

**KATHLEEN WILLIAMS COLWICK FAMILY PAPERS**  
Ms. 5035  
Inventory

Compiled by  
Madeline Conrad

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections  
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library  
Louisiana State University Libraries  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

2019

## CONTENTS OF INVENTORY

SUMMARY .....	3
BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE .....	4
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE .....	5
LIST OF SUB-GROUPS, SERIES, AND SUBSERIES .....	6
SERIES DESCRIPTIONS .....	7
INDEX TERMS .....	9
CONTAINER LIST .....	10

**Use of manuscript materials.** If you wish to examine items in the manuscript group, please place a request via the Special Collections Request System. Consult the Container List for location information.

**Photocopying.** Should you wish to request photocopies, please consult a staff member. Do not remove items to be photocopied. The existing order and arrangement of unbound materials must be maintained. Reproductions must be made from surrogates (microfilm, digital scan, photocopy of original held by LSU Libraries), when available.

**Publication.** Readers assume full responsibility for compliance with laws regarding copyright, literary property rights, and libel.

Proper acknowledgement of LLMVC materials must be made in any resulting writing or publications. The correct form of citation for this manuscript group is given on the summary page. Copies of scholarly publications based on research in the Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections are welcomed.

**SUMMARY**

<b>Size</b>	1.75 linear ft.
<b>Geographic Locations</b>	DeSoto Parish, Louisiana
<b>Inclusive Dates</b>	1843 - 2006
<b>Bulk Dates</b>	1928 - 1965
<b>Languages</b>	English
<b>Summary</b>	Collection consists of Kathleen W. Colwick's scrapbooks, schoolwork, autograph books, and photographs from Mansfield Female College (bulk 1920-1930). Included are the financial papers of her father and grandfather, as well as the ledgers and account journals of her brother, Phelan M. Williams, who managed the family's gift store, The Bride's Shop, in Mansfield, Louisiana.
<b>Access Restrictions</b>	None.
<b>Reproduction Note</b>	May be reproduced.
<b>Copyright</b>	For those materials not in the public domain, copyright is retained by the descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. Copyright law.
<b>Citation</b>	Kathleen Williams Colwick Family Papers, Mss. #5035, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries Special Collections, Baton Rouge, La.
<b>Stack Location(s)</b>	8:64-65, OS:C

**BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE**

Kathleen Williams Colwick was born June 16, 1904 and died June 9, 1987, in Mansfield, Louisiana. She graduated from Mansfield Female College's High School Department in 1923, and returned to attend college from 1928-1930.

Kathleen W. Colwick's mother, Anna McKnight Williams (1870-1958), was born to Howard McKnight and Elizabeth Dean McKnight. Anna graduated from Mansfield Female College in 1888 as a mistress of English literature. She married John Bryant Williams Jr. (1864-1937), a registered pharmacist. Anna McKnight Williams and John B. Williams Jr. had three children, Phelan McKnight Williams (1896-1962), Robert Shirley Williams (1897-1950), and Kathleen Williams Colwick. Phelan M. Williams was a jeweler and watchmaker. He managed the family's gift store, The Bride's Shop, where Kathleen later worked.

Kathleen W. Colwick's grandfather, John Bryant Williams Sr. (1823-1920) was born to Weeks Williams and Polly Williams. He worked as an attorney in Mansfield, Louisiana. John B. Williams Sr. married Cinderella Eatman Williams (1833-1903), with whom he had three children. The members of the Williams family are buried in Mansfield Cemetery.

Mansfield Female College was founded in 1855 by the Methodist Church, and is traditionally known for being the first women's college west of the Mississippi River. The school was in operation for seventy-five years until it became a part of the Shreveport Centenary College in 1930. During the Battle of Mansfield in 1864, Mansfield Female College acted as a hospital for wounded soldiers. In 2002, the building was donated to the State of Louisiana by heirs of the Riemer-Calhoun Family. It now operates as a museum.

