



BHC-MSS 0061

Guide to the David E. Bullard Collection of Bullard Company Materials  
By Meg Rinn, January 2020

**Descriptive Summary**

**Creator:** David E. Bullard

**Title:** David E. Bullard Collection of Bullard Company Materials

**Dates:** 1920-1959

**Quantity:** 6 manuscript boxes

**Abstract:** Featuring materials saved from his family's company, the David E. Bullard Collection of Bullard Company Materials represents a small insight into the Bullard Machine Tool Company's operations. Of particular note are the maps and patents present in the collection.

**Language:** English

**Repository:** Bridgeport History Center

**Biographical History**

Founded in 1894 by Edward Payson Bullard Senior, the Bullard Machine Tool Company was a massive industrial player in Bridgeport, Connecticut. The company's primary product of machine tools are understood as machines made to work on rigid material, such as metal, in order to create parts. Mechanical objects such as cars and aeroplanes usually have constituent parts that are made on machine tools. In addition, machine tools create the same part over and over again, allowing for consistency in the part itself.

During Bullard Sr.'s tenure in charge of the company, refined boring machines (meant to drill holes in metal to exacting accuracy) so that they could be used on a wider scale. This spirit of innovation continued when Edward Payson Bullard Jr. took over the company after his father's passing in 1906. Under his tenure, the company invented the vertical turret lathe (an upright machine meant to rotate a piece on a specific rotation axis for various operations such as sanding, drilling, etc.) and the Mult-au-matic (a spindle machine with an automatic cutting process.) The Mult-au-matic in particular became very popular among automotive makers, and this is reflected in series 4 of the collection which highlights who was using Bullard machines and what they were making with them.

Bullard remained an incredibly popular brand through the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. It's major products included the Mult-au-matic, boring machines, the Maxi-mill, vertical turret lathes, hobbors, the Dynatrol, grinders, and others.

Sometime in the late 1960s, White Consolidated took over control of the Bullard Machine Tool Company. The Bridgeport plant closed in the 1980s. However, Bullard machines continue to be used and sold second hand, with Bourn & Koch providing service and parts for Bullard machines. Their website likewise [suggests that they have a large amount of records](#) relating to Bullard machines themselves.

David E. Bullard was the last family member to be involved with the Bullard Company.

**Scope and Content note:**

The material present in the David E. Bullard Collection represents material that Bullard saved and is not a complete and representative company history by any means. It does, however, help to highlight key parts of the Bullard Machine Tool Company's work. The patent books in particular are incredibly important for understanding the company's influence on the machining industry, and the product information compliments what is available in BHC-MSS 0062, the Records of the Bullard Machine Tool Company.

**Arrangement Note:**

The collection has been arranged into three series. Series I, Maps of the Bullard Company property and Machine Serial Numbers were originally paired together and as such, have been left alone. Series II, patents, are primarily bound copies of patents held by the company.; Series III, product information, is arranged alphabetically.

**Administrative information:****Provenance:**

Donation of David E Bullard.

**See also:**

Records of the Bullard Machine Tool Company (BHC-MSS 0062), Bridgeport History Center, Bridgeport Public Library.

**Preferred Citation:**

David E. Bullard Collection of Bullard Company Materials (BHC-MSS 0061) Bridgeport History Center, Bridgeport Public Library.

**Names and Subject Tracings***Personal names*

Bullard, Edward P. Senior, 1841-1906

Bullard, Edward P. Junior, 1872-1953

Bullard, David E.

*Corporate names*

Bullard Machine Tool Company

*Subject tracings*

Lathes

Machine-tools

Machine-tool industry

Machine-tool industry--United States

Spindles (Machine-tools)

**Detailed box and folder listing**

Series I, Maps of the Bullard Company property and Machine Serial Numbers

Box 1,

1. Memo book (prices, specifications, etc.) 1920-1929
2. Machine serial numbers, 9922-13999, February 6, 1918
3. Machine serial numbers, 7546-9921, 1921(?)
4. Machine serial numbers, 14000-16230, August 16, 1927
5. Map of property, August 12, 1952

## Series II, Patents

### Box 2

1. United States Patents owned by The Bullard Company, Vol 1, 188901931; 406413-1838091

### Box 3

1. Single volume: United States Patents owned by The Bullard Company, Vol 2, 1932-1948; 1845478-2455183

## Series III, Product information

### Box 4

1. Boring mill accessories, January 1908
2. Boring mill accessories, January 1908
3. Boring and turning mills, June 1901
4. Boring and turning mills, June 1901
5. Boring and turning mills and verticle turret lathes, undated-1954
6. Catalogs, 1890
7. Catalog, March 1897
8. Catalog, May 1907
9. Contin-U-Matic lathes, 1946
10. Drilling machine, undated
11. Dyn-Au-Tape IV, undated

### Box 5

1. Horizontal boring drilling and milling machine
2. Horizontal lathe
3. Hydra-feed, 1957
4. "Invisible background of industrial progress", 1952
5. Locator no. 20, 1947
6. Machine tools, 1953
7. Man-au-trol, 1928
8. Modern machine tools, 1900
9. Mult-au-matic A, 1961
10. Mult-au-matic D, 1931

11. Mult-au-matic J, 1941Mult-au-matic K, 1953
12. Mult-au-matic L, 1978
13. Mult-au-matic Method, 1928
14. Mult-au-matic pictorial
15. Mult-au-matic photographs, undated
16. The Multi-bar, 1923

#### Box 6

1. Railway shop equipment, undated
2. Super service radials, 1951
3. The Supplementary turret, undated
4. Spacer tables, 1954-1959
5. Turret machine and lathes, 1901
6. Vertical grinders, 1953
7. Aeroplane engine work on vertical turret lathes, undated
8. Vertical turret lathes, 1942-1943
9. Vertical turret lathe chuck jaw force modulator (Bullard briefs) , undated
10. Vertical turret lathe "cutting time between cuts" 1930
11. Vertical turret lathe , 1924