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**Dr. Benjamin Spence Research Collection,
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(MSS-052)**

*Finding Aid Compiled by
Noah Smith November 2022*

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Dr. Benjamin Spence Biographical Sketch

Benjamin A. Spence, a native of Fall River, Massachusetts, a city about twenty miles south of Bridgewater, began his education in the public schools of that community. He attended Bridgewater State College between 1955 and 1959, earning his undergraduate degree in secondary education and history. After teaching social studies at the junior-senior high school level in Somerset, Massachusetts, for two years, he went on to receive his MS, 1962, and PhD, 1971, in history from the University of Wisconsin. Almost all of Dr. Spence's teaching career was spent at Bridgewater State. Following his retirement in 1995, he began to do historical research on the Town of Bridgewater, concentrating mainly on the first quarter of the twentieth century, a period of American history in which he specialized.

Bridgewater Independent Administrative History

The *Bridgewater Independent* is a newspaper based in Bridgewater, Massachusetts that served as the town's primary newspaper for over a century. Started in 1876 by Henry T. Pratt as *Every Saturday*, the name was changed to the *Bridgewater Independent* in 1877. The *Bridgewater Independent* would go on to absorb another Bridgewater newspaper, the *Bridgewater Advertiser* on January 10, 1919 (the *Advertiser* began in 1903). A former owner and editor of the *Bridgewater Independent* was James Dickinson, father of famed Bridgewater author, [Louise Dickinson Rich](#). James Dickinson would act as editor, owner and publisher of the *Bridgewater Independent* from 1905 to his death in 1949. The now defunct *Bridgewater Independent* ended its run as a local newspaper solely for the Town of Bridgewater in 2019 when it merged with three other local town newspapers and rebranded as the *Journal-News Independent*. This newspaper, along with many others such as the *Brockton Enterprise* and the *Taunton Daily Gazette* are currently (2022) owned by Gannett and is part of the USA Today network.

Scope and Content Note

Nearly all content in this collection comes from microfilm of the *Bridgewater Independent*, covering the years from approximately 1880 to 1925. Dr. Spence spent ten years printing out pages from the microfilm, cutting the content into individual articles, and putting them onto index cards filed by subject. He included hand-written notes and dates on the cards. His research focusing on the years represented by the collection resulted in a collection of ten written works on this time period, referenced together as, *Bridgewater, Massachusetts: A Town in Transition*. Links to the digital files of these works can be found in the series descriptions within this finding aid, as well as in the Maxwell Library's [digital repository](#). Please note that there are very few clippings from 1877-1880. There are various primary and secondary sources prior to the creation of the *Bridgewater Independent*, most notably in the section on Law & Order. Each bullet point represents a card file. Box numbers with multiple subjects listed in front are due to Benjamin Spence's own filing system. In an effort to keep the collection as Dr. Spence arranged things,

anything marked off in brackets are notes that were added for clarification or to fill in blanks. Any question marks in the box listings are because Dr. Spence had questions about them himself.

Related collections include: twelve issues in physical print of the newspaper, *Every Saturday*, from 1876. This is the newspaper that existed less than a year before having the name changed to the *Bridgewater Independent* in 1877. Other newspaper collections in print include the *Bridgewater Independent* from 1985-2008 and numerous random issues pre-dating 1985; the *Bridgewater Townsman* from 1984-1990; numerous bound Taunton based newspapers, including the *Taunton Democrat* and the *Bristol County Democrat* among others, covering the years 1823-1824, 1839-1863, 1881-1883, and 1887-1889; the *Boston Gazette* from 1804-1811; the *Boston Daily Advertiser* from 1914-1918; the *Boston Irish Echo* from 1981-1987; and numerous Bridgewater State University student newspaper runs that includes the *Campus Comment* from 1928 to the present. Dr. Spence's ten volume collection, [*Bridgewater, Massachusetts: A Town in Transition*](#), can be found in print format at the Maxwell Library's Archives & Special Collections as well as in the Library's digital repository (see links in the subject area descriptions to view the digital versions). And finally, the Maxwell Library has nearly a complete run of print Bridgewater Annual Town Reports from 1853 to the present; West Bridgewater Annual Town Reports (66 issues between 1853 and 1995); and East Bridgewater Annual Town Reports (107 issues between 1854 and 1988).

Subject Area Descriptions

Subject Area 1: Education in Bridgewater [5 Boxes, box numbers 1-5]

[*Education in Bridgewater, Massachusetts, 1900-1910*](#), by Dr. Benjamin Spence

[*A History of the Parker-Gates House and its First Four Residents to 1925, Bridgewater, Massachusetts*](#), by Dr. Benjamin Spence

This section deals primarily with the education system of the Bridgewater State Normal School, now Bridgewater State University. The contents of this part of the collection also includes education outside of the Normal School, such as at the Bridgewater High School, the McElwain School, and various other educational institutions of the time. Included in this topic are items such as graduation ceremonies, news regarding various teachers, and news on upcoming projects at the Normal School.

Subject Area 2: Town Services in Bridgewater [4 Boxes, box numbers 6-9]

This subject area shows the many services that were handled by the Town of Bridgewater. Included are articles dealing with the various banks in Bridgewater, such as the Bridgewater Savings Bank and the Bridgewater Trust Company. Other topics include early adoption of electricity in the town and the usage of electricity in Bridgewater dating back to the 1880s. Lastly, this section also shows the various articles on the water and sewer system in Bridgewater.

Subject Area 3: Fire Service [1 Box, box number 10]

[*Fire Service in Bridgewater, Massachusetts, 1844-1910*](#), by Dr. Benjamin Spence

This portion deals with the various developments in the fire service of Bridgewater. Included are subjects such as renovations to an aging Fire Department Headquarters, as well as various fires that were dealt with by the fire service during this time. Also represented are articles on the fire at the Bridgewater Normal School which took place in 1924.

Subject Area 4: Politics in Bridgewater [6 Boxes, box numbers 11-16]

This section of the collection deals with the various political dealings in the Town of Bridgewater. While mostly comprising of local town politics, there are some national political dealings talked about as well. Party politics in Bridgewater and around the nation are discussed in length. This section also has a comprehensive section on the First World War, along with its aftermath, pre-1914 foreign policy, and the Spanish Influenza pandemic of 1918. Lastly, various articles can be found from the *Bridgewater Independent* that cover foreign news from after the First World War.

Subject Area 5: Law & Order [3 Boxes, box numbers 17-19]

[*Law and Order in Colonial Bridgewater, Massachusetts with Special Emphasis on Its South Parish/Precinct*](#), by Dr. Benjamin Spence

[*Law and Order in Bridgewater, Massachusetts, 1774-1821, with Emphasis on the South Parish/Precinct*](#), by Dr. Benjamin Spence

Law and Order covers a wider range of history than that of the other sections in this collection. This section covers the various criminal cases in Bridgewater dating back to the 1600s. In the two boxes which predate the *Bridgewater Independent*, it should be noted that these boxes are filled with notes from Benjamin Spence, as well as some secondary sources on the matter. As for the third and final box, the *Bridgewater Independent* covered various criminal cases in Bridgewater and some surrounding towns. This includes some very brief articles on the infamous Sacco & Vanzetti case of 1920, and material on the Sheriff who arrested them, Michael E Stewart.

