

**Stewart Bell Jr. Archives**  
**Handley Regional Library & Winchester-Frederick County Historical Society**  
P.O. Box 58, Winchester, Virginia 22604  
Tel.: (540) 662-9041, ext. 17 • Email: [archives@handleyregional.org](mailto:archives@handleyregional.org)  
Website: [www.handleyregional.org/archives](http://www.handleyregional.org/archives)

**Robert T. Barton Family Papers**  
**Collection Number: 1268 WFCHS**

**CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS:** Collection is open to all researchers.

**CONDITIONS GOVERNING REPRODUCTION AND USE:** Restrictions may apply concerning the use, photoduplication, or publication of items in this collection. Consult a member of the archives staff for information concerning these restrictions. The user assumes all responsibility for identifying and satisfying any claimants of copyright. Some materials may require special handling.

**PROCESSING INFORMATION:** Initial processing undertaken in 1981. Last updated by Buffy Knappenberger in May 2025.

**EXTENT:** 1.5 linear feet

**CREATOR:** Barton, Robert T. family.

**DATE:** 1775 - 1949

**SCOPE AND CONTENT:** This collection contains papers of Robert T. Barton, including journals dating from 1895 to 1916, notebooks, a ledger, legal briefs, and correspondence. Additionally, there are materials from a variety of civic and fraternal organizations of Winchester, Virginia. Some of the material, including newspaper clippings and broadsides, concerns the Readjuster Party of Virginia and the career of Gen. William Mahone.

The collection also includes genealogy material about the Barton family, and papers of Gertrude Barton and Robert T. Barton Jr.

**BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL:** Robert Thomas Barton was the son of David W. Barton and Fannie L. Jones and was born in Winchester, VA on Nov. 24, 1842. He served as a captain in the Rockbridge Battery beginning in 1862 until ill health forced him to transfer to the Ordinance Department. In 1865, he was admitted to the bar and became one of the leading lawyers in the state. He was also the author of some standard textbooks, *Barton's Law Practice* and *Barton's Chancery Practice*. Barton was also a member of the Virginia House of Delegates (1884-85), mayor of Winchester in 1896, and sat as chair or president on several state and local organizations. He married twice, first to Katie Knight (1868) and then to Gertrude W. Baker (1890). He had two children with Gertrude. He died on Jan. 17, 1917, and is buried in Mt. Hebron cemetery.

Robert T. Barton Jr. (1891-1980) was born in Winchester, Virginia in 1891 and received his education at the Shenandoah Valley Academy and the University of Virginia, where he studied law. He served as a lieutenant in the Infantry in the Mexican border campaign of 1916 – 1917 and as a captain in the Field Artillery in 1918 – 1919, participating in the battles of St. Mihiel and the Meuse Argonne. In World War II, he saw eighteen months' service overseas with the Army Air Corps as a colonel.

Barton was active in Virginia politics. He served in the Virginia General Assembly in 1926 and on the staffs of three governors of Virginia and was also a former vice president and chairman of the executive committee of the Virginia State Bar Association.

**IMMEDIATE SOURCE OF ACQUISITION:** Most of the material is the gift of Edith Barton Sheerin. There are a few items from other donors.

**CONTAINER LIST:**

**BOX 1**

"Artillery through the Ages - a Short Illustrated History of Cannon, Emphasizing Types Used in America," 1949, booklet

Baker, Gertrude – School Notebook, 1888-1889, 1 item, printed

Baker, Henry S. – Oath of Allegiance, July 1, 1865, 1 leaf, manuscript

Barton genealogy

Barton, Robert T., Address to Improved Order of Red Men, 1871

Barton, Robert T. - certificate of disability for discharge, October 22, 1862

Barton, Robert T., Correspondence

Barton, Robert T. - Special order No. 59, transferring Barton to Staunton, VA, 1863

Barton, Robert T. – Office of the Provost Marshall, Pass permitting passage through Union lines, 1864

Barton, Robert T. - Oath of Allegiance to federal government, June 16, 1865

Barton, Robert T., Political notebook 1873-79

Broadside - Picnic and tournament, August 25, 1915

Charley Rouss Fire Company - 26th and 28th annual celebration, 1920 and 1922, menus

Confederate States of America vs. George W. Kerfoot, Final Argument of David W. Barton, Kerfoot's lawyer, November 1861

Elks Club - 20th anniversary, May 28, 1923

Fairfax Club, 1900 - constitution and rules, booklet

Fairfax, Thomas Lord - address by Robert T. Barton, Jr., March 1929, 1 item

Farmers and Merchants National Bank - *Trends* (newsletter), July 25, 1957

Fort Loudoun Seminary, brochure for September 14, 1905

Grist mill - sketch

Jones, Gabriel - entry in daybook, May 1775

Kiwanis Club - August 18, 1937, 15th anniversary

*Manual for the Artillery Orientation Officer*, 1917

Petition to merchants of Winchester.

Shenandoah Valley Academy - *Sigma Rho Deltian*, school magazine, 1904, 1905, 1954

Shenandoah Valley Agricultural Society - 56th annual fair, premium list, 1925

World War I - artillery-training booklets

World War I - small arms firing manual

Photographs by R. T. Barton - unidentified and Winchester scenes

Photographs - World War I scenes, most identified, 50 items, black and white

## **BOX 2**

Barton, Robert T. Papers, miscellaneous, 1914-1926

Barton, Mr. and Mrs. R.T., Guestbook, 1911-1956

Barton, Mrs. R. T., Correspondence

Barton, Robert T. Jr., Correspondence, 1974 – 1980

Byrd, Harry Flood, Memorial Statue Unveiling, Commemorative Program and Campaign Newspaper

*A Dictionary of the English Language*, by Samuel Johnson, 1814 (inscribed W. S. Jones, Vacluse)

Judicial Briefs, 1880s

- “A Judicial Vindication of Attorney-General F. S. Blair by the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia.”

- “Supreme Court of the United States, A. Austin Smith vs. S.C. Greenhow, No. 970”

Label, “Shaving Case carried by Strother Barton during the Civil War.”

McGuire, Dr. Hunter H., Address made by R.T. Barton, October 12, 1935

Mahone, William (Gen.) -Newspaper Clippings & Broadside concerning Readjuster Party, 1880s

Memoirs of the Confederacy, Flowers and Songs (belonged to Gertrude Barton)

Newspaper clippings

Newspaper clippings, politics, 1880-1933

Political Broadside, 1879-1885

“The Trail 1914-1917” published by the First troop of Boy Scouts, Winchester, Va., October 22, 1917

Winchester, Va., Souvenirs

- The City of Winchester, Past and Present
- Souvenir of the Winchester Fire Departments, Winchester, Va.
- Souvenir stamps

Woodside Farm, plat of survey, undated

**Physical Location: Oversize Box 13**

### **BOX 3**

Album/Scrapbook, early 1900s with newspaper clippings concerning Winchester politics and legal matters.

Mill Account Book, 1824-1848

### **BOX 4**

Barton, R.T., Brief of Council for Complaint, 1899

Book with newspaper accounts of political activities pasted over accounts of judgments from Frederick and Clarke Counties, 1873-1884

### **BOX 5**

Memoirs in ledger book - Robert T. Barton, 1842-1895

Barton, R.T., Law and Definitions book

Barton, R.T., Journal of (1895-1901)

Barton, R.T., Journal of (1902-1916)