Historical Note: Under Captain Robert “Bob” Bartlett, the schooner Effie M. Morrissey, along with students and scientists, made 20 regular voyages to document the Arctic’s flora and fauna, and its people for patrons including the National Geographic Society, the Smithsonian Institution, the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, the Museum of the American Indian, and others. Fred Littleton was fifteen years old, and part of a crew of 27, which included Bartlett’s Boys,” a group of ten school and college students who paid $1,000 each for the experience. The Morrissey’s 1940 voyage set a record for travelling furthest north, at 80 degrees 22 minutes North Latitude. Littleton assisted cameraman and photographer Reggi Wilcox when film footage was needed from aloft. He was also assigned to the watch of the ship’s carpenter, George Bartlett. Littleton was born in 1924 in Pennsylvania. He served as harbormaster and shellfish constable of Chilmark on Martha’s Vineyard, and built boats as a hobby. He died in 2010.

Scope and contents note: The collection consists of one scrapbook, 14 x 12” with 49 pages and 144 black and white photographs, and a leather cover stamped with “Frederick O. N. Littleton” in gold on the lower right corner of the cover. For preservation purposes, the album is stored separate from its binding and cover. The collection also includes an article written in 1986 by Littleton about the expedition.

Date: 1940

Creator: Frederick C. N. Littleton

Language: Materials entirely in English

Source of acquisition: Gift of the Schooner Ernestina/Effie M. Morrissey Association, Inc., 2012 as part of the Schooner Ernestina/Effie M. Morrissey Archives.

Restrictions on access: none

Repository: Claire T. Carney Library Archives and Special Collections, Schooner Ernestina/Effie M. Morrissey Archives, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, 285 Old Westport Road, N. Dartmouth, MA 02747. Telephone: 508-999-8686.

Processed by: Judy Farrar with the assistance of Lauren Hickey, July 2012.