City of Mansfield, Louisiana. "Mansfield Female College Museum." *City of Mansfield*, [http://cityofmansfield.net/photo\\_gallery/mansfield\\_female\\_college\\_museum.html](http://cityofmansfield.net/photo_gallery/mansfield_female_college_museum.html)

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

Collection includes 13 volumes, which are made up of school notes, four scrapbooks, three yearbooks, and five ledgers. The scrapbooks contain glued-in photographs, graduation invitations, name cards, newspaper and magazine clippings, school programs from Mansfield Female College, and other memorabilia. Also present are two unbound scrapbooks separated into folders. Graphic materials in this collection include photographs, photocopies of newspaper clippings, and postcards. Among the personal and family papers are genealogical records related to the Williams family, property agreements, and the personal correspondence of Kathleen Williams Colwick. Business records include financial and legal correspondence, checks, ledgers, and account journals from The Bride's Shop. An oversize folder contains three degree certificates from Mansfield Female College.

**LIST OF SERIES**

**Series I. The Bride's Shop business papers, 1917-1926, 1941-1964**

**Series II. Williams Family papers, 1843, 1866-1878, 1910-1911, 1925-1926, 1968**

**Series III. Kathleen W. Colwick personal papers, 1923, undated.**

**Series IV. Mansfield Female College papers, 1920-1924, 1928-1930, 1958-1962, undated.**

## **SERIES DESCRIPTIONS**

### **Series I. The Bride's Shop business papers, 1917-1926, 1941-1964**

Series I is comprised of records kept by Phelan M. Williams (bulk 1917-1918) and Kathleen W. Colwick (bulk 1941-1964) for the Williams family gift store, The Bride's Shop, in Mansfield, Louisiana. The business records include a People's Bank check book for P.M. Williams, invoices from McMurdo Silver Corp from 1936, a statement from The Bride's Shop from November 7, 1962, and orders for the Mansfield Female College senior classes of 1961-1962 and 1962-1963. This series also contains twelve cashbooks and account journals signed by P.M. Williams from 1904-1918, and five ledgers labeled with the names of both P.M. Williams and Kathleen W. Colwick from 1941-1962. A stamp including the name and address of The Bride's Shop can be found in volume 8.

### **Series II. Williams family papers, 1843, 1866-1878, 1910, 1968**

The Williams family papers consists of the notarized property records of Alexander Graham from 1849 and 1853, and the records of John B. Williams Sr. and John B. Williams Jr. The records of J.B. Williams Sr. include a list of the children of Weeks and Polly Williams, a labor contract that lists the freedmen working on the family's plantation in 1865, and several notarized documents. Documents pertaining to the relatives of Anna McKnight Williams include a newspaper clipping related to the McNeely family home and a copy of the succession of Elizabeth and Howard McKnight. The papers of John B. Williams Jr. are comprised of business correspondence signed by J.B. Williams Jr. and his partner, Joe. R. Brown. They corresponded primarily with the Republic Service & Power company of Little Rock, Arkansas in 1925 and with S.R. Morgan in 1926.

### **Series III. Kathleen W. Colwick personal papers, 1923, undated.**

The personal papers of Kathleen Williams Colwick contain items related to Kathleen W. Colwick that are not affiliated with Mansfield Female College. Included in this series are an unbound scrapbook containing pasted photographs from Camp Unaka in Oklahoma from 1923, an unbound scrapbook of newspaper and magazine clippings titled "Gone with the Wind", a scrapbook of the illustrated poetry of Oliver Wendell Holmes (volume 10), and a comic strips scrapbook (volume 11). These papers also contain newspaper clippings, undated correspondence, and name cards for "Miss Kathleen Williams" and "John Bryant Colwick."

### **Series IV. Mansfield Female College papers. 1920-1930, 1958-1962, undated**

Series IV consists of materials related to Mansfield Female College in Mansfield, Louisiana. Volume 1 contains Kathleen Williams Colwick's school notes from a sophomore history class. Volumes 2-5 are Ladye Lou yearbooks from 1928, 1929, and 1930. The Mansfield Female College Scrapbook (volume 12) and School Friendship Book (volume 13) are school scrapbooks from 1920-1924 containing photographs, invitations, name cards, bulletins, programs, and other memorabilia. Volume 13 contains an enclosed handheld mirror that was previously laid-in. Additional laid-in materials from volumes 12 and 13 have been removed to Box 2, folders 2-4.

