

**Finding Aid to the Martha's Vineyard Museum  
Record Unit 381**

**Charles Parton Papers, 1980-1992**

By Barbara Murphy

**Descriptive Summary**

**Repository:** Martha's Vineyard Museum

**Call No.**

**Title:** Charles Parton Papers, 1980-1992

**Creator:** Barbara Murphy

**Quantity:** .5 cubic foot

**Abstract:** This collection of personal papers, hand-written genealogy notes, correspondence, maps, photos, and some original documents from Alley's Store were gathered by Charles Parton to help him write, *From Sanderson's to Alley's General Store*.

**Administrative Information**

**Acquisition Information:** The Charles Parton Papers was acquired by the Martha's Vineyard Museum as a donation from Charles Parton.

**Processing Information:** Barbara Murphy

**Access Restrictions:** none

**Use Restrictions:** none

**Preferred Citation for Publication:** Martha's Vineyard Museum, Charles Parton Papers, 1980-1992, Record Unit 381.

**Index Terms**

- Albion "Beanie" Alley
- Dukes County Mining Company
- Teena Parton
- Charles Parton

**Series and Subseries Arrangement**

Series I: Research Correspondence

Series II: Research Notes

Series III: Manuscript

Series IV: Business Papers

Series V: Photographs

Series VI: Maps

Series VII: Ephemera

## **Historical Note:**

This collection focuses on Charles Parton and his wife Teena. They moved to the Island in 1977, and in 1980 bought Alley's General Store. Charles Parton had lived in Connecticut and had a practice in pediatric surgery. He also taught public health and community medicine at the University of Connecticut and University of Hartford. It was in Hartford that he met his future wife. Teena had summered on Martha's Vineyard beginning in the late 1950's and began bringing Charles in the 1970's. While neither had a background in store management, they became interested in purchasing the General Store. In 1980 they bought Alley's from James and John Alley and their sister, Phyllis. In 1992 Charles Parton and Teena gave up the business and moved to North Carolina. In the same year, Charles published *From Sanderson's to Alley's General Store*, a history of the store.

## **Scope and Content Note:**

The Charles Parton Collection is a mix of personal papers, research notes, maps, correspondence, photos, and public documents. These materials were acquired during Parton's research for the book *From Sanderson's to Alley's Store*.

## **Series Descriptions**

### **Series I: Research Correspondence**

Box 1 of 1

Folder 1: Correspondence and Addresses, 1982-1985

### **Series II: Research Notes**

Box 1 of 1

Folder 2: Vineyard Gold Rush

Folder 3: Book research: *From Sanderson's to Alley's Store* #1

Folder 4: Book research: " " #2

Folder 5: Book research: " " #3

Folder 6: Book research: " " #4

### **Series III: Manuscript**

Box 1 of 1

Folder 7: Manuscript of book with correspondence of C. Parton and Arthur Railton of the MVM

Folder 8: Correspondence and photos about lock

### **Series IV: Business Papers**

Box 1 of 1

Folder 9: Alley's Store Business Papers

**Series V: Photographs**

Box 1 of 1

Folder 10: Photographs

**Series VI: Maps**

Box 1 of 1

Folder 11: Maps of Alley's Store

**Series VII: Ephemera**

Box 1 of 1

Folder 12: Assorted papers and booklets dealing with Alley's Store