

Yale University Library
Yale Divinity Library

Guide to the Sydney Ahlstrom Papers

RG 83



Compiled by Dineen K. Dowling and Martha Lund Smalley

1990

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Yale Divinity Library
409 Prospect Street
New Haven, CT 06511
(203) 432-5301
divinity.library@yale.edu
<http://web.library.yale.edu/divinity/special-collections>

CALL NUMBER: RG 83

CREATOR: Ahlstrom, Sydney E., 1919-1984

TITLE: Sydney Ahlstrom Papers

DATES: 1931-1988

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 20 linear feet (49 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The papers document Ahlstrom's professional career, his writings, lectures, courses taught at Yale, his extensive participation in scholarly and church-related organizations. Conditions at Yale and in New Haven during the turbulent years of the late 1960s and early 1970s are well documented. Correspondence documents his friendships, family life, and professional affairs, revealing his opinions on a wide range of issues, his sense of humor and warm personality. The collection includes material relating to the many institutions, organizations, committees, and projects with which Ahlstrom was involved, particularly in the areas of Lutheranism, higher education and American religious history. Sydney E. Ahlstrom was born in Cokato, Minnesota on December 16, 1919. He taught at Yale from 1954 to 1984. He was the author of several notable books on religion in America. Ahlstrom held prominent positions on various boards and organizations, including the Editorial Board of the Complete Works of Jonathan Edwards, the American Studies Program and Religious Studies Department at Yale, and the American Society of Church History. Ahlstrom died in New Haven in 1984.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.083>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use on site, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.083>.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Nancy Ahlstrom,

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Preferred Citation

Sydney Ahlstrom Papers (RG 83), Special Collections, Yale Divinity Library.

Biographical / Historical

Date	Event
1919 December 16	○ Sydney Eckman Ahlstrom born in Cokato, Minnesota, son of Joseph T. and Selma Eckman Ahlstrom
1941	○ B.A. Gustavus Adolphus College
1942-1946	○ U.S. Army, Captain
1946	○ Instructor in history, Gustavus Adolphus ○ M.A. University of Minnesota
1948-1952	○ Teaching fellow and history tutor, Harvard University
1951-1952	○ Fulbright fellow, University of Strasbourg, France
1952	○ Faculty member, Salzburg Seminar in American Studies, Austria ○ Ph.D. Harvard, Instructor in history
1953 Aug 8	○ Married Nancy Ethel Alexander (Children: J. Alexander, b. 1954; Promise, b. 1955; Constance, b. 1957; Sydney, b. 1960)
1954	○ Fellow, Branford College, Yale ○ Assistant Professor of Modern Church History and American History, Yale University ○ <i>The Harvard Divinity School</i> published (co-author)
1957	○ Lutheran World Federation lecturer in various countries of Europe
1960	○ Associate Professor, Yale
1961	○ <i>The Shaping of American Religion</i> published (co-author)
1962 Spring	○ Visiting Professor, Princeton University ○ <i>The American Protestant Encounter with World Religions</i> (Brewer Lectures, Beloit College) published
1964	○ Full Professor, Yale

Date	Event
1964-1965	○ Research in Paris, France
1965	○ <i>Calvinism and the Political Order</i> published (co-author)
1967-1971	○ Chair, American Studies Program, Yale
1967	○ Rauschenbusch Lecturer, Colgate Rochester Divinity School
1967	○ <i>Theology in America</i> published
1970-1971	○ Research in Munich, Germany
1972 Summer	○ Visiting Professor, Kyoto Summer Seminar in American Studies, Japan
1972	○ <i>A Religious History of the American People</i> published
1972-1973	○ Director of Graduate Studies, Religious Studies Department, Yale
1973	○ National Book Award Recipient
1973 Summer	○ Scholar-in-Resident, Aspen Institute of Humanistic Studies, Colorado ○ Chair, Consulting Committee on the National Bicentenary of the Lutheran Church in America
1973-1974	○ Chair, American Studies Program, Yale
1974	○ Brotherhood Award of the National Council of Christians and Jews
1975	○ Visiting Lecturer at universities and professional conferences in Australia and New Zealand
1975	○ Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, Upsala College, New Jersey
1975	○ President, American Society of Church History
1976	○ Honorary Doctor of Letters, Susquehanna University
1976	○ <i>Religious Dilemmas of Nationhood</i> published (editor)
1978	○ Rockefeller Fellowship for research on Romanticism
1979	○ Samuel Knight Professor of American History and Modern Religious History, Yale
1979	○ The Christian Century Award for the Decade's Most Outstanding Book on Religion
1984	○ Died in New Haven, Connecticut

