I. Title
Mitchell, Donald Grant (1822-1908) Papers, 1881-1892.

II. The papers of Donald Grant Mitchell deposited in the Library on  by
In converted the deposit to a gift.

III. Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 5 inches
Approximate number of items: 45

IV. Restrictions: none

V. Literary rights of the unpublished writings of
in these papers, and in other collections of papers in the custody of
the New Haven Colony Historical Society Library, have been dedicated
to the New Haven Colony Historical Society.

VI. Press release was issued on

VII. Biographical note: See page b.

VIII. Analysis:
The collection is contained in one box. It is comprised of reports
and notes on ideas for park development; map, colored; photographs of Mitchell
and Edgewood, negatives and slides; one photocopy of a letter. The maps are
filed in the New Haven Colony Historical Society Map collection.
Biographical note:

Donald Grant Mitchell was born in Norwich, Conn. the son of Rev. Alfred Mitchell, a Congregational minister, and Lucretia Humford Woodbridge. He was a grandson of Stephen Mix Mitchell, member of the Continental Congress and Chief Justice of Connecticut. While at Yale he edited the Yale Literary Magazine. After graduation in 1841 to avoid a family tendency to tuberculosis, he lived on an ancestral farm in Salem, New London County, where he wrote about rural things. A position as clerk to the Consul in Liverpool ended because of ill health and Mitchell travelled to the Isle of Jersey, the British Isles and the Continent, often walking to build his strength. He spent the years 1846-55 back in Washington and New York writing for newspapers and unenthusiastically reading a little law. At this time he started signing his pieces, "Ik Marvel". In 1848 he covered the Revolution in Paris. Several books appeared after his return, the most well-known, "Reveries of a Bachelor".

In 1853 Mitchell married Mary Frances Pringle of South Carolina. They had eleven children. A daughter married Edward L. Ryerson and her granddaughter, Mrs. George Ranney, has donated material for this collection. Following a short term as Consul in Venice, Mitchell bought a farm in Westville named "Edgewood". It was to be a model for beauty in farming, home building, and town planning. He wrote many books about and inspired by Edgewood and his collected works published in 1907 is the "Edgewood Edition". He aided the New Haven Board of Park Commissioners in designing and developing city parks, especially East Rock, Fort Hale, and Bay View Parks. The Donald G. Mitchell Memorial Library is one of many tributes to him in Westville.

Sources:
Dictionary of American Biography, V. IX, pp.41-42.
Yale Obituaries 1900-1910, pp.996-1000.

Additional material on Mitchell in the NHCHS Library may be found in MSS 24 Henry Taylor Blake Collection 1852-1934. Several of Mitchell's books are in the collection of the library of the NHCHS as well as secondary works about him.
Table of Contents

Box I.

Folder A. Ms report to the Commissioners of East Rock Park on layout. 1882. 9 p. [in poor condition] Abbreviations, list of shrub groups etc. (2)

Folder B. Ms notes and illustrations, Oyster Point Reservation and its proposed treatment. Report to Park Commissioners, 1891, 11 p. two autographs Donald G. Mitchell. (3)

Folder C. Ms maps colored and ink: West Rock verso Town Farm and Judges Cave. 5 colored slides of map of West Rock. (6)

Folder D. Photographs of Donald Grant Mitchell. (8)

Folder E. Photograph of D.G.M. hand colored by him, inscribed to "Minnie" (Mary Mitchell Ryerson), grandmother of donor, Mrs. G.A. Ranney, Feb. 1981.

Folder F. Bookplate Donald G. Mitchell Library. Engraving old farm at Salem, Conn. 5 photographs interior Edgewood. (7)

Folder G. Negatives of photos of Edgewood. (Originals owned by Mrs. George Ranney, R.D. 1, Libertyville, Ill.) (9)

Folder H. Ms map, colored, Martinique; verso photo of old "Mumford [Mix?] house" Salem, Conn. ms notes. (1)

Folder I. ALS [photocopy] to Mr. Blake re planning drives in park. n.d. (2)

Maps by Mitchell in Map Case.


Box II.


Vol. 1 From Celt to Tudor. 1889. [autograph]
2. From Elizabeth to Anne. 1890.
3. Queen Anne and the Georges. 1895. [mss. inscription to Prof. Loumbury]

Reveries of a Bachelor by IkeMarvel [Donald Grant Mitchell] Philadelphia.

Henry Altemus. 1895.
DONALD GRANT MITCHELL, PAPERS
MSS #140

Box/Folder | Contents
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Additions to Collection, 2004

Material in Box 3, Folders A - E was removed from a box with a print of the Pringle House on the outside (see 3/F)

3/A Letters from DGM to Minnie (his daughter, 1882-1906)

3/B Scrapbook of reviews of lectures and writing of DGM, 1864-1871
School copybook of poems, Minnie P. Mitchell, s.d.

3/C Bibliography of the works of DGM, 1841-1902

3/D Material concerning the Shaw mansion

3/E Photographs
Farmhouse - Salem, CT
Portrait of Nathaniel Shaw of Woodbridge
DGM, 1904
Unidentified notes

3/F Top of the box in which the materials above were found showing the Pringle House, Charleston, SC

3/G Loose photographs of the interior of Edgewood

3/H Photograph Album with interior and exterior photographs

3/I 1 copy, Pictures of Edgewood

Oversized Item #2 and Oversized Item #3

Scrapbooks of DGM kept during voyages to Europe, 1845, 1846, 1853.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box/Folder</th>
<th>Contents</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oversized Item #1</td>
<td>Adds to Collection, 1993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. “Steel Arch Bridge on Quinnipiac Drive, East Rock Park” 1895</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. “Stone Arch on Quinnipiac Drive, East Rock Park” 1895</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. “Stone Arch on Quinnipiac Drive, East Rock Park” 1896</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Mitchell Family Tree, Water Color, s.d.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. “From Edgewood to Salem” Map of Eastern Connecticut, Water Color, 1898</td>
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<tr>
<td>f. Photograph “An Evergreen Drive with Minnie” 1876</td>
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<tr>
<td>g. Newspaper article “Once a Week”, New York, 1892</td>
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