



FINDING AID

Catalog Number: MABI 14135



**BILLINGS-KITTREDGE HERBARIUM ARCHIVES**

**1908-1997**

**(bulk dates 1912-1929)**

Prepared by

LAURA ANDERSON

12/27/2012

National Park Service

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

|                                  |    |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Copyright and Restrictions ..... | ii |
| History .....                    | 1  |
| Scope and Content .....          | 2  |
| Hierarchy .....                  | 3  |
| Series Descriptions .....        | 4  |
| Container List .....             | 5  |

### *COPYRIGHT AND RESTRICTIONS*

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted materials. The various state privacy acts govern the use of materials that document private individuals, groups, and corporations.

Under certain conditions specified in the law, libraries and archives are authorized to furnish a reproduction if the document does not infringe the privacy rights of an individual, group, or corporation. These specified conditions of authorized use include:

- non-commercial and non-profit study, scholarship, or research, or teaching
- criticism, commentary, or news reporting
- as a NPS preservation or security copy
- as a research copy for deposit in another institution

If a user later uses a copy or reproduction for purposes in excess of "fair use," the user may be personally liable for copyright, privacy, or publicity infringement. This institution's permission to obtain a photographic, xerographic, digital, or other copy of a document doesn't indicate permission to publish, exhibit, perform, reproduce, sell, distribute, or prepare derivative works from this document without first obtaining permission from the copyright holder and from any private individual, group, or corporation shown or otherwise recorded.

Permission to publish, exhibit, perform, reproduce, prepare derivative works from, sell, or otherwise distribute the item must be obtained by the user separately in writing from the holder of the original copyright (or if the creator is dead from his/her heirs) as well as from any individual(s), groups, or corporations whose name, image, recorded words, or private information (e.g., employment information) may be reproduced in the source material. The holder of the original copyright isn't necessarily the National Park Service. The National Park Service is not legally liable for copyright, privacy, or publicity infringement when materials are wrongfully used after being provided to researchers for "fair use."

This institution reserves the right to refuse to accept a copying order if fulfillment of the order is judged in violation of copyright or federal or state privacy or publicity law.

***HISTORY***

The Billings-Kittredge Herbarium was created by Elizabeth Billings (1871-1944) and Elsie May Kittredge (1870-1954). Ms. Billings, the daughter of Frederick Billings and an amateur botanist, hired New York Botanical Garden curator, Elsie Kittredge, in 1917 to assist her in collecting botanical specimens from Woodstock and the surrounding area. The Herbarium was compiled from approximately 1917-1925. It was placed on display at the DAR House in Woodstock, Vermont in 1928 then transferred to Wilson Hall, the natural history museum at Dartmouth College in 1943. Dartmouth transferred the collection to the Vermont Institute of Natural Sciences (VINS) in 1975-76, where it was restored and displayed. It was transferred to the Woodstock Foundation in the 1990s with the intention of its eventual return to the Billings Estate when the national park opened in 1998. The collection was formally transferred to Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park in 2012.

The Billings-Kittredge Herbarium Archives document the history of the herbarium collection and contains materials from Ms. Kittredge, VINS, Dartmouth, and the Woodstock Foundation. The bulk of the archives collection consists of the hand-colored photographs taken and prepared by Ms. Kittredge from approximately 1912-1929.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT**BILLINGS-KITTREDGE HERBARIUM ARCHIVES  
1908-1997

|                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| CATALOG NUMBER       | MABI 14135                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| VOLUME               | 3.25 LF                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| DESCRIPTION          | CONSISTS OF CORRESPONDENCE, RESEARCH NOTES, PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGES AND REFERENCE MATERIALS RELATING TO THE COLLECTION AND MANAGMENT OF THE BILLINGS-KITTREDGE HERBARIUM.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| ORGANIZATION         | The collection is divided into 3 series by type of material:<br>1. Herbarium History Documents<br>2. Research Journals and Reference Materials<br>3. Photographs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| PROVENANCE           | The collection, initiated by Elizabeth Billings in the 1890s and later cared for by Elsie Kittredge, was displayed at the DAR House in Woodstock from 1928 until its transfer to Dartmouth College in 1943. Dartmouth donated the collection to the Vermont Institute in 1975-76 where it was restored and displayed. VINS transferred the collection to the Woodstock Foundation in the 1990s with the intention of its eventual return to the Billings Estate when the national park opened in 1998. The Woodstock Foundation formally donated the herbarium and archives to MABI in 2012. |
| RESTRICTIONS         | NO                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| ASSOCIATED MATERIALS | MABI 14136 and approximately 1,200 botanical specimens included in Accession MABI-70.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

*HIERARCHY*

Series 001: HERBARIUM HISTORY, 1908-1997

Series 002: RESEARCH JOURNALS & REFERENCE MATERIALS BELONGING TO ELSIE  
KITREDGE, 1908-1954

Series 003: PHOTOGRAPHS, 1912-1929

*SERIES DESCRIPTIONS***Series 001. *HERBARIUM HISTORY, 1908-1997***

ORGANIZED INTO 7 SUBSERIES:

1. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND
2. DISPOSITION CORRESPONDENCE
3. VERMONT INSTITUTE OF NATURAL SCIENCES
4. DARTMOUTH COLLEGE
5. INVENTORIES
6. ELSIE KITTREDGE NOTES AND CORRESPONDENCE
7. PRESERVATION & EXHIBITION

DOCUMENTS PERTAINING TO THE HISTORY, DISPOSITION, CONTENT, PRESERVATION AND EXHIBITION OF THE COLLECTION.