Subject Area 6: Churches in Bridgewater [8 Boxes, box numbers 20-27]

[*Churches in Bridgewater, 1900-1910*](#), by Dr. Benjamin Spence

This part of the collection covers the various churches which reside or resided in Bridgewater from the late nineteenth century until 1925. The churches covered include the Unitarian Church, the Trinity Episcopal Church, the Bridgewater Baptist Church, the Methodist Church, the Central Square Congregational Church, The Church of St. Thomas Aquinas, and the Scotland Congregational Church.

Subject Area 7: Social & Culture [4 Boxes, box numbers 28-31]

This topic differs from most others in this collection as it covers a much wider variety of topics. Topics include interesting activities such as water activities, hunting and other ways to spend leisure time, celebrations of various holidays in Bridgewater such as the Fourth of July, various

arts in Bridgewater, and some information on the sports that were played in the town. Among this material on sports, there is information on MLB Hall of Famer Mickey Cochrane and his family while he still lived in Bridgewater, as well as his early career in the Major Leagues.

Subject Area 8: Organizations in Bridgewater [8 Boxes, box numbers 32-39]

[List of Civic Organizations](#) in Bridgewater created by Dr. Benjamin Spence

This topic is unique in its somewhat broad scope as the term “organizations” was loosely defined in Benjamin Spence’s original organizational system. This covers various organizations, with many being branches of well-known national organizations. Most notably, we see branches of the Anti-Suffrage League, the League of Women Voters, and more. Included in this collection is a formalized list created by Dr. Spence of all the town organizations he uncovered from his research, with most being organized in the same order as in the current collection (see the link above to view the list).

Subject Area 9: Stores & Services [10 Boxes, box numbers 40-49]

[Stores and Services in Bridgewater, 1900-1910](#), by Dr. Benjamin Spence

[Bridgewater, Massachusetts, 1910-1920 \(Including Historical Background\)](#),

Volume 1, by Dr. Benjamin Spence

The focus of this collection are the various stores that existed in Bridgewater. These stores range from simple grocery stores to drug stores and even jewelry shops. Second in this are the private services in Bridgewater. These services range from electrical services to shoe repair. Lastly is agriculture, which covers various farms around the town, as well as the infamous state farm which was previously attached to the prison.

Subject Area 10: Manufacturing in Bridgewater [3 Boxes, box numbers 50-52]

[Manufacturing in Bridgewater, 1900-1910](#), by Dr. Benjamin Spence

This topic covers the various manufacturing plants and factories in Bridgewater. A large portion of this section deals with the McElwain Shoe Factory, along with various other shoe factories which made Bridgewater well-known in the shoe industry. The topic also deals with other types of manufacturing such as ironworks, sawmills, and many more important industries in the town.

Subject Area 11: Transportation in Bridgewater [3 Boxes, box numbers 53-55]

[Transportation in Bridgewater, 1900-1910](#), by Dr. Benjamin Spence

This part of the collection covers the various transportation methods used in Bridgewater. The first box covers electric railroads and trolley systems across Bridgewater and beyond. The second box covers the automobile industry in Bridgewater. The last box has a focus on the railroad system in Bridgewater, but also covers motorcycles, horses, bicycles, and the various bridges in Bridgewater.

Subject Area 12: Population of Bridgewater [3 Boxes, box numbers 56-58]

This topic covers various aspects of the population of Bridgewater. It contains various notes on many ethnic groups in Bridgewater, including the Irish, Italians, and African Americans. This section also covers various biographical notes on significant figures who resided in Bridgewater during the early twentieth century and late nineteenth century, all organized in alphabetical order. Lastly are lists of taxpayers in Bridgewater which give insight into the various people who lived there during the era covered.

Subject Area 13: Health in Bridgewater [1 Box, box number 59]

While a shorter section, this section covers various topics in the medical field. The main topic of this section are individual illnesses of various Bridgewater residents which were covered in the *Bridgewater Independent*. It also covers the various health institutions in and around Bridgewater, as well as some doctors who practiced medicine in the area. See the section on Politics for notes on the 1918 Spanish Influenza Pandemic.

Subject Area 14: Town History [6 Boxes, box numbers 60-65]

Being the last section in the collection, this has the broadest scope. This section goes over various parts of the town such as the houses, famous families, and notable sites in Bridgewater. It also contains various other secondary sources used by Benjamin Spence, most notably from the 1976 book, *History Highlights: Bridgewater, Massachusetts*. The final box is research and publications from Benjamin Spence.

Dr. Spence Collection

Box List

1) **Education in Bridgewater** [5 boxes, box numbers 1-5]

a) Bridgewater Normal School

Box 1: 1879-1915

- 1879-1889
- 1890-1891
- 1892-1893
- 1896-1897
- 1898-1899
- 1900-1901
- 1902
- 1903
- 1904
- 1905
- 1906
- 1907
- 1908
- 1909-1910

- Normal School Gymnasium, 1901-1910
- Boyden Park, 1901-1908
- 1911
- 1912
- 1913
- 1914
- 1915

Box 2: 1916-1925

- 1916
- 1917
- 1918
- 1919
- Jan 23, 1920
- 1921
- 1922
- 1923
- 1924
- 1925
- Baseball, 1901-1922 – Just some samples
- Basketball [random years]

b) Education Outside the Normal School

Box 3: Public Schools Bridgewater, 1860s-1925

(1. Education in Bridgewater to 1910 2. Evening School 3. McElwain School 4. Junior High 5. Outlying Schools)

- Mostly public education
- School Consolidation Debate, 1880s-1903; Must Consider opening of Model School of Normal School
- Evening School, 1907-1924
- McElwain School, 1910-1925; First Multi-classroom school – 9 Junior High – comes four years later
- Junior High School, 1917-1925
- Changing Configuration of outlying Schools, 1870s – 1925
- Outlying Schools – Evaluation by 1904 Superintendent W.N. Sanderson “hardly following” and C.A. Record, 1905
- District Schools Outlying, 1870s-1925
- Central School
- Pratt School, 1855-1935
- Sprague School, 1850s- Corner of Broad and High St. #3 sold in 1896 to James Smith
- East School Bridgewater Closed, 1913 Intersect of High, Plymouth, and Pearl Streets, 58 years
- Auburn School opened, 1848, closed in 1890

