

American Antiquarian Society

Manuscript Collections

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**NAME OF COLLECTION:**

Tileston and Hollingsworth, Papers, 1755-1963

**LOCATION:**

Stacks  
Oversize mss. boxes "T"

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**SIZE OF COLLECTION:**

18 manuscript boxes; 4 folio volumes; 1 oversize folder

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**SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON COLLECTION:**

See accompanying sheet(s) for additional information.

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**SOURCE OF COLLECTION:**

Gift of Amor Hollingsworth, Jr., 1990 & 1991; box 1, the gift of Tracy Hollingsworth, 1999

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**COLLECTION DESCRIPTION:**

Papermaking in Massachusetts began in 1730 when a mill went into operation on the Neponset River in Milton. By 1800, six paper mills had been established on the river. James Boies (1702-1798), a native of Ireland, entered the business in 1760, when he went to work for his father-in-law, Jeremiah Smith (1704-1790), who was another Irish immigrant. In 1765, Boies built a paper mill of his own on the Neponset in partnership with Richard Clark ( -1777). A few years later, he built another mill in partnership with his son-in-law, Hugh McLean (1724-1799), who had also been born in Ireland. The partnership between Boies and McLean lasted until 1790.

In 1798, Boies hired Mark Hollingsworth (1777-1855), who had been born in Delaware. Hollingsworth probably learned the papermaking trade as an apprentice at Thomas Gilpin's mill near Wilmington. In 1801, Hollingsworth formed a partnership with Edmund I. Tileston (1775-1834) of Dorchester, Mass. Together they operated a mill leased from Boies' son, Jeremiah Smith Boies (1762-1851). As the firm prospered, Tileston and Hollingsworth bought, leased, or built additional mills on the Neponset, and by 1843 they were a large concern, operating all of the paper mills on the river. Tileston and Hollingsworth Company was incorporated in 1889, and continued as a major manufacturer of paper well into the twentieth century.

The Tilestons and Hollingsworths maintained a strong family interest in the company. Mark Hollingsworth married Edmund I. Tileston's sister, Waitstill Tileston (1779-1858) in 1804. In 1831, Tileston's son, Edmund Pitt Tileston (1805-1873), and Hollingsworth's son, Amor Hollingsworth (1808-1871), entered the firm. These grandsons of the founders eventually succeeded their fathers as heads of the partnership. At the death of Francis Lowell Tileston, his interest in the company passed to his brother, John Boies Tileston ( -1898), who was also a partner of the Boston publishing firm Brewer and Tileston. The business was incorporated in 1889. In 1907, when Amor L. Hollingsworth died, his nephew, Amor Hollingsworth, Sr. (1880-1955), succeeded. His son, Amor Hollingsworth, Jr. (1909- ), entered the firm in 1933.

(cont.)

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**NAME OF COLLECTION:**

Tileston and Hollingsworth, Papers, 1755-1963

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**COLLECTION DESCRIPTION (cont.):**

Much of the earliest material in the collection relates to the miscellaneous business activities of Hugh McLean and James Boies, and also to water privileges on the Neponset River. Early documents connected to the papermaking business include a 1775 writ against Isaiah Thomas (1749-1831) for money owed to Boies, as well as several indentures for apprentice papermakers.

The largest segment of this collection is a substantial file of incoming correspondence, primarily from the period 1830 to 1850. Totaling more than two thousand five hundred items, these letters are arranged chronologically and are housed in twelve boxes. The letters include many orders for paper placed by wholesalers and printers, frequently including specifications for the size and type of paper needed. There is frequent discussion in the letters of problems of supply, delivery, and quality of paper. Other letters discuss the purchase of rags in the United States and in Europe, and also the purchase and repair of machinery. This portion of the collection includes bills of lading for incoming materials, and a few letters from individuals seeking employment in the mills.

Two additional boxes and two oversize folders contain accounts of sales and accounts current, from the years between 1831 and 1854. These accounts were kept by paper wholesalers and agents, and show stocks and sales of paper supplied by Tileston and Hollingsworth. This material gives a picture of the distribution process, as the company did business with firms in a number of cities including Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and New Orleans. Also in this portion of the collection are some accounts for incoming materials, such as rags, shavings, and parts for machines.

The Tileston and Hollingsworth papers also include approximately four hundred bills of lading from 1837, 1838, and 1844 for loads of paper sent from Boston by ship, a small number of receipted bills, mostly from 1829 to 1834, and a group of deeds, plans, and other documents, mostly pertaining to mills and other property owned by the company, as well as water rights on the Neponset River. There are miscellaneous materials as well, including a small collection of paper samples, a book of business memoranda kept by Mark Hollingsworth between 1830 and 1834, and three account books, 1819-1823, and 1846-1847 for general stores.

