

Massachusetts Horticultural Society

Inventory of Portraits

Research Aid

Collection: Busts and Paintings

The Society began to collect and display busts and paintings of its prominent leaders and members in 1861 to display in its Horticultural Halls. Ten busts and 46 paintings were moved to Elm Bank in 2000.

On December 30, 1888, a fire at the second Horticultural Hall severely damaged several of the paintings. All but two were restored; a full-length portrait of Jacob Bigelow and a portrait of President William Gray, Jr. were destroyed. The fate of the painting of President Charles Wallingford Parker is unknown. Today, the busts and paintings are in varying conditions. While some are in good condition, others show signs of deterioration. Portraits of General Dearborn, the Society's first President and Robert Manning, the Society's Librarian during its greatest period of growth and renown are hung in the Library at Elm Bank; the remainder are either on loan or in storage.








Above: The Presidents Gallery in the third Horticultural Hall at Massachusetts Avenue in Boston. The portraits, arranged in chronological order by years served, started with the portrait of the Society's first president, General Henry A. S. Dearborn to the left of the library door (shown above at the end of the hallway.) They were displayed from top to bottom, progressing to the left.

The spreadsheet below, lists the objects by type, busts then portraits, in alphabetical order of the subject's last name.

Busts

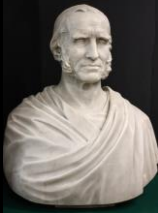




To search, Press Control/F (Command/F on MAC) and a search box will appear.

Image	Location	Subject	Position: Dates	Artist; (Date); Medium; Acquisition (Date); Other
	Storage	Jacob Bigelow (1787-1879)	Original Member**	Unknown artist; Plaster (Mid 19th Century); Presented by Charles O. Whitmore (1872).
	Storage	Amos Lawrence (1786-1852)	Member	Unknown artist; Plaster (c. 1850); Presented to Society by his son, Amos A. Lawrence (1872).
	Storage	John Lowell (1769-1840)	Founder*	Walter M. Brackett (1823-1919); Marble; Presented by subject's friends (1872).
	Storage	Theodore Lyman (1792-1849)	Original Member**	Henry Dexter (1806-1876); Marble; Acquired by Society (1852).
	Storage	Francis Parkman (1823-1893)	President 1875-1877	Joseph Milmore (1841-1886); Plaster; Acquired by Society (1876); Bust was secured in lieu of a painting.

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Image	Location	Subject	Position: Dates	Artist; (Date); Medium; Acquisition (Date); Other
	Storage	Josiah Stickney (1789 - 1876)	President 1858	Henry Dexter (1806-1876); Marble; Presented by Charles O. Whitmore (1863).
	Storage	Charles Sumner (1811-1874)	Honorary Member	Joseph Milmore (1841-1886); Plaster; Acquired by Society (1870).
	Storage	Daniel Webster (1782-1852)	Honorary Member	Thomas Ball (1819-1911); Plaster (1852); Acquired by Society (1870).
	Storage	Charles O. Whitmore (1807-1885)	Vice President 1863-1879	Joseph Milmore (1841-1886); Marble; Presented by Massachusetts Agricultural Club (1869).
	Storage	Marshall Pinckney Wilder (1798-1886)	President 1841-1848	Henry Dexter (1806-1876); Marble (1863); Presented by Charles O. Whitmore (1863).

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Paintings








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Image	Location	Subject	Position: Dates	Artist; (Date); Medium; Acquisition (Date); Other
	Storage	John Stanley Ames (1910-1973)	President 1944-1957	Blanche Ames (1878-1969); Oil on canvas (1954); Presented by his family (1958).
	Storage	Francis Henry Appleton (1847-1939)	President 1896-1900	Marie Danforth Page (1890-1940); Oil on canvas (1902); Acquired by the Society (1903).
	Storage	Joseph H. Billings (1807-1874)	Member	Alfred T. Ordway (1821-1897); Oil on canvas mounted on masonite; Presented by his friends (1872).
	Storage	Joseph Breck (1794-1873)	Original Member** President 1859-62	Henry Cheever Pratt (1803-1880); Oil on canvas (1861); Acquired by Society (1861).
	Storage	Albert Cameron Burrage (1859-1931)	President 1921-1931	Unknown artist; Oil on canvas mounted on masonite (c. 1930); Presented to Society (1944).
	Storage	Edwin William Buswell (1813-1897)	Officer 1856-1897	Unknown artist; Oil on canvas; Presented by subject's friends (1872).
	Storage	Joseph Sebastian Cabot (1796-1874)	President 1852-1857	Walter M. Brackett (1823-1919); Oil on canvas mounted on board (1861); Acquired by Society (1861).

