HISTORY

The Melville documents in this guide accompany their extensive collection of Native American pottery and other items, such as kachinas and baskets. In 1927 Carey E. Melville, a Professor at Clark University, his wife Maud Melville and their children left Massachusetts for a road trip around the country. On their travels they spent three weeks in and around Polacca, a Hopi community in Arizona. During this trip they began their collection, which continued to grow through correspondence with members of the Hopi community.

The papers included here relate to their correspondence with individuals in Arizona as well as additional personal letters. There are also items and notes on the couples’ interest in Native American culture and rights, particularly Maud who spoke to groups and clubs upon their return to Massachusetts. Later materials include correspondence and documentation relating to the donation of the collection to Wesleyan and the writing of *Hopis, Tewas and the American Road* by Willard Walker and Lydia L. Wyckoff (1983). The collection has been at Wesleyan since 1976.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

MELVILLE COLLECTION

| Description | This collection includes records of the Melville family’s collecting, newspaper clippings, and other documents related to Native American affairs in the 1920s and 30s, photographs taken during the Melville’s travels, personal correspondence, and documentation related to Wesleyan University’s accessioning of the collection. |
| Organization | The collection is organized in 9 boxes:  
1) Documentation re: donation and correspondence with donors (1976-79)  
2) Old object labels, lists, price tags and display label copy  
3) Hopi and other correspondence 1928-1938  
4) “Music of the Hopi Indians,” lecture notes, misc. papers, and publications  
5) “Indian” scrapbook and misc. loose clippings, misc. re: Indian art/design  
6) Early twentieth-century “Indian” sheet music  
7) Magazines re: Southwest art, travel, culture, Indian arts  
8) Photographs (two boxes)  
9) Documents and images (negatives + prints) related to production of 1983 Walker and Wyckoff’s *Hopis, Tewas and the American Road* |
| Arrangement | Folders organized by content, when possible chronological within folders |
| Provenance | United States - Massachusetts, northern Arizona, and various other locations; collected by the Melvilles in their home in Massachusetts |
| Restrictions | No |
PROCESSING NOTES

When reorganizing and cataloguing this collection in spring of 2016 several changes were made to storage to improve preservation. These include separating metal from where it was in contact with other material and preserving photographs in Mylar sleeves. All efforts were made to follow best archival methods.

This guide is based on previous notes made by Juliana Shortell, and the guidance of Jessie Cohen, Archaeological Collections Manager.

BOX DESCRIPTION AND LIST:

**BOX 1:**
Documentation on donation of materials and correspondence with donors (1976-79)

This box includes copies and drafts of the deed of gift and notes on the donation of books to Olin Library. It also includes correspondence between Wesleyan and the Melvilles. There are three photographs included showing the objects that were donated.

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**BOX 2:**
Old object labels, lists, price tags and display label copy

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<th>FOLDER CONTENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loose Note found inside bowl 2003.5.46 (MVL-144)</td>
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</table>
“SOAMERICU[N]” price code, in which the letters of this word stand for the numerals

Object tags and “Please Do Not Handle” labels

**BOX 3:**
Melville correspondence, including from Hopi artists

**FOLDER CONTENTS**

1. Letters from Ethel Salyah to Mrs. Melville (M.S.M.) 1930-1936 [11 letters]

2. Various correspondence of Carey and Maud Melville

Native American artists including Ruth Takala, Te Ata, Da Pah, Bear Heart

“Dime and pin” birthday card by Maud Melville

Invoices

Letters with commissioner of Indian Affairs

Copper Christmas card

3. “Xeroxes – Melville Archives I”—1970s/80s copies of correspondence in folders 1 and 2

**BOX 4:**
Lecture notes and other miscellaneous papers and publications

This box includes a wide verity of papers of both Carey and Maud Melville.

**FOLDER CONTENTS**

1. Miscellaneous papers on activities and organizations Carey and Maud Melville were involved in

“The With Trailer and Camera” pamphlet advertising Maud Melville’s lectures

2. Maud Melville’s “Music of the Hopi Indians” lecture drafts and notes
(BOX 4 cont.)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>“Xeroxes – Melville Archives II”—1970s/80s copies of lecture drafts and notes in folders 1 and 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>U.S. Dept. of the Interior, Office of Indian Affairs bulletins and memoranda; <em>those that are dated are from the 1920s and 30s</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BOX 5:**

“Indian” scrapbook and miscellaneous clippings

Box 5 is not organized into folders, the primary item is a large scrapbook and other documents are loose.

