

## **Guide to the Sanborn Family Papers, 1760-1910, bulk 1837-1871**

### **Administrative Information**

**Title and Dates:**

Sanborn Family Papers, 1760-1910, bulk 1837-1871

**Repository:**

New Hampshire Historical Society  
30 Park Street  
Concord, NH 03301  
603-228-6688  
nhhistory.org

**Collection Number:**

1974.058

**Author of Finding Aid:**

Unidentified; reformatted by Korrena Cowing and updated by Abigail Dollries

**Creator:**

Sanborn family

**Language:**

The materials in this collection are in English.

**Extent:**

1 box and 1 oversized folder, approximately 174 items ; 0.21 linear feet

**Abstract:**

The Sanborn Family Papers consist of correspondence and other miscellaneous materials related to members of the Sanborn family. The papers primarily contain correspondence of Edwin D., Dyer, and John S. Sanborn. The letters largely discuss the Sanborn brothers' teaching and legal careers, with materials ranging from 1760 to 1910.

## Access and Use

### **Acquisition Information and Provenance:**

The Sanborn Family Papers were a gift of George Kent in 1974.

### **Processing Information:**

This collection was processed by an unknown person at an unknown date. The finding aid was written by an unknown person at an unknown date, reformatted by Korrena Cowing in March 2020, and updated by Abigail Dollries in May 2025. This finding aid follows the standards set forth by *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*.

### **Access Restrictions:**

Available for research.

### **Location:**

The collection is housed at the New Hampshire Historical Society in Concord, New Hampshire.

### **Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:**

The materials in this collection are paper based and have no special technical requirements for use.

### **Copyright/Conditions Governing Use:**

For permission to reproduce or publish materials from this collection, please contact the New Hampshire Historical Society. Users are responsible for following all copyright and intellectual property laws.

### **Preferred Citation:**

Item title, Sanborn Family Papers, 1974.058. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH.  
Date accessed.

## Collection Overview

### **Biographical Information:**

Edwin D. Sanborn was born in Gilmanton, NH, on May 14, 1808. He graduated from Dartmouth College in 1832. After holding various teaching posts and studying law and theology, he taught Greek and Latin at Dartmouth. He remained at Dartmouth for over twenty years. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention in 1850. In 1859 he became a professor at Washington University in St. Louis, MO, but returned to Dartmouth four years later to the chair of Oratory and Belles Lettres. December 11, 1837, he married Mary Ann Webster of Boscawen, NH.

Dyer Hook Sanborn was born July 29, 1799. He was also a teacher, holding posts at the Lodge School in Marblehead, MA; Woodman Sanbornton Academy; and Andover, Hopkinton, and Pittsfield Academies. He served in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Militia Regiments in 1828. He was a Justice of the Peace for nearly forty years, and commissioner of schools in Sullivan County from 1850 to 1851. He represented the town of Sanbornton in the New Hampshire Legislature in 1845 to 1846 and the town of Washington in 1850 in the legislature and at the Constitutional Convention.

While in Hopkinton, he was superintendent of schools in 1854, 1858 to 1859, and 1866 to 1870. For a brief period, he was a clerk in the Department of Interior under President Pierce. He published a number of works including a school grammar book and an analytical grammar book, both of which went into repeated editions. His first wife was Harriet W. Tucker of Deerfield. In 1847, he married Abigail (Newman) Glidden, of Sanbornton Bridge.

John Sewell Sanborn was born January 1, 1819. He graduated from Dartmouth in 1824. During his post as principal at Sherbrooke Academy in Canada, he finished his legal studies. He was admitted to the bar in 1847 and in 1858 he joined his brother-in-law E. T. Brooks in partnership. In 1873, he was appointed judge of the district court, then of the superior court, and finally the Queen's court. He also served in the Canadian Parliament and later served in the Legislative Council. His first wife was Eleanor Hall Brooks, who died in 1853. In 1856, he married Nancy Judson Hazeltine of Bradford, MA. He had four children: Elizabeth Maria, Ellen Brooks, Samuel B., and Mary Abigail Sanborn.

