

Finding Aid to the Martha's Vineyard Museum

Record Unit 264

Noman's Land

By Bernard Wojnowski

Descriptive Summary

Repository: Martha's Vineyard Museum

Call No.:

Title: Noman's Land

Creator:

Quantity: .25 cubic feet

Abstract: The Noman's Land Record Unit is compilation of documents that offer history of past inhabitants, its use as bombing range by the US Navy and its use as a wildlife preserve. The Record Unit also offers information about the style of sailboat associated with the island.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information:

Processing Information: Bernard Wojnowski

Access Restrictions: none

Use Restrictions: none

Preferred citation for publication: Martha's Vineyard Museum, Noman's Land, Record Unit

Index Terms

Norton

Noman's Land boats

Bertrand T. Wood

Senator Edward Kennedy

Representative Gerry Studds

Henry E. Scott

Gus BenDavid

Series & Subseries Arrangement

Series I: Norton's of Noman's Land by Henry E. Scott

Series II: Bertand T. Wood collection

Subseries A: Papers concerning Noman's Land, Bertrand T. Wood (BTW).

Subseries B: BTW Parental Correspondence

Subseries C: BTW Correspondence w/ inquiries to Noman's Land
Subseries D: BTW Correspondence concerning book on Noman's Land
Subseries E: BTW Research Correspondence on book of Noman's Land
Subseries F: BTW U.S. Navy Correspondence for permission to visit Noman's
Land

Subseries G: BTW Correspondence from the Catboat Association
Subseries H: BTW Correspondence concerning Noman's Land Boats
Series III: Correspondence on Noman's Land w/ Senator Kennedy, Representative
Gerry Studds and the U.S. Navy
Series IV: Noman's Land Agreement; Dept. of Interior & US Navy 4/29/1970
Series V: Article Clippings
Subseries A: Articles on Noman's being a Wildlife Preserve & Bombing Range
Subseries B: Articles on Noman's History

Historical Note:

Noman's Land currently serves as a wildlife refuge but at one time had a small colony of the Norton family live on it and in the recent past served as a bombing range for the US Navy. Visiting the island is prohibited unless you have special permission from the US Dept. of the Interior.

Scope & Content Note:

This finding aid contains information on the past inhabitant's on Noman's Land as well as its significance as a fishing ground, bombing range and nature preserve. There is a collection of documents in this finding aid from Bertrand T. Wood. Mr. Wood grew up on Noman's while his parents were caretakers of the Island. He went on to publish *History and Legends of Noman's Land Island*.

The Gale Huntington Library has additional resources to the finding aid. There are several books that might assist in researching Noman's Land. *Southeast of Noman's* by Melvern J. Barker, *Coaster and Fisherman* by Tom Tilton, *Mystic Seaport Museum Watercraft* by Malcolm Bray and *Noman's Land Isle of Romance* by Annie M. Wood.

See also RU 205 Marine Vessels, for more material on Noman's Land Boats

Series Descriptions:

Box 1 of 1

Folder 1: *Norton's of Noman's Land* by Henry E. Scott. 2 copies.

Folder 2: Papers concerning Noman's Land, Bertrand T. Wood (BTW).

Folder 3: BTW Parental Correspondence

Folder 4: BTW Correspondence w/ inquiries to Noman's Land
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