

Bunker Family Collection
Wellesley Historical Society

Repository Identifier

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Name and Location of Repository

The Wellesley Historical Society
229 Washington Street
Wellesley, MA 02481
(781) 235-6690
www.wellesleyhistoricalsociety.org

Title

Bunker Family Collection, 1703 – 1993

Date

1703 – 1993, & undated

Extent

9 linear feet, 15 boxes & 1 carton

Name of Creator

Bunker Family

Biographical Note

Clarence Alfred Bunker

C.A. Bunker was born in Roxbury on June 14, 1866 to parents Alfred and Cordelia Mitchell (Barker) Bunker. Bunker graduated from Bryant & Stratton Commercial School in 1880. He then spent time preparing for Harvard at Roxbury Latin School. Bunker graduated from Harvard College in 1889 and then Harvard Law School in 1892. From 1892 – 1898 he worked for the Boston law firm Fish, Richardson, & Storrow. He then went into private practice, opening his own office at 5 Tremont Street, Boston, which he then moved to Barristers Hall in Boston in 1905. He would maintain this same office until the time of his retirement in 1959. C.A. Bunker married Mary Hawthorne White of Wellesley, MA in 1897. The couple built a house at 46 Chestnut Street, in Wellesley Hills, MA the same year. They raised three children, Raymond Thayer Bunker, Laurence Eliot Bunker, and Miriam Hawthorne Bunker and spent the rest of their lives in this house.

In addition to his law career, C.A. Bunker was very active in the Wellesley community. He was director of the Wellesley National Bank in 1904, going on to serve as vice-president and general counsel until 1959. He was also involved with the Boston Five Cent Savings Bank, Wellesley Cooperative Bank, and Lincoln Trust Company. Bunker was also involved in town government, serving on the Board of Selectmen from 1916 – 1934 and as a Town Meeting member until 1959. He was an active member of the Wellesley Hills Unitarian Society and instrumental in the organization of the Boy Scouts in Wellesley, serving for many years as the deputy commissioner

Bunker Family Collection Wellesley Historical Society

of the Norumbega Council. Bunker was an active traveler, a member of the Wellesley Associates, Maugus Real Estate Trust, Waban Real Estate Trust, the Wellesley Club, and the Wellesley Historical Society. C.A. Bunker died at the age of 95 on August 19, 1961 and is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery in Wellesley.

Mary Hawthorne White Bunker

Mary Hawthorne White was born on Walnut Street in Wellesley on October 26, 1869 to parents George White and Frances Mary Edwena Noyes White. Mary Bunker graduated from Radcliffe College in 1894 after preparing for college at Newton High School and through tutoring with Wellesley resident, Gamaliel Bradford. She married Clarence A. Bunker in 1897. In addition to raising three children, Mary Bunker was very active in the Wellesley community. She helped organize the first Girl Scout troop and council in Wellesley in 1917. She served many roles on the Girl Scout council in Wellesley as well as serving on the state level of the organization. In 1948 the Girl Scouts honored her service by naming the Wellesley Girl Scout camp, Camp Mary Bunker (located on Lake Cochituate in Natick, Massachusetts). She was a founding member of the Wellesley Historical Society, active in the Wellesley Hills Unitarian Society, Wellesley Hills Woman's Club, and the Radcliffe Alumnae Association. Mary Bunker passed away at the age of 90, on February 8, 1960 and is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery in Wellesley.

Raymond Thayer Bunker

Raymond T. Bunker was the son of Clarence and Mary Bunker and was born in Wellesley on April 5, 1901. He graduated from Harvard in 1924 and entered into the army having participated in the ROTC while at Harvard. Raymond married Harriet Bates in November 1933, the two had two sons, Robert Monroe Bunker and Roger Eliot Bunker. Raymond served in the South Pacific during World War II and continued to serve in the army after the war until his retirement. When in Wellesley, the family lived at 45 Amherst Street, but spent much of Raymond's army career living in Maryland, Kansas, Florida, Japan, and Connecticut. The couple moved out of Wellesley permanently in 1973, settling in Connecticut. Raymond Bunker died on July 25, 1995.

