

# Guide to the Nantucket Collection

MS 1003



compiled by Janet Elaine Gertz

August 1982

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
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<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1003

**TITLE:** Nantucket collection

**DATES:** 1663-1822

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.25 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Financial records, a diary, and legal documents relating to the Gardner, Pinkham, Swain, and Coffin families of Nantucket. Most prominent in the collection is Silas Gardner, with a diary, bills, and receipts (1776-1822). He was co-owner with his nephew, Paul Pinkham, Jr., of the schooner, *Pomona*, for which there are legal and financial papers. In addition there are papers relating to Grafton Gardner and George Swain, records for the sloop, *Caroline* (1798-1799), and documents concerning the division of the common lands of Nantucket (1663-1806).

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1003>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1003>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box  
f. folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased in 1953.

## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

Unpublished materials authored or otherwise produced by the creator(s) of this collection are in the public domain. There are no restrictions on use. Copyright status for other collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

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## Preferred Citation

Nantucket Collection (MS 1003). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Scope and Contents

This collection contains approximately 250 items which relate chiefly to Nantucket, Massachusetts, and to the Gardner, Pinkham, Swain, and Coffin families who lived there. The bulk of the collection consists of receipts, bills, accounts, and other financial papers, deeds, papers pertaining to estates and to several ships. There is also a small amount of correspondence, and a short diary kept by Silas Gardner (1753-1826). Silas Gardner is the person best represented in the collection; his nephew Paul Pinkham, Jr. (1763-1807) is also prominent in the collection. The latter was a trader living in Nantucket, Londonderry (New Hampshire), and Cape Porpoise (Maine), and co-owner with Peter Gardner of the sloop *Pomona*.

These papers were purchased for Yale University in 1953.

## Collection Contents

b. 1, f. 1	Correspondence A copy of this material is available in digital form from Manuscripts and Archives. Contact Manuscripts and Archives at <a href="mailto:beinecke.library@yale.edu">beinecke.library@yale.edu</a> to request access to the digital copy.	1795-1817
b. 1, f. 2	<a href="#">Gardner, Grafton (1707-1796): legal and financial papers</a> Gardner, Silas (1753-1826)	1760-1796
b. 1, f. 3	<a href="#">Bills and receipts by him</a>	1776-1814
b. 1, f. 4	<a href="#">Bills and receipts to him</a>	1789-1822
b. 1, f. 5	<a href="#">Diary</a> Pinkham, Paul, Jr. (1763-1807)	1807-1809
b. 1, f. 6	<a href="#">Bills and receipts to him</a>	1791-1807
b. 1, f. 7	<a href="#">Financial papers by him</a>	1795-1799
b. 1, f. 8	<a href="#">Swain, George: "Directions to and from the Point Light on the NE Point of Nantucket"</a>	undated
b. 1, f. 9	<a href="#">Nantucket, Mass., Proprietors of the Common Lands: papers relating to the division of common lands</a>	1663-1806
b. 1, f. 10	<a href="#">Caroline (sloop): bills and receipts</a> English	1798-1799
b. 1, f. 11	<a href="#">Pomona (schooner): legal and financial papers</a>	1798-1799
b. 1, f. 11	<a href="#">Miscellaneous papers</a>	1793-1797

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Shipping -- Massachusetts -- Nantucket Island

### **Geographic Names**

Massachusetts  
Nantucket Island (Mass.) -- History  
New England

### **Genres / Formats**

Deeds  
Diaries

### **Names**

Gardner, Grafton, 1707-1789  
Gardner, Silas, 1753-1826  
Pinkham, Paul, 1763-1807  
Swain, George, b. 1762

### **Families**

Coffin family  
Gardner family  
Pinkham family  
Swain family

### **Corporate Bodies**

Caroline (Sloop)  
Pomona (Schooner)