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Annabelle Melville Collection
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Annabelle Melville Collection Biographical Sketch

Dr. Annabelle M. Melville was a Commonwealth Professor Emerita of History at Bridgewater State University and a leading American Catholic Historian. She was the author of definitive biographies of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, the first native-born citizen of the United States to be canonized by the Roman Catholic Church; Archbishop John Carroll, the first bishop of the American hierarchy; Cardinal John Lefebvre de Cheverus, the first bishop of Boston; and Archbishop Louis William DuBourg, SS, a nineteenth century bishop of New Orleans. Dr. Melville was also the first woman president of the American Catholic Historical Association and received the John Gilmary Shea Prize for excellence in American Catholic history from the American Catholic Historical Society in 1955. She held the Catholic Daughters of America chair in American church history in 1978 and 1979.

Dr. Melville was a faculty member of the history department at Bridgewater State from 1953 until her retirement in 1975. She held degrees from the State University of New York at Albany, along with a doctorate from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. After her death in 1991 the reception room in Bridgewater State's admissions building, the Gates House, was named in her honor.

Annabelle Melville Collection Scope and Content Note

This collection largely consists of early manuscript drafts of Dr. Melville's works. Of particular note are multiple drafts of an unpublished textbook she wrote in the 1960s, titled *Americans All: A History of Our People*, which was designed for seventh and eighth grade students. Biographical material can be found in the collection, including past write ups done by Bridgewater State, and through a collection of news clippings representing her many achievements and participation at events.

Copies of all of Dr. Annabelle Melville's books can be found in Special Collections at Bridgewater State University.

Annabelle Melville Collection Box and Folder List

Box 1

Folder

1. Legacy and obituary material, 1991-2009
2. Indices and copies of material on Melville held by the University Archives, undated
3. Copies of Catholic encyclopedia entries written by Melville, undated
4. Copies of reviews and write ups on Melville from published works, undated
5. News clippings—obituary, 1991
6. News clippings—relating to Melville's books, 1955-1987
7. News clippings—involving Melville during her lifetime, 1975-1987
8. Photograph of Melville, undated

Americans All: A History of Our People (unpublished)

Box 2

Folder

1. Volume 1, first handwritten draft, chapters 1-5, 1960
2. Volume 1, first handwritten draft, chapters 6-11, 1960
3. Volume 1, first handwritten draft, chapters 12-19, 1960
4. Volume 1, first handwritten draft, outlines and notes from chapter 1, 1960
5. Volume 2, first handwritten draft, part 1, 1966
6. Volume 2, first handwritten draft, part 2, 1966

Box 3

Folder

1. Volume 1, first typed copy, chapters 1-3, 1961
2. Volume 1, first typed copy, chapters 4-6, 1961
3. Volume 1, first typed copy, chapters 7-10, 1961
4. Volume 1, first typed copy, chapters 11-14, 1961
5. Volume 1, first typed copy, chapters 15-19, 1961
6. Volume 2, first typed copy, chapters 1-4, undated
7. Volume 2, first typed copy, chapters 5-9, undated
8. Volume 2, first typed copy, chapters 10-13, undated
9. Volume 2, first typed copy, chapters 14-17, undated

Box 4

Folder

1. Volume 1, typed early draft after editorial revisions, chapters 1-4, 1968
2. Volume 1, typed early draft after editorial revisions, chapters 5-8, 1968
3. Volume 1, typed early draft after editorial revisions, chapters 9-12, 1968
4. Volume 1, typed early draft after editorial revisions, chapters 13-18, 1968
6. Study aids for Volume 1, not created by Melville (possibly created by the publisher), 1968

John Carroll of Baltimore: Founder of the American Catholic Hierarchy (1955)

Box 5

Folder

1. First manuscript draft, chapters 1-4 (missing page 1), undated
2. First manuscript draft, chapters 5-8, undated
3. First manuscript draft, chapters 9-12, undated
4. First manuscript draft, chapters 13-16, undated
5. First manuscript draft, chapters 17-20, undated
6. Galley/uncorrected manuscript proof, copy 1, undated
7. Galley/uncorrected manuscript proof, copy 2 (duplicate), undated

Jean Lefebvre de Cheverus, 1768-1836 (1958)

Box 6

Folder

1. Edited manuscript draft, preface-chapter 5, undated
2. Edited manuscript draft, chapters 6-9, undated
3. Edited manuscript draft, chapters 10-13, undated
4. Edited manuscript draft, chapters 14-17, undated
5. Edited manuscript draft, chapters 18-22, undated
6. Edited manuscript draft, chapters 23-27, undated
7. Edited manuscript draft, notes for chapters 1-27, undated

Louis William DuBourg: Bishop of Louisiana and the Floridas, Bishop of Montauban, and Archbishop of Bescançon, 1766-1833 (1986 in 2 volumes)

Box 7

Folder

1. Volume 1, manuscript draft, chapters 1-2, undated
2. Volume 1, manuscript draft, chapters 3-4, undated
3. Volume 1, manuscript draft, chapters 5-6, undated
4. Volume 1, manuscript draft, chapters 7-8, undated
5. Volume 1, manuscript draft, chapters 9-10, undated
6. Volume 1, manuscript draft, chapters 11-12, undated
7. Volume 1, manuscript draft, chapters 13-14, undated
8. Volume 1, manuscript draft, chapters 15-16, undated
9. Volume 1, manuscript draft, chapters 17-18, undated
10. Volume 1, manuscript draft, chapters 19-20, undated
11. Volume 1, manuscript draft, chapters 21-22, undated

Box 8

Folder

1. Volume 1, manuscript draft, chapters 23-24, undated
2. Volume 1, manuscript draft, chapters 25-26, undated
3. Volume 1, manuscript draft, chapters 27-28, undated

4. Volume 1, manuscript draft, chapters 29-30, undated
5. Volume 1, manuscript draft, chapters 31-32, undated
6. Volume 1, manuscript draft, chapters 33-34, undated
7. Volume 1, manuscript draft, chapters 35-36, undated
8. Volume 1, manuscript draft, chapters 37-38, undated
9. Volume 1, manuscript draft, chapters 38-40, undated
10. Volume 1, manuscript draft, chapter 41, undated