

**Marlborough Historical Society  
Bigelow Family / Cutting Family Papers 1801 - 1940**

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**Administrative Information**

<b>Accession Number:</b> 2007-02
<b>Collection Title:</b> Bigelow Family / Cutting Family Papers 1801 – 1940
<b>Creator / Accumulator:</b> It is unknown who accumulated these records. Individual records were created as indicated in the detailed inventory below.
<b>Access Restrictions:</b> None
<b>Preferred Citation:</b> Researchers are requested to cite the collection name and the Marlborough Historical Society in all footnote and bibliographic references.
<b>Property Rights:</b> Records donated by person who discovered the box in their attic crawlspace. Donating individual waived all rights to materials. Original accumulator is unknown. .
<b>Copyright:</b> No known copyright restrictions. However, researchers are responsible for determining the copyright restrictions for any material in this collection.
<b>Media Types:</b> Paper (handwritten records unless otherwise noted), bound volumes, photographic negatives and artifacts (leather, wood and metal)
<b>Quantity:</b> 2 Boxes
<b>Location:</b> Archive Room Shelves
<b>Donation Background Information:</b> These materials were discovered in the attic crawlspace of 22 Pleasant Street, Marlborough, Massachusetts in 2005. The owner of the house then donated the materials to the Marlborough Historical Society. The house at 22 Pleasant Street was constructed in 1876 -77 by William Pitt Brigham. By late 1880 the property was owned by Ezra Cutting. Upon his death in 1890 the house was inherited by his wife Ellen. The house was retained by the Cutting Family until 1938. At this point the house passed into the hands of the Bigelow Family. The Bigelow's retained possession of the house until the year 2000.  List of Bigelow owners and year they obtained ownership of the house: Bigelow Lambert 1938 Bigelow Edward F 1948 Bigelow Edward F & Eleanor 1960 Bigelow Eleanor 8/14/75 Bigelow Edward L & Lucie J 8/30/83 Edward J Bigelow (TE) 6/28/2000
<b>Finding Aid by:</b> Eric Crockwell as part of a class Project for the University of Rhode Island. January 14 2008.

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History and Useful Resources

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**Related History**

**Lambert Bigelow 1801 - 1863:** Born in Marlborough Massachusetts. During his lifetime he served the city of Marlborough as Town Clerk, Town Treasurer and as Representative to the General Court. He was also a prominent local businessman. In 1822 he established the general store which eventually became known as Morse and Bigelow. In 1836 He and his brother Levi established the L&L Shoe Manufacture which was sold to William Dadmun in 1840. In the 1850's he was instrumental in the creation of the Marlborough Branch Railroad which was in operation from the early 1850's until 1980. He died in 1863.

**Levi Bigelow 1790 - 1859:** During his lifetime he served as a Justice of the Peace and as Representative to the General Court for the Town of Marlborough. He was also a successful businessman, partnering with his brother in many of his business activities. Levi was also was instrumental in bringing the branch railroad to Marlborough.

**Edward L. Bigelow:** Lambert Bigelow's son Edward was born in 1839. During his lifetime he served the Town and City of Marlborough as the Town Clerk a Representative in the General Court and as a Justice of the Peace. He was also a successful businessman as he eventually became the Senior Partner of the Morse and Bigelow store.

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**Useful Resources**

- Bigelow, Ella A. *Historical Reminiscences of the Early Times in Marlborough, Massachusetts And Prominent Events From 1860 to 1910*. Marlborough, MA: Times Pub. Co., printers, 1910.
- Hudson, Charles. *History of the Town of Marlborough, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, From Its First Settlement in 1657 to 1861*. Boston, MA: T. R. Marvin & Son, 1862.
- Marlborough Historical Commission "Marlborough Historical Commission Web Site." Available from [http://www.marlborough-ma.gov/Gen/MarlboroughMA\\_Historical/index](http://www.marlborough-ma.gov/Gen/MarlboroughMA_Historical/index).
- Marlborough Historical Society and Marlborough Historical Commission. *Marlborough Survey of Historic, Architectural and Cultural Resources*. Marlborough, MA: Marlborough Historical Society, 1995.