Materials related to Anna McKnight Williams are present in this series including a handwritten list of pastors at Mansfield Female College from 1885 to 1924, correspondence with J.S. Sligh, and a certificate for the completion of a standard training course at Mansfield Female College. Series IV also includes unbound notes and graded papers written by Kathleen Williams Colwick; newspaper clippings; and photographs of the Mansfield Female College campus and students. Alumni records contain programs and brochures for the Mansfield Female College alumni reunions held in 1960, 1962, and 1978, and the financial records from the Mansfield Female College Improvement League belonging to Mrs. George Wilson from 1915. Degree certificates for Kathleen Williams Colwick and Anna McKnight Williams are housed in oversize folders.



**INDEX TERMS**

<b>Account books.</b>	<b>I</b>
<b>Business records.</b>	<b>I-II</b>
<b>Cashbooks.</b>	<b>I</b>
<b>Colwick, Kathleen Williams, 1904-1987.</b>	<b>I-IV</b>
<b>De Soto Parish (La.)</b>	<b>I-IV</b>
<b>Freedmen--Louisiana--De Soto Parish.</b>	<b>II</b>
<b>Invitations.</b>	<b>IV</b>
<b>Labor contract.</b>	<b>II</b>
<b>Legal correspondence.</b>	<b>II</b>
<b>Mansfield (La.)--History--20<sup>th</sup> century.</b>	<b>I-IV</b>
<b>Mansfield Female College (Mansfield, La.)</b>	<b>IV</b>
<b>Personal correspondence.</b>	<b>II-IV</b>
<b>Photographs.</b>	<b>III-IV</b>
<b>Scrapbooks.</b>	<b>III-IV</b>
<b>Women--Education (Higher)--Louisiana--Mansfield.</b>	<b>IV</b>
<b>Women's colleges--Louisiana--Mansfield.</b>	<b>IV</b>

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Stack Location</u>	<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Contents (with dates)</u>
<b>Series I. The Bride's Shop business papers, 1917-1926, 1941-1964</b>			
8:64	1	1	Business records
		2-13	P.M. Williams cashbooks and account journals
8:65	--	Vol. 5	Ledger (1941-1957)
		Vol. 6	Ledger (1956-1963)
		Vol. 7	Journal (1957-1964)
		Vol. 8	Charge Accounts Journal (1958-1964)
		Vol. 9	Day Charges Ledger (1961-1964)
<b>Series II. Williams Family papers, 1843, 1866-1878, 1910, 1925-1926, 1968</b>			
8:64	1	14	Property records of Alexander Graham (1849, 1853)
		15	John B. Williams Sr. papers (1866-1868)
		16	McKnight family papers (1910, 1958)
		17-19	John B. Williams Jr. papers (1925-1926)
<b>Series III. Kathleen W. Colwick personal papers, 1923, undated.</b>			
8:64	1	20-28	Camp Unaka Scrapbook (1923)
		29	Correspondence
		30	Newspaper clippings
	3	1-3	Gone with the Wind Scrapbook
8:65	--	Vol. 10	Illustrated poems of Oliver Wendell Holmes
		Vol. 11	Comic strips scrapbook
<b>Series IV. Mansfield Female College papers, 1920-1924, 1928-1930, 1958-1962, undated.</b>			
8:65	--	Vol. 1	School notes
		Vol. 2-4	Ladye Lou yearbooks (1928-1930)
		Vol. 12	Mansfield Female College scrapbook (1920-1923)
		Vol. 13	School Friendship Book (1923-1924)
8:64	2	1	Anna McKnight Williams papers (1907-1927)
		2	Items removed from vol. 12 (1920-1923)
		3	Items removed from vol. 13 (1923-1924)
		4	Photographs removed from vol. 12-13 (1920-1924)
		5-12	Schoolwork (c. 1920-1930)
		13	Newspaper clippings (1958-1959)
		14	Alumni records (1960-1978)
		15-22	Photographs
OS:C	--	1	Degree certificates (1888, 1923, 1924)