

# Publications

## Crimpsville Comments

- Historical Commission Newsletter
- Copies available for viewing at museum and Bellingham Public Library
- Published 2-4 times per year
- Recent back issues on our website
- Sign up on our website to subscribe to receive new issues by email

## History of Bellingham 1719-1919

- By George F. Partridge
- Copies available for viewing at the museum
- Copies can be checked out at the Bellingham Public Library
- Can be read online at archive.org

## The Town of Bellingham Massachusetts 1719-1969

- Published by the 250th Anniversary Committee
- Copies available for viewing at the museum
- Copies can be checked out at the Bellingham Public Library

## Images of America, Bellingham

- By Ernest A. Taft
- Copies available for viewing at the museum
- Copies available for checkout at the Bellingham Public Library
- Can be purchased online

## Bellingham Now & Then, Celebrating the 300th Anniversary of Bellingham, MA

- Published by the Bellingham Public Library
- Copies available for viewing and purchase at the museum
- Copies available for checkout at the Bellingham Public Library
- Can also be purchased online at Amazon.com



BELLINGHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION, PUBLISHER

## CRIMPSVILLE COMMENTS

ESTABLISHED 1973



ISSUE #231, FALL 2023

If you would like to subscribe to the print issues of the Crimpsville Comments, please send a check, with Crimpsville Comments in the memo, for \$20.00 to:

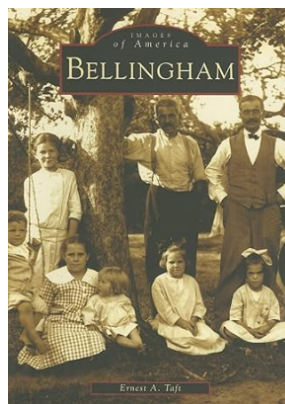
Bellingham Historical Commission  
3 Common Street  
Bellingham, MA 02019

Donations to the Bellingham  
Historical Commission Gift Fund  
can also be sent to the above address.



**Bellingham Now & Then** was a grant project of the Bellingham Library for the town's 300th Anniversary. This book documents the 300th Anniversary events as well as chapters on the following topics: Growth and Development, 1960-2020; Faith Communities; Bellingham Schools; Municipal Buildings and Public Spaces; Our Veterans; Businesses & Families; Remembering Bellingham; Items of Interest; and an In Memoriam section to recognize town employees, elected officials and others who served the Town of Bellingham, deceased between 1968 and 2019.

Written by Library Director, Bernadette Rivard;  
Reference Librarian, Cecily Christensen;  
Personal Historian, Marjorie Turner Hollman;  
and former editor of the Bellingham Bulletin,  
Pam Johnson



**Images of America Bellingham** is loaded with high quality photos from a variety of locations and events throughout Bellingham's History. It was written by Ernie Taft, long-time Bellingham historian for whom the museum is named.

# Bellingham Historical Commission

3 Common Street  
Bellingham MA 02019  
508-966-5838  
[history@bellinghamma.org](mailto:history@bellinghamma.org)

Connecting with our town's history  
and expanding our community.



## Home of the Ernest A. Taft Jr. Historical Museum

Museum hours  
are on the website  
[bellinghamma.org/history](http://bellinghamma.org/history)

# About the Museum

The Ernest A. Taft Jr. Historical Museum is located in the Bellingham Town Center at the intersections of Routes 126 and 140.

Visitors to the museum have the opportunity to learn about Bellingham History from the 1600s to the present from hands on exhibits and memorabilia.

Our collection includes displays on the following topics and items:

## Military, Public Safety & Civil Defense

- Civil Defense Siren from 1941
- "Red Comet" Fire Extinguisher Grenade
- Memorabilia from Chief Boucher's 1995 visit with Ukrainian Police Colonel
- [Bellingham-made Civil War Era boots worn by Charles Burr](#)
- [Civil War Era slate message board used by Abiram Wales, who resided on Hartford Avenue](#)



## Research Library Collection

- Issues of the Crimpville Comments, 1970-present
- History books about Bellingham and environs
- Bellingham Family Histories, Journals, etc.
- Photo albums of restaurants, buildings, homes, people and more
- Annual Town Reports from 1872-present
- BHS Yearbooks

## Bellingham's Irreplaceable Treasures and Memories

- 48 Star Flag that belonged to Myla Thayer
- [Bellingham's Boston Post Cane](#)
- Amethyst specimens found at Rose Avenue
- 1830s era dress and pantaloons worn by Alice Burr
- Matchstick replica of the Assumption Church Altar
- Bellingham Rifle Company Account Book, 1831-1846
- Handwritten Account Book of John White, 1768
- Letter from Daniel Thompson at Fort Cumberland in 1759 to Bellingham
- 1810-1830 Militia Book noting that Bellingham's Militia was "reviewed by the President of the United States" (James Monroe)



## Sports & Recreation

- History of Silver (Hoag) Lake
- Sports Memorabilia
- Bellingham Athletic Hall of Fame
- Business artifacts
- 1930s era Baseball Uniforms

## Transportation

- Railroads
- Trolley Cars

## School & Municipal Collection

- Desk used by Clara Macy
- Wooden pew from Upper Town Hall, circa 1802
- Autograph Quilt, created between 1903 and 1916
- Center School Bell, 1891
- [1767 Middle Post Road Mile Marker](#)
- Ballot Box, circa 1920s
- Jury Duty Selection Box, used from the mid 1800s to the 1970s



## Home Farming & Industry

- Boot Making & Mill History
- Antique Wringer
- Horse Drawn Pung (Sleigh) used to deliver groceries between 1860-1920
- Doll House Replica of 156 Mechanic Street home, circa 1820s
- Farming tools
- Antique samplers made by three Bellingham girls in the 1800s
- Medical Kit owned by Kathryn (Garipey) Feeney, Mrs. Babe Ruth's personal nurse
- Antique Zenith Floor Model Radio

**The museum staff and volunteers are involved in ongoing projects to organize the photos, documents, ephemera and physical items in the collection.**

Follow us on Facebook to keep up to date on our photographs, discussions, activities and other ways you can engage with Bellingham's rich history!



<https://www.facebook.com/BellinghamHistoricalCommissionMA>