



City of Boston Archives and Records Management Division

## Guide to the Office of the City Clerk records

### Contracts and leases

Finding aid prepared by Kalee Mitchelson  
This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

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<b>Repository:</b>	City of Boston Archives and Records Management Division
<b>Title:</b>	Contracts and leases
<b>Collection No.:</b>	0301.012
<b>Dates:</b>	1852-1869
<b>Quantity:</b>	2.5 Cubic feet (8 document cases)

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## Historical note

As provided by the City Charter, the City Clerk of Boston is elected by the City Council for a term of three years. The Office of the Clerk, under direction of the City Clerk, accepts, files, records, and maintains all municipal records. The City Clerk publishes the agenda for all City Council meetings, records all Council and related Mayoral actions, and edits and compiles the minutes of Council meetings. The Department also maintains the City Council document system database and publishes, on a yearly basis, all ordinances and amended codes.

Services to the public include the sale of various licenses and permits, notarizing and attesting to documents, and filing, recording and copying papers in the custody of the Clerk. Services to City government consist of providing informational resources and technical assistance, administration of the state's open meeting law, administration of oaths of office, attestation of various legal papers, and custody of records.

Contracts and leases are required to be filed with the City Clerk's Office and the Auditing Department to be retained for seven to twenty years. Contracts for significant projects are selectively retained by the City Archives. Per Massachusetts Public Law, records created prior to 1870 are considered to be historical records and can not be destroyed.

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## Scope and Contents note

The City Contracts collection consists of records from 1852-1869, with the bulk of materials from 1862-1869. There is a small amount of leases for apartment buildings, but the majority of the records deal with either the construction of public buildings or the maintenance of Boston. There are numerous contracts for New City Hall, City Hospital, Public Garden, and school houses. These have been grouped together into a subseries for each prospective year (i.e., records for school houses in 1862 are listed together in a series under that year).

Besides masonwork, carpentry, and other aspects of construction, city maintenance is also highlighted in the collection. Contracts between companies responsible for lighting the city lamps, building steam engines, or providing maintenance to parks and streets are also included.

There are a few interesting items, such as the contract for a fireworks celebration during the Fourth of July in 1866; compensation for damages given to Thomas P. Barnes after the Boston Draft Riot in 1863, and beautifully drawn architectural blueprints of the City Hospital.

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**Series I: 1852**

Box	Folder	
1	1	Evans, William

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**Series II: 1853**

Box	Folder	
1	2	Evans, William
1	2	Station House, No. 4, Lease

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**Series III: 1854**

Box	Folder	
1	3	Evans, William
1	3	Evans, William
1	3	Evans, William
1	3	Everett St., House no. 4, Lease

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**Series IV: 1855**

Box	Folder	
1	4	South Bay R.R Bridge

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**Series V: 1857**

Box	Folder	
1	5	South Bay Lands, annexation
1	5	Foster, Chamberlain, Lease

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**Series VI: 1858**

Box	Folder	
1	6	Blaney, David H.
1	6	Crawley, Daniel
1	6	Dexter, Stephen J.
1	6	Indexes, R. Deeds Office
1	6	Niles, W.J

1	6	Niles, W.J
1	6	School House, Lincoln, painting
1	6	Shamut Avenue, public highway
1	6	Wilson, W.F

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**Series VII: 1859**

Box	Folder	
1	7	Albany St., building of
1	7	City Stables, West
1	7	Common, maintenance of
1	8	Peirce, Joshua M.
1	8	Pomroy, Samuel

School Houses

Box	Folder	
1	7	School House, Eliot, carpentry
1	7	School House, Eliot, masonry
1	7	School House, Eliot, painting
1	8	School House, Quincy, masonwork
1	8	School House, Quincy, painting
1	8	South Bay, development of

