

# Fact or Lore?

Lemuel Shattuck, a founding member of our organization, gazes out from this family portrait, which includes his wife and daughters... but is somebody missing?

## Lemuel Shattuck and Family, 1850

BASS OTIS 1784-1861, Boston and Philadelphia

*Oil on Canvas*

Gift of Lillian F. Thompson, 1920, R0281

According to legend, the husband of Sarah (at front, in profile) was originally depicted. But after the couple separated, he was painted out, as if he'd never belonged to the family. To see if this was true, we had the painting x-rayed.



There he is! John Henry Shattuck, a cousin and the estranged husband of Sarah, was in fact replaced—by a shrub. Other changes were also made.