

# Bridgewater State University

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**Richard F. Lufkin Collection,  
1928 – 1962**  
(Part of the Lincoln Group of Boston Collection)  
(MSS-008.001)

*Finding Aid Compiled by  
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**Volume:** 2.5 linear feet (4 document boxes)

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### Biographical Sketch

Richard Friend Lufkin was a professional civil engineer and head of the Richard Lufkin Company (engineers, draftsmen, artists, and cartographers). He was an Abraham Lincoln scholar and published a number of writings and illustrated maps revolving around Lincoln and his time spent in New England. He was also a popular speaker around New England on Lincoln related topics. In 1957 he traveled to Rome for the purpose of giving a presentation about Lincoln, in Italian, resulting in an honorary membership in the Society of Romans.

Lufkin was a longtime member of the Lincoln Group of Boston. He served as the organization's treasurer from the early 1950s until his death in 1963. Papers he presented at group conferences include: "A Report on the Auction of the Gettysburg Address," November, 1949; "How Lincoln was Instrumental in the Writing of a History of Paraguay," November 1954; "Visiting Lincoln Memorial University and Some Civil War Battlefields," October 1956; "A New Approach to the Gettysburg Address, from the Magazine, *Mad*," November 1959; " 'Here I Have Lived': Lincoln's Last Days in Springfield," November 1960; and " 'We Cannot Escape history.' Some Reflections on Lincoln's Annual Message to Congress, December 1, 1862," November 1962. He presented and published papers on a number of other Lincoln related areas as well. The *Lincoln Herald* published his five set series, "Mr. Lincoln's Light from Under a Bushel." He was the assistant editor of the *Lincoln Herald* from 1954-1958.

### Scope and Content Note

This collection is a part of the Lincoln Group of Boston Collection. The majority of material revolves around the lectures given by Richard F. Lufkin with an emphasis on Abraham Lincoln in New England. Other early members of the Lincoln Group of Boston are represented.

Related collections include the [Lincoln Group of Boston Collection](#) and the sub-collections from members of this organization such as Lufkin.

## Box and Folder List

### Box 1

#### Folder

1. Letter – tribute from MA Governor Paul A. Dever to the LGB, April 24, 1950
2. Information on the 1<sup>st</sup> LGB meetings and other meeting from the 1940s + 50s.
3. List of LGB members as of 1953
4. Correspondence- LGB related, 1950-1956
5. Correspondence- between LGB members over a publication, 1952
6. List of dates and places Lufkin gave lectures on Lincoln, 1958-1962
7. Legislative history of the act establishing Lincoln Day in Massachusetts, by Lufkin, 1952
8. “Mr. Lincoln’s Light from Under a Bushel”- 1850, 1851, 1852, by Lufkin; 1852 Pamphlet from a LG of B talk, 1950-1952
9. “Mr. Lincoln’s Light from Under a Bushel- 1855” edited typescript, 1956
10. “Abraham Lincoln in 1850,” A talk delivered to the LGB of B by Lufkin, 1950
11. Lufkin’s notes for a speech on the Lincoln- Douglas Debate of 1858, undated
12. “Lincoln’s Links with Gloucester,” lecture, slides, notes and other related info by Lufkin, undated
13. “Abraham Lincoln in Boston,” a talk by Lufkin in at Bostonian Society, 1954
14. “Abraham Lincoln: 16<sup>th</sup> President of the United States,” a lecture by Lufkin in Italian, given in Rome, 1957
15. “ A Life of Abraham Lincoln Prepared Especially for the Occasion of Rome’s Salute to Boston,” by Richard F. Lufkin, 1957
16. “The Trent Affair” lecture at the Winchester Civil War Study Group, by Lufkin or Edwin L. Page, 1962
17. “Abraham Lincoln in the Vicinity of the Park Street Church,” by Lufkin, 1958
18. “Lincoln’s Links with Medford,” by Lufkin, undated
19. Medford Lincolniana- copy of a letter from William Henry to Lincoln, 1955
20. “What Did Abraham Lincoln do on his Birthdays from 1850 thru 1865?”, presented by Lufkin at a Lincoln Round Table by the Civil War Study Group of Winchester, 1960
21. Lectures of Richard F. Lufkin- list of titles other information, undated
22. Massachusetts Civil War Centennial Commission: “Commemoration of Abraham Lincoln’s Walk Thru Boston, Feb. 29, 1860,” narration by Lufkin, Chairman of the event, 1960
23. Correspondence- Lufkin’s Lincolniana dealings; Lincoln National Life Foundation bibliography committee, 1955-56
24. Lufkin’s research on Lincoln’s Court causes from 1854-55, undated