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**Series VIII: 1860**

Box	Folder	
1	9	Bartholomew, Barry
1	9	City Hall, squares
1	9	Common, maintenance of
1	9	Dacy, John
1	9	Dover St.
1	9	East Boston & Streets, care and maintenance
1	10	Galvin, John
1	10	Gravel Bond
1	10	Hose House, South Bay
1	10	Marion St., Engine House
1	10	New Stables, Waggon House
1	11	Niles, W.J
1	11	Public Garden, curbstones
1	11	Public Garden, filling
1	11	South Bay, stone wall
1	11	Public Garden, lease

1	11	South Bay, stone wall
		<u>School Houses</u>
Box	Folder	
1	11	Everett School House, carpentry
1	11	Everett School House, masons contract
1	11	Everett School House, painting
1	11	High St. Public School House, carpentry
1	11	High St. Public School House, mason work
1	11	High St. Public School House
1	12	Phillips School House, carpentry
1	12	Phillips School House, masons work
1	12	Phillips School House, painting
1	12	Poplar St. Public School House,
1	12	Poplar St. Public School House, Mason's Contract
1	12	Poplar St. Public School House, painting
1	12	Poplar St. School House, Obligations, Tenants
1	12	Varnum, lease, Tremont St.

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**Series IX: 1861**

2	1	Albion St., raising brick houses
		<u>City Hospital</u>

Box	Folder	
2	1	Central Pavillion, foundation
2	1	Pile driving, central pavillion
2	1	Pile driving, northerly pavillion

Court House

Box	Folder	
2	1	Extension, carpentry
2	1	Extension, masonry
2	2	Dover St. Bridge, water pipes
2	2	Gravel bond, beach gravel
2	2	Hose House, Washington Village, building of
2	2	Malden St. Dock, wall
2	2	Niles, W.J, School St.

School Houses

Box	Folder	
2	3	Monmouth St. Public School House, lease
2	3	South St., Bowditch Grammar School House, carpenter's work
2	3	South St., Bowditch Grammar School House, masonry
2	3	South St., Bowditch Grammar School House, plastering
2	3	South St., Bowditch Grammar School House, painting contract

Station House No. 3

Box	Folder	
2	3	Carpentry and joinery
2	3	Iron work
2	3	Masonry
2	3	Painting and glazing

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**Series X: 1862**

2 4 Advertising, City of Boston  
New City Hall

Box	Folder	
2	4	Granite rail, stone
2	4	Iron work, portion of
2	4	Mason work
2	4	Taking down Old City Hall
2	4	Timber, floorings and roof

City Hospital

Box	Folder	
2	5	Boiler House
2	5	Corridors, carpentry, central building
2	5	Earth filling and grading, lot
2	5	Earth filling and grading, furnishing materials
2	5	Granite, centre building corridors
2	5	Granite, two pavillions
2	5	Heating and ventilating, centre building and two pavillions
2	5	Iron work, centre building corridors
2	5	Iron work, pavillions
2	5	Masonry, two pavillions
2	5	Masonry, centre building
2	6	Painting, two pavillions
2	6	Painting and glazing, centre building and corridors
2	6	Plastering, Centre building and two pavillions
2	6	Stonework, two pavillions
2	6	Two pavillions, carpentry and joinery
2	6	Two pavillions, carpentry completion

City Stables, South Bay

Box	Folder	
2	7	Carpentry
2	7	Carpentry and joinery, outbuildings
2	7	Masonry
2	7	Masonry, outbuildings
2	7	Eastern Ave. Wharf, repairs

2	7	Lamps, combination oil
2	7	Lamps, replacement of oil
2	7b	Lamps, Shaw's Contract
		Very fragile - contract is in several pieces
2	7	School House, Bedford St., construction of additional story
3	1	Engine House No. 4, altering and remodeling
3	1	Faneuil Hall Market, repairs, stonework
3	1	Fuel contract, City of Boston
3	1	Gravel Contract, beach gravel
3	1	Hook & Ladder House, Malden St., erection of
3	1	Hose House, North Hampton St., erection of
3	2	Market House, Quincy Market, painting
3	2	Market House, Quincy Market, repairs
3	2	Printing Contract, City of Boston
3	2	Public Garden, Common
3	2	Public Garden, fence