### **Collection Scope and Content Note:**

The Sanborn Family Papers consist of correspondence related to Edwin D., Dyer, and John S. Sanborn as well as other papers, including deeds and legal papers related to the larger Sanborn family. The correspondence primarily discusses their teaching and legal careers, dating from 1760 to 1910, with the majority of material dating from 1837 to 1871. Edwin D. Sanborn's correspondence includes letters to his brother, Dyer, regarding teaching, family matters, and political events, including comments on slavery and the Civil War. There is also some correspondence about Sanborn genealogy. Dyer Sanborn's correspondence primarily discusses school business, with some information on genealogy. A single folder of correspondence by John Sewell Sanborn to his brother Dyer, concerns Canadian Parliamentary business, politics, and social affairs.

### **Arrangement:**

The materials in this collection are organized by person/type of material.

## **Contents List**

### **Box 1**

|           |                                                            |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Folder 1  | Edwin D. Sanborn correspondence, 1837-1860                 |
| Folder 2  | Edwin D. Sanborn correspondence, 1861-1863                 |
| Folder 3  | Edwin D. Sanborn correspondence, 1864-1869                 |
| Folder 4  | Edwin D. Sanborn correspondence, 1870-1871                 |
| Folder 5  | Dyer H. Sanborn correspondence, 1852-1858                  |
| Folder 6  | Dyer H. Sanborn correspondence, 1860-1861                  |
| Folder 7  | Dyer H. Sanborn correspondence, 1862-1870                  |
| Folder 8  | John Sewell Sanborn correspondence, 1842, 1853-1870        |
| Folder 9  | Edwin W. Sanborn correspondence, 1910                      |
| Folder 10 | Legal papers, wills, and estates, 1760-1818                |
| Folder 11 | Legal papers, military papers, and appointments, 1822-1864 |
| Folder 12 | Deeds, 1761-1866                                           |
| Folder 13 | Miscellaneous correspondence, 1821, 1856-1868              |

Folder 14      Miscellaneous, undated

**Separated Materials:**

The following items were removed to Oversized Manuscripts Box 'S' due to their size:

Names of the contributors to the fund for the erection of the fence enclosing the Woodbury

Sanborn memorial stone, Weirs, New Hampshire, undated

Appointment of Joseph W. Sanborn as Major of the First Division New Hampshire Militia,  
1840 August 31

Appointment of Jonathan Sanborn as Justice of the Peace for the County of Merrimack, 1854  
May 19

Appointment of Jonathan Sanborn as Justice of the Peace for the County of Merrimack, 1859  
May 14

**Subject Terms**

**People:**

Sanborn family

Sanborn, Dyer H. (Dyer Hook), 1799-1871

Sanborn, Edwin D. (Edwin David), 1808-1885

Sanborn, Edwin W., 1857-1928

Sanborn, John Sewell, 1819-1877

**Organizations:**

Canada. Legislature. Legislative Assembly

Dartmouth College

Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Winnipissiogee Lodge No. 7 (Meredith Bridge, N.H.)

New Hampshire. Militia. Regiment, 16<sup>th</sup>

Silver Lake Institute (Newton, Mass.)

United States. Army. New Hampshire Cavalry Regiment, 1st (1861-1865)

United States. Army. New Hampshire Infantry Regiment, 4th (1861-1865)

**Subjects:**

Correspondence

Deeds

Estates (Law)

Genealogy

Guardian and ward

Politics and government

Schools

Slavery

Teaching

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865

Wills

**Locations:**

Hanover, NH

Hopkinton, NH

Quebec, Canada

Sanbornton, NH

Sherbrooke, Canada

St. Louis, MO

**Occupations:**

Lawyers

Soldiers

Teachers