Laurence Eliot Bunker

Laurence E. Bunker was the son of Clarence and Mary Bunker and was born in Wellesley on June 27, 1902. He attended Wellesley grammar schools before going to Boston Latin School. Laurence Bunker graduated from Harvard in 1926, he then spent four years in England at Trinity College University of Cambridge, earning first his BA in 1928 and then his MA in 1930. Bunker attended law school at the New York Law School, graduating in 1938. He served in the army during World War II as the Aide-de-camp to General Richard Marshall in Australia from 1942 – 1946. From 1946 – 1952 he was Aide-de-camp to General Douglas MacArthur. He returned to Wellesley and practiced law in Boston following his retirement from the army. Laurence Bunker lived his entire life in his childhood home at 46 Chestnut Street. Bunker was a member of many Wellesley organizations including the Wellesley Symphony Orchestra and the Wellesley Historical Society, of which he served as president for ten years. Other memberships included the Bunker Family Association, the Bunker Hill Memorial Association, the General Douglas MacArthur Memorial Foundation, and the John Birch Society. Bunker, like his father and brother, was also very involved in the Wellesley Boy Scouts organization. Laurence Bunker died on October 10, 1977 at the age of 75.

Bunker Family Collection Wellesley Historical Society

Miriam Hawthorn Bunker

Miriam H. Bunker was the daughter of Clarence and Mary Bunker and was born in Wellesley on June 18, 1904. She attended the Walnut Hill School in Natick, MA and Girls Latin School in Boston before attending Radcliffe College. Bunker graduated from Radcliffe in 1926. Miriam also earned a certificate from Bryant & Stratton Commercial School in 1929. Bunker worked as part of the Social Service Department of Massachusetts General Hospital for 50 years. She began as a volunteer in 1926 and became an official employee in 1930 and retired in 1976. Miriam Bunker was active in the Wellesley Girl Scout organization, the Wellesley Historical Society, and the Wellesley Hills Unitarian Society. She died on February 21, 1933 and is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery in Wellesley.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains materials related to the life and work of the Bunker family. Materials include genealogical research regarding the Bunker family, as well as related families, including the Billings, Barker, and White families. The collection contains correspondence and photographs belonging to several members of the Bunker family, as well as deeds to properties belonging to the Bunker family or related to C.A. Bunker's work as an attorney. Also included are materials related to the Bunker family's life in Wellesley and their involvement in local organizations such as the Wellesley Hills Lawn Tennis Association.

Index Terms

Bunker, Clarence A. (Clarence Alfred), 1866-1961
Bunker, Laurence E.
Bunker, Mary Hawthorne White
Bunker, Miriam Hawthorne
Bunker, Raymond Thayer
Clippings
Correspondence
Europe — Photographs
Genealogy
Journals (Diaries)
Massachusetts — Politics and government — 20th century
Massachusetts — Wellesley
Photographs
Real Estate
Tennis
Travel
United States — Army
Wellesley (Mass.)
Wellesley (Mass.) — Biography
Wellesley (Mass.) — Family and personal papers
Wellesley (Mass.) — History
Wellesley (Mass.) — Politics and government
Wellesley (Mass.) — Social life and customs
Wellesley Historical Society (Wellesley, Mass.)

Bunker Family Collection

Wellesley Historical Society

Women

World War, 1939 – 1945

System of Arrangement

This collection is organized into seven series arranged by subject:

- I. Genealogy Materials; 1703 – 1845, 1963, 1973, & undated
- II. Correspondence; 1790, 1865, 1899 – 1993, & undated
- III. Personal Materials; 1847 – 1977, & undated
- IV. Deeds & Business Documents; 1800 – 1959
- V. Wellesley & Greater Boston Materials; 1851 – 1925, & undated
- VI. Photographic Negative; 1919 – 1948, & undated
- VII. Photographic Prints; 1890 – 1952, & undated

Conditions Governing Access

The papers are open for research purposes by appointment only. Please contact the Wellesley Historical Society for more information.

info@wellesleyhistoricalsociety.org

(781) 235-6690

Physical Access

Some of the materials are fragile.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

Copyright restrictions may apply.

Languages and Scripts of the Material

English

Immediate Source of Acquisition

B.7

1984.29

1993.5

Related Materials

Wellesley Historical Society: Clarence A. Bunker Real Estate Files

Wellesley Historical Society: Photographs: People A – B

2010.31.1

Accruals

The Historical Society may add materials to the collection in the future; however, no further accruals are currently expected.

Bunker Family Collection
Wellesley Historical Society

Description

Processing of this collection was made possible through a grant from the Wellesley Community Preservation Committee.

DACS Finding Aid created by Taylor C. Kalloch in June 2017.