School Houses

Box	Folder	
3	3	Chardon St., Public School House, carpentry
3	3	Chardon St., Public School House, masonry
3	3	Chardon St., Public School House, painting
3	3	Chardon St., Public School House, painting
3	3	Harrison Ave., Primary School House, carpentry
3	3	Harrison Ave., Primary School House, masonry
3	3	Harrison Ave., Primary School House, painting and glazing
3	3	Harrison Ave., Primary School House, plastering
3	4	North Bennet St., Primary School House, carpentry
3	4	North Bennet St., Primary School House, mason work
3	4	North Bennet St., Primary School House, painting and glazing
3	4	North Bennet St., Primary School House, lathing and plastering
3	4	Hook and Ladder House, Wareham St., carpentry
3	4	South Boston, squares and trees
3	4	South Boston, squares, contract copy

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**Series XI: 1863**

Box	Folder	
3	5	Advertising Contract, City of Boston
3	5	Charles St., watering
3	5	Chester Square & Park, iron fence
3	5	City Building, urinals

New City Hall

Box	Folder
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3	5	Wood carving, dome
3	3	Iron work
3	6	Iron work, arches

City Hospital

Box	Folder	
3	5	Furnishing, centre building, operating room
3	5	Furnishing
3	5	Earth filling, grounds
3	5	Masonry, lathing & plastering, roofing
3	5	Painting & glazing
3	6	Paths
3	6	Plastering, centre building and corridors
3	6	Porter's Lodge
3	6	City Stables, horse sheds
3	6	City Stables, iron work
3	6	City Stables, yard wall
3	6	Concord St., filling
3	6	Congregational Libraray Assoc., lease
3	6	Congregational Library Assoc., lease
3	6	East Boston Squares, maintenance
3	6	Fuel Contract, City of Boston
3	6	Gravel Contract, beach gravel
3	6	Independance Square, maintenance
3	6	Massachusetts Charitable Mechanic Association, Mechanics Hall
3	7	City Stable, filling
3	7	Public Squares, preservation and improvement
3	7	Riot, Award for Damages, Thomas P. Barnes
3	7	School House, Primary, Boylston District
3	7	School House, Primary, Boystlon District, mason work
3	7	School House, Public, East Boston, lease
3	7	South End Squares, preservation and care
3	7	Springfield St., filling
3	7	Warren Bridge, bath houses, indenture
3	7	Winthrop Bridge, repairs

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**Series XII: 1864**

Box	Folder	
4	1	Advertising contract, City of Boston

New City Hall

Box	Folder	
4	1	City Hall, copper gutters



4 1 City Hall, heating apparatus  
 4 1 City Hall, plastering

City Hospital

Box	Folder	
4	1	Filling and grading
4	1	Iron fence
4	1	Stone work for iron fence
4	1	Wooden fence
4	1	City Stables, sheds and gates
4	1	City Stables, sheds and a fence
4	2	Dorchester St., rebuild wall

Fuel

Box	Folder	
4	2	Fuel Contract, Hammond & Foster
4	2	Fuel Contract, Hammond & Foster
4	2	Fuel Contract, Gove & Son
4	2	Gravel, beach gravel
4	2	Offal Depot, piles and posts
4	2	Pairing Building, building of
4	3	Prescott St., Grammar School House, carpentry
4	3	Prescott St., Grammar School House, filling
4	3	Prescott St., Grammar School House, masonry
4	3	Swill House, Internal Health Department of Boston, building of

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**Series XIII: 1865**

Box	Folder	
4	4	Advertising Contract, City of Boston
4	4	Beach Gravel, bond agreement

