

**GUIDE TO THE LANE FAMILY PAPERS**  
**PVMA Library**

**GENEALOGY OF THE LANE FAMILY** taken from "Susan Minot Lane" by Joseph Peter Spang III (1990), and *An Imperfect List of Descendants from Job Lane, Wm. Lane of Dorchester, and William Lane of Boston* (Chicago, 1856).

**Ebenezer Lane**, son of Samuel, was born in 1712, died May 12, 1790. A deacon of the first church in Attleborough, Mass., he was also a doctor and represented the town in the General Assembly in Boston. Married Bethiah Shaw in 1735; they had 11 children, one of whom is mentioned below. He was the great-grandfather of Susan Minot Lane.

His papers consist of a funeral sermon titled *A Discourse, Delivered The Next Sabbath, After The Interment of Deacon Ebenezer Lane...* by John Wilder.

**Ebenezer Lane**, son of Ebenezer and Bethiah Shaw Lane, born Feb. 10, 1747, died June 6, 1808 in Northampton, Mass. Successively married Phoebe Parsons, Martha Phelps, and Marian Griswold Chandler. Martin and Martha were twins born from the union of Martha Phelps and Ebenezer. Martin is mentioned below. Ebenezer, a farmer who resided on Bridge Street in Northampton, was the grandfather of Susan Minot Lane.

His papers include a photograph of his house, a deed dated 1779, and a partial account for 1783-1785.

**Martin Lane**, son of Ebenezer and Martha Phelps Lane, born 1785 in Northampton, Mass., died 1858. He was the twin brother of Martha Lane. Married Lucretia Swan in 1808; they had 8 children, two of whom are mentioned below. They resided in Cambridge, Mass., where Martin was the cashier of the Cambridge Bank from 1826 to 1855. Martin's twin sister married William Swan, brother of his wife Lucretia. Martin was father of Susan Minot Lane.

His papers include a bank claim, executor appointment for Martin's estate, clipping of his obituary, and copy of the *Boston Daily Courier* dated October 21, 1858.

**Lucretia Swan**, daughter of Thomas and Sarah Speakman Swan, born May 16, 1788 in Montreal; died December 16, 1859 in Cambridgeport, Mass. Married Martin Lane in 1808; they had 8 children, two of whom are mentioned below.

Her papers consist of a silhouette and a picture, both possibly of Lucretia.

**William Swan**, son of Thomas and Sarah Speakman Swan, born 1776, died 1872. Married Martha Lane in c. 1805; they resided in Northampton, Mass., and had 3 children. Both sons died, one in 1846 in Indian territory, one at sea in 1847. William was a major in the War of 1812 and was known for his bravery at the battles of New Toronto and Sackett's Harbor, NY. After serving in the military for 20 years he became postmaster in Cummington, Mass., where he lived there with his daughter Martha, after the death of his wife. William was the

brother of Lucretia Swan who married his wife Martha's twin brother, Martin Lane. William was the uncle of Susan Minot Lane.

His papers consist of War Department correspondence, military commissions, a discharge, appointments to Military Agent & postmaster, a genealogical note, and letters regarding his epaulets [now in Memorial Hall Museum]. The two newspaper clippings are an obituary and a report on the War of 1812.

**George Martin Lane**, son of Martin and Lucretia Swan Lane, born December 24, 1823 in Charlestown, Mass., died 1897 in Cambridge. Married Frances E. Gardiner in 1857, with whom he had three children, then married Fanny B. Clark in 1878. George graduated from Harvard in 1846, earned his Ph.D. in Germany, and returned to teach Latin at Harvard. He was a full Harvard professor until 1894 when he became an honorary professor emeritus. He was the brother of Susan Minot Lane.

His papers include name cards of his first fiancee, an appointment as administrator to Aunt Sarah Swan's estate, and an article reprinted from the *American Journal of Philology, Vol. XVIII, No. 3* on Lane. The bulk of his papers are transcripts of his letters written home to family and friends about his travels and adventures during a turbulent time in Germany's history. These date from the late 1840s to the early 1850s and include 5 letters to Susan, his sister.