Bibliography

“Bunker, Harriet Bunker”. *Hartford Courant* (Hartford, CT). October 29, 2000.

“Clarence A. Bunker Died; Former Town Counsel Here”. *Townsman* (Wellesley, MA). August 24, 1962, 1 & 10.

“Col. Bunker, Aid to MacArthur, Dies at 75”. *Townsman* (Wellesley, MA). October 13, 1977, 1 & 17.

“Local Brevities”. *Townsman* (Wellesley, MA). June 27, 1924, 5.

“Mary Bunker Passed Away Monday at 90”. *Townsman* (Wellesley, MA). February 11, 1960, 1 & 6.

"Massachusetts Births, 1841-1915", database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:FXHK-7KF> : 1 March 2016), Lawrence Eliot Bunker, 1902.

"Massachusetts Births, 1841-1915", database with images, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:FXHX-WFB> : 1 March 2016), Raymond Thayer Bunker, 1901.

"Massachusetts Death Index, 1970-2003," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:VZT8-8M3> : 4 December 2014), Laurence E Bunker, 10 Oct 1977; from "Massachusetts Death Index, 1970-2003," database, *Ancestry* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : 2005); citing Boston, Massachusetts, death certificate number 007560, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Health Services, Boston.

“Miriam H. Bunker”. *Townsman* (Wellesley, MA). March 4, 1993.

"United States Social Security Death Index," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:JKDW-R6N> : 20 May 2014), Raymond T Bunker, 25 Jul 1995; citing U.S. Social Security Administration, *Death Master File*, database (Alexandria, Virginia: National Technical Information Service, ongoing).

Bunker Family Collection
Wellesley Historical Society

Container List

***I.* Genealogy Materials; 1703 – 1895, 1963, 1973, & bulk undated**

This series contains genealogical research materials regarding the Bunker family, as well as the related Billings, Barker, & White families.

Box 1

- Folder 1: Barker; bulk undated
- Folder 2: Billings; bulk undated
- Folder 3: Bunker #1; bulk undated
- Folder 4: Bunker #2; bulk undated
- Folder 5: Genealogy; Clippings; bulk undated
- Folder 6: White; bulk undated
- Folder 7: Wills, Bunker & White Family Members; 1703, 1705, 1706, 1757, 1770, 1862, 1869, & 1895

***II.* Correspondence; 1790, 1865, 1899 – 1993, & undated**

This series contains correspondence written by and to various members of the Bunker family.

Box 1

- Folder 8: C.A. Bunker; 1899 – 1956

Box 2

- Folder 1: C.A. Bunker & Slack Family; 1865, 1902, & undated
- Folder 2: Correspondence with Albion R. Clapp; 1899
- Folder 3: Huston T. Bunker; 1919
- Folder 4: Laurence Bunker; 1926 – 1928, 1959 – 1976, & undated
- Folder 5: Miriam Bunker; 1951, 1954, & 1989 – 1993
- Folder 6: Mrs. C.A. Bunker (Mary Hawthorne White Bunker); 1897, 1918, 1931, 1945, & undated
- Folder 7: Mrs. Francis White; 1900
- Folder 8: Mrs. George White; 1899, 1900, 1917, 1945, 1946, & undated
- Folder 9: Raymond Bunker Family; 1949 & undated
- Folder 10: Unidentified; 1790, 1898, 1910, 1916, 1956, 1961, 1964, & undated

***III.* Personal Materials; 1847 – 1977, & undated**

This series contains materials belonging to or concerning members of the Bunker family. It includes artwork, information about memorial services, clubs and societies in which family members were involved, bibles, and materials regarding family friends.

Box 3

- Folder 1: Bunker Artwork; 1914, 1918, & undated

Bunker Family Collection
Wellesley Historical Society

- Folder 2: C.A. Bunker War Ration Book; c. 1940s
- Folder 3: Dance Cards & Event Invitations; 1848 – 1897
- Folder 4: Diary, George R. White, Harvard College; 1883
- Folder 5: Ellen Ware Fiske Memorial Materials; 1954
- Folder 6: Friends, Clippings; bulk undated
- Folder 7: Harvard Materials; 1861 & 1886
- Folder 8: “Hymns of the Spirit: Services of Religion for use in the Churches of the Free Spirit”, Clarence Alfred Bunker; 1958