Member, Editorial Board of the Complete Works of Jonathan Edwards
Member, Board of Trustees of Gustavus Adolphus
Elected Member, American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 1978
Elected Corresponding Member, Massachusetts Historical Society, 1977

Scope and Contents

These papers document in a very thorough way Ahlstrom's professional career, his writings, lectures, courses taught at Yale, his extensive participation in scholarly and church-related organizations. Conditions at Yale and in New Haven during the turbulent years of the late 1960s and early 1970s are well

documented. A sampling of material has been preserved to document Ahlstrom's renowned personality, his sense of humor, curiosity, and wide-ranging interests.

A small section of family correspondence in Series I provides a view into Ahlstrom's Minnesota connections and warm family relationships. General correspondence dating from 1946 to 1979 includes letters to and from friends, colleagues, editors, publishers, and church representatives. Correspondents include Yale colleagues James Gustafson, Hans Frei, and Julian Hartt, as well as Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., Paul Ramsey, Samuel H. Miller, Robert Handy, Bruce Kuklick, and others. Substantive letters deal not only with academic and professional affairs, but also document Ahlstrom's opinions on a wide range of issues, his friendships, and family life. Revealing of strongly held convictions are letters such as one written to J.B. Buckley, manager of the Yellow Cab Company in New Haven, which protests against the unjust treatment of a poor black family by a cabdriver in a scene witnessed by Ahlstrom. The section of correspondence with students provides insight into Ahlstrom's interaction with his students. Correspondence related to Ahlstrom's writings, lecture appearances, and other specific events or activities can also be found in Series II, III and VI.

Series II, Committees and Projects, contains correspondence and other material related to the many institutions, organizations, committees, and projects with which Ahlstrom was involved. Ahlstrom's career-long interests and involvement in Lutheranism, higher education, and American religious history are documented, as well as his participation in a variety of short-term, specific projects.

The Writings of Series III constitute the bulk of this collection. Articles and unpublished papers, contributions to booklength works, letters to editors, book reviews by Ahlstrom and documentation related to his booklength works are included. Sermons and lectures delivered by Ahlstrom are filed with supporting documentation in Series VI.

Series IV, Course-related Material, includes primarily lecture notes, syllabi, exams, and reading lists. These materials date from 1946 to 1984. Material from his popular interdepartmental American Church History Survey course includes more than 2 1/2 boxes of lecture notes of one word per page. His deteriorating health prevented him from reading long pages of lecture notes. Moreover, his delivery was personal and conversational, and the system of one-word-per-page best served his lecturing style.

Ahlstrom was an inveterate collector of newspaper clippings, cartoons, concert programs, articles, offprints, and anything else that happened to touch upon one of his varied interests. The Collected Material of Series V represents a sampling of the mass of such materials present in Ahlstrom's offices at the time of his death. The largest section of material retained in this Series, collected material related to the fields of history, religion, and education, includes primarily offprints and articles sent to Ahlstrom by his colleagues, friends, and former students.

Series VI, Biographical Documentation, traces Ahlstrom's activities other than his long-term committee and project involvements and his regular teaching commitments at Yale. The series primarily documents one-time events such as conferences, lectures, seminars, awards, etc. Included are many holograph and typescript texts for Ahlstrom's various guest lecture appearances, sermons, and chapel talks dating from his graduation from Gustavus Adolphus until his death in 1984. Ahlstrom was much in demand as a lecturer, and his speaking engagements took him all over the country and as far as Japan and Australia. Other events that highlight his extra-curricular life include his involvement with nineteen other Lutheran scholars in a statement supporting John F. Kennedy's 1960 presidential election and a Religion in America television show in 1974. "In Memory of Ahlstrom," by George Lindbeck and a journal tribute are also included. The series ends with miscellaneous material including Ahlstrom's own bibliographies and curriculum vitae.