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	Storage	Benjamin Pierce Cheney (1815-1895)	Member	Alfred T. Ordway (1821-1897); Oil on canvas (1867); Presented by subject's friends (1872).
	Storage	Zebedee Hunt Cook, Jr. (1786-1858)	Founder* President 1835	Walter M. Brackett (1823-1919); Oil on canvas (1861); Acquired by Society (1861); Copied from family portrait.
	Library	Henry Alexander Scammell Dearborn (1783-1851)	Founder* President 1829-1834	Jane Stuart (1812-1888); Oil on canvas (1861); Acquired by Society (1861); Copied from portrait by artist's father, Gilbert Stuart (1755-1828) owned by subject's family .
	Storage	Samuel Downer (1773-1854)	Founder*	Unknown artist; Oil on canvas mounted on masonite; Presented by his son Samuel Downer (1870).
	Storage	Jeré Arthur Downs (1872-1935)	Member	William Fiske Noyes (1931); Presented by the Downs Estate (1945).
	Storage	William Crowninshield Endicott (1860-1936)	President 1919-1920	Marie Danforth Page (1890-1940); Oil on canvas; Presented by subject's widow (1945).
	Storage	Arthur Frederick Estabrook (1837-1919)	President 1905-1906	Joseph de Camp (1858-1923); Oil on canvas; Presented to Society (c. 1925); Framer - Foster Bros. Boston.

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	Storage	John K. L. M. Farquhar (1863-1921)	President 1913-1915	Lucius A. Briggs (1852-1931)?; Oil on canvas; Gift of the Horticultural Club of Boston (1925); Frame - Foster Brothers, Boston.
	Storage	Benjamin Vinton French (1791-1860)	Founder*	Edward D. Marchant (1806-1887); Oil on canvas mounted on masonite (1847); Presented by his nephew Benjamin V. French (1872).
	Storage	John Davis Williams French (1841-1900)	Member	Marie Danforth Page (1890-1940); Presented by family (1902).
	Storage	Obadiah Brown Hadwen (1824-1907)	President 1901-1903	Henry E. Kinney (1866-1954); Oil on canvas mounted on masonite; Acquired by Society (1904).
	Storage	Francis Brown Hayes (1819-1884)	President 1880-1884	Edwin T. Billings (1824-1893); Oil on canvas (c.1886); Acquired by Society (1889); Frame - Hastings & Davenport.
	Storage	George Jackson Hill III (1933-1999)	President 1989-94	George Vance Augusta, Jr. (1922-2012); (1996); Donated by spouse after subject's death
	Storage	Charles Mason Hovey (1810-1887)	President 1863-1866	Alonzo Hartwell (1805-1873); Oil on canvas (1865); Acquired by Society (1865); Frame - Williams T. Everett.

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	Storage	Horatio Hollis Hunnewell (1810-1902)	Vice President 1864-1874	Ernest Ludvig Ipsen (1869-1951); Oil on canvas (Late 19th, early 20th century); Presented to Society (c.1902).
	Storage	James Francis Clark Hyde (1825-1898)	President 1867-1870	Alonzo Hartwell (1805-1873); Oil on canvas; Acquired by Society (1867).
	Storage	William Kenrick (1795-1872)	Founder*	Unknown artist; Oil on canvas mounted on masonite; Presented by members (1871).
	On loan to the town of Milton, Massachusetts	Nathaniel Thayer Kidder (1860-1938)	President 1893-95	James Harvey Young (1830- 1896); Oil on canvas mounted on masonite (1896); Acquired by Society (1897).
	Storage	Jacob Warren Manning (1826-1904)	Member	Walter Kingsman; Oil on canvas (1906); Donated by subject's sons, Warrren and J. Woodward Manning (1923); Painted from photograph.
	Library	Robert Manning (1827-1902)	Secretary Librarian Society Historian	Henry E. Kinney (1866-1954); Oil on canvas mounted on masonite; Acquired by Society (1902).
	Storage	John Brooks Moore (1817-1887)	President 1884-1885	Edwin T. Billings (1824-1893); Oil on canvas; Acquired by Sociey (1886); Frame - Eastings & Davenport.

