: Publications – *Memoirs*. Illustrations for “A History of the Fishes of Massachusetts,” ca. 1853-1867

#### ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

##### Historical Note

As a commissioner for the Natural History Survey of the Commonwealth of 1837, physician David Humphreys Storer was responsible for the description of the fish and reptiles of Massachusetts. After publishing his report in 1840 on the two subjects, Storer spent more than twenty-five years studying the fish of Massachusetts.

Between 1853 and 1867 the Academy published, in six installments, Storer’s “A History of the Fishes of Massachusetts” in *Memoirs*. In this work he described many species and elucidated their natural history, paying particular attention to their role in the local economy. Storer’s descriptions included in total 39 plates of figures, many of them drawn by draughtsman Antoine Sonrel, a colleague of Academy Fellow Louis Agassiz. The plates were engraved by Tappan & Bradford.

Storer’s research was later published in a book of the same title in 1867 and was called by Academy Fellow and entomologist Samuel H. Scudder a “land-mark in the ichthyological literature of the country.”

##### Scope and Content

This sub-series contains records of the *Memoirs* feature “A History of the Fishes of Massachusetts” by David Humphreys Storer, published between 1853 and 1867.

This sub-series is composed of sketches of the fish, and occasionally their detail, later published as plates in the feature. They are in various states of completion. The sketches are drawn in pencil and ink on cardstock, with handwritten notes in pencil. The handwritten notes include captions for the images and instructions, such as: “To the engraver – It will be necessary to stipple this fish as it is covered with fine, sharp scales too small to be outlined.” Rarely, an unrelated sketch or illustration is drawn on the back. On most of the illustrations, a sheet of tissue paper was glued onto the cardstock to protect the drawing. However, many of these sheets have become damaged and/or brittle.

A small part of the sub-series are wrappers or envelopes that contained the sketches, and one sheet has draft text of a sentence for publication in the text block.

## **Volume**

1.3 linear feet (2 document cases, 1 flat storage box)

## **Arrangement**

All of the engravings in this sub-series relate to "A History of the Fishes of Massachusetts" as published in Academy *Memoirs*, and are arranged in the order in which they appear in the plates; first by plate, then by figure. Each illustration is additionally listed by the scientific name as it appears in *Memoirs* (including the identifying taxonomist), followed by the date of publication.

## **Processing Information**

Processed by Margret McClelland, November 2014.

## **Preferred Citation**

[Item title, date]. Record Group XVII: Publications – *Memoirs*. Illustrations for "A History of the Fishes of Massachusetts," ca. 1853-1867. Archives, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

## **Subjects**

*For example:*

Fishes—Classification—Massachusetts.

Ichthyology—Massachusetts.

Fishing industry—Massachusetts.

Learned institutions and societies—United States—Periodicals.

Storer, David Humphreys, 1804-1891

Sonrel, Antoine

## **Related Records**

"A History of the Fishes of Massachusetts" was published in the following volumes of *Memoirs*: Volume 5, No. 1 (1853) and 2 (1855); Volume 6, No. 2 (1859); Volume 8, No. 2 (1863); and Volume 9, No. 1 (1867).

## ITEM LIST

### PUBLICATIONS – *MEMOIRS*.

### Illustrations for “A History of the Fishes of Massachusetts,” ca. 1853-1867

#### Box 1

- Folder 1 04.3 – *Cottus gracilis*. Heckel, 1853
- Folder 2 04.4, 5, 6 – *Boleosoma olmstedii*. Agassiz, 1853
- Folder 3 08.1 – *Aspidophorus monopterygius*. Cuvier, 1853
- Folder 4 08.5 – *Gasterosteus dekayi*. Agassiz, 1853  
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- Folder 5 13.1 – *Cybium maculatum*. Cuvier, 1853
- Folder 6 13.2 – *Xiphias gladius*. Linnaeus, 1853
- Folder 7 13.3, 4, 5 – *Palinurus perciformis*. Dekay, 1853  
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- Folder 8 14 – [wrapper for illustrations in plate 14], 1853
- Folder 9 14.1 – *Caranx crysos*. Cuvier, 1853
- Folder 10 14.3 – *Argyreiosus capillaris*. Dekay, 1853
- Folder 11 15 – [wrapper for illustrations in plate 15], 1853
- Folder 12 15.1 – *Temnodon saltator*. Cuvier, 1853
- Folder 13 15.4 – *Rhombus triacanthus*. Dekay, 1853  
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- Folder 14 15.5 – *Seriola zonata*. Cuvier, 1853
- Folder 15 16.1, 2, 3 – *Atherina notata*. Mitchill, 1853
- Folder 16 16.4, 5 – *Mugil lineatus*. Mitchill, 1853  
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- Folder 17 17 – [wrapper for illustrations in plate 17], 1855
- Folder 18 17.1 – *Blennius serpentinus*. Storer, 1855
- Folder 19 17.2 – *Gunnellus mucronatus*. Cuvier, 1855  
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- Folder 20 17.4 – *Zoarces anguillaris*. Storer, 1855
- Folder 21 18.1 – *Anarrhicus vomerinus*. Agassiz, 1855  
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- Folder 22 18.2 – *Lophius americanus*. Cuvier, 1855
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- Folder 24 20.2 – *Tautoga americana*. Dekay, 1855  
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- Folder 25 20.3 – *Pimelodus atrarius*. Dekay, 1855  
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- Folder 26 21.2 – *Leucosomus americanus*. Girard, 1855  
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- Folder 27 21.3 – *Hypsolepis cornutus*. Girard, 1855  
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- Folder 28 21.4 – *Argyreus atronasmus*. Heck, 1855  
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- Folder 29 22.2 – *Cheilonemus pulchellus*. Girard, 1855  
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- Folder 30 22.3 – *Catostomus bosteniensis*. Lesueur, 1855
- Folder 31 22.4 – *Catostomus gibbosus*. Lesueur, 1855
- Folder 32 23.4 – *Fundulus pisculentus*, female. Cuvier & Valenciennes, 1855  
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- Folder 33 23.5 – *Hydrargyra flavula*, male. Storer, 1855  
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- Folder 34 23.6 – *Hydrargyra flavula*, female. Storer, 1855
- Folder 35 24.1 – *Esox reticulatus*. Lesueur, 1859
- Folder 36 24.2 – *Esox ornatus*. Girard, 1859
- Folder 37 24.3 – *Belone truncata*. Lesueur, 1859
- Folder 38 24.4 – *Scomberesox storeri*. Dekay, 1859  
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- Folder 39 25.2 – *Salmo salar*. Linnaeus, 1859  
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- Folder 40 25.3 – *Salmo fontinalis*. Mitchill, 1859
- Folder 41 25.4 – *Osmerus viridescens*. Lesueur, 1859
- Folder 42 26.1 – *Clupea elongata*. Lesueur, 1859  
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- Folder 43 26.2 – *Alosa praestabilis*. Dekay, 1859
- Folder 44 26.3 – *Alosa tyrannus*. Dekay, 1859

