Inventory of the Charles Morgan Collection  
(Collection #62)

The Brick Store Museum  
Kennebunk, Maine

Compiled by Joyce Butler, Curator of Manuscripts  
April 1989

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Physical Description:

This collection of materials was accumulated by the donor, Charles Morgan, during many years of research into vessels built in the Kennebunks and their builders. Morgan, author of Shipbuilding on the Kennebunk: The Closing Chapter (1952), made contact with the family members of the Kennebunks late 19th century and early 20th century builders, Charles Ward and David Clark. He acquired from the pertinent materials as well as useful oral history. Some of the material was given to the Kennebunkport Historical Society along with David Clark’s shipyard office building. Some of Morgan’s collection (Half models, photographs etc.) has come to the Brick Store Museum.

Morgan’s early interest in the Kennebunk yards, builders and vessels led him to research those subjects in non local marine repositories. Much of the material he gleaned from that research is included in this collection. It should be noted that the donor’s notes were in many cases written on highly acidic yellow notebook paper. These notes have been copied onto acid free bond and the originals discarded.

The presence of Mr. Morgan’s research notes in the files of the Brick Store Museum will be a boon to future researchers working here who might find access to distant sources a problem. Needless to say, Mr. Morgan’s notes and correspondence with heirs and family members of the builders, which are also part of this collection, will be of great value in the future.

The collection at present is stored in one box. It is conceivable that there will be additional material given so that unit may change. This part of the collection bears the Acquisition numbers 89.14.1 and 2.
Box and Folder Description:

Box # 1

Binder holding typewritten copies of ship construction contracts, mostly relating to vessels built by David Clark at Kennebunkport. Table of contents included. Photocopy of Bureau Veritas Survey Report, believed to be associated with the David Clark built vessel Hannah W. Dudley.

Folder 1: Notes pertaining to the shipbuilding activities of Charles Ward, Kennebunk Lower Village, 1877-78.

Folder 2: Notes pertaining to the shipbuilding activities of Charles Ward, Kennebunk Lower Village, 1877-1917

Folder 3: Notes pertaining to the shipbuilding activities of Captain Nathaniel Lord Thompson (in some cases with Joseph Titcomb) Kennebunk Lower Village, 1875-81.

Folder 4: Miscellaneous Materials pertaining to the Kennebunk-Kennebunkport shipbuilder David Clark, including notes, correspondence, newspaper articles.

Folder 5: Correspondence received by the donor from Alice Clark, 1950’s.

Folder 6: Correspondence of donor with W.J. Lewis Parker 1950-51


Folder 8: Correspondence of donor with Mary J. Ward, daughter of builder Charles Ward, 1952

Folder 9: Correspondence of donor with Phillip R. Campbell, Wells, Maine, concerning shipbuilding in the Kennebunks, 1981.

Folder 10: Correspondence and notes pertaining to the donor’s research on Kennebunk-built vessels in the national archives.

Folder 11: Miscellaneous correspondence of the donor, 1950 and 1952.

Folder 12: Correspondence of the donor with officials of the Kennebunkport Historical Society and a list of the David Clark papers given to the Society in 1980.

Folder 13: Miscellaneous notes pertaining to the Kennebunk-built vessels that were culled from newspapers and other sources.

Folder 14: Assorted lists of vessels built in the Kennebunks.

The Collection also includes four photographs. These are filed in the photograph file number. See attached photocopies for those numbers.
Subject Tracings:

Campbell, Phillip R.
Chatman, John E.
Chatman, Joseph T.
Clark, Alice
Clark, David
Clark, George
Crawford-Perkins shipyard
Kennebunkport Historical Society
Thompson, Captain Nathaniel Lord
Titcomb, Joseph
Ward, Charles
Ward, Mary J.

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