Arrangement

- I. Correspondence
- II. Committees and Projects
- III. Writings
- IV. Course-related Material
- V. Collected Material
- VI. Biographical Documentation

Collection Contents

Series I: Correspondence, 1946–1984

This series is divided into three sections:

Family Correspondence
General Correspondence
Student Correspondence

Family Correspondence		
b. 1, f. 1	J. Millard Ahlstrom (brother)	1955-1975, undated
b. 1, f. 1	Selma Eckman Ahlstrom (mother)	1962, 1963, 1980, undated
b. 1, f. 2	Family circular letters	1971, 1973-1975, 1978, undated
General Correspondence		
b. 1, f. 3-15	Correspondence	1946-1965
b. 2, f. 16-30	Correspondence	1966 -1970 June
b. 3, f. 31-43	Correspondence	1970 July-1975 October
b. 4, f. 44-55	Correspondence	1975 November-1979
b. 5, f. 56	Correspondence	undated
Student Correspondence		
b. 5, f. 57-68	Correspondence	1956-1984, undated

Series II: Committees and Projects, 1955–1981

This material is arranged alphabetically by title of the committee or project. One section is designated Lutheran Church in America and includes committees and projects affiliated with the LCA.

b. 6, f. 69	American Academy of Arts and Sciences	1980
b. 6, f. 69	American Antiquarian Society	1979, 1980
b. 6, f. 69	American Historical Society	1975
b. 6, f. 69	American Quarterly	1973-1974
b. 6, f. 70-79	American Society of Church History	1956-1979, undated
b. 6, f. 80	American Studies Program - Chair	1967-1974
b. 6, f. 81	Armory Street Committee	undated
b. 6, f. 82	Branford College	1955-1973
b. 7, f. 83	Comparative Religious History	1971-1973
b. 7, f. 84	Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences	1966-1967
b. 7, f. 85	Coordinating Committee for the Study of Religion	1969
b. 7, f. 86	Coronet Instructional Films: Religious Freedom in America's Beginning	1966-1968
b. 7, f. 87	<i>Dialog</i>	1961-1975
b. 7, f. 88-90	Educational Psychology and Measurements	undated
b. 7, f. 91-92	Friends of American Art	1973-1974
b. 7, f. 93-94	Gustavus Adolphus Board of Trustees	1970-1976
b. 7, f. 95-96	Library of Protestant Thought	1958-1963
b. 8, f. 97-100	Library of Protestant Thought	1964-1971, undated
Lutheran Church in America		
b. 8, f. 101	Commission on Church Papers	1962-1967, undated
b. 8, f. 102	Commission on the Ministry	1968-1969
b. 8, f. 103-108	Consulting Committee on the U.S. Bicentenary	1973-1976, undated
b. 9, f. 109-110	Examining Committee	1963-1970, undated
b. 9, f. 111	Film Committee of the Consulting Committee on the U.S. Bicentenary	1974
b. 9, f. 112	Task Force on New England Synod Archives	1979

b. 9, f. 113	Massachusetts Historical Society	1977-1978, 1980
b. 9, f. 114-116	National Council of the Churches of Christ: Commission on Higher Education	1962-1966
b. 9, f. 117-118	National Endowment for the Humanities	1974-1978
b. 9, f. 119	National Humanities Institute	1974-1975
b. 9, f. 120	National Workshop on Christian-Jewish Relations	1980-1981
b. 9, f. 121	New England American Studies Association	1972-1975
b. 9, f. 121	New Haven Theological Discussion Group	1969, undated
b. 10, f. 122	University Lutheran Association	1957-1966, undated
b. 10, f. 123	World Council of Churches: Commission on Faith and Order	1958-1963
b. 10, f. 124-125	The Works of Jonathan Edwards	1969-1983
b. 10, f. 126	Yale College Faculty Committee on Teaching and Learning	1970-1975
b. 10, f. 126	Yale Divinity School Tenure Committee	1969
b. 10, f. 127-128	Yale Divinity School Committee on Practical Theology	1972-1976

Series III: Writings, 1946–1988

This series is divided into six sections:

1. Articles and Unpublished Papers are arranged alphabetically by title with dates indicated when available.
2. Contributions/Chapters are arranged chronologically.
3. Forewords and Introductions are arranged chronologically.
4. Letters to the Editor are arranged chronologically within one folder.
5. Book Reviews by Ahlstrom are arranged chronologically.
6. Booklength Works are arranged alphabetically by title.