New City Hall

Box	Folder	
4	4	Fences, foundation stones and posts
4	4	Floorings
4	4	Furniture
4	4	Plumbing
4	5	Commonwealth Ave. Park, fence
4	5	Engine House, No. 10, building of
4	5	Engine Hook & Ladder House, masonry
4	5	Haskins, Ralph, indenture
4	5	Indexes, Registry of Deeds Office
4	5	Indexes, Registry of Deeds Office
4	5	Recopying Indexes, Registry of Deeds

School Houses

Box	Folder	
4	6	Chapman School House, painting and glazing
4	6	City Point School House, remodeling and enlarging
4	6	East & Cove St., Primary School House, carpentry
4	6	East and Cove St., Primary School House, masonry
4	7	Hawes School House, South Boston, enlargement
4	7	Prescott St., Grammar School House, iron fence
4	7	Washington Village School House, enlargement
4	7	Station House, Ward 8, masonry
4	7	Washington St., removal of buildings

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**Series XIV: 1866**

Box	Folder	
5	1	Advertising Contract, City of Boston
5	1	Beach Gravel, City of Boston
5	1	Cambridge, Bath House, storage
5	1	Commonwealth Ave. Park, iron fence
5	1	Copying Indexes, Registry of Deeds
5	1	New City Hall, gas pipe
5	1	New City Hall et al., care of certain grounds
5	1	New City Hall, painting
5	1	City Hospital et al., care of certain grounds
5	1	City Printing, City of Boston
5	2	Dartmouth St., filling
5	2	Dumping Scows
5	2	Dredging Machine, City of Boston
5	2	East Boston Squares, casing
5	2	Fuel Contract, City of Boston
5	2	July 4th, balloon ascension
5	2	July 4th, fireworks
5	2	Lamps, repairs
5	2	Meridian St. Bridge, rebuilding of
5	2	Northhampton St. Territory, fill
5	2	Oliver St., carting away earth
5	2	Otis Steam Dredger, City of Boston
5	3	Peoples Ferry, construct drops
5	3	Peoples Ferry, repairing drops
5	3	Poplar St. Dock, dredging
5	3	Public Garden, bridge
5	3	Rutland Square, fence
5	4	Soldier's Home, iron fence

5	4	Soldier's Monument, foundations
5	4	Station House, Harbor Police
5	5	Richmond St. School House, building of
5	5	Richmond St. School House, change of stone
5	5	Sewer Water Dept., oak piling wall
5	5	South End Squares, care of
5	5	Tremont St. Crossing, plate iron bridge
5	5	Water boat, City of Boston
5	5	Warren Bridge, bath houses
5	5b	Warren Bridge, contract
		Very Fragile

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**Series XV: 1867**

Box	Folder	
5	6	Advertising Contract, City of Boston
5	6	Albany St. Bridge, building blueprints
5	6	Albany St. Bridge, abutment and retaining walls
5	6	Armory Building, building of
5	6	Central Charity Bureau, carpenter's work
5	6	Central Charity Bureau, Mason Work
5	7	City Hospital Lodge, carpenter's work
5	7b	City Hospital Lodge, Mason Work
		Fragile - in several pieces
5	7c	City Hospital Porter's Lodge, addition
		Fragile - in several pieces
5	7	Coal Contract, City of Roxbury
5	7	Copying Indexes, Registry of Deeds
5	7	Cragie's Bridge, bath house
5	7	Dredging machine, use of
5	7	Dredging machine, use
5	7	Engine House, Ward 12, building of
5	7	Federal St., setting back buildings
5	7	Fuel, Ward I, East Boston
5	7	Hose House, No. 1, building of
5	7	Iron Screw Tugboat, Harbor Police Department
5	7	July 4th, illuminations
5	7	July 4th, Yacht's Surprise

Lamps

Box	Folder	
5	8	East Boston, repairing
5	8	Oil bond
5	8	South Boston, repairs

5 8 South Boston, repairs  
 5 8 Street plans

Meridian St. Bridge

Box	Folder	
5	8	Covering
5	8	Gravel
5	8b	Paving
		Fragile
5	8	Wings
5	8	Northhampton St., filling
6	1	Oliver St., bond
6	1	Oliver St., bridge
6	1	Oliver St., grade lowering
6	1	O'Mahoney, Jeremiah, indenture
6	1	Public Garden Bridge, steps
6	2	Pemberton Square, indenture
6	2	People's Ferry, removing & rebuilding walls
6	2	Quincy St., City of Roxbury