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**Scope and Organization of Collection**

**Scope of Collection:** The records, published works and artifacts included in this collection were created between 1801 and 1940 by residents of Marlborough , Massachusetts. They were gathered together as a collection by an unknown person. The majority of the collection was produced by the Bigelow Family between 1820 and 1917. These records deal with the business, real estate, financial, legal, personal and public service activities of the Bigelow family in the Town / City of Marlborough. A smaller portion of the collection was generated by the Cutting Family between 1864 and 1884 in relation to their financial, real estate and legal activities in the Town of Marlborough. The collection also includes a group of records that were produced by a variety of Marlborough Residents between the years 1801 and 1940. They relate to a variety of real estate, financial, legal and personal topics.

**Organization of Collection:** Two record series were identified within the collection. The first is concerned with the records generated by the Bigelow Family. The second series is concerned with records generated by the Cutting Family. Within in each series the records are arranged by Media Type in this order: Paper Records, Bound Volumes, Photographic Materials and Artifacts. Each Media type is then arranged in chronological order. A third group of records could not be identified with any record series and they are listed at the end of the inventory with the same structure as the record series. Many of this last group of records have received item level description.

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Detailed Inventory of Collection

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**Series 1 Bigelow Family:**

The series includes business, real estate, financial, legal, personal and public service records created or accumulated by the Bigelow family between 1820 and 1917. The bulk of the records are concerned with the business and financial activities of Lambert Bigelow including the L&L Bigelow Company and the Morse and Bigelow General Store.

**Key Names:** Edward L. Bigelow, George L. Bigelow, Lambert Bigelow, Lewis Bigelow, Levi Bigelow, William Morse, L&L Bigelow, Morse and Bigelow

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Description - Paper Records</b>
1	1	1820 -1829	Trial Documents, Property Inventories, Reward of Merit, L&L Bigelow Company, Levi Bigelow, Lambert Bigelow
1	2	1830 -1939	Marlborough Tax Notices, Property Deeds, Bond Documents, Loan Documents, Probate Documents, Mortgage Deeds, Assignment of Property Documents, L&L Bigelow Retailer License 1834 - 1835, L&L Bigelow, Lambert Bigelow, Levi Bigelow
1	3	1840 - 1849	Inventory Purchase for General Store, Mortgage Deeds, Guardian Deed For An Insane Person, Payments for Repair Services Rendered, L&L Bigelow, Lambert Bigelow, Levi Bigelow, William Morse
1	4	1850-18 59	Probate Documents, Quit Claim Deeds, Lewis Bigelow (Deceased) Estate Documents 1850, Payments for Repair Services Rendered, Lambert Bigelow Assignment as Administrator for William Gates Estate, Passbook from unknown bank, L&L Bigelow, Lambert Bigelow, Levi Bigelow, Lewis Bigelow
1	5	1862 - 1881	Appointment of Edward L. Bigelow as Town Clerk, Returned Checks of Morse and Bigelow, letter from House of Representatives confirming delivery of rebellion record

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<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Description - Artifacts</b>
1	6	Unknow n Dates	Inventory Lists for General Store, Lists of Goods Purchased, Bills of Sale
1	7	Unknow n Dates	Leather Wallet For Holding Checks (empty). Originally Held Morse and Bigelow Canceled Checks. The checks were just tucked inside the wallet and they were removed to be stored in folder 5
1	8	Unknow n Dates	Leather Wallet engraved with: 250th ANNIVERSARY MARLBOROUGH, MASS. George L. Bigelow Councilman, Ward 5 1910

**Series 2 Cutting Family:**

The series includes real estate, financial and legal documents created or accumulated by the Cutting Family between 1864 and 1884.

