

**College of the Holy Cross  
Archives and Special Collections  
Collection Inventory**

Accession Number: **SC2000-02**

Collection Name (Title): **Boland Family Ledger and Photographs**

Dates of Material: **1861-1879**

Size of Collection: **2 Boxes**

Arrangement:

Restrictions:

Related Material:

Preferred Citation:

Processed on:

**Biography/History:**

Tobias Boland was born in Tipperary, Ireland on January 7, 1795 and immigrated to America in 1826, becoming a citizen in 1837. He was a contractor for the Blackstone Canal, the Boston and Worcester Railroad, and the Worcester and Western Railroad. Boland hired Irish immigrants from New York and Boston to perform construction work in the Worcester area.

Boland bought land near Franklin Street and improved it by draining the swamp. He constructed Temple and Winter Streets and built houses in that area. He renovated a small house and his first wife, Eleanor McCauley, helped set up a Catholic school on the premises called the St. James Seminary School. In 1843 he contracted to build the first building of what is now the College of the Holy Cross. He donated generously to the College throughout his life.

After his wife died in 1841, Boland married Eleanor Fitzpatrick, sister of Bishop John Bernard Fitzpatrick, the third bishop of Boston. Boland had four children with his first wife and five children from his second wife. He died on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1886 in Charlestown, MA.

**Scope and Content Note:**

The first box contains biographical information about Tobias Boland and his son, Thomas Bernard Fitzpatrick (T.B.F.) Boland in the form of newspaper articles and a short biography of Tobias Boland. There are also two small contract books dating from the 1860s and containing illegible names and numbers. The majority of the box's contents are Boland family photographs. These photographs are in various formats and date from the 1860's to 1880's. Some of the photos are identified.

The oversized box contains a large contract book dating from the 1860s and 1870s. It contains a catalogue of people who hired Boland along with an account of payment and the date of the job. Also, the information includes whether the individual paid with cash or credit. There are approximately 140 written pages that describe the various construction projects that Boland contracted. Additionally, there are loose items in the volume.

**Box and Folder List:**

**Box 1: Boland Family Ledger and Photographs, 1861-1879**

- 2 Diaries/Workbooks, Undated
- Folder 1: Biographical information,
- Folder 2: Boland Family Photos, Clergy
- Folder 3: Boland Family Photos, Children
- Folder 4: Boland Family Photos, Women
- Folder 5: Boland Family Photos, Men
- Folder 6: Boland Family Photos, Unidentified

**Box 2: Boland Family Ledger and Photographs, 1861-1879**

Oversized Notepad

Title:  
1<sup>st</sup> ver:  
Last rev: 11/06