**Series 002. *RESEARCH JOURNALS & REFERENCE MATERIALS BELONGING TO ELSIE KITTREDGE, 1908-1954***

BOX 1 OF SERIES 002 CONTAINS VARIOUS ANNOTATED PUBLICATIONS AND A NOTEBOOK.  
BOX 2 OF SERIES 002 CONTAINS AN INCOMPLETE SET OF AMERICAN FERN JOURNALS IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER.

ANNOTATED REFERENCE PUBLICATIONS AND NOTEBOOK BELONGING TO ELSIE KITTREDGE.

**Series 003. *PHOTOGRAPHS, 1912-1929***

THIS SERIES IS DIVIDED INTO 10 FILE UNITS ACCORDING TO TAXONY, EITHER BY FAMILY OR GENUS. THESE HEADINGS WERE DETERMINED BY VINS AND INHERITED BY MABI:

- 1.POLYPODIACEAE, OSMUNDACEAE, OPHIOGLOSSACEAE; 2.ASPLENIACEAE, CYPERACEAE;
- 3.ARACEAE, IRIDACEAE; 4.ORCHIDACEAE; 5.SAURURUS, LIRIODENDRON; 6.SASSAFRAS,
- ROSACEAE; 7.LEGUMINOSACEAE, HYPERACEAE; 8.VIOLACEAE, ERICACEAE; 9.LYSIMACHIA,
- LOBELIA; 10.COMPOSITES, FUNGI, HEPATICS, GALLS.

APPROXIMATELY 1000 HAND-COLORED PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN AND PREPARED BY ELSIE KITTREDGE

## CONTAINER LIST

### Box 1: Series 001, Herbarium History

- Folder 1: SUBSERIES I, Historical Background
- Folder 2: SUBSERIES II, Disposition Correspondence
- Folder 3: SUBSERIES III, VINS – miscellaneous notes & correspondence
- Folder 4: SUBSERIES IV, Dartmouth - miscellaneous notes & correspondence
- Folder 5: SUBSERIES V, Inventories
- Folder 6: SUBSERIES VI, Elsie Kittredge – Research Notes & Copies of Correspondence
- Folder 7: SUBSERIES VII, Preservation & Exhibition

### Box 2: Series 002, Research Journals & Reference Materials of Elsie Kittredge

1. *Ferns & Flowering Plants of Woodstock, Vermont*. Compiled by E.M. Kittredge, 1931.
2. *Ferns & Flowering Plants of Woodstock, Vermont*. Compiled by E.M. Kittredge, 1931.
3. *Ferns & Flowering Plants of Woodstock, Vermont*. Compiled by E.M. Kittredge, 1931
4. *Grasses & Sedges of Woodstock, Vermont*. Compiled by E.M. Kittredge, 1939.
5. *A List of Birds of Woodstock, Hartland & Vicinity*. Compiled by Evaline D. Morgan & Richard M. Marble, 1935.
6. *A List of Birds of Woodstock, Hartland & Vicinity*, 1923.
7. *Gray's New Manual of Botany, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition: A Handbook of the Flowering Plants & Ferns of the Central & Northeastern United States & Adjacent Canada*. Rearranged & Revised by Benjamin Lincoln Robinson & Merritt Lyndon Fernald, 1908.
8. *The Flora of Vermont*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. Compiled by a Committee of the Vermont Botanical Club, 1937.
9. *The Flora of Vermont* "Checked for Billings Herbarium," 1915.
10. *The Flora of Vermont*, 1915.
11. *Keys to Spring Plants*. W.C. Muenscher & L.C. Petry, 1949.
12. *Vermont Trees*.
13. Notebook with handwritten notes of Elsie Kittredge. Content varies.

### Box 3: Series 002, Research Journals & Reference Materials of Elsie Kittredge

- *American Fern Journal*. Published by the American Fern Society. 41 volumes. 1910-1954. Not a complete set – some issues are missing.
- *American Fern Journal Cumulative Index* for volumes 1-25. 1939

### Box 4: Series 003, Photographs (Taken and hand-colored by Elsie Kittredge)

- File Unit 1: POLYPODIACEAE, OSMUNDACEAE, OPHIOGLOSSACEAE
- File Unit 2: ASPLENIACEAE, CYPERACEAE
- File Unit 3: ARACEAE, IRIDACEAE

Box 5: Series 003, Photographs (Taken and hand-colored by Elsie Kittredge)

File Unit 4: ORCHIDACEAE

File Unit 5: SAURURUS, LIRIODENDRON

File Unit 6: SASSAFRAS, ROSACEAE

Box 6: Series 003, Photographs (Taken and hand-colored by Elsie Kittredge)

File Unit 7: LEGUMINOSACEAE, HYPERACEAE

File Unit 8: VIOLACEAE, ERICACEAE

Box 7: Series 003, Photographs (Taken and hand-colored by Elsie Kittredge)

File Unit 9: LYSIMACHIA, LOBELIA

File Unit 10: COMPOSITES, FUNGI, HEPATICS, GALLS