

# Coaticook Historical Society

## Finding Aid - Fonds Belding-Corticelli (F033)

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Generated by Access to Memory (AtoM) 2.4.0 Printed: January 24, 2018

Language of description: English

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# Fonds Belding-Corticelli

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## Summary information

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**Repository:** Coaticook Historical Society

**Title:** Fonds Belding-Corticelli

**ID:** F033

**Date:** 1945-2001 (date of creation)

**Language:** English

**Language:** French

**Physical description:** \* 8 cm of textual records  
\* 44 photographs  
\* 10 artefacts: braid samples

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## Administrative history / Biographical sketch

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### Note

The Belding-Corticelli factory in Coaticook had its beginnings with John Thorton and Edwin F. Tomkins in 1883 when they purchased the weaving equipment from the Coaticook Cotton Company. This company, called Cascade Narrow Fabric, was purchased by Corticelli Silk Company in 1898, and factory was expanded with the construction of a second building adjoining the original structure. With the merger between Belding Paul & Company and the Corticelli Silk Co., it became the Belding Corticelli Ltd in 1915 or 1919. With the expansion of its facilities and equipment, Belding Corticelli employed 200 to 300 workers from early 1900s into the latter half of the century. The factory added a second building to its original property on Child Street in 1946 when it purchased the A.O. Norton building on Cutting Street. For many years, the factory primarily manufactured braid (also known as woven tapes), elastics, laces, and cotton cord. Belding Corticelli Ltd closed its doors in 2004, stating that it was no longer able to compete with the expanding availability of Chinese-manufactured products.

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## Scope and content

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Fonds illustrates the operations, personnel, municipal relations, and the properties of the Belding-Corticelli factories in Coaticook from 1945 to 2001. It consists largely of correspondence, photographs, and collective agreements. The fonds is composed of the following series: Personnel, Correspondence, Photographs, Production, and History.

## Notes

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### Title notes

- **Source of title proper:** Title based on contents of fonds.

### Immediate source of acquisition

The majority of the collection was received from an unknown donor. Additional material was donated by Martial Martineau and Sandra Samson Pelletier.

### Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

### Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
- 

## Collection holdings

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### Series: F033-S001 - Personnel

Title: Personnel

ID: F033-S001

Date: 1947-1985 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series presents information on the employees and labour force of Belding-Corticelli in Coaticook from 1947 to 1985. It consists of collective agreements, a permit, and a list of foremen.

Physical description: 2 cm of textual records

Language of the material:

French

English

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F033-S001-D001 - Collective agreements**

Title: Collective agreements

ID: F033-S001-D001

Date: 1947-1985 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File presents information on employee rights and the union at Belding-Corticelli in Coaticook from 1947 to 1985. It consists of collective agreements.

Physical description: 2 cm of textual records

Language of the material:

French

English

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Labour (subject)
  - Coaticook (Quebec) (place)
- 

**File: F033-S001-D002 - Workforce**

Title: Workforce

ID: F033-S001-D002

Date: 1953-1972 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File presents information on the employees and work hours of Belding-Corticelli in Coaticook in 1953 and 1972. It consists of a list of permit and a list of foremen and department heads.

Physical description: 2 textual records

Language of the material:

French

English

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Labour (subject)
  - Industries (subject)
  - Coaticook (Quebec) (place)
- 

**Series: F033-S002 - Correspondence**

Title: Correspondence

ID: F033-S002

Date: 1945-1984 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series demonstrates aspects of the operations, municipal relations, and properties of the Belding-Corticelli factories in Coaticook from 1945 to 1984. It consists primarily of correspondence. The series is composed of the following files: Hydroelectric power plant, Alarm system and fire protection, municipal relations, Child Street plant retaining wall, Municipal arena, and Immoveable property.

Physical description: 4 cm of textual records

Language of the material:

English

French

Publication status:

Published

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**File: F033-S002-D001 - Hydroelectric power plant**

Title: Hydroelectric power plant

ID: F033-S002-D001

Date: 1952 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File presents Belding-Corticelli's opinion on the matter of the sale of the Town of Coaticook's hydroelectric power plant to Southern Canada Power in 1952. It consists of correspondence between the Coaticook office and the head office in Montreal.

Physical description: 7 textual records

Language of the material:

English

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Transportation and utilities (subject)
  - Industries (subject)
  - Coaticook (Quebec) (place)
- 

**File: F033-S002-D002 - Alarm system and fire protection**

Title: Alarm system and fire protection

ID: F033-S002-D002

Date: 1965-1977 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File illustrates the establishment of a direct alarm from the Belding-Corticelli plant in Coaticook to the town's emergency services department and subsequent fees for this service from 1965 to 1977. It consists of correspondance between Belding-Corticelli and the Town of Coaticook.

Physical description: 14 textual records

Language of the material:

French

English

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Health and social services (subject)
  - Industries (subject)
  - Coaticook (Quebec) (place)
- 

**File: F033-S002-D003 - Municipal relations**

Title: Municipal relations

ID: F033-S002-D003

Date: 1945-1974 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File presents the relationship between Belding-Corticelli and the Town of Coaticook from 1945 to 1974. It consists of correspondence regarding damage caused to the plant's building during explosive blasts during dam operations, town referendums concerning taxes and municipal works and noise complaints from residents against the plant, as well as a speech made by a Belding-Corticelli manager to Coaticook's mayor and councillors.