### Box 2

#### Folder

1. Letter from MA Governor Christian Herter, 1953
2. Correspondence- Lufkin miscellaneous, 1949-1955
3. Correspondence - non-LGB related
4. Correspondence - non-LGB related
5. Correspondence - non-LGB related
6. Charts of Lincoln’s life from 1850-1854, c. 1954
7. Lincoln and Lufkin Ephemera, undated

8. Invitation to Governor Volpe's reception, and response by Lufkin on behalf of Bostonian Society, 1961
9. Lufkin's invoices from the Boston Book and Art Shop, 1945
10. Invitation and response between MA Secretary of the Commonwealth, Kevin H. White, and Lufkin, 1961
11. Etching of a Boston building by Peter D. Peterson, sent to Lufkin-President of the Bostonian Society, 1960
12. Letter from Lufkin to Herbert Hoover, March 20, 1933
13. Copy and Publication of a J. G. Whittier letter belonging to Lufkin's Grandfather, 1954
14. Newspaper containing large map of Middlesex County drawn by Lufkin, 1950
15. James Morgan editorials, along with a letter from Morgan to Lufkin, 1953
16. Photograph of Lufkin Lincoln display, 1948

### **Box 3**

#### **Folder**

1. Lecture by Dr. Bullard, "The Speech that made Lincoln Cry and the men who made it," 1941
2. Was "Abe" Lincoln a Gentleman? By F. Lauriston Bullard, 1952
3. Bullard's published copy and letter for "Was 'Abe' Lincoln a Gentleman?", 1949
4. Copy of a letter written by Bullard to the LGB, undated
5. Elwin Page papers read to the Lincoln Group, 1940-49
6. "How Many Lincoln Bibles?" by Robert S. Barton, 1951
7. Robert S. Barton memorial pamphlet, includes list of his Lincoln publications, 1954
8. "Lincoln's Problem at Fort Sumter," by Mrs. Robert S. Barton, 1939
9. Address to LGB on the Gettysburg Speech, by [?], 1950
10. "Abraham Lincoln's Cases in the Supreme Court of the United States," by John W. Spalding, c. 1944
11. "Lincoln and the Capital Dome" by Arthur W. Eckman, c. 1944
12. "The Assassination of Lincoln: Why did the actor John Wilkes Booth come to Paris before his crime?" by Jules Gesztesi, undated
13. "Abraham Lincoln in New England" by Kelsey Ballou Sweatt - contains parts of typescript and notes, undated
14. Abraham Lincoln- A "sartorial biography" lecture given to LGB by Octavia Roberts Corneau, 1951
15. Talk to the LGB on Lincoln's visit to Worcester, author unknown, 1948
16. Speech of Abraham Lincoln at Worcester in 1848 (typescript), undated
17. Itinerary of Lincoln's trip to Massachusetts in 1848, undated
18. Memorial Service handout for F. Lauriston Bullard, 1952
19. Material on Bullard's illness and the LGB, 1949
20. Radio Addresses on Lincoln, undated
21. Replica Images of the Civil War from Harper's Magazine between 1904-1911, undated
22. Newsletters from the Fort Monroe Casemate Museum, 1957
23. Lincoln Portraits, undated
24. Lincoln Bookplate material, undated
25. Photostat letter about news of Lincoln's death reaching Gloucester, undated
26. The American Magazine- "Lincoln - The Most Lied About Man in the World," by Honore Willsie Morrow, 1928

27. Copies of Arthur Herrick's etching of Lincoln's head, undated
28. Newsletter issues of "The Railsplitter Collector: Lincoln's Home Collector's Club," 1951-1953
29. Information on German stamps, 1949
30. "The Funeral Train of President Lincoln," Reminiscences by Wm. H. H. Gould, 1917 (copy)
31. Transcribed Letters (Not Originals)
  - MA Gov. John Andrew to MA 8<sup>th</sup> Regiment, April 18, 1861
  - Lincoln to Hooker, Jan. 26, 1863
  - Conciliator's Article from Washington, March 7, 1861
32. Copy of Gettysburg Address in Yiddish, 1944

#### **Box 4**

- Assortment of slides and glass slides relating to Abraham Lincoln, the Civil War, and General Benjamin Butler. These slides were used by Lufkin during his lectures on Lincoln, and include political cartoons, Civil War battlefields, images of Lufkin in Rome, and more.

#### **Miscellaneous:**

- Oversize LP (16 inch width) recording of a Lufkin lecture for the Lincoln Club Dinner in 3 parts on 2 LP's, February 13, 1956