A guide to the Logbook and documents, 1848-1851

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A Guide to the Logbook and documents

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San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park, National Park Service

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**Title:** Logbook and documents  
**Date:** 1848-1851  
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**Abstract:** Logbook and documents (SAFR 13574, HDC 28) is comprised of one volume with a sketch, negatives, and passenger list tucked inside. The logbook was maintained by the same individual throughout five voyages documented. The rough log details one voyage of the NIANTEC, three voyages of the MARY WILDER and one voyage of the HUNTINGTON from 1848 to 1850. This collection has been processed to the collection level and is open for use without restrictions.

**Physical Location:** San Francisco Maritime NHP, Historic Documents Department

**Language(s):** In English.

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**Preferred Citation**
[Item description], [Location within collection organization identified by Collection Number/Series Number/File Unit Number/Item Number], HDC0028 (SAFR 13574), Logbook and documents, San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park

**Acquisition Information**
SAFR-00001
This collection was transferred from Golden Gate National Recreation Area to San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park.

**Historical or Biographical Note**
The NIANTEC was a three masted, bluff-bowed ship built in 1835 in Chatham, CT. She was approximately 119' in length, and 32' wide, and rated at 451 tons. She was originally engaged in the China trade and as a packet. From 1844 to 1847, the NIANTEC was engaged in whaling off New Zealand. In September, 1848, The NIANTEC left Warren, R.I. for the west coast. Enroute, she stopped in Panama to pick up additional passengers for San Francisco who had crossed the isthmus. The NIANTEC arrived San Francisco on July 5, 1849. It was anchored at what is now Clay and Sansome Streets, and eventually became land bound and used as a store ship and later as a rooming house. In 1851, the ship was burned to the ground, and the Niantic Hotel was built upon the portion of the hull remaining. As late as 1978, when a new building was constructed on this site, many artifacts from the NIANTEC were found and brought into the museum collections.

The MARY WILDER was a brig built in 1848 in Pittsdon, Maine. She sailed on January 25th, 1849 from Boston and arrived on August 9th, 1849 in San Francisco, carrying 50 passengers and under the command of Captain Mulliken. After arrival the ship mainly traded up to Oregon. Eventually she was sold to German owners in Bremen, and renamed the Nord See in
The HUNTINGTON was a bark build in 1847 in Baltimore, by J.A. Robb. She was classed at 385 tons, and was owned by Corner & Sons.

**Collection Scope and Content**

Logbook and documents (SAFR 13574, HDC 28) is comprised of one volume with a sketch, negatives, and passenger list tucked inside. The logbook was maintained by the same individual throughout five voyages documented. The rough log details one voyage of the NIANtic, three voyages of the MARY WILDER and one voyage of the HUNTINGTON from 1848 to 1850. This collection has been processed to the collection level and is open for use without restrictions.

The Ship NIANtic left Warren, Rhode Island on September 16, 1848, sailed around Cape Horn, and arrived in San Francisco on 5 July 1849. Enroute, the vessel stopped in Western Panama. Entries for the NIANtic end 12 July 1849. On the title page of the log is a sketch of the "Ship Niantic receiving herr passengers at Panama." This collection also includes passenger lists from the Niantic.

The log entries of the first trip, a whaling voyage, of the Brig MARY WILDER begins on 5 October 1849 in San Francisco. The vessel travels to the Columbia River and returned to San Francisco on 15 October 1849. The second voyage began 1 April 1850 from San Francisco and arrived in the Sandwich Islands (Hawaii) on 21 April 1850. They stayed in Hawaii until 7 June when the return voyage to San Francisco started. Arrival in San Francisco was on 29 June 1850. Entries for the third voyage end in China on 18 December 1850 after departing San Francisco on 12 November 1850. This voyage also sailed by way of the Hawaiian Islands.

The logkeeper boarded the HUNTINGTON in Shanghai, where he left the MARY WILDER. T.W. Jones was the Master. The HUNTINGTON left for New York on 1 January 1851. The last entry for this voyage is 27 April 1851 at Latitude 31 North, Longitude 67 West.

Daily entries are generally short and record wind, latitude and longitude, course, sailing handling and mention of other vessels.

**Collection Arrangement**

This is a collection comprised of seven items.

**Subjects and Indexing Terms**

Whaling
Gold Rush--California--1840-1850
Niantic (ship, 3m)
Huntington (bark)
Mary Wilder (brig)
Hawaii
Logbook