Folder 45 26.4 – *Alosa menhaden*. Storer, 1859

**Box 2**

Folder 1 27.1 – *Alosa cyanonoton*. Storer, 1859

Folder 2 27.2 – *Alosa lineata*. Storer, 1859  
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Folder 9 28.4 – *Lota compressa*. Lesueur, 1859

Folder 10 29.1 – *Motella caudacuta*. Storer, 1859

Folder 11 29.2 – *Brosmius flavescens*. Lesueur, 1859

Folder 12 29.3 – *Phycis americanus*. Storer, 1859

Folder 13 29.4 – *Phycis filamentosus*. Storer, 1859

Folder 14 30.1 – *Hippoglossus vulgaris*. Cuvier, 1863  
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Folder 15 30.2 – *Platessa plana*. Mitchill, 1863

Folder 16 30.3 – *Platessa dentata*. Mitchill, 1863

Folder 17 30.4 – *Platessa ferruginea*. Storer, 1863  
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Folder 21 31.3 – *Platessa quadrocellata*. Storer, 1863  
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Folder 22 31.4 – *Pleuronectes maculatus*. Mitchill, 1863

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- Folder 25 32.2 – *Lumpus anglorum*. Will, 1863  
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- Folder 28 33.1 – *Anguilla bostoniensis*. Dekay, 1863  
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- Folder 29 33.2 – *Ammodytes americanus*. Dekay, 1863
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- Folder 31 33.4 – *Hippocampus hudsonius*. Dekay, 1863
- Folder 32 33.5 – *Tetraodon turgidus*. Mitchill, 1863
- Folder 33 34.2 – *Orthogoriscus mola*. Schneider, 1863  
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- Folder 35 35.3 – *Lactophrys yalei*. Dekay, 1863  
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- Folder 38 36.2 – *Carcharias obscurus*. Lesueur, 1867
- Folder 39 36.3 – *Carcharias vulpes*. Cuvier, 1867
- Folder 40 36.3 – *Carcharias vulpes*. Cuvier, 1867
- Folder 41 37.1 – *Lamna punctata*. Storer, 1867  
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- Folder 42 37.2, a – *Mustelus canis*. Dekay, 1867
- Folder 43 38.1, a – *Acanthias americanus*. Storer, 1867  
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- Folder 44 38.2, a – *Seymnus brevipinna*. Dekay, 1867

- Folder 45 38.3, a – *Zygaena malleus*. Valenciennes, 1867
- Folder 46 38.4, a, b – *Petromyzon americanus*. Lesueur, 1867
- Folder 47 39.1 – *Raia diaphanes*. Mitchill, 1867  
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- Folder 48 39.2 – *Raia laevis*. Mitchill, 1867  
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- Folder 49 39.5 – *Torpedo occidentalis*. Storer, 1867  
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- Folder 50 39.5 – *Torpedo occidentalis*. Storer, 1867  
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- Folder 51 39.6 – *Petromyzon nigricans*. Lesueur, 1867  
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- Folder 52 Unidentified, ca. 1853-1867  
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- Box 3 (oversized and fragile)**
- Folder 1 36.4 – *Carcharias atwoodi*. Storer, 1867
- Folder 2 36.4 – *Carcharias atwoodi*. Storer, 1867
- Folder 3 37.3 – *Selachus maximus*. Cuvier, 1867
- Folder 4 39.3 – *Pastinaca hastate*. Dekay, 1867  
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- Folder 5 08.6 – *Crptacanthodes maculatus*. Storer, 1853
- Folder 6 [envelope, "Drawings for Dr. Storer's Fishes"], ca. 1853-1867