**Susan Minot Lane**, daughter of Martin and Lucretia Swan Lane, born 1832, died 1893. She came to Deerfield in 1854 to become preceptress at Deerfield Academy where she met C. Alice Baker, a teacher. They formed a life-long friendship and opened a series of schools, first in Chicago and later in the Boston area. They befriended Emma Lewis Coleman, noted photographer and author, with whom they traveled to the Azores and Madeira. The extra-illustrated edition of Miss Baker's book, *A Summer in The Azores*, included photographs by Susan. Miss Lane was a pupil of her cousin, artist William Morris Hunt. She worked as an illustrator and artist, frequently painting houses in Boston's north end where she had a studio.

Her papers consist of correspondence, newspaper articles, a story manuscript illustrated by her, text of a talk, clippings, notes, sketches, invoices, programs, photocopies of paintings, and an obituary. Also present is a box of genealogical material; especially interesting is a Lane genealogy, prepared by Susan, which includes charts of descendants. Various loose volumes contained in Box 4: two copies of the extra-illustrated edition of *A Summer in The Azores*; a diary from her 1879 trip to the Azores, and a notebook containing trigonometry, architectural descriptions, and a story. Box 5 houses two pictorial scrapbooks of her 1886 European trip, and an 1881 journal kept in Europe. Several books she owned are in Historic Deerfield Library special collections.

**Gardiner Martin Lane**, son of George Martin Lane and Frances Gardiner Lane, born 1859, died 1914. He grew up in Cambridge, Mass., graduated from Harvard, and joined the law firm of Lee & Higginson. He then became the vice president of the Union Pacific Railway, and later became a partner in the Lee & Higginson firm. Lane served as President of the Board of Trustees of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, and became a benefactor of many cultural and educational institutions. Married Emma Louise Gildersleeve; they had

one child. The couple lived in Boston, traveled throughout Europe and had a summer home in Manchester-by-the-Sea. Gardiner was the nephew of Susan Minot Lane, and possible benefactor of C. A. Baker and Susan M. Lane. Gardiner and Frances' daughter, Katharine Lane Weems, donated all the Lane family papers and books described here to PVMA and Historic Deerfield, Inc.

His papers consist of name cards, a journal of the Azores trip in 1879, and a biography, *Gardiner Martin Lane*, prepared by a Harvard College committee in 1915.

**Ebenezer Lane**, son of Ebenezer Lane and Marian Griswold Chandler Lane, born 1793 in Northampton, Mass., died 1866. Married Frances Ann Griswold in 1818; they had 3(?) children, two of whom are mentioned below. Ebenezer became a lawyer and practiced in Connecticut in 1814 and later moved west to Ohio where he became a judge of the Superior Court, retiring in 1845. He became president of various railroads and left a library of more than 4,000 volumes. Marian Chandler was Ebenezer's third wife, making their son, Ebenezer, half uncle of Susan Minot Lane.

His papers consist of a published "Sketch of the Life and Character of Ebenezer Lane, LL.D." (Boston, 1867) by Rev. A. Newton, and two newspaper articles summarizing the sketch.

**William Griswold and Ebenezer S. Lane**, sons of Ebenezer and Marian Griswold Chandler Lane. William G. born 1824 in Ohio, died 1877. Graduated Yale, went to Harvard, then Berlin, Germany, to study law. Went from lawyer to Judge of Common Pleas for the Fourth Judicial District. Married Elizabeth Diodate Griswold in 1850; they had four children. William was half-cousin of Susan M. Lane.

**Ebenezer S. Lane**, born 1819 in Ohio, died 1893 in Chicago. Educated at Kenyon College, took medical course in Cincinnati, then went to Paris to complete his degree. He was in practice until 1856, then accepted a position in the Illinois Central Company. The real estate loan business was his last venture. His library was donated to the Univ. of Chicago. His wife, Pallas Anderson, died in 1887; the couple had two children, Ebenezer and Fannie. Ebenezer was half-cousin of Susan M. Lane.

Their papers consist of an *In Memoriam* booklet on William's life and a newspaper clipping of the obituary of Ebenezer from the *Chicago Herald*.