See Series Description and Contents List.

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Tileston and Hollingsworth, Papers, 1755-1963

Sources of Information on Collection

*History of the Town of Dorchester, Massachusetts* (Boston: Ebenezer Clapp, 1859), p. 622-626.

Hollingsworth, Schuyler, *Two Brothers: Mark Hollingsworth, 1777-1855, Joel Hollingsworth, 1773-1848* (Chestnut Hill, Mass., 1993)

*Milton Cemetery: A Catalogue of Proprietors of Lots* (Boston: D. Clapp and Son, 1883), p. 31, 71.

[Stewart, Joseph Adger], *Descendants of Valentine Hollingsworth, Sr.* (Louisville: John P. Morton and Co., 1951)

Stone, Orra L., *History of Massachusetts Industries* (Boston and Chicago: S. J. Clarke, 1930), vol. 2, p. 1259-1261.

Teele, Albert K., ed., *The History of Milton, Massachusetts, 1640-1887* (Boston: Rockwell and Churchill, 1887), p. 396-398.

Wallingford, Howard, *Papermaking on the Neponset* (Boston: Tileston & Hollingsworth Co., 1951)

Weeks, Lyman H., *A History of Paper-Manufacturing in the United States, 1690-1916* (New York: Lockwood Trade Journal Co., 1916), p. 325-327.

Wheelwright, William Bond, "New England's Pioneer Paper Makers," T&H papers, box 17, folder 1

note:

*Catalogue of the Magnificent Private Library of the Late Amor Hollingsworth ...*  
McKay 6220 (or 6820?)

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**Manuscript Collections**

Tileston and Hollingsworth, Papers, 1755-1963

Series Description

1. **Miscellaneous papers**, n.d., 1755-1818, including invoices, indentures, and accounts mostly of Hugh McLean and James Boies.
- 1a. **Incoming correspondence**, 1830-1865 (mostly 1830-1860), including orders for papers from wholesalers and printers. The letters detail specifications, issues concerning delivery time, and problems with supply and quality. Also included is correspondence about the purchase of rags, and the purchase and repair of machinery. There are also bills of lading for incoming supplies, and a few letters from individuals seeking employment.
2. **Bills of lading**, 1837-1838, 1844, for outgoing goods sent by ship from Boston.
3. **Accounts of sales and accounts current**, 1831-1854, kept by paper warehouses and agents for sales of paper supplied by Tileston and Hollingsworth. Also included are some accounts for rags, shavings, machinery, and other supplies sold to Tileston and Hollingsworth.
4. **Receipted bills**, 1829-1834, 1855; **Cancelled checks**, 1900, for rags, wood, machinery, etc.
5. **Deeds, plans, and miscellaneous documents**, c. 1765-c. 1963, mostly pertaining to mills and other property owned by Tileston and Hollingsworth.
6. **Documents concerning water rights disputes**, c. 1765-c. 1823.
7. **Paper samples**.
8. **Materials on the history of the company** probably compiled by Howard Wallingford in the 1950s.
9. **Account books**, 1819-1823; 1846-1847, for general store(s). Included are entries for various members of the Tileston and Hollingsworth families.

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**Manuscript Collections**

Tileston and Hollingsworth, Papers, 1755-1963

Contents List

Manuscript Box

**1 Miscellaneous Papers, n.d., 1755-1818**

Folder 1 undated items  
Folder 2 1755-1769  
Folder 3 1770-1779  
Folder 4 1780-1788  
Folder 5 1791-1797  
Folder 6 1800-1818

**1A Correspondence, 1830-1833 May**

Folder 1 1830  
Folder 2 1831 January-March  
Folder 3 1831 April  
Folder 4 1831 May  
Folder 5 1831 June  
Folder 6 1831 July  
Folder 7 1831 August 1-15  
Folder 8 1831 August 16-31  
Folder 9 1831 October-November  
Folder 10 1831 December  
Folder 11 1832 January  
Folder 12 1832 February-April  
Folder 13 1832 May-June  
Folder 14 1832 July-August  
Folder 15 1832 September-December  
Folder 16 1833 January  
Folder 17 1833 February  
Folder 18 1833 March  
Folder 19 1833 April  
Folder 20 1833 May

