Descriptive Summary
Repository: Martha’s Vineyard Museum
Call No.
Title: Henry Colt Collection.
Creator: various
Quantity: .5 cubic feet
Abstract: The Henry Colt collection includes both personal and business correspondence, accounts of his ships and voyages, family documents, legal documents, and miscellaneous documents. The collection’s main focus is on Colt’s voyages.

Administrative Information
Acquisition Information: The Henry Colt collection was acquired by the Martha’s Vineyard Museum in ______ by ___________________________.
Processing Information: Matthew Seklecki
Access Restrictions: none
Use Restrictions: none
Preferred Citation for Publication: Martha’s Vineyard Museum, Henry Colt Collection, Record Unit 337.

Index Terms
--Henry Colt
--Edgartown, MA
--Martha’s Vineyard
--Salley Anne
--Champion
--Java
--Lagoda
--Harriet T. Cummings
--Susan Colt
--Sarah Colt
--Daniel Colt

Series and Subseries Arrangement
Series I: Personal Correspondence
    Subseries A: Incoming
    Subseries B: Outgoing
Series II: Business Correspondence
  Subseries A: Incoming
  Subseries B: Outgoing
Series III: Family Papers
  Subseries A: Letters of Harriet Colt
  Subseries B: Letters of Colt family members
Series IV: Business Papers
  Subseries A: Receipts
  Subseries B: Ship Accounts
Series V: Legal Documents
Series VI: Miscellaneous
  Subseries A: Correspondence
  Subseries B: Receipts

Historical Note:
Henry Colt was born in 1803 and died in 1888. Henry Colt was a ship captain who lived in Edgartown. He had two wives during his long life. His first wife was Nancy Baylies. After 17 years of marriage, Nancy passed away. Captain Colt quickly remarried and chose another Islander--Harriet T. Cummings. Henry Colt had several children with each wife. While Colt’s voyages left from New Bedford, he continued to reside on Martha’s Vineyard. Colt captained a number of vessels that took him to different parts of the Atlantic and Pacific.

Scope and Content Note:
The Henry Colt collection (.5 cubic feet) consists of personal and business letters to and from Henry Colt. Accounts and muster books from his voyages are also in the collection as well as many business receipts (arranged chronologically). Letters to and from Colt family members can also be found in the collection (arranged chronologically). One folder contains legal documents that pertain to Henry Colt and his family members. The Martha’s Vineyard Museum has three ships logs that Henry Colt captained. The logbooks of the Salley Anne (145), the Java (22), and the Champion (56A) are housed in the Gale Huntington Library. Also, there are several deeds that relate to Henry Colt and his family (box 132B and 133B).

Series Descriptions
Series I: Personal Correspondence
Box 1 of 1
Subseries A: Incoming
Folder 1: Personal Letters to Henry Colt, 1839-1849.

Subseries B: Outgoing
Box 1 of 1
Folder 2: Personal Letters from Henry Colt, 1835-1862.

**Series II: Business Correspondence**
**Subseries A: Incoming**
Box 1 of 1
Folder 4: Business Letters to Henry Colt, 1831-1868

Subseries B: Outgoing
Box 1 of 1
Folder 5: Business Letters from Henry Colt, 1835-1853

**Series III: Family Papers**
**Subseries A: Letters of Harriet Colt**
Box 1 of 1
Folder 6: Letters to and from Harriet Colt, 1843-1859

Subseries B: Letters of Colt Family Members
Box 1 of 1
Folder 7: Letters to and from Various Colt Family Members, 1836-1924

**Series IV: Business Papers**
**Subseries A: Receipts**
Box 1 of 1
Folder 8: Receipts from Business Transactions, 1834-1854

Subseries B: Ship Accounts
Box 1 of 1
Folder 9: Accounts of Individual Ships, 1836-1859

**Series V: Legal Documents**
Box 1 of 1
Folder 10: Legal Documents of the Colt family, 1816-1888

**Series VI: Miscellaneous**
**Subseries A: Correspondence**
Box 1 of 1
Folder 11: Miscellaneous Correspondence, 1840-1885

Subseries B: Receipts
Box 1 of 1
Folder 12: Miscellaneous Receipts, 1833-1886