Box 4

- Folder 1: “Hymns of the Spirit: Services of Religion for use in the Churches of the Free Spirit”, Miriam Hawthorne Bunker, 1958
- Folder 2: Job’s Island Estate; 1962
- Folder 3: John Birch Society Materials; 1962, 1963, & undated
- Folder 4: Laurence E. Bunker, Clippings; bulk undated
- Folder 5: Laurence Eliot Bunker Memorial Service; October 15, 1977
- Folder 6: Materials Related to the Estate of Fredrick R. Bunker; 1847, 1879, 1890s, & undated
- Folder 7: Miriam Bunker, Travel Journal for England, Norway, Spitzbergen, Ice Pack on the Stratendam Stella Polaris & Volendam; July 22 – August 31, 1936

Box 5

- Folder 1: Miriam Hawthorne Bunker, Oral History Interview Transcript; 1981
- Folder 2: Order of Washington; undated
- Folder 3: Pledge to Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Clarence A. Bunker; 1883
- Folder 4: Quincy School Materials, Alfred Bunker; 1895, 1896, 1897, 1900, 1905, 1908, & undated
- Folder 5: Railroad Information; 1840s
- Folder 6: Recipes & Household Tips; bulk undated
- Folder 7: Recipes, #1; bulk undated
- Folder 8: Recipes, #2; bulk undated
- Folder 9: Song Lyrics; undated
- Folder 10: Stamp, Mrs. C. A. Bunker; 1927
- Folder 11: The Bryant & Stratton Commercial School Materials, C.A. Bunker; 1879 – 1882
- Folder 12: Unlabeled Manuscript; 1884
- Folder 13: Yale Materials; 1866, 1867, & 1900

Archives Oversize Box 3

- Folder 7: Laurence Eliot Bunker Scrapbook; undated
- Folder 8: C.A. Bunker Scrapbook, #1; undated

Bunker Family Collection
Wellesley Historical Society

Folder 9: C.A. Bunker Scrapbook, #2; undated

Flat File, Draw 2

Folder 1: C.A. Bunker Scrapbook & Laurence Eliot Bunker Scrapbook; undated

IV. Deeds & Business Documents; 1800 – 1959

This series contains C.A. Bunkers collection of deeds and other real estate documents. Many are related to Clapp family properties and business conducted by Wellesley Associates.

Box 6

Folder 1: Clapp Related Deeds; 1800 – 1879
Folder 2: Clapp Related Deeds; 1880 – 1899
Folder 3: Clapp Related Deeds; 1900 – 1909
Folder 4: Clapp Related Deeds; 1910 – 1919
Folder 5: Clapp Related Deeds; 1920 – 1929

Box 7

Folder 1: Clapp Related Deeds; 1930 – 1939
Folder 2: Clapp Related Deeds; 1940 – 1949
Folder 3: Clapp Related Deeds; 1950 – 1959
Folder 4: Deeds & Real Estate Documents not Clapp related; 1851, 1865, 1869, 1871, 1874, 1875, 1881, & 1935

Archives Oversize Box 3

Folder 11: Wellesley Associates Materials; 1900 – 1907

V. Wellesley & Greater Boston Materials; 1851 – 1925, & undated

This series contains materials regarding the Town of Wellesley and materials regarding the Greater Boston Area. Of note are materials regarding the Wellesley Lawn Tennis Associate and the proposal of the Wellesley sewer system.

Box 7

Folder 5: Boston Area Materials; 1882, 1883, 1924, & 1925
Folder 6: Politics & Government Materials; 1851, 1852, 1868, 1869, 1900, & undated
Folder 7: Town of Wellesley Correspondence; 1898 – 1907, & undated
Folder 8: Town of Wellesley Materials; 1900 – 1906, & undated
Folder 9: Town of Wellesley Reports; 1884 & 1885

Bunker Family Collection
Wellesley Historical Society

Box 8

- Folder 1: Wellesley Clippings; bulk undated
- Folder 2: Wellesley Hills Lawn Tennis Association Materials; 1885 – 1891 & undated
- Folder 3: Wellesley Research Notes & Clippings; bulk undated

Archives Oversize Box 3

- Folder 10: Town of Wellesley, Map of Proposed Sewer System; February 1902

VI. Photographic Negatives; 1919 – 1948, & undated

This series contains photographic negatives belonging to the Bunker family. The bulk of the negatives are related to the family's international travels. The series also contains 14 unidentified 4 x5 glass negatives.

