



## **Inventory of the Arlington Hotel Collection (Collection #6)**

The Brick Store Museum  
Kennebunk, Maine

Compiled by J. Butler, Manuscript Curator  
March 9, 1982

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### Physical Description:

This collection, which is stored in a half box, is made up of four ledgers of The Arlington Hotel, Kennebunkport, dating from 1901, when the Bickford House became The Arlington, to 1934. A few loose papers, removed from two of the ledgers, are in a folder.

These books, which are in very poor condition, were given in 1981 by the then owner of the hotel, Guy Millisor. Their acquisition number is 80.20.1-4

Box and Folder Breakdown:

Box 1

Bickford-Arlington Hotel Account Book, 1901-1920. Includes charges to guests.

Arlington Hotel Register, 1911-34.

Arlington Hotel Account Book, 1912-14. Includes charges to guests.

Folder #1: Four loose papers (cancelled checks, bills, etc.) 1919-20 removed from two ledgers to this folder

The fourth ledger an Arlington Hotel Register, 1901-10 is wrapped and stored separately, as it is too long to fit in the box.

Historical Resume:

This information is taken from the hotel scrapbook compiled for *The Kennebunks: A Watering Place* exhibition. Brick Store Museum Collection.

BICKFORD HOUSE, Cape Arundel, Kennebunkport  
1886-

In 1901 the Bickford House was sold. By 1903 the new owners was calling it The Arlington. It was run as a summer hotel until 1968 when a new owner converted it into year-round apartments and called it The Arlington Arms. In 1980 it was sold again. Although the new owners will continue to run it year-round, their emphasis will be on running it as a summer hotel.

“John Bickford has commenced to build a summer boarding house at Cape Arundel which he intends to complete in time for business this season. It will be on the same plan as the Riverside and will accommodate 60 guests.”

The Eastern Star, 4-2-1886

“Successful bean bag and soap bubble parties have been held at the Bickford House the past week. Everyone in the house took part in the amusement.”

The Wave, 7-27-87

“Mrs. Lizzie Tripp, daughter of the proprietor of the Bickford House, has arrived for the season. She will act as clerk at that popular house and will doubtless be a great favorite with the guests as last year.”

The Wave, 7-14-1888

“The Bickford House has been greatly enlarged since last year and is consequently prepared to accommodate a much larger number of guests.”

The Wave, 7-10-95

“A lady and gentleman from the Bickford House tipped over in a canoe up river Wednesday while practising for the coming races.”

The Wave, 7-31-1897

“Mr. John W. Bickford has retired from active business and Miss Lizzie Stone Cleaves has bought the hotel that bears his name. In its management she will have the assistance of her brother, Prof. Fordyce Cleaves, who came on from the west early in June. The hotel opens with good patronage and The Wave joins their many friends in wishing success to the management.”

The Wave, 7-6-1901

“Miss Cleaves opened The Arlington in June and the prospects for the season are very bright.”

The Wave, 7-11-1903

“You should have been with the merry party from The Arlington that went down to the rocks Friday night and had various roasted things by way of preparation for the watermelon which was the raison d’etre for the assembling.”

The Wave, 8-27-1912

“This week a daring robbery was committed by Gypsies at The Arlington Hotel. They attempted to tell a guest’s fortune and by two working together succeed in getting \$100 from his pocket. Through the

cleverness of Chief of Police Chick, they were traced to Ogunquit. He held up their auto and had to put them through the third degree before they would give up the money.”

Kennebunkport Items, 8-18-1917

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*Arlington Hotel - Collection #6*

*Brick Store Museum 117 Main Street Kennebunk, ME 04043 207-985-4802 [www.brickstoremuseum.org](http://www.brickstoremuseum.org)*