School Houses

Box	Folder	
6	2	Adams School House, walls
6	2	Hancock School House, painting
6	2	Lawrence School House, brick work
6	2	South Boston, Grammar School House, carpenter's work
6	2	Ward 7, Grammar School House, mason's work
6	2	Wells Grammar School House, carpentry
6	2	Wells Grammar School House, masonry
6	3	Scow, one light
6	3	West City Stable, dwelling & storehouse
6	3	Wooden dumping cars

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**Series XVI: 1868**

Box	Folder	
6	4	Albany St., Roxbury Canal, Time Table Draw
6	4	Cabot St., bath house
6	4	Central Charity Bureau, heating
6	4	Chelsea St. Bridge, turn table pivot draw
6	4	Fuel, City of Boston
6	4	Fuel, Ward 1
6	4	Gates, George L., lease

Hose Houses

Box	Folder	
6	5	Hose House No. 3, construction
6	5	Hose House no. 8 and Ward Room No. 9, carpenter's work
6	5	Hose House no. 8, War Room no. 9, masonry
6	5	Hose House no. 10, enlargement & alterations
6	5	Independance Sqaure, iron fence
6	5	Lamps, lighting streets
6	5	Lamps, repairs
6	6	Metropolitan Rail Road Company, Elliot Square, lease
		<u>Police Station, House Ward 15</u>

Box	Folder	
6	6	Carpenter's work
6	6	Iron work
6	6	Mason
6	6	Painting
6	6	Plasterer
6	7	Public Garden Bridge, grading
6	7	Public Garden Bridge, lamp posts
6	7	Station House no. 9, plumbing
6	7	Suffolk Registry, indices

School Houses

Box	Folder	
7	1	Charter St., Primary School House, carpenter's work
7	1	Charter St., Primary School House, mason work
7	1	Charter St., Primary School House, painting
7	1	Charter St., Primary School House, roofing
7	2	Grammar School House, ward 9, carpenter
7	2	Grammar School House, ward 9, foundation
7	2	Grammar School House, ward 9, masons
7	2	Grammar School House, ward 9, painter
7	2	Grammar School, ward 9, plasterer
7	2	Grammar School House, unknown
		A little fragile, unknown location of school house. Possibly ward 12
7	2	Grammar School House, ward 12, carpenter
7	3	Grammar School House, ward 12, mason
7	3	Grammar School House, ward 12, painter
7	3	Grammar School House, ward 12, plasterer
7	3	Primary School House, ward 7, carpenter's work
7	3	Primary School House, ward 7, mason's work
7	3	Steam fire engine, City of Boston

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Box	Folder	
7	4	Atlantic Ave., filling and grading
7	4	Atlantic Ave., sea wall
7	4	Atlantic Ave., sea wall, supplementary
7	4	Brodway extension
7	4	Eastern Ave. Wharf, repairs
7	4	Fuel, City of Boston
7	4	Hook and Ladder House, no. 4, addition
7	4	Lamps, lighting

School Houses

Box	Folder	
7	5	Appleton St., Primary School House, carpentry
7	5	Appleton St., Primary School House, masons
7	5	Berlin St., Primary School House, masons
7	5	Dorchester, High School House, masonry
7	5	Girls High Normal School, mason
7	5	Girls High Normal School, painting
7	6	Grammar School House, ward 1, carpenter
7	6	Grammar School House, ward 1, mason
7	6	Grammar School House, ward 14, mason
7	7	May School House, removal
7	7	May Primary School House, removal, masons
7	7	Newton St., Normal School, roofing
7	7	Yeoman St, Primary School House, masonry
7	7	Squares, City of Boston, care & maintenance

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