

FINDING AID
Melville Collection
1976

Wesleyan University
2016

Compiled by Isabel Alter

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 <i>Hopis, Tewas and the American Road</i>
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.

FOLDER	CONTENTS
1	Papers related to the donation, evaluation and deed of gift for Indian artifacts (1976) Deed of gift drafts Insurance and contact information
2	Estimated value Correspondence between Melvilles and Wesleyan (1976-79) Primarily including Carey Melville, Willard Walker, and David Hohl
3	Three photographs of objects included Papers related to the donation of books (1977)

BOX 2:

Old object labels, lists, price tags and display label copy

FOLDER	CONTENTS
Loose	Note found inside bowl 2003.5.46 (MVL-144)
1	Anthropology Department display label copy (1970s/80s- 2002) Card tags and notes in reference to the collection and items or images within the collection

(BOX 2 cont.)

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|---|---|
| | “SOAMERICU[N]” price code, in which the letters of this word stand for the numerals |
| 2 | 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
Loose	4 blank postcards with Navajo and Hopi subjects Blue ribbon from the International Livestock Exposition 1933 Helen J. Biggart, <i>Your Symbol</i> . Camp Fire Girls Library of the Seven Crafts, Book One. New York: Camp Fire Outfitting Company, 1935. <i>Inserted in the volume are a newspaper article on a camp ceremony and a small watercolor</i>
1	Miscellaneous papers on activities and organizations Carey and Maud Melville were involved in “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.)

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

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 4 th 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	CONTENTS
Loose	The Etude, Presser’s Musical Magazine. Oct. 1920 (pp. 649-720) “Music of the American Indian.”
	Cardstock folio, cover printed with a winter scene and “Christmas suggestions for [__?_]” [“The Melvilles” has been filled in in black ink].
	<i>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)</i>

(BOX 6 cont.)

Frances Densmore, Indian Action Songs. Boston: C.C. Birchard & Co., 1921

N. Louise Wright, American Indian Sketches. For the Pianoforte. Op. 63. Cincinnati: The Willis Music Co., 1921

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

Carlos Troyer, Traditional Songs of the Zuni Indians. “Transcribed and Harmonized by Carlos Troyer.” Philadelphia: Theodore Presser Co., 1904

Single 12 ½” x 9 ½” Parchment Brand No. 11-12 Lines (Belwin Inc., New York, U.S.A.) printed sheet for composition. SIDE 1: in ink, “The Lone Signal. (Dakota) Interpretation by Marguerite Wilkinson.” 2 lines scored, with lyrics; “Marriage Song. (Dakota) sung by Vine Victor Deloria, Eng. Version Alice Corbin” 6 lines scored, with lyrics; in pencil, “From: Folk Songs of Many Peoples

Florence Hudson Botsford. Vol. 2”. SIDE 2: in ink, “Farewell to the Warriors (Chippewa) Recorded by Frances Densmore.” 4 lines scored, with lyrics.

Thurlow Lieurance, By the Waters of Minnetonka: An Indian Love Song. Low voice, with violin and flute ad lib. No. 12125. Philadelphia, PA: Theodore Presser Co.

Thurlow Lieurance, Nine Indian Songs. “With Descriptive Notes.” Philadelphia: Theodore Presser Co., 1913. [“Maud S. Melville Feb.

“1931” is written in ink on the front cover; M.S.M. handwritten notes clipped to front cover; scrap of paper clipped to p.17].

Charles Wakefield Cadman, Four American Indian Songs. Low Voice. Opus 45. Boston: White-Smith Music Publishing Co.

Carl Orth, Indian Sketches. For the Piano. Op. 1. Boston: Oliver Ditson Co., 1914: No.1 “Indian Chief” (5-112-70284-4); No. 2 “Winniwawa” (5-112-70305-6)

BOX 7:

Magazines re: southwest art, travel, culture, Indian arts

FOLDER

Loose

CONTENTS

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

Small

CONTENTS

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 (through 48)

F2, F6, (through 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

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