- Flagg School, 1850-late 1840s (1848); District Number Six School corner of Summer and Auburn Streets an intersect of Flagg and Summer St.
- Bates School #7
- Dyer School Scotland, section of Bridgewater #8
- Main St. School, 1849-1913
- Wilbar School #10 closed in 1888
- South Street School, 1896-(1920 closed) #11, Had been the Bassett school house, removed from North St. to South St.
- Blackstone School – Historic Name – Great Wards School – Historic Name #12 closed, 1942 Titicut St. at State Farm, called this in the late 1880s, named in honor of Hales Blackstone Superintendent of the State Farm, 1882-1922
- Bassett North St. Closed, 1892 – opposite London Lane moved and became the south school
- Prospect School #14 Closed, 1941

Box 4: Education in Bridgewater to 1925

(1). (1. Superintendents 2. School Committees 3. Teacher Associations 4. Parent Teachers Associations 5. Public Health Reports 6. Enrollment Figures) (2). (1. Medical Inspectors [doctors] 2. Some Primary + secondary sources 3. Teachers 4. Miscellaneous)

- Superintendents, 1886-1899
- Establishment of Position of Superintendent of Schools, 1886-1899
- List of Superintendents, 1888-1925; 1. George H. Danforth, 1888-1889; 2. Francis W. Sweet, 1889-1891; 3. W.H. Sanderson, 1891-1905; 4. Record-1905-1909; 5. John E Demeyer, 1909-1918
- C.A. Record Superintendent of schools, 1905-1909
- John DeMeyer, 1909-1910, Superintendent of Schools
- 1911
- 1912
- 1913
- 1914
- 1918-1925
- School Committee, 1900-1925; See notes on industrial schools also
- Teacher Associations
- PTA Movement
- Public Health Nurses, 1920s; reports on schools
- Some Enrollment Figures, 1870s-1900s
- Teachers in Bridgewater Schools, 1902-1924
- Medical Inspector of the Schools Calvin Pratt, 1900-
- Some Primary + Secondary Sources
- Miscellaneous
- Model School at Normal

Box 5: Public Education Bridgewater Massachusetts High school in 1860s-1925 (Sports in a separate box)

- High School Bridgewater, 1867-1900; some background in the years, 1900-1925; see my work for some documentation
- High School, 1901-1905
- High School, 1906-1910
- High School, 1911-1915
- High School, 1916-1920
- High School, 1921-1925

2) **Town Services in Bridgewater** [4 boxes, box numbers 6-9]

a) Town Services

Box 6: Bridgewater Town Services to 1925

- Evaluations of Bridgewater, 1889-1910
- Care and Concern of Bridgewater Trees
- Bridgewater Streets to 1910; Robert McNeeland Superintendent of Streets; this essay has not been published [see box 65 for Spence's essay on Bridgewater trees]
- Establishment and Care of Bridgewater Streets, 1900-1910
- Establishment and Care of Bridgewater Streets, 1911-1920
- Establishment and Care of Bridgewater Streets, 1921-1925
- Bridgewater, MA Almshouse – Poor Farm, 1880s-1925 – Care of the Poor
- Public Dump Bridgewater, MA established in 1886 ??? in Bedford St.
- Public Health, Nurses Bridgewater, MA, 1919 to 1925
- Inspection of Cattle
- Playground, Swimming Pool, Proposed Playground
- State Highways and Bridgewater, MA
- Dogs in Bridgewater, 1900-1925
- Bridgewater Public Library, 1880s-1925
- Bridgewater Bridges, 1880s-1918

Box 7: Electricity Lighting Radio Telephone etc. [See box 65 for more information]

- Electric Lighting, 1880s, 1890s
- Electric Lighting, 1900-1910
- Electric Power, 1911-1920
- Edison Electric Illuminations Co., 1921-1925
- Brockton Gas Light Co., 1911-1923
- Telephone Pre-1900-1910
- Telephone Service, 1911-1925
- Radio Bridgewater MA, 1921-1925

b) Banks

Box 8: (1). (1. Bridgewater Savings Bank 2. Bridgewater Savings Bank, 1902 3. Bridgewater Trust Bank, 1913 4. Stamp Savings System, 1900 5. National Bank v. Trust Bank) (2).(Commercial Club, 1900)

- Bridgewater Cooperative Bank, 1888-1925
- Bridgewater Savings Bank, 1872-1925
- Bridgewater Trust Co., 1913-1925
- National Bank – Discussion of Bridgewater Adopting a National Bank
- Stamp Savings Bank, 1897-1919
- Commercial Club Bridgewater: 1. Early in 1890-91 2. Commercial Club, 1900-1910 3. Later – Board of Trade Chamber of Commerce

c) Water & Sewer

Box 9: Town of Bridgewater “septic” to 1925 towns sewage system to 1925

- Bridgewater Water Issue, 1880s
- Bridgewater, MA Water System, 1890s
- 1900-1910, Water System Bridgewater, MA
- Water System, 1911-1919
- Water System, 1921-1925
- Water Issue, 1925
- Several Secondary Sources
- Sewage Issue, 1880s to 1924

3) **Fire Service in Bridgewater** [1 box]

a) Fire Service

Box 10: [No Label]

- 1884-1886
- 1887
- 1888-1889
- 1890-1891
- 1893-1895
- 1896-1898
- 1899
- 1900-1910
- 1901
- 1901-1910
- 1902
- 1903
- 1904
- 1905
- 1906
- 1907
- 1908
- 1909
- 1910
- 1911-1920
- 1912

- 1913
- 1914
- 1915
- 1916
- 1917-1919
- 1920
- 1921-1925
- 1922
- 1923
- 1924
- 1925
- Newspaper from 2010 featuring current and former firefighters discussing the current fire department headquarters

4) **Politics in Bridgewater** [6 boxes, box numbers 10-16]

a) Politics

Box 11: Political moderations Bridgewater, MA cited in *Bridgewater Independent* and Town Reports, 1880-1903; Some other sources also

- 1880s
- 1890s
- 1900
- 1901
- 1902
- 1903

Box 12: Political moderations in Bridgewater Massachusetts, mostly cited in the *Bridgewater Independent* and the Town Reports, 1904-1911

- 1904
- 1905
- 1906
- 1907
- 1908
- 1909
- 1910
- 1911

Box 13: Political Moderations in Bridgewater Massachusetts, mostly cited in the *Bridgewater Independent* and Town Reports, 1912-1921

- 1912
- 1913
- 1914
- 1915
- 1916

- 1917
- 1918
- 1919
- 1920
- 1921

Box 14: Some topics that warrant additional research. Political Moderation in Bridgewater Massachusetts, mostly cited in the *Bridgewater Independent* and Town Reports, 1922-1925

- 1922
- 1923
- 1924
- 1925
- Town Hall, 1850s to 1925
- Charles H. Bixby
- Socialism; More in the boxes dealing with political matters
- Noteworthy Women in Bridgewater, late 19th century to 1925

b) World War One

Box 15: Bridgewater The Great War (WW1), 1914-1918; Includes – notes on the influenza pandemic – 1918-1919; Some assorted notes on foreign affairs prior to 1914