**CONTENTS**

- **In scrapbook**
  - Newspaper clippings about American Indians; Hopi and Navajo specifically. Also includes a small book about American Indians: “Indians North America”

- **Loose**
  - Additional paper clippings and magazine articles
  - Pamphlets for performers and speakers
  - Two issues of a publication “Indian Truth”
  - Cardboard image labeled “An Indian Maiden of the Southwest” (Hopi)
  - Folder of three paintings of kachina dolls by 4th graders
  - Bound magazine “the Master Pueblo Potters” and “American Indian Portraits”
  - Materials acquired with a Denver Art Museum Exhibit: “Indian Arts Pueblo and Navajo” printed pages
  - Prints of 72 illustrations

**BOX 6:**

Early twentieth-century “Indian” sheet music

**FOLDER**

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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>CONTENTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“Music of the American Indian.”</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Cardstock folio, cover printed with a winter scene and “Christmas suggestions for [__]” [“The Melvilles” has been filled in in black ink].

*The following sheet music is pasted inside: Thurlow Lieurance and Edna Dean Proctor, Love Song (From the Red Willow Pueblos) and T. L. Wm. Felton, The Weaver (The Blanket – The Rosary)*


Elizabeth Willis De Huff and Homer Grunn, *From Desert and Pueblo: Authentic Navajo and Tewa Indian Songs*

“Collected and transcribed by Elizabeth Willis De Huff and Homer Grunn.” Boston: Oliver Ditson Co., 1924


**BOX 7:**
Magazines re: southwest art, travel, culture, Indian arts

**FOLDER**
**CONTENTS**

Loose

The School Arts Magazine, Worcester, MA: Vol. 30 No. 7 (March 1931); Vol. 33 No. 1 (Sept. 1933) [2 copies]; Vol. 33 No. 2 (Oct. 1933); Vol. 33 No. 3 (Nov. 1933); Vol. 34 No. 7 (March 1935); Vol. 38 No. 2 (Oct. 1938) [2 copies]; Vol. 41 No. 3 (Nov. 1941)

Art News Vol. XLV No. 6, August 1946, found folded open to p. 18 “Indian Summer at Colorado Springs,” article re: exhibit at the Taylor Museum with images of Hohokam, Mimbres and Pueblo ceramics [p. 21/22 is missing]

Arizona Highways: Feb. 1968, May 1971, June 1971, Nov. 1974, Jan. 1975, Feb. 1975, and March 1975 [NB: some of these may not have actually belonged to the Melvilles but were included with the collection as reference materials in the 1970s]

**BOX 8:**
Photographs

Box 8 (and accompanying box) contain pictures related to the Melvilles’ travels and stay in northern Arizona. They include a wide range of subjects such as landscapes, images of Polacca and surrounding areas, and people posing and carrying out activities. They are also in a wide variety of formats.

**BOXES**
**CONTENTS**

Small

Small images, several dated 1934. Many of the larger prints are copies of these. They are organized by letter and number A-F with some gaps:

A1, A2, A6, A11, A17, A20, A21, A24 (through 25)
B9 (through 10)
C1, (through 12)
D3, D4, D6, D11, D13 (through 19)
E2, E5, E6, E14, E15, E19, E25, E26, E40 (thought 48)
F2, F6, (though 9)

Main

Three rolled posters- possible ads

Two framed prints

Several images backed on cardstock and empty cardstock frames

Images in a variety of sizes
**BOX 9:**
Documents and images (negatives + prints) related to production of 1983 Walker and Wyckoff’s *Hopis, Texas and the American Road*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FOLDER</th>
<th>CONTENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loose</td>
<td>Mailing envelope with correspondence with Lea McChesney and other papers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Template for the catalog cards used by Wesleyan to catalog the collection in 1979</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bag of photos and sketches of ceramic item.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hopis, Tewas and the American Road copy 2</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Photos of the Melvilles’ cabinet with some of the objects</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Envelope of photographs of the objects</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Folder of sketches and info of more items (instruments, baskets, rugs)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cassette tapes-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Two boxes of photo negatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lea McChesney correspondence with Clark University archives and notes on C.E.M. papers, 1982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Transcript of 1/30/82 Maud Arnold (Melville daughter) interview (Maud reading from M.S.M.’s diary for 6/22 – 6/29, 1927)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>