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	Storage	Cheever Newhall (1788-1878)	Founder*	Unknown artist; Oil on canvas mounted on masonite; Presented by Massachusetts Agricultural Club (1869); copied from a miniature by Miss Hall.
	Storage	Thomas Roland (1863-1929)	Trustee	Leslie Prince Thompson (1880-1963); Oil on canvas (1933); Presented by the Horticultural Club of Boston (1932).
	Storage	John Brooks Russell (1801-1891)	Founder*	Henry Cheever Pratt (1803-1880); Oil on canvas mounted on masonite; Presented by friends to the Society (1871).
	Storage	Richard Middlecott Saltonstall (1859 - 1922)	President 1916-18	Henry Howard Brooks (1898-1881); Oil on canvas; Presented by his family (1953); Copied from painting by Frank W. Benson at the Peabody Museum, Salem, Massachusetts.
	Storage	William Heath Spooner (1834-1908)	President 1890-1892	Helen Maria Hinds (1861-1902); Oil on canvas mounted on board (1893); Acquired by Society (1894); Frame - Geo. E. Davenport.
	Storage	Josiah Stickney (1789-1876)	President 1858	Alonzo Hartwell (1805-1873); Oil on canvas (1861); Acquired by Society (1861).
	Storage	William Chamberlain Strong (1823-1913)	President 1871-74	Virgil Williams (1830-1886); Oil on canvas mounted on masonite (1871); Acquired by Society (1871).

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	Storage	Samuel Sweetser (1796-1871)	Member 1835-1870	Unknown, in the style of Charles Osgood (1809-1890); Donated to the Society in 1906 by the estate of his daughter, H. F. W. Sweetser.
	Storage	Elijah Vose (1790-1856)	President 1835-1840	James Harvey Young (1830- 1896); Oil on canvas; Acquired by Society (1861); Copied from a miniature on Ivory.
	Storage	Henry Pickering Walcott (1838-1932)	President 1886-89, 1904	Edward Herbert Barnard (1855-1909); Oil on canvas; Acquired by Society (1891); Frame - J. Eastman Chace.
	Storage	Samuel Walker (1793-1860)	President 1849-1851	Alonzo Hartwell (1805-1873); Oil on canvas; Acquired by Society (1861); Copied from a photograph.
	Storage	Edwin Sibley Webster (1867-1950)	President 1932-1944	Philip de Laslo (1869-1937); Oil on canvas (1925); Presented by subject to Society (1947).
	Storage	Aaron Davis Weld (1779 - 1835)	Member	Unknown artist; Oil on canvas mounted on masonite; Presented by his friends (1872).
	Storage	Stephen Minot Weld (1842-1920)	President 1907-1910	Richard Sumner Merryman (1882-1963); Oil on canvas.

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	Storage	Marshall Pinckney Wilder (1798-1886)	President 1841-1848	Jane Stuart (1812-1888); Oil on canvas; Acquired by the Society (1861).
	Storage	Aaron Davis Williams (1787-1863)	Original Member**	Unknown artist; Oil on canvas; Presented by his son Aaron D. Williams (c. 1872).
	On loan to the Arnold Arboretum	Ernest Henry Wilson (1876-1930)	Trustee 1915 Recipient - George Robert White Memorial Medal	Marie Danforth Page (1890-1940); Oil on canvas (1933); Presented by the Horticultural Club of Boston (1933); Frame - Thulin.

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