- Foreign news before Great War
- Bridgewater, MA, Great War became known as WW1; United States Officially entered April, 1917
- Bridgewater and the Great War, 1917
- Bridgewater and the Great War, 1918
- Spanish Influenza, Sept. 1918 – Dec. 27, 1918; War coming to an end armistice Nov. 20, 1918

Box 16: Aftermath of WW1 – Bridgewater MA, 1919-1925

- 1919, Aftermath of the Great War
- 1920
- 1921
- 1922
- 1923
- Some Primary and Secondary Sources – Pertaining to the Great [War] (Mainly dealing with import[ance] of war in Bridgewater)
- Some Secondary Sources - European War

5) **Law & Order** [3 boxes box numbers 17-19]

a) Law & Order

Box 17: 1656-1774

- Various notes and Secondary Sources

Box 18: 1774-1859

- Various Notes and Secondary Sources

Box 19: 1860-1925

- Law and Order, 1900-1910
- 1899
- 1900
- 1902
- 1903
- 1904
- 1905
- 1906
- 1907
- 1908
- 1909
- 1911-1915
- 1916-1920
- 1921-1925
- Liquor Issue, 1717-1920s

6) **Churches in Bridgewater** [8 boxes box numbers 20-27]

a) Churches

Box 20: Trinity Episcopal Church

- 1880s and, 1890s
- 1900-1901
- 1902
- 1903-1904
- 1905-1906
- 1907-1908
- 1909-1911
- 1912-1913
- 1914-1917
- 1918-1919
- 1920
- 1921
- 1922
- 1923
- 1924
- 1925

Box 21: Unitarian Church Bridgewater Notes

- 1884-1899
- 1900-1901
- 1902-1903
- 1904-1905
- 1906-1907-1908
- 1909-1910
- 1911-1912
- 1913-1914
- 1915-1916
- 1917-1918-1919
- 1920
- 1921
- 1922
- 1923
- 1924
- 1925

Box 22: Baptist Church Bridgewater, MA

- 1897-1899
- 1900-1901
- 1902-1903
- 1904
- 1905
- [1906 Missing]
- 1907-1908
- 1909-1910
- 1911
- 1912
- 1913
- 1914
- 1915
- 1916
- 1916-1917
- 1917
- 1918
- 1919
- 1920
- 1921
- 1922
- 1923
- 1924
- 1925
- Secondary + Primary Sources

Box 23: Methodist Church Bridgewater, MA

- 1884
- 1899-1905
- 1906-1910
- 1911-1915
- 1916-1920
- 1921-1922
- 1923-1925
- Variety of Sources

Box 24: Central Square Congregational Church Bridgewater, MA

- 1884-1899
- 1900
- 1901
- 1902
- 1903-1905
- 1906-1907
- 1908-1909
- 1910
- 1911
- 1912
- 1913
- 1914
- 1915
- 1916
- 1917
- 1918
- 1919
- 1920
- 1921
- 1922
- 1923
- 1924
- 1925

Box 25: New Jerusalem Church Bridgewater, MA

- 1884-1889
- 1900-1901
- 1902-1904
- 1905-1907
- 1908-1911
- 1912-1914
- 1915-1918

- 1919-1920
- 1921
- 1922
- 1923
- 1924
- 1925

Box 26: St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church

- 1897-1899
- 1900-1901
- 1902
- 1903
- 1904
- 1905-1907
- 1908-1910
- 1911-1913
- 1914-1916
- 1917-1919
- 1920
- 1921
- 1922
- 1923
- 1925
- Some secondary sources

**Box 27: Miscellaneous Activities and Issues Bridgewater Churches, 1880s to 1925;
Scotland Congregational Church Bridgewater, MA.**

- Scotland Congregational Church, 1884-1895
- Scotland Congregational Church, 1900-1903
- Scotland Congregational Church, 1904-1909
- Scotland Congregational Church, 1911-1919
- Scotland Congregational Church, 1920-1925
- Miscellaneous Activities and Issues Concerning Bridgewater Churches, 1880s-1925
- Issues of State-Church Relations
- Church Directories and Calendars, 1884-1904
- Bridgewater Council of Churches Founded in late Feb., 1923
- Special Evangelical Services, 1916
- Bridgewater School of Religious Education, 1922-1924
- Daily Vacation Bible School, 1925
- Work of Red Cross in Bridgewater, MA, 1913-1925
- Salvation Army, 1901-1925
- Churches (other than the 8 in Bridgewater)
- Bridgewater-Halifax Gospel Mission, 1914-1917

- Christmas Services, 1885-1925
- Easter Services, 1884-1923
- Union Thanksgiving Services Protestant Churches, 1893-1925
- Union Services (generally Protestant Church)
- Church Picnics, 1912-1917

7) **Social & Culture in Bridgewater** [4 boxes, box numbers 28-31]

a) Culture & Social

Box 28: 1880s-1925 Box 1 [Holidays]

- Water Activities Enjoying Bridgewater's Water resources – (Mostly recreation), 1899-1925
- Hunting, 1911-1925
- Activities in Winter Months Bridgewater, MA, 1880s to 1925; Sleighing Coasting and Skating
- Several Various Miscellaneous ways of enjoying leisure time Bridgewater, MA (1880s-1925); Pool Rooms – Roller Skating (Town Hall) – Tennis and Golf – Circuses – Fairs – Whist Games (Parties)
- Vacations Bridgewater
- Holidays Bridgewater, MA Most notes on July 4th, Memorial Day
- Memorial Day, 1880s-1925
- Fourth of July, 1891-1925

Box 29: 1880s-1925 Box 2 [Arts]

- Moving Pictures, 1899-1925; Emphasis on the Princess Theatre on Broad St.
- [Heading has been crossed out]
- Moving Pictures, 1899-1912-1916; Town Hall; Bridgewater Amusement Co. Prior to Princess Theatre Erected on Broad St.
- Princess Theatre Dec 13, 1912-1913
- Princess Theatre on Broad St., 1914-1916
- Princess Theatre, Bridgewater MA. Broad St., 1917-1919
- Dance, 1900-1920
- Theatre-Drama, 1901-
- Bridgewater, MA Art Exhibits, 1903-1922
- Bridgewater Band, 1880-1925
- Music Bridgewater MA, 1880s-1925; Notes arranged chronologically, generally I have not included Churches, Public Schools, and the Normal School in this section -refer to my research notes under these two tables for more on music

b) Sports

Box 30: Sports in Bridgewater to 1925

- Baseball Bridgewater, 1901-1910
- Baseball Bridgewater, 1911
- Baseball Bridgewater, 1912

- Baseball Bridgewater, 1913
- Baseball Bridgewater, 1914
- Baseball Bridgewater, 1915
- Baseball Bridgewater, 1916
- Baseball Bridgewater, 1917
- Baseball Bridgewater, 1919-1921
- Baseball Bridgewater May-Oct., 1922
- Baseball Bridgewater, 1923
- Baseball Bridgewater, 1924
- Baseball Bridgewater, 1925
- Bridgewater Basketball, 1912-1925
- Football Bridgewater, 1920-1923
- Bowling in Bridgewater to 1925
- Boxing in Bridgewater, 1920-1925
- Tennis does not include High School
- Mickey Cochrane