Articles and Unpublished Papers

b. 11, f. 129	Across the Atlantic, <i>Lutheran Herald</i>	1957 September 17
b. 11, f. 130-131	Albert Bushnell Hart	1947
b. 11, f. 132	The American National Faith, <i>The Changing Nature of America's Civil Religion</i> , An Occasional Paper/The Aspen Institute for Humanistic Studies	1972
b. 11, f. 133	The American Frontier and the Protestant Missionary Response, <i>The Student World</i>	1960 Spring
b. 11, f. 133	The American Protestant Encounter with World Religions, The Brewer Lectures	1962 October
b. 11, f. 134	The Americanization of Christianity, <i>Frontiers</i>	1960 January
b. 11, f. 134	Den Amerikanska kristenhetens kris, <i>Var Losen</i>	1968 June
b. 11, f. 135	American Religion and the Lutheran Church (proposed paper)	1961-1966
b. 11, f. 136	American Religious Values and the Future of America	1976?
b. 11, f. 137	Annuit Coeptis: America as the Elect Nation, The Rise and Decline of a Patriotic Tradition	undated
b. 11, f. 137	Barth, Wittgenstein, and St. Paul	1954
b. 11, f. 138	A Bibliography of American Religious History, <i>American Studies: An International Newsletter</i>	1972 Fall
b. 11, f. 139	Christianity and Scientific Philosophy	undated
b. 11, f. 139	The Church and the American Way	undated
b. 11, f. 140	Civil Religion, <i>History of American Christianity</i>	1981
b. 11, f. 140	Closing the Ranks	undated
b. 11, f. 141	Continental Influence on American Christian Thought Since World War I, <i>Church History</i>	1958 September
b. 11, f. 142	The Dilemmas of American Pluralism, <i>Religion and the Dilemmas of Nationhood</i> , U.S. Bicentennial Series of the Knobel-Miller-Greever Lectures, Lutheran Church in America	1976

Articles and Unpublished Papers (continued)

b. 11, f. 143	Diversity in Religion as a Force for Liberty, <i>The American Philosophical Society Lectures</i>	1976
b. 11, f. 144	Eliot, the Tutor and Fireman, <i>Harvard Alumni Bulletin</i>	1949 March 12
b. 12, f. 144	E Pluribus Unum: Religious Pluralism and the American Ideal, <i>Soundings</i>	1978 Fall
b. 12, f. 145	Francis Ellingwood Abbot and the Free Religious Association, <i>Proceedings of the Unitarian Historical Society</i>	1975
b. 12, f. 145	Francis Greenwood Peabody, <i>Dictionary of American Biography</i>	1956
b. 12, f. 146	First Mark of a Church College, <i>Journal of the Association of Lutheran College Faculties</i>	1959 December
b. 12, f. 147	God is Not a Junkman, <i>The Lutheran Companion</i>	1957 February 20
b. 12, f. 147	The Gospel in Our Age, <i>The Christian Century</i>	1951 January 3
b. 12, f. 148	Historical Reflections on the Ethics of Volkerwanderugen	undated
b. 12, f. 149	H. Richard Niebuhr's Place in American Thought, <i>Christianity and Crisis</i>	1963 November 25
b. 12, f. 149	H. Richard Niebuhr, <i>Dialog</i>	1963 January 1
b. 12, f. 150	Internal Threats to American Civilization (prepared for Franco-American Conference, sponsored by World Peace Federation)	undated
b. 12, f. 151	It is for the Living... Some Centennial Reflections	undated
b. 12, f. 151	Josiah Royce and the Triumph of Idealism in American Philosophy (proposed paper)	1954
b. 12, f. 152	The Levels of Religious Revival, <i>Confluence</i>	1955 April
b. 12, f. 152	The Liturgical Movement and American Lutheranism, <i>UNA SANCTA</i>	1960
b. 12, f. 153	Lord Acton's Famous Remark, <i>New York Times</i>	1974 March 13
b. 12, f. 154	The Lutheran Church and American Culture, <i>The Lutheran Quarterly</i>	1957 November
b. 12, f. 154	The Lutheran Renaissance and the Lutheran Teacher, <i>Lutheran Faculty</i>	1955 May
b. 12, f. 155	Montreal 1963 as Event and Taskmaster, <i>Signs and Times</i> , and <i>Lutheran World</i>	1963 December, 1964 January
b. 12, f. 155	Montreal 1963- Ereignis und Prufung, <i>Lutherische Rundschau</i>	1964 January
b. 12, f. 156	The Moral and Theological Revolution of the 1960s and Its Implications for American Religious Historiography, <i>The State of American History</i>	1970
b. 12, f. 157	The National Faith, <i>Yale Alumni Magazine</i>	1973 January
	The National Faith in the 1970s (presented at Worldview Conference on Patriotism)	undated
b. 12, f. 158-159	National Trauma and Changing Religious Values, <i>Daedalus</i>	1978 Winter

