

**Finding Aid to the Martha's Vineyard Museum  
Record Unit 206**

**Natural History, Early Tools  
and Industry of Martha's Vineyard**

By Barbara Murphy

**Descriptive Summary**

**Repository:** Martha's Vineyard Museum

**Call No.**

**Title:** Natural History, Early Tools and Industry of Martha's Vineyard

**Creator:** various

**Quantity:** .5 cubic feet

**Abstract:** Natural History, Early Tools and Industry of Martha's Vineyard collection is a compilation of published pamphlets, newspaper and magazine articles, administrative records, narratives, correspondence, and research notes.

**Administrative Information**

**Acquisition Information:** The Natural History, Early Tools and Industry of Martha's Vineyard Collection was acquired by the Martha's Vineyard Museum by many donors throughout the twentieth century.

**Processing Information:** Barbara Murphy

**Access Restrictions:** none

**Use Restrictions:** none

**Preferred citation for publication:** Martha's Vineyard Museum, Natural History, Early Tools and Industry of Martha's Vineyard, Record Unit 206.

**Index Terms**

- the Heath Hen
- Barrier Beaches
- Waskosim's Rock
- Woodticks
- N.S. Shaler

**Series Arrangement:**

Series I: The Heath Hen

Series II: Geology & Coastal Resources

Series III: Early Tools & Industry

Series IV: Fossils, Ticks, Inland Fisheries & Game

Series V: Miscellaneous

## **Historical Note:**

The collection of records in Record Unit 6 has been “artificially” created. There is no original order to these documents. Rather, it is assumed that the organization’s librarians, interns and volunteers have brought these records together at some point. The institution’s own records do not shed any light on when and why the collection was originally formed. What is known is that the MVM was founded in 1922. And, the organization began to collect documents in 1923. Thus, the formation of this record unit can only be dated to sometime between 1923 and the present day. The processing of this collection in 2006 has largely kept this artificial collation together.

## **Scope and Content Note:**

This record unit consists of information and records pertaining to the natural history, early tool and industry of Martha’s Vineyard, including the history of the heath hen and its extinction, geological descriptions of Martha’s Vineyard, the control of woodticks on the Island, and a study of tools utilized in the settlement of Martha’s Vineyard.

## **Series Description:**

### **Series I: The Heath Hen**

Box 1 of 1

Folder 1: Pamphlet DCHS: The Heath Hen’s Journey to Extinction

Folder 2: Nature Magazine, August 1927 article: The Tragedy of the Heath Hen

Folder 3: Photocopies, articles re Heath Hen, 1908-2003.

Folder 4: Fall River Line pamphlet, June 1932, Heath Hen article; St.

Nicholas Magazine, May 1926, reference to Heath Hen

Folder 5: Annual Report of Comm. of MA ornithologist, 1916, 1918, Heath Hen

### **Series II: Geology and Coastal Resources**

Box 1 of 1

Folder 6: Geological Survey Bulletin, 1980, copy: A Stratigraphic Test Well, MV, MA

Folder 7: Newspaper Clippings, “How the Vineyard Got This Way...” May, 1952;

“Island History as You’ve Never Seen in Books” May, 1955

Folder 8: Clifford A Kaye, Geologist: copies of various geological briefs re MV; V.G. articles on Mr. Kaye; related articles, 1960-1989

Folder 9: “Barrier Beaches, Salt Marshes & Tidal Flats: Inventory of Coastal Resources of MA”, 1985

Folder 10: Waskosim’s Rock: Copies of V.G. articles, 1959-1990

Folder 11: “The Atlantic Continental Shelf & Slope: A Program of Study”, 1968

### **Series III: Early Tools and Industry**

Box 1 of 1

Folder 12: “Tools Utilized in the Settlement ...of Martha’s Vineyard”, May, 1993;

“A Study & Exhibit of Tools for Vineyard Museum”, August, 1993

Folder 13: "Early American Industries", Sept., 1974; "Traditional Tools of the Carpenter & Other Craftsmen", 1975

#### **Series IV: Fossils, Ticks, Inland Fisheries and Game**

Box 1 of 1

Folder 14: "On the Occurrence of Fossils of the Cretaceous Age...MV, Mass", N.S. Shaler, June 1889

Folder 15: Inland Fisheries & Game Commissioners' Report, Dec. 1899

Folder 16: "The Problem of Controlling Woodticks on MV", reprint, V.G., January, 1937; copy of MV Times article re reestablishment of rare insects on MV, 2000

#### **Series V: Miscellaneous**

Box 1 of 1

Folder 17: Vineyard Gazette, February 16, 1866

Folder 18: Natural and Historic Aspects of New England, Pamphlets, 1905-1939

Folder 19: Western Traveler's Pocket Dictionary, 1834