Box 31: Sports in Bridgewater High School, 1890s-1925

- High School Athletic Association, 1901-1925
- Bridgewater High School Baseball, 1900-1903
- Bridgewater High School Baseball, 1904-1906
- Bridgewater High School Baseball, 1907-1909
- Bridgewater High School Baseball, 1910-1919
- Bridgewater High School Football, 1890s-1925
- Bridgewater High School Basketball, 1900-1925
- Bridgewater High School Basketball, 1901-1925
- Bridgewater High School Tennis, 1900-1922

8) **Organizations in Bridgewater** [8 boxes, box numbers 32-39]

- a) Organizations [See Box 65 Folder 1 for complete list of organizations or see link in subject area descriptions]

Box 32: 1797-1889 Box 1

- Fellowship Lodge of Masons 1797-1925; See also yellow envelope on this topic
- Bridgewater Academy 1799-; Building Became Bridgewater's Public High School in 1870s
- Plymouth County Agricultural Society founded in 1819; Some bibliographic references
- Plymouth County Agricultural Society, 1880s
- Plymouth County Agricultural Society, 1890s
- Plymouth County Agricultural Society, 1900-1905
- Plymouth County Agricultural Society, 1906-1909
- Plymouth County Agricultural Society, 1911-1925

- Bridgewater Singing Society Organized in 1830; See the Crane History of Bridgewater p. 819
- Bridgewater Cemetery Corporation - Prospect Cemetery; See other cemeteries in box on population, 1842-1925; Most references are from the *Bridgewater Independent*
- Fire District, 1844-1894
- Ladies' Sewing Circle of New Jerusalem founded in 1856 – first of its kind Bridgewater, MA. In Bridgewater founded in 1856; see page 203 in *History Highlights*; see Nov. 1, 1895, p. 203 History of this society
- Pioneer Lodge of Odd Fellows Founded, 1877
- *Bridgewater Independent*, 1877-1925

Box 33: 1791-1889 Box 2

- Good Samaritan Club, 1876-1877
- Bridgewater Lodge Knights of Honor, 1878; 1. See Crane's History of Bridgewater p. 809 2. A national Lodge – much information in line (Frank N. Churchill) Proprietor of a dry good store in Bridgewater - Western side of the common was active at the national level
- The Unitarian Ladies Sewing Club, 1880s? [No notes]
- Bridgewater Band, 1871
- First Bridgewater Improvement Association, 1885-
- Young Men's Catholic Benevolent Society, 1885 – Hall in Centre St. Completed
- Bridgewater Choral Society, 1886; See essay on Gates House
- Bridgewater Post of the Grand Army of the Republic, 1887 and some veterans who might not be mentioned of the GAR entries, 1887-1925; some underread references of veterans
- Bridgewater Water Co., 1887 Private Company (in 1925 – waterworks became a public utility)
- Half Hour Club, 1889

Box 34: 1890s Box 1

- Sons of Veterans, 1890? Need to locate my source
- Chautauqua Movement, 1890-1922
- Ancient Order of Hiberians, 1891; met in Bridgewater Hall organized in 1891
- Ladies Auxiliary of AOH, 1892
- Bridgewater Branch of Women's Christian Temperance Union, 1891 (There were several organizations dealing the League Issue)
- Old Bridgewater Historical Society, 1894-1925 [References to other notes were removed for use and never returned]
- Grange, 1894-1907 1. Bridgewater Grange reorganized in 1894 2. See history in *Bridgewater Independent*, 1904 – 10th anniversary 3. May 1905 – Death of Benjamin Harden – Pratt alum 4. Bridgewater Grange disbands Sept. 1907; Places where meetings were held: Casey's Hall – Main St. – Masonic Hall – Odd Fellows Hall
- Bridgewater Grange, 1911-1920

- Bridgewater Grange, 1921-1925
- King's Daughters Bridgewater Churches, 1890s
- Women's Relief Corps founded, 1895
- W.R.C, 1895-1908, a very active organization
- W.R.C, 1911-1920
- W.R.C, 1921-1925
- St. Beatrice Court of Foresters, 1895; Ladies' Court of Foresters
- Bridgewater Building Club, 1896, Associated with Odd Fellows Building

Box 35: 1890s Box 2

- Whist Club, 1897?
- Knights of Columbus, 1897-1901 Knights of Columbus was organized in Bridgewater in Late Jan. 1900
- Daughters of the American Revolution, 1890 1. National Organization Founded in 1890 2. 1897 – Organization in La??? Area – Known as the Delilah Sampson Chapter
- Society of the Holy Name of St. Thomas Aquinas Branch (Formed in the, 1890s)
- Bridgewater Social Club, 1899-1900; Sam P. Gates Elected President in June 1899
- Young People's League New Jerusalem Church, 1897-1914
- Ousamequin Club, 1898-1925

Box 36: 1900-1919 Box 1

- Foresters of America in Bridgewater, 1900-1914 – reamended Chapter amalgamated with Brashlin Court
- Reading Club, 1900; President Jessie Leach
- Commercial Club late, 1900-1910; early Writing of Ben Spence
- Bridgewater Musical Society, 1901
- Young Men's Club, 1901; not formed
- Jolly Club met at Benevolent Hall, 1904-1905
- South Street Cemetery Association Cemetery Goes back to 1750s, see Townscape Institute Form 810- pp. 687-88
- Red Men of Bridgewater, 1901-1925
- Visiting Nurses See cards under health, 1901?
- Daughters of Pocahontas, 1902; Alequeppa Council, 1902
- YMCA + YWCA, 1903-1925, 1919 – Bridgewater becomes part of Plymouth County YMCA
- Bridgewater Improvement Association, 1901 to 1904; Bridgewater Village Improvement Society May 1904
- Bridgewater Improvement Association, 1904- May 1904, Successor to Bridgewater Village Improvement Society
- Companions of the Forest, 1904-1905
- Arts + Crafts, 1904

- The *Bridgewater Advertiser*, 1904 Rival of *Bridgewater Independent* [Absorbed by *Independent* in 1919]
- Daughters of Rebekah (Seven Stars Lodge) Lodge formed in March, 1905 after 2 previous attempts met in Odd Fellows Building, 1905-1909
- Gentlemen's Club, 1905-1906
- Business Men's Association, 1906
- Unions in Bridgewater, 1906 See notes on Industry in Bridgewater, 1910
- New Theatrical Company, 1907