Physical description: 1 cm of textual records

Language of the material:

English

French

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Government (subject)
  - Industries (subject)
  - Coaticook (Quebec) (place)
- 

**File: F033-S002-D004 - Child Street plant retaining wall**

Title: Child Street plant retaining wall

ID: F033-S002-D004

Date: 1955-1969 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File presents Belding-Corticelli's interest in the replacement of the Child Street retaining wall in Coaticook from 1955 to 1969. It consists of correspondence between Belding-Corticelli's managers, expressing concern over the state of the retaining wall, and the municipality, as well as newspaper clippings.

Physical description: 31 textual records

Language of the material:

English

French

Publication status:

Published



Access points:

- Government (subject)
  - Industries (subject)
  - Coaticook (Quebec) (place)
- 

**File: F033-S002-D005 - Municipal arena**

Title: Municipal arena

ID: F033-S002-D005

Date: 1967-1971 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File presents Belding-Corticelli's contribution to the construction of a municipal area in Coaticook from 1967 to 1971. It consists largely of correspondence between Belding-Corticelli and the Town of Coaticook but also includes a few budgets and newspaper clippings. The file is also a source of some information on the sale of the Border Arena in Rock Island.

Physical description: 40 textual records

Language of the material:

English

French

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Sports, recreation and leisure (subject)
  - Government (subject)
  - Industries (subject)
  - Coaticook (Quebec) (place)
- 

**File: F033-S002-D006 - Immoveable property**

Title: Immoveable property

ID: F033-S002-D006

Date: 1957-1984 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File presents information on the properties owned by Belding-Corticelli in Coaticook from 1957 to 1984. It consists of a correspondence regarding the possible sale of the Cutting Street plant and land rented from the Town of Coaticook, as well as lot descriptions and a plan.

Physical description: 1 cm of textual records

Language of the material:

English

French

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Industries (subject)
  - Coaticook (Quebec) (place)
- 

## **Series: F033-S003 - Photographs**

Title: Photographs

ID: F033-S003

Date: 1938-2001 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series illustrates the employees and methods of production of Belding-Corticelli from 1938 to 2001. It consists of two photographs of employees on the occasion of Belding-Corticelli's diamond jubilee in 1938, a photograph of the Child Street plant, and numerous photographs of employees at work in the factory from 1983 to 2001. Among those pictured in the photographs are: Thérèse Breault, Guy Dupont, Jacques Bouchet, and Émile Viens.

Physical description: 43 photographs: b&w and col.

Language of the material:

French

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Industries (subject)
  - Labour (subject)
  - Coaticook (Quebec) (place)
-

**Item: F033-S003-001 - Belding-Corticelli Diamond Jubilee, 1878-1938**

Title: Belding-Corticelli Diamond Jubilee, 1878-1938

ID: F033-S003-001

Date: 1938 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a photograph of the employees of Belding-Corticelli factory in Coaticook in 1938, taken on the occasion of the company's 60th anniversary.

Physical description: 1 photograph: b&w

Physical condition:

Photograph was rolled.

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Industries (subject)
  - Coaticook (Quebec) (place)
- 

**Item: F033-S003-003 - Belding-Corticelli, Coaticook**

Title: Belding-Corticelli, Coaticook

ID: F033-S003-003

Date: [197-?] (date of creation)

Scope and content:

The item is a photograph of the Belding-Corticelli factory on Child Street in Coaticook, probably taken in the 1970s.

Physical description: 1 photograph: b&w

Physical condition:

Excellent.

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Industries (subject)
  - Coaticook (Quebec) (place)
- 

**Item: F033-S003-002 - Belding-Corticelli Diamond Jubilee, 1878-1938**

Title: Belding-Corticelli Diamond Jubilee, 1878-1938

ID: F033-S003-002

Date: 1938 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Item is a photograph of the employees of Belding-Corticelli factory in Coaticook in 1938, on the occasion of the company's 60th anniversary.

Physical description: 1 photograph: b&w

Physical condition:

Photograph was rolled.

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Industries (subject)
  - Coaticook (Quebec) (place)
- 

**Series: F033-S004 - Production**

Title: Production

ID: F033-S004

Date: 1968-[198-?] (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series presents product information from Belding-Corticelli in Coaticook from 1968 to about the 1980s. It consists of correspondence regarding textile imports, and 10 braid design diagrams and samples.

Physical description: \* 16 textual records

\* 10 artefacts: braid samples

Language of the material:

English

French

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Industries (subject)
  - Coaticook (Quebec) (place)
- 

**Series: F033-S005 - History**

Title: History

ID: F033-S005

Date: [after 1982] (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series presents some of the history of Belding-Corticelli in Coaticook from 1951 to 1995. It consists of a letter and book on the history of Belding-Corticelli from 1951, a humorous review of the Belding-Corticelli company and its operations probably produced in the 1980s, and two letters with a photograph regarding a Corticelli Spool Silk lapboard preserved in a London museum collection dated 1995.

Physical description: 1 cm of textual records

1 photograph

Language of the material:

English

Physical condition:

Photograph is blurry.

Publication status:

Published

Access points:

- Industries (subject)
-