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1977.1002

Elbridge Boyden Papers

Processed by Christine Delano
April 2013

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Collection Information

Abstract : This collection consists mostly of building specifications for the 1)Middlesex County Court House in Lowell, Ma, 2) St. Paul's Catholic Church in Worcester, Ma, 3) John F. Ponds's House in Worcester, Ma, 4) a schoolhouse in Quinsigamond Village in Worcester, Ma, There are also accounts, a letter and school papers from EB's sons Mason and George.

Finding Aid :Finding Aid in print form is available in the Repository.

Preferred Citation :Worcester Historical Museum, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Provenance : Unknown

MARC Access :

Historical/Biographical Notes

Elbridge Boyden (EB) was born in Somerset, Vt in 1810 and died in Worcester, Ma. In 1898. He was an active architect in Worcester for more than fifty years. When he died he was believed to be the oldest practicing architect in the country. EB came to Worcester in 1844 as a builder. He was a tradesman for over 20 years in Worcester but eventually established himself as an architect. EB's architectural career (1844-1898) coincided with the period of rapid growth in Worcester (1829 – 1898) from the Industrial Revolution. His earliest work was in the Greek revival style and Italianate style. His work later became more elaborate as he kept up with the trends of the High Victorian era. EB designed buildings in New England, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Illinois, Kansas, Oregon and Georgia. EB designed more than fifty churches, many commercial buildings, and almost innumerable residences during his life time, He was also commissioned to design educational and public buildings including Holy Cross College, Worcester and Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester.

Scope and Content

The Elbridge Boyden Papers consist of one box with 11 items. The first item is an account book, 1849-1851, of the firm of Boyden and Ball, containing records of work performed by Henry Tolman, a terra cotta worker born in Sterling, Massachusetts. The second item is a letter, February 5, 1867 to Boyden & Son with a quote for the price of sills. The collection also contains building specifications for; 1)Middlesex County Court House in Lowell, Ma; 2) St. Paul's Catholic Church in Worcester, Ma; 3) John F. Ponds's House in Worcester, Ma; 4) a schoolhouse in Quinsigamond Village in Worcester, Ma. With the school house specifications are copies of the minutes of the Worcester School Committee's meeting about the school's construction.

The collection also includes school papers from Boyden's two sons, Mason A. Boyden(MAB) (1845-1904) and George E. Boyden(GEB)(1840-1885). There are three report cards for MAB; two from the Thomas Street School 1857, and one, undated from the French Institute. GEB's school papers include a report cards from the Worcester Classical and English High School, 1857 and an essay entitled, "Diogenes".

Series Description

Series 1: Architectural Papers

Series 2: School Papers of Mason A. and George E. Boyden.

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Series 1, Architectural Papers

<u>Box#</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession#</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1	1977.1002.01	Account book, 1849-1851 of the firm of Boyden and Ball
1	1	1977.1002.02-05	Building specifications for 1)Middlesex County Court House in Lowell, Ma; 2) St. Paul's Catholic Church in Worcester, Ma;3) John F. Pond's House in Worcester, Ma ;4)a schoolhouse in Quinsigamond Village in Worcester, Ma
1	1	1977.1002.06	Letter from February 5, 1867, with a quote for price of sills.

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Series 2, School Papers of Mason and George Boyden

<u>Box#</u>	<u>Folder#</u>	<u>Accession#</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	2	1977.1002.07-09	Three report cards for Mason A. Boyden
1	2	1977.1002.10-11	A report card for and essay from George E. Boyden.