Box 37: 1900-1919 Box 2

- Men's Club Central Square Church, 1910, not the only church to house a "men's club"
- Boy Scouts, 1911-1925
- Bridgewater Club Formed in 1912 by several young men (not related to an earlier Bridgewater dating to late, 1890s)
- Bridgewater Sportsman's Club
- Bridgewater Branch of the Armenian National Association
- Bridgewater Poultry Association, 1913-1914
- Bridgewater Medical Society, 1912
- Women's Exchange, 1914
- Suffrage Issue, 1914-1922
- Daughters of Isabella, 1914
- Anti-Suffrage League, 1915
- Bridgewater Welfare Community, 1915
- Scotland Cemetery Association, 1915-1924; Most likely established at an earlier date and other organizations
- New Community Center (Baptist Gymnasium), 1915-1925; Brotherhood Gymnasium
- Birchwood Club, 1916
- Bridgewater Portuguese Band, 1916-1920
- Lithuanian Organization, 1916-1921
- Bridgewater Armenian League Post, 1919-1925
- Bridgewater Rifle Club, 1916
- Camp for Girls, 1916-1920
- Forum, 1918-1923
- Red Cross Campaign, 1917-1920
- Girl Scouts, 1918-1925
- Community Sing, 1918-1920
- Scotland Community Club, 1918- also Merry Meeting Club, 1912; Scotland Granite Club, 1912
- Bird Club, 1919-1922
- Friend of Irish Freedom, 1919
- Committee of WW1 Memorial, 1919
- Bridgewater Catholic Club, 1919

Box 38: 1920-1925

- American Legion Women's Auxiliary, 1920
- Our Town Club Dec 17, 1920 – In local improvements in some ways organized after rotary club at Brockton
- Darlington Improvement Society arranged in 1920
- Bridgewater Athletic Association, 1920-1923
- Catholic Women's Club, 1921-1924
- Salvation Army, 1920
- Order of the Eastern Star, 1921-1925
- Rod and Gun Club, 1921
- League of Women Voters, 1921
- Polish Club in Bridgewater, 1920, Probably bought the Armenian Library
- Scotland Women's Club, 1923-1925
- Chamber of Commerce, 1925; preceded by Brand & Trade
- Music Club (Same as society of, 1901??), 1924-1925

Box 39: Post Office, Town Library, Old Bridgewater Historical Society [OBHS notes were removed for use and never returned]

- Some General Primary + Secondary Sources, Bridgewater Public Library
- Bridgewater Public Library to 1899
- Bridgewater Public Library, 1900-1910
- Bridgewater Public Library, 1911-1920
- Public Library, 1921-1925
- Postal Services to 1899; Some Secondary Sources; Items from the *Bridgewater Independent*, 1880s to 1899
- Postal Services, 1900 – 1910, mostly arranged by year and taken from the *Bridgewater Independent*
- Postal Services, 1913
- Postal Services, 1914
- Postal Services, 1915
- Postal Services, 1916
- Postal Services, 1917
- Postal Services, 1918
- Postal Services, 1919
- Postal Services, 1920
- Postal Services, 1921
- Postal Services, 1922
- Postal Services, 1923
- Postal Services, 1924
- Postal Services, 1925

9) **Stores & Services in Bridgewater** [10 boxes, box numbers 40-49]

a) Stores

Box 40: Prior to 1890

- Fairbanks Pre-1900
- Fairbanks co., 1921-1925
- Hoopers Clark Pre-1889
- Hooper through, 1919
- A. I. Simmons Central Square Market, 1880s-1924
- Crane + Burrill Pre-1900
- Burrill + Sons, 1911-1920, became Public Economy Market
- Clark's Jewelry Shop
- Cole's Drug Store, 1911-1920
- DB Cole pre-1900
- Coles Federal Drug Store, 1911-1925
- Ferguson's Shop
- R.H. Fergusons, 1921-25
- Wilcox Brothers Drugstores 1. Washburn Succeeded by 2. Wilcox

Box 41: 1890s

- Central Square Grocery, 1890s-1925
- S.E. Welch – Milliner, 1890 Mitchell Block to Oct. 1891 to Elwell's Block, 1902 – Move to Bridgewater Starts at Michell Block – West Side of Central Square – then to Elwell's Block
- A.M. Foster – Elwell's, 1898-1904; mentioned a preceding Salon's
- Fruit Stores Bridgewater Ma, 1890s-1925; Costa's Balboni's Christmas
- Frank N. Churchill
- Hutchinson's Lumber Yard
- Casey's, 1897-1920
- Miss Claching's Store in Odd Fellows Building, 1897-1925; Scheldes Locke Caldwell Shaw
- Prophet's Pre, 1900 William P. – Dies, 1897 William S. – Takes Over furniture funeral business
- George Henry Watchmaker + Lenele moved to Elwell Block, 1895, left Bridgewater in 1902

Box 42: 1901-1910

- Hayes Ice Cream, 1901-1920s
- Scotten & Tyler, 1904-1925
- R. E. Purnell Hardware to 1925
- Crocker Pen, 1900-1921
- Leonard's + Background, 1890s-1920s
- Scotland Store Andrew's Sold to Tinkham, 1905
- Faxon's And Historical Background
- Sheehan' Store to 1925 Opened around, 1901, Main + High-Center St.

Box 43: 1911-1915

- Henry Carpenter Drugstore
- Dudley's Drugstore
- Gotshalk Clothing
- John Chrisomos Central Square Fruit Store, 1913-1922
- B-water Flower Shop
- The Cloverdale co., 1912-25
- Flynn-Callahan Block Followed by closure of store Dudley's Darelle Clurley - Butcher

[Gap in notes between 1916 and 1920]

Box 44: 1921-1925

- Stores in Brockton and Taunton
- Christmas Shopping, 1893-1919
- Grocery, Meat and Variety Stores, 1880-1910, arranged chronologically
- Economy Market new in 1917 Broad St.
- Clothing Bridgewater, MA., 1880s-1920s
- Bakers, 1890-1922
- Fish Markets, 1885-1922
- Shoe Stores to 1925
- Walter King – Small stores main + center summer St., 1899-1921
- Furniture Store, 1898-1925
- George Emerald Company Balloon Tires 560 Summer St., 1921-1924
- Radio Sales and Service, 1923-1925
- Store Issues in Central Bridgewater, 1895-1925
- Issue of Store Houses, 1901-1924
- Bridgewater Ice, Coal and Coke 81 Plymouth St., C.P. Lewis Coal Company
- Dry Goods Store
- Grain + Feed BF Elles John Cochrane Ferguson Charlie P. Feruza, 1898-1922
- Music Stores Edson's, 1918-1925
- Grady & Seaver Motor Market, 1921-1925, 1923- Buron Motor Sales
- Thomas Hooper Florist Well-Known Florist, 1880s; Spring Hall Annual Dies April 30, 1895 90 years old
- New York Bargain Store
- Tires, 1921-1925 Robert Oliver
- Parley's Ice Cream [No notes]
- Papamichael Market, 1921-25 Broad St.
- Remnant Shop, 1920s
- People's Market
- Stetson Market, 1923
- Shaw's Nightly Caldwell [No notes]
- Reo Cars, 1921-25
- U-Save Markets
- Norfolk Lumber Co, 1924 ...

