



## Guide to the Bowker Family papers, 1757-1909

**Processing Information:** Francesco Buccella (2026)

**Collection Numbers:** 2026.006

**Biographical Note:** Daniel Bowker, Sr. (1731-1822) was born in Hopkinton, Massachusetts, to parents originally from Sudbury: John Bowker (1689-1740) and Hannah Clapp (1691-1744). The paternal line descends from Edmund Bowker (1619-1666) of Manchester, England, who came to Sudbury via Dorchester. His name is also known to have been spelled as Bouker. In 1759, Daniel, Sr., married Sarah Brigham (1734-1813), also of Sudbury, and it was probably around this time when their Georgian-style home on Mossman Road (still standing today as 199 Mossman Road) was built in North Sudbury. The couple had eight children, including the namesake, Daniel Bowker, Jr. (1772-1853). A blacksmith by trade, Daniel, Sr., served in the American Revolution, marched to Concord on April 19, 1775, as Lieutenant in the company of Captain Aaron Haynes (1727-1783), and later reached the rank of Captain himself. Daniel, Sr., and his wife, Sarah, are buried in the Revolutionary War Cemetery in Sudbury.

**Scope Note:** This collection consists of deeds and contracts, as well as correspondence, receipts, and miscellaneous materials. Items primarily document the land holdings of the Bowker Family in North Sudbury.

**Acquisition Information:** This collection was donated to the Sudbury Historical Society by Kenneth Grant of Bath, Maine, in 2026. The great-great-great-great grandfather of Grant was Daniel Bowker, Sr.

**Related Material:** The Sudbury Historical Society Noyes Family Collection (coll. no. 2014.010) contains material related to the life of Frank Bowker (1850-1904) and his daughter, Amy Bowker, later Noyes (1876-1963). Additionally, the Garfield-Smith Family Collection (coll. no. 2001.069) contains photographs of the Daniel Bowker House on Mossman Road. The Huntington Library in San Marino, California, also contains Bowker papers (inv. no. MSS Bowker).

### Collection Content

#### Series I: Deeds, 1757-1823

This series consists of deeds, as well as a site plan by Sudbury mapmaker Matthias Mossman (1748-1819), for property related to up to four generations of the Bowker Family: Daniel, Sr.; his son, Daniel, Jr.; and his grandson, Frank Bowker, along with his second wife, Caroline M. Bowker, later Conley (1858-1937). It is presently unclear how the pew deed of Matthew Butler from 1832 relates to the Bowker Family.

Box 1

Folder 1

Deed from Richard Baley to Zachariah Maynard, John Brigham, and Daniel Bowker, 1757  
Deed from John Brigham to Daniel Bowker, 1759  
Deed from Jabez Puffer to Daniel Bowker, 1765  
Deed from Aaron Maynard to Daniel Bowker, 1781  
Deed from Richard Baley to Daniel Bowker, 1802

Folder 2

Matthias Mossman Bowker Property Site Plan, 1806

Folder 3

Deed from Josiah H. Adams and Marcus Cutler to Daniel and Joseph Bowker, 1806  
Deed from John Brigham to Daniel Bowker, 1814  
Deed from Joseph Bowker to Daniel Bowker, 1814  
Deed from Daniel Bowker to His Son, Daniel Bowker, 1814  
Deed from Daniel Bowker to His Son, Daniel Bowker, 1817  
Deed from Joseph and Micah Balcom to Daniel Bowker, 1818  
Deed from Daniel Bowker to His Son, Daniel Bowker, 1822  
Deed from Joel Brigham to Daniel Bowker, 1823

Folder 4

Cathedral of the Holy Cross Pew Deed of Matthew Butler, 1832

Folder 5

Lease from Frank M. Bowker to William H. Goding, 1881  
Quitclaim Deed from the Bowker, Noyes, and Whitehead Families to Caroline M. Bowker, 1904  
Quitclaim Deed from Caroline M. Bowker to Carolina Visocchi, 1909

**Series II: Agreements, 1766-1858**

This series consists of agreements, primarily bonds and contracts, as well as the last will and testament of Daniel Bowker, Jr., and his estate of which his eldest son, Samuel N. Bowker (1799-1872), was executor.

Folder 6

Contract for Daniel Bowker and John Brigham, 1766  
Indenture of Daniel Bowker, 1781  
Bond from Daniel Bowker to His Son, Daniel Bowker, 1817  
Contract of David Garry and Loring Wheeler, 1821  
Bond from Samuel N. Bowker to Daniel Bowker, 1835

Folder 7

Will of Daniel Bowker, Jr., 1853  
Samuel N. Bowker Executor Account Statement of Daniel Bowker, Jr., Estate, 1858

**Series III: Correspondence, 1869-1903**

This series consists of Bowker Family correspondence, including letters from Harriet N. Bowker (1818-1902)—daughter of Daniel, Jr.—and her husband, Horace S. Gillet (1810-1882) of Indianapolis, Indiana, as well as twentieth-century recipes mailed to Frank Bowker of Maynard, Massachusetts.

## Folder 8

Letter from Horace S. Gillet to his brother-in-law, Samuel N. Bowker, 1869

Letter from Harriet N. Bowker Gillet, 1887

Frank Bowker grafting wax and kerosene emulsion recipe correspondence, 1903

**Series IV: Receipts, 1836-1853**

This series consists of medical and personal receipts of the following individuals: Daniel, Jr.; his son, Samuel N. Bowker; and his daughter, Lucy M. Bowker, later Hall (1836-1905).

## Folder 9

Receipt from Doctor Newell to Daniel Bowker, Jr., 1836

Receipt from Doctor Levi Goodenough to Daniel Bowker, Jr., 1844

Receipt from Doctor Nathaniel Willis to Lucy M. Bowker, 1851-1852

Receipt from the Massachusetts Ploughman to Samuel N. Bowker, 1853

**Series V: Edith Bowker Whitehead obituaries, 1909**

This series consists of two obituaries of Edith L. Bowker, later Whitehead (1885-1909), who was the daughter of Frank Bowker and granddaughter of Samuel.

## Folder 10

Edith Bowker Whitehead obituary newspaper clippings, 1909