**Key Names:** Ellen Cutting ,Ezra Cutting, Willard Cutting

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Description - Paper Records</b>
1	9	1864 - 1884	Warranty Deeds, Quit Claim Deeds, Property Release Documents, Mortgage Deeds, Property Sales, Discharge of Mortgage, Assignment of Mortgage, Estate Documents, Ezra Cutting, Ellen Cutting, Willard Cutting

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**Series Undefined:**

Records, bound volumes and artifacts in this group could not be identified with a particular series. The date range is between 1801 and 1940, including documents and artifacts of unknown creation date.

**Key Names:** Abijah Claflin, Elizabeth Collins , Herman Dickinson, Stephan Fay, William Gates, William Harrington, Needham Howe, Phincher Howe, Isabel Howe, Gilbert Howe, Eber Howe, Washington Irving, Henry Layntor, Susie Newhall, Louis Putnam, Carleton Parker, Chang Hong Yen

Box	Folder	Dates	Description - Paper Records
2	1	1801-1874	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hermann Dickinson: Crafts Bills, Discharge Deeds, Property deeds, Deed of Sales. 1801 - 1804</li> <li>• William Harrington Property Deed 1830</li> <li>• Governor's Rejection of Elizabeth Collins for pardon of her husband (Governor of which State is unknown) 1840</li> <li>• William Gates Promise of Payment to Needham Howe 1847</li> <li>• Probate Document: Division of Phincher Howe Real Estate Between: Isabel Howe (widow), Gilbert Howe, Eber Howe, Stephan Fay and Henry Layntor 1849.</li> <li>• PER Steamer Envelope (empty), Stamped James H. Butler Esquire: Liverpool. Note written on envelope stating: "A Portion of the first shovel full of earth that fell on the coffin of Washington Irving taken by me, also grass from the spur..." Signed CWJ 1859</li> <li>• Property Deed of Sale Carleton Parker to Abijah Claflin 1874</li> </ul>

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2	2	1917 – 1940  Includes Records with unknown dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marlborough High School Class of 1937 Last Will and Testament. Tasks, locations and items bequeathed to underclassman.</li> <li>• Birth record of Louis Putnam. Born 15 February 1855 Hooksett, New Hampshire. Certificate created and certified on 13 August 1940</li> <li>• Birth record Susie Newhall. Born 27 May 1861 Litchfield, new Hampshire. Certificate created and certified 27 July 1940.</li> <li>• Note Stating: Chang Hong Yen, Yaing Shaing China. Phillips Academy Andover, Mass. Brief notation in Chinese Characters (translation unknown). Creation date of note is unknown.</li> <li>• List of published works, poems and books. Creation or publication dates of the works range from 1634 to 1859. The creation date and creator of the list is unknown.</li> </ul>
<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Description - Bound Volumes</b>
2	3	1842	Boston Almanac 1842 <b>Author:</b> Samuel N. Dickinson <b>Published:</b> Thomas Groom
2	4	1846	Boston Almanac 1846 <b>Author:</b> Samuel N. Dickinson <b>Published:</b> Thomas Groom
2	5	1850	Boston Almanac 1850 <b>Author:</b> Coolidge and Wiley <b>Published:</b> B. B. Mussey; Thomas Groom
2	6	1880	Marriage Certificate of Louis Putnam and Susie Newhall 20 October 1880 Manchester, New Hampshire. Bound inside front cover of book. <b>Book Title:</b> Christian Minister's Affectionate Advice to a Married Couple. <b>Author:</b> Reverend James Bean <b>Published:</b> American Tract Society
<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Description -Photographic Materials</b>

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2	7	Unknown Dates	Photographic Negative (type unknown) of three boys, note with picture states: "Picture of Boys over to Chauncy". Note stored in folder but separated from photograph by acid free paper.
<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Description -Artifacts</b>
2	8	Unknown Dates	City of Marlborough, World War I Service Medallion
2	9	Unknown Dates	Piece of wood with holes drilled in the middle. Unknown Purpose.
2	10	Unknown Dates	Round Metal Disc with hole in middle. Unknown Purpose