Box 9

- Folder: 14 unidentified 4x5 glass negatives

Box 8

- Folder 4: 46 Chestnut Street; undated
- Folder 5: Boy Scouts; undated
- Folder 6: Cliff Road & Worcester Street; undated
- Folder 7: Herricks; 1940 & 1947
- Folder 8: House Parties; 1924 & 1925
- Folder 9: Hurricane; 1938
- Folder 10: People, Bobby; undated

Box 10

- Folder 1: People, Family; 1928 & undated
- Folder 2: Travel, A; 1925, 1926, & 1937
- Folder 3: Travel, B; 1935 & 1937
- Folder 4: Travel, C; 1919 – 1920, 1924, 1925, 1942, & undated
- Folder 5: Travel, D-H; 1927, 1937, 1941, 1948, & undated
- Folder 6: Travel, England; 1928
- Folder 7: Travel, Holland & Switzerland; 1938
- Folder 8: Travel, I-M; 1924, 1925, 1930, 1933, 1937, 1948, & undated

Box 11

- Folder 1: Travel, Ireland; 1934
- Folder 2: Travel, Nantucket; 1944, 1946, & undated
- Folder 3: Travel, Norway & England; undated
- Folder 4: Travel, N-R; 1926, 1932, 1935, 1939, & undated
- Folder 5: Travel, S-V; 1932, 1937, & undated
- Folder 6: Travel, W; 1925, 1936, 1940, 1941, 1948, & undated

Bunker Family Collection
Wellesley Historical Society

- Folder 7: Travel, X-Z; undated
Folder 8: Unidentified & Misc.; 1936 & undated

VII. Photographic Prints; 1890 – 1952, & bulk undated

This series contains photographs belonging to the Bunker family. Subjects include family portraits and travel photographs. The bulk of the series is comprised of photo albums.

Box 12

- Folder 1: Bunker Family Photos, Small & Medium Format; bulk undated
Folder 2: Bunker Family Photos, Small Format; bulk undated
Folder 3: Cedar Hill; 1931
Folder 4: Clarence A. Bunker, Garage; undated
Folder 5: Family; undated
Folder 6: Isles of Shoals; undated
Folder 7: Kitty & Marco; undated
Folder 8: Laurence E. Bunker, Military; undated
Folder 9: Laurence E. Bunker, Portrait; undated
Folder 10: Laurence E. Bunker; 1952
Folder 11: Laurence E. Bunker; undated
Folder 12: Mary H. W. Bunker & Clarence A. Bunker; undated
Folder 13: Miriam H. Bunker; undated
Folder 14: Music Hall, Wellesley Hills Women's Club; undated
Folder 15: Nantucket; undated

Box 13

- Folder 1: New Hampshire; undated
Folder 2: Paul & Austin; undated
Folder 3: Paul; June 1958
Folder 4: Photo Album, Miriam Bunker, Unbound; undated
Folder 5: Photo Album, New Hampshire; undated
Folder 6: Photo Album, New Hampshire, Lake Winnepesaukee; 1957
Folder 7: Photo Album, Small, Fort Meade; undated
Folder 8: Photo Album, Small, Nantucket; 1959
Folder 9: Photo Album, Small, Unidentified; undated
Folder 10: Photo Album, Small, Unidentified; undated

Box 14

- Folder 1: Photo Album, Small, Unidentified; undated
Folder 2: Photo Album, Unidentified; undated
Folder 3: Photo Album, Unidentified; undated
Folder 4: Photo Album, Unidentified; undated
Folder 5: Photo Album, Unidentified; undated

Bunker Family Collection
Wellesley Historical Society

Folder 6: Photo Album, Unidentified; undated

Box 15

Folder 1: Photo Album, Wellesley; c. 1910

Folder 2: Photographs belonging to George R. White; undated

Folder 3: Raymond T. Bunker & Henry B. Brainerd; undated

Folder 4: Small Format Photos (some negatives), Mainly of Europe; undated

Folder 5: Unidentified Exteriors & Interiors; undated

Box 16

Item 1: Photo Album England, Scotland, & Paris; 1928

Item 2: Photo Album: Photos by Mary Hawthorne White; 1890

Item 3: Photo Album: Unidentified; undated

Item 4: Photo Album: Unidentified; undated

Item 5: Photo Album: Unidentified; undated

Item 6: Photo Album: Unidentified; undated

Item 7: Photo Album: Unidentified; undated

Item 8: Photo Album: Unidentified; undated

Item 9: Photo Album: Unidentified; undated