- Miscellaneous Advertisements, 1891-1925

b) Private Services

Box 45: 1870s-1925 Box 1

- K.S. Sevaugian Ladies and Gent's Tailor Shop, 1913-1925, Started in the new Keith Block – 2nd T.L. – The 8 Main St. – From, 1917-1925 at 57 Broad St.
- Summer G. Duckworth Tailor also sold ready-made clothing
- Automotive garages and Services + gasoline, see notes on transportation
- Millinery, 1890s-1925, See Spence's Essay on Stores and Services in Bridgewater to 1910
- Henry G. Prophett especially items on Wallie's Metal Shingles, 1888-1923; good notes in biographical information
- Vacuum Cleaning – Home Cleaning, 1911-1912
- Shoe Repair, 1904-1920s
- Ice Issues and Companies, 1895-1924
- Ward – Fuel, 1921-1924
- Oil Business BI Dec. 15, 1922
- Electrical Services, 1909-1924; Included radio services
- Optometry
- Coal Issue, 1870s-1920s
- *Bridgewater Independent*, 1884-1895
- Printers See *Bridgewater Independent* Cards (Henry Pratt)

Box 46: 1870s-1925 Box 2

- Builders, Contracting, Carpenters, Excavators, 1880s-1920s (See carpenter's corner)
- J.R. Callahan and Co. James R. Callahan deal in April of, 1920 – Business continued see BI April 12, 1920 for a brief biography
- Thomas Moore Real Estate Broker, 1921-1923
- Keith and White Real Estate, 1910, Elwell Block Eastern Side of Central Square
- Frank W. Williams Real Estate and Auctioneer, 1908-1922
- Bridgewater Real Estate Co., 1912-1914
- Flynn S Brady Real Estate Agents, 1923
- McAdams Realty Company office in Brockton "We make a specialty of Bridgewater property," 1912-1911
- E.W. Merritt
- Real Estate, Harlan P. Shaw at Normal School, 1910-1922
- W.A. Boyden Real Estate Agency, 1914
- Houses Real Estate Agents not Mentioned, 1911-1925
- Deeds Recorded + Sales Bridgewater, MA, 1898
- Real Estate – General mates
- Lakeville State Sanatorium, Millet Sanatorium

Box 47: 1870s-1925 Box 3

- The Bradford Hotel-House
- Hyland House
- Photographers, 1880s-1920s
- Laundries, 1880s-1925, Check in store that were dropping off spots in laundry
- Express business Trucking, 1870s-1925 [Transporting business inventory by train trucks]
- Lewis J. Lowe, 1880s-1910s
- Lewis J. Lowe, 1911-1918, Sold to Samuel B. Charlton April 1918
- Thomas W. Crocker Late, 1880s to 1913
- William A. Boyden
- W. Philip Prophett Insurance Company, 1917-1920
- Howard Pratt Insurance, 1907-1924
- James F. Charnock
- Lewis G. Lowe and some secondary sources
- Junk Dealers, 1911-1920, Mainly deals with I.A. Herman also Max Smith
- Junk Dealers, 1912-1920, Mainly deals with I.A. Herman
- Max Smith – Junk, 1922-1924
- Beauty Parlors – 1911-1924
- Dressmakers, 1898-1924
- Plumbers, 1887-1925
- Burial Services, 1890s-1925
- Barbers Bridgewater to 1920s
- Bridgewater Restaurants, Mostly Early, 1900s
- Horse Retail Services, 1880s-1920s
- Lawyers in Bridgewater, 1870-1920s
- Painters to 1925

c) Agriculture

Box 48: Bridgewater Agriculture Box 1 [State Farm]

- Bridgewater State Farm to 1910
- State Farm at Bridgewater, 1911-1920
- Bridgewater State Farm, 1921-1925
- Sources in the History of Bridgewater's State Farm; One might wish to consult those sources directly – since my penmanship is not always the best! Ben Spence

Box 49: Bridgewater Agriculture Box 2

- Farms in Bridgewater, 1880s-1925
- Bridgewater's Geography
- Weather in Bridgewater some of which had an effect on farmers
- Miscellaneous Matters
- Some Secondary and Primary Sources - Agriculture

10) **Manufacturing in Bridgewater** [3 boxes, box numbers 50-52]

a) Manufacturing

Box 50: 1880s-1925 Box 1

- Shoe Manufacturing Bridgewater Ma, 1870s – 1894
- McElwain's Shoes, 1894-1897
- McElwain's Shoes, 1898-1899
- McElwain's Shoes, 1900-1902
- McElwain's Shoes, 1903-
- McElwain's Shoes, 1904-1906
- McElwain's Shoes, 1907-1908
- McElwain's Shoes, 1909-1911
- McElwain's Shoes, 1912
- McElwain's Shoes, 1913-1915
- McElwain's No Longer in Bridgewater, 1920s
- Secondary Sources on Shoes
- L. Q. White Shoe Company, 1908 – 1925; Closed, 1933
- Boot and Shoe Worker's Union, 1910-1921, L.Q. White
- Several Secondary Sources, L. Q. White Shoe Company
- Other Shoe Firms in the early, 1900s

Box 51: 1880s-1925 Box 2

- Freight Business indicative of Bridgewater's leading Industries
- Bridgewater Iron Works from, 1880s to 1903
- Stanley Works Bridgewater Ma., 1903-1924
- Hearings from some secondary sources
- Bridgewater Ma, 1870s-1925 some secondary sources give some historical background
- Henry Peram's Company 1. Begun in 1848- 2. Still operating in Broad St. - Bridgewater
- Paper Mill Leatherbound Mill Jenkins, 1880s-1925
- Secondary Sources Paper Mill Leatherbound Mill - Jenkins

Box 52: 1880s-1925 Box 3

- Bridgewater Box Company, 1890-1900; extra references to Henry O. Little
- Eastern Drain Co., 1899-1925, Bridgewater Ma.
- Henry J Miller Company, Monarch Horse Shoe Company, 1898-1900
- Bridgewater, Ma Independent Nail Co., 1898-1900
- Some secondary sources Talm + Nail
- Brick MFG to 1925 in Bridgewater Massachusetts
- C.A. Lapworth Wedding to 1922-1925 corner of South and Crescent St. Bridgewater MA
- Shawmut Lead Works, 1897-1910, Spring St. Bridgewater, MA.
- Saw Mills Bridgewater, MA, 1887-1924
- Ice Business, 1884-1925 Bridgewater, MA

- *Bridgewater Independents*, 1880s to 1925 many times indicate the awareness of establishing new industrial commerce
- Some Smaller manufacturing Businesses in Bridgewater Ma, 1898-1925 arranged chronologically – notice that some of these concerns have more than one item (different dates)
- Bridgewater, MA Labor issues – including unions – Listed chronologically, 1880s-1925 in some cases – unions are included in the notes in some of the bigger companies especially those in the shoe industry