**2 Correspondence, 1833 June-1835 June**

Folder 1 1833 June  
Folder 2 1833 July  
Folder 3 1833 August  
Folder 4 1833 September  
Folder 5 1833 October 1-15  
Folder 6 1833 October 16-31  
Folder 7 1833 November 1-15  
Folder 8 1833 November 16-30  
Folder 9 1833 December 1-15  
Folder 10 1833 December 16-31  
Folder 11 1834 January-April  
Folder 12 1834 May-August  
Folder 13 1834 September-December  
Folder 14 1835 January-February  
Folder 15 1835 March  
Folder 16 1835 April  
Folder 17 1835 May 1-15  
Folder 18 1835 May 16-31  
Folder 19 1835 June 1-15  
Folder 20 1835 June 16-30

**3 Correspondence, 1835 July-1837 December**

Folder 1 1835 July  
Folder 2 1835 August 1-19  
Folder 3 1835 August 20-31  
Folder 4 1835 September  
Folder 5 1835 October  
Folder 6 1835 November  
Folder 7 1835 December  
Folder 8 1836 January-June  
Folder 9 1836 July-August 25  
Folder 10 1836 August 26-September  
Folder 11 1836 October  
Folder 12 1836 November-December  
Folder 13 1837 January 1-15  
Folder 14 1837 January 16-31  
Folder 15 1837 February  
Folder 16 1837 March  
Folder 17 1837 April  
Folder 18 1837 May  
Folder 19 1837 June  
Folder 20 1837 July  
Folder 21 1837 August  
Folder 22 1837 September-October 15  
Folder 23 1837 October 16-November  
Folder 24 1837 December

**4 Correspondence, 1838-1839 November**

Folder 1 1838 January  
Folder 2 1838 February-March  
Folder 3 1838 April  
Folder 4 1838 May  
Folder 5 1838 June  
Folder 6 1838 July-August  
Folder 7 1838 September-October 15  
Folder 8 1838 October 16-December  
Folder 9 1839 January 1-15  
Folder 10 1839 January 16-31  
Folder 11 1839 February  
Folder 12 1839 March  
Folder 13 1839 April 1-15  
Folder 14 1839 April 16-30  
Folder 15 1839 May 1-20  
Folder 16 1839 May 21-31  
Folder 17 1839 June 1-17  
Folder 18 1839 June 18-30  
Folder 19 1839 July 1-10  
Folder 20 1839 July 11-31  
Folder 21 1839 August  
Folder 22 1839 September  
Folder 23 1839 October 1-15  
Folder 24 1839 October 16-31  
Folder 25 1839 November

**5 Correspondence, 1839 December-1840**

Folder 1 1839 December 1-19  
Folder 2 1839 December 20-31  
Folder 3 1840 January 1-10  
Folder 4 1840 January 11-31  
Folder 5 1840 February  
Folder 6 1840 March  
Folder 7 1840 April 1-15  
Folder 8 1840 April 16-30  
Folder 9 1840 May 1-15  
Folder 10 1840 May 16-30  
Folder 11 1840 June  
Folder 12 1840 July

**5 Correspondence, 1839 December-1840 (cont.)**

Folder 13 1840 August  
Folder 14 1840 September  
Folder 15 1840 October 1-19  
Folder 16 1840 October 20-31  
Folder 17 1840 November 1-15  
Folder 18 1840 November 16-30  
Folder 19 1840 December 1-10  
Folder 20 1840 December 11-31

**6 Correspondence, 1841**

Folder 1 1841 January 1-10  
Folder 2 1841 January 11-31  
Folder 3 1841 February 1-10  
Folder 4 1841 February 11-28  
Folder 5 1841 March 1-18  
Folder 6 1841 March 19-31  
Folder 7 1841 April  
Folder 8 1841 May 1-15  
Folder 9 1841 May 16-31  
Folder 10 1841 June  
Folder 11 1841 July 1-15  
Folder 12 1841 July 16-31  
Folder 13 1841 August  
Folder 14 1841 September  
Folder 15 1841 October 1-15  
Folder 16 1841 October 16-31  
Folder 17 1841 November 1-9  
Folder 18 1841 November 10-16  
Folder 19 1841 November 17-30  
Folder 20 1841 December 1-8  
Folder 21 1841 December 9-19  
Folder 22 1841 December 20-31