#### **Container list:**

##### **BOX 1:**

Folder 1: Ebenezer Lane, great-grandfather of Susan M. Lane; printed funeral sermon, 1790- 1 item

Folder 2: Ebenezer Lane, grandfather of Susan M. Lane; house photo, deed, partial journal, 1779-1785, n.d.- 3 items

Folder 3: Martin Lane, father of Susan M. Lane; obit clipping, newspaper, executor appointment, court document, 1858- 4 items

Folder 4: Lucretia Swan Lane, mother of Susan M. Lane; photo & silhouette, n.d.- 2 items

Folder 5: William Swan, uncle of Susan M. Lane; correspondence, military commissions, appointments & discharge, newspaper report of the battle of Sackets Harbor, obituary, 1799-1896- 15 items

Folder 6: George Martin Lane, brother of Susan M. Lane; typescripts of letters from Germany, administrator appointment, reprint from the *America Journal of Philology*, and name cards of 1<sup>st</sup> wife Fannie E. Gardiner, 1847-1897, n.d.- 4 items

Folder 7: Gardiner Martin Lane, nephew of Susan M. Lane; name cards, *Gardiner Martin Lane* prepared by Committee from Harvard, journal of trip to the Azores in 1879, 1879-1915, n.d.- 3 items

Folder 8: Ebenezer Lane, half-uncle of Susan M. Lane; *Sketch of the Life & Character of Ebenezer Lane, LL.D.* by Rev. A Newton, 2 newspaper articles about the publication of Sketch, n.d.- 3 items

Folder 9: William Griswold Lane, Ebenezer S. Lane, cousins of Susan M. Lane; *In Memoriam* on William, newspaper obituary of Ebenezer, 1877,1893- 2 items

**BOX 2:**

Folder 1: Susan Minot Lane, correspondence received, letters of recommendation to Susan and one to C.A. Baker, postcards, 1854-1879,n.d.- 11 items

Folder 2: Susan Minot Lane, correspondence sent, stock share, postcards, newspaper articles, 1861-1893, n.d.- 31 items

Folder 3: Susan Minot Lane,; story manuscript, talk printed in newspaper, book illustrated by her, 1855-1890- 3 items

Folder 4: Susan Minot Lane, photocopies of her paintings clippings, photocopy of exhibition card, copy of letter undated letter, and notes- 1881-1894, n.d.-17 items

Folder 5: Susan Minot Lane, miscellany: notes, clippings, sketches, bill, programs, etc., 1880-1990-10 items

Folder 6: Susan Minot Lane, correspondence and obituaries, 1893-1895, n.d.- 8 items

**BOX 3:**

Folder 1: Lane genealogy: notes, inquiries, re: Lane descendants, 1872-1895, n.d.- 9 items

Folder 2: Lane genealogy- *An Imperfect List of Descendants from Job Lane, Wm. Lane, of Dorchester and William Lane of Boston*; manuscript of Lane genealogy by Ebenezer Lane; bound genealogy of Lanes and descendants

with charts, clippings & photos prepared by Susan M. Lane,  
a wax seal, n.d. - 4 items

Folder 3: Genealogical notes on the families of Bliss, Foster, Ford,  
Dudley, Phelps, and Strong, possibly by Susan M. Lane, n.d.- 5 items

Folder 4: Paper on Susan Minot Lane prepared by Joseph Peter Spang III, 1990- 3 copies

Folder 5: Swan descendants genealogy: *The Ladies Complete Pocket-Book*, vol.48  
(Boston, c. 1796); notes, inquiry letters to Susan M. Lane on Timothy Swan;  
a manuscript narrative by Hannah Swan done in 1800, n.d.- 6 items

Folder 6: Speakman descendants genealogy: note, letter of inquiry, chart- n.d., 1876  
- 3 items

Folder 7: Parsons descendants genealogy: notes, inquiry letter, Lamb/Parsons notes,  
photo- n.d.- 5 items

**Box 4:** [loose volumes]

*A Summer in the Azores* (1882) by C. Alice Baker, illustrated by Susan Minot Lane, 2  
copies; diary with notes of travel abroad (1879); trigonometry, architectural  
descriptions notebook (n.d.)- 4 items

Swan Family, psalm book- *Liturgy, Collected Principally from the Book of Common  
Prayer for the use of the First Episcopal Church in Boston...* (Boston, 1785) [inscribed  
Sally Swan, Sarah Swan]- 1 item

**Box 5:** [loose volumes]

Susan Minot Lane, pictorial scrapbooks of European trip (1886); journal of  
European travel 1881- 3 items