11) Transportation in Bridgewater [3 boxes, box numbers 53-55]

a) Transportation

Box 53: [No Label]

- Electric Railway to 1896
- Brockton, Bridgewater, and Taunton Street Railway
- Electric Railway, 1898
- Taunton-Providence Electric Road, 1898-9
- The nip Pre, 1900 to 1910
- Electrics to Pilgrim Park, Nippenicket Lake Park, 1898
- Trolley Schedule, 1898-99
- Trolley Bridgewater, 1900-1910
- Electric Cars – Trolleys, 1911-1920
- Bridgewater, MA Trolleys, 1921-1925

Box 54: [No Label]

- Bridgewater Automobiles, 1899-1910
- Bridgewater Automobiles, 1911-1920
- Bridgewater Automobiles, 1921-1925
- Other Sources Primary + Secondary
- Bassett's Garage

Box 55: [No Label]

- Horses Bridgewater, MA
- Bridgewater and Railroads Secondary Sources Compiled
- Bridgewater and the Old Colony Railroad, 1880s
- Bridgewater and the Railroad, 1890-1897
- Bridgewater and Railroad, 1898
- Bridgewater Railroad, 1900-1905
- Bridgewater Railroad, 1906-1914
- Bridgewater and Railroad, 1915-1920
- Bridgewater Railroad, 1921-1925
- Bicycles, 1890s-1910
- Motorcycles
- Bridges Bridgewater, MA, 1922-1924

- Bus Transportation, 1919-1925
- Use of Taunton River, 1912-1920
- Bridgewater, Mass Airplanes, 1919
- Canals, 1921-1925

12) **Population of Bridgewater** [3 boxes, box numbers 56-58]

a) Population

Box 56: Notes on Population Ethnic Groups Cemeteries Bridgewater, MA to 1925

- Population Bridgewater, MA, 1850s-1890s
- Demographics Bridgewater, 1900
- Demographics Bridgewater, MA, 1901-1904
- Demographics Considerations Bridgewater, MA, 1905-1907
- Census Results Bridgewater, MA, 1910
- Demographic Considerations, 1912-1915
- Demographic Considerations, 1917-1925
- Ethnic Groups Bridgewater, MA to 1925
- Irish
- African Americans in Bridgewater, MA
- Drawing Diversity of Bridgewater's population
- Social Structure, 1911-1920
- Greeks in Bridgewater
- French, 1901-1920
- Gypsies in Bridgewater
- Italians in Bridgewater
- Portuguese in Bridgewater
- Polish population in Bridgewater
- Armenians in Bridgewater see more under organization in Bridgewater, 1903-1925
- Cemeteries Bridgewater

b) Biography

Box 57: Bridgewater, MA, Biographical entries to 1925. Many entries have been placed under additional topics

- Biographies have been organized alphabetically

c) Tax Papers

Box 58: [No Label]

- No true organizational scheme

13) **Health in Bridgewater** [1 box]

a) Health

Box 59: [No Label]

- Board of Health, 1900-1910
- Board of Health, 1911-1920
- Board of Health, 1921-1925
- Hospitals, 1900-1925; The entries in this section give some idea of where Bridgewater inhabitants went if hospitalization was necessary
- Diseases and other Medical Problems
- Health Secondary Sources
- Town Physicians, 1903-1924
- Medical Organizations
- Doctors who practiced in Bridgewater sometime between the, 1880s and, 1925 – They are listed alphabetically – and then entries are arranged chronologically

14) **Town History** [5 boxes, box numbers 60-64]

a) Chronologies

Box 60: Chronologies *Bridgewater Independent* See *History Highlights*, also See my chronologies in essay on Law + Order and Normal School [All chronologies are reported the following January after the year that is labeled]

- 1909
- 1910
- 1911
- 1912
- 1913
- 1915
- 1916
- 1918
- 1919
- 1920
- 1922
- 1923
- 1924
- 1925

b) Famous Sights

Box 61: Some Well-Known Sights in Bridgewater, MA

- Sources [on] Carver Pond
- Lake Nippenicket appears in other notes
- Scotland Section of Bridgewater
- Titicut
- Items in Common + Central Square in Bridgewater, MA from *Bridgewater Independent*, 1880s-1925 some notes missing
- A Selective List of Well-Known Cites Some no longer exist

c) Houses

Box 62: Houses in Bridgewater to 1925

- Houses in Bridgewater
- Houses (2)
- Plot in Which the Dates House was erected in 1884
- Dr. Edgar Parker
- Francis A. Parker
- Samuel P. Gates
- Mrs. Mary E. Shaw
- Notes for my talk to the returned faculty of Bridgewater Normal School

d) Notes on the History of Bridgewater

Box 63: Bridgewater History

- Historical Celebrations, 1856-1906-1921-1956
- Historical Articles and other short items
- Short List of Important Works in the history of Bridgewater, MA
- Tid bits of History of many from Bridgewater Need filing
- Old Families Bridgewater 1. Aldens 2. Edsons 3. Reveres 4. Washburns 5. Shaws – see Houses 6. Packards 7. Carys 8. Keiths 9. Leonards 10. Cranes
- Bridgewater, Ma, USA. Bridgewater, England
- Weather History Bridgewater MA, 1886-1910 Storms
- Indian [Native American] History 1. Begin by reading chapter 2 in History Highlights – contribution from David K. Welsh and Amelia G. Bingham PP23-32

e) Miscellaneous Notes

Box 64: Miscellaneous notes, secondary sources, and articles from the *Bridgewater Independent*

Box 65:**Folder**

1. Civic Organizations List
2. Reports of School Committee and Superintendents of Schools... [photocopies] 1916-1920
3. Reports of School Committee and Superintendents of Schools [photocopies] 1911-1915
4. Bridgewater, MA, 1910-1920 [written by Spence]
5. Copy of Bridgewater Historic District Study Committee June 1985
6. Industrial Development of Bridgewater, 1656-1870 by David R. Moore
7. Primary Sources Fellowship Lodge – Masons Bridgewater's Oldest Existing Organization [churches excepted]
8. History of the Mass. Correctional Institution, Bridgewater [photocopy]
9. Electric Power established in Bridgewater, from *Bridgewater Independent*
10. Descriptions of Sites in Bridgewater [written by Spence]
11. The trees of Bridgewater, 1901-1910 [written by Spence]

12. Arthur Clarke Boyden, A History of Bridgewater Normal to 1973 [photocopy]
13. Some preliminary notes on the political life of Bridgewater [written by Spence]
14. Founding of the First Baptist Church Bridgewater, MA [written by Spence]
15. 1) Chronology of Bridgewater Normal 1820's-1933 2) Building and Other Facilities of Bridgewater Normal School 1840-1926 3) Earlier Years of Administration Building – Bridgewater State 4) Boyden Hall Plan [all photocopies]
16. History of the Normal School by Artemis Hale [photocopy]