**7 Correspondence, 1842-1843 February**

Folder 1 1842 January 1-10  
Folder 2 1842 January 11-31  
Folder 3 1842 February 1-20  
Folder 4 1842 February 21-March 10  
Folder 5 1842 March 11-31  
Folder 6 1842 April  
Folder 7 1842 May-July  
Folder 8 1842 August  
Folder 9 1842 September 1-10  
Folder 10 1842 September 11-22  
Folder 11 1842 September 23-30  
Folder 12 1842 October 1-15  
Folder 13 1842 October 16-25  
Folder 14 1842 October 26-31  
Folder 15 1842 November 1-10  
Folder 16 1842 November 11-20  
Folder 17 1842 November 21-30  
Folder 18 1842 December 1-10  
Folder 19 1842 December 11-20  
Folder 20 1842 December 21-31  
Folder 21 1843 January 1-10  
Folder 22 1843 January 11-31  
Folder 23 1843 February

**8 Correspondence, 1843 March-1844 February**

Folder 1 1843 March 1-15  
Folder 2 1843 March 16-31  
Folder 3 1843 April  
Folder 4 1843 May 1-22  
Folder 5 1843 May 23-June 15

**8 Correspondence, 1843 March-1844 February (cont.)**

Folder 6 1843 June 16-30  
 Folder 7 1843 July  
 Folder 8 1843 August  
 Folder 9 1843 September 1-25  
 Folder 10 1843 September 26-October 19  
 Folder 11 1843 October 20-31  
 Folder 12 1843 November 1-15  
 Folder 13 1843 November 16-30  
 Folder 14 1843 December 1-15  
 Folder 15 1843 December 16-31  
 Folder 16 1844 January 1-19  
 Folder 17 1844 January 20-25  
 Folder 18 1844 January 26-31  
 Folder 19 1844 February 1-15  
 Folder 20 1844 February 16-11  
 Folder 21 1844 February 23-29

**9 Correspondence, 1844 March-December**

Folder 1 1844 March 1-6  
 Folder 2 1844 March 7-22  
 Folder 3 1844 March 23-31  
 Folder 4 1844 April 1-8  
 Folder 5 1844 April 9-20  
 Folder 6 1844 April 21-30  
 Folder 7 1844 May 1-15  
 Folder 8 1844 May 16-31  
 Folder 9 1844 June  
 Folder 10 1844 July 1-15  
 Folder 11 1844 July 16-31  
 Folder 12 1844 August 1-15  
 Folder 13 1844 August 16-31  
 Folder 14 1844 September 1-20  
 Folder 15 1844 September 21-30  
 Folder 16 1844 October 1-15  
 Folder 17 1844 October 16-31  
 Folder 18 1844 November 1-10  
 Folder 19 1844 November 11-20  
 Folder 20 1844 November 21-30  
 Folder 21 1844 December 1-10  
 Folder 22 1844 December 11-20  
 Folder 23 1844 December 21-31

**10 Correspondence, 1845-1847 March**

Folder 1 1845 January 1-10  
 Folder 2 1845 January 11-20  
 Folder 3 1845 January 21-31  
 Folder 4 1845 February 1-15  
 Folder 5 1845 February 16-28  
 Folder 6 1845 March  
 Folder 7 1845 July-October 10  
 Folder 8 1845 October 11-15  
 Folder 9 1845 October 16-24  
 Folder 10 1845 October 25-31  
 Folder 11 1845 November 1-6  
 Folder 12 1845 November 7-14  
 Folder 13 1845 November 15-25  
 Folder 14 1845 November 26-December 4  
 Folder 15 1845 December 5-15  
 Folder 16 1845 December 16-31  
 Folder 17 1846 June 1-12  
 Folder 18 1846 June 13-30  
 Folder 19 1847 April 1-May 5  
 Folder 20 1847 May 6-13  
 Folder 21 1847 May 14-21  
 Folder 22 1847 May 22-31



**11 Correspondence, 1847 June-1849 June**

Folder 1 1847 June 1-9  
 Folder 2 1847 June 10-16  
 Folder 3 1847 June 17-30  
 Folder 4 1847 July 1-20  
 Folder 5 1847 July 21-August 19  
 Folder 6 1847 August 20-September 4  
 Folder 7 1847 September 5-24  
 Folder 8 1847 September 25-October 6  
 Folder 9 1847 October 7-14  
 Folder 10 1847 October 15-21  
 Folder 11 1847 October 22-31  
 Folder 12 1847 November 1-12  
 Folder 13 1847 November 13-19  
 Folder 14 1847 November 20-30  
 Folder 15 1848 April-December  
 Folder 16 1849 January-April  
 Folder 17 1849 May 1-8  
 Folder 18 1849 May 9-14  
 Folder 19 1849 May 15-17  
 Folder 20 1849 May 18-22  
 Folder 21 1849 May 23-31  
 Folder 22 1849 June 1-5  
 Folder 23 1849 June 6-13  
 Folder 24 1849 June 14-30

**12 Correspondence, 1849 July-1865**

Folder 1 1849 July 1-9  
 Folder 2 1849 July 10-15  
 Folder 3 1849 July 16-20  
 Folder 4 1849 July 21-31  
 Folder 5 1849 August 1-13  
 Folder 6 1849 August 14-21  
 Folder 7 1849 August 22-31  
 Folder 8 1849 October 1-9  
 Folder 9 1849 October 10-16  
 Folder 10 1849 October 17-24  
 Folder 11 1849 October 25-31  
 Folder 12 1849 November 1-6  
 Folder 13 1849 November 7-12  
 Folder 14 1849 November 13-19  
 Folder 15 1849 November 20-30  
 Folder 16 1850 January  
 Folder 17 1850 February-June  
 Folder 18 1850 July  
 Folder 19 1850 December 1-15  
 Folder 20 1850 December 16-31  
 Folder 21 1854 July-December; 1855; 1865

**13 Accounts, 1831-1843**

Folder 1 1831  
 Folder 2 1832  
 Folder 3 1833 January-June  
 Folder 4 1833 July-December  
 Folder 5 1834  
 Folder 6 1835 January-June  
 Folder 7 1835 July-December  
 Folder 8 1836  
 Folder 9 1837  
 Folder 10 1838 January-April  
 Folder 11 1838 May-July  
 Folder 12 1838 August-December  
 Folder 13 1839-1840  
 Folder 14 1841 January-May  
 Folder 15 1841 June-December  
 Folder 16 1842 January-June

**13 Accounts, 1831-1843**

Folder 17 1842 July-December  
 Folder 18 1843 January-March  
 Folder 19 1843 April-September  
 Folder 20 1843 October-December

**14 Accounts, 1844-1865**

Folder 1 1844  
 Folder 2 1845 January-March  
 Folder 3 1845 April-July  
 Folder 4 1845 August-December  
 Folder 5 1846; 1848  
 Folder 6 1849 January-May  
 Folder 7 1849 June  
 Folder 8 1849 July-September  
 Folder 9 1849 October-December 31  
 Folder 10 1849 December 31  
 Folder 11 1849 December 31  
 Folder 12 1850; 1853; 1854 January-March  
 Folder 13 1854 April-June  
 Folder 14 1854 July  
 Folder 15 1854 August-December  
 Folder 16 1855; 1865

**15 Bills of Lading, 1837, 1838, 1844;  
 Receipted Bills, 1829-1855;  
 Cancelled Checks, 1900**

## Bills of Lading

Folder 1 1837 January-March  
 Folder 2 1837 April-June  
 Folder 3 1837 July-September  
 Folder 4 1837 October-December  
 Folder 5 1838 January-March  
 Folder 6 1838 April-June  
 Folder 7 1838 July-September  
 Folder 8 1838 October-December  
 Folder 9 1844 January-March  
 Folder 10 1844 April-June  
 Folder 11 1844 July-September  
 Folder 12 1844 October-December

## Receipted Bills

Folder 13 1829-1833  
 Folder 14 1834 January  
 Folder 15 1834 February-March  
 Folder 16 1834 April-May  
 Folder 17 1834 June-August  
 Folder 18 1834 September-October  
 Folder 19 1834 November-December  
 Folder 20 1855 March-April

## Cancelled Checks

Folder 21 1900

**16 Deeds, Plans, and Miscellaneous Documents****17 Materials on the History of the Company;  
 Materials on Water Rights Disputes, 1765-c. 1823  
 Paper Samples**

Folder 1 William Bond Wheelwright, "New England's Pioneer Paper  
 Makers (photocopy)  
 Folder 2 "Paper Mills on the Neponset River"  
 Folder 3 Materials on the history of the company; miscellaneous  
 items  
 Folder 4 Material on Water Rights Disputes, 1765-c. 1823

**17 Materials on the History of the Company;  
Materials on Water Rights Disputes, 1765-c. 1823  
Paper Samples (cont.)**

Folder 5 Material on Water Rights Disputes, 1765-c. 1823  
Folder 6 Page Samples, c. 1863  
Folder 7 Page Samples, c. 1863

**Folio Volume**

- 1 Mark Hollingsworth, Memorandum Book, Braintree, Mass., 1830-1834
- 2 Journal, general store, 1819 February-1823 June
- 3 Ledger, general store, 1822 April-1823 April
- 4 Daybook, general store, Dorchester, Mass., 1846 November-1847  
November

**Oversize Manuscript Box**

Accounts (oversize) [in alphabetical order]