Articles and Unpublished Papers (continued)

b. 12, f. 160	The Nature of Lutheran Witness	1958
b. 13, f. 161-162	Neo-Evangelism and the Puritan Heritage in America, <i>The Evangelical Resurgence</i>	1974
b. 13, f. 163	<i>Neo-Orthodoxy Demythologized</i> , <i>The Christian Century</i>	1957 May 22
b. 13, f. 163	The New Industrial Society and the Church, <i>Lutheran World</i>	1958 March
b. 13, f. 164-165	The New Puritanism	1959
b. 13, f. 166	Night Thoughts on the Curriculum, <i>Signs and Times</i>	1961 April 20
b. 13, f. 166	Norman Vincent Peale	undated
b. 13, f. 167	On the Purpose and Significance of Regional Study With Special Reference to New England	undated
b. 13, f. 167	The Pieties of Usefulness, <i>Stetson University Bulletin</i>	1957 July
b. 13, f. 168	The Problem of the History of Religion in America, <i>Church History</i>	1970 June, 1988
b. 13, f. 168	Prot. Theologie, <i>Religion in Geschichte und Gegenwart</i>	1962
b. 13, f. 169	The Radical Turn in Theology and Ethics: Why It Occured in the 60s, <i>The Annals of American Academy of Political and Social Science</i>	1970 January
b. 13, f. 170-172b. 14, f. 173-176	Ralph Waldo Emerson and the American Transcendentalists (drafts)	1980
b. 14, f. 177	Rediscovering America, <i>The Lutheran</i>	1974 September 18
b. 14, f. 177	Reflections on Religion, Nature, and the Exploitative Mentality	undated
b. 14, f. 177	Religion in America and the Phantoms of National Character: The Search for a Common Theme	undated
b. 14, f. 177	Religion and Democracy in America (outline)	1963
b. 14, f. 178	Religion and Presidential Politics, <i>Signs and Times</i>	1960 October 10
b. 14, f. 178	Religion, Revolution and the Rise of Modern Nationalism, <i>Church History</i>	1975 December
b. 14, f. 179	The Religious Dimensions of American Aspirations, <i>The Review of Politics</i>	1976 July
b. 14, f. 179	Religious Toleration in Maryland to 1650	undated
b. 14, f. 179	Requiem for Patriotic Piety, <i>Worldview</i>	1972 August
b. 14, f. 180	Retrospect (proposed paper?)	undated
b. 14, f. 181	Rifts in the Evangelical United Front	undated
b. 14, f. 181	The Rise and Flowering of the Puritan Spirit	undated
b. 14, f. 182	The Romantic Religious Revolution and the Dilemmas of Religious History, <i>Church History</i>	1977 June

Articles and Unpublished Papers (continued)

b. 14, f. 182	Romanticism as a Religious Revolution (abridged version of Haverford lectures on Romanticism)	1971
b. 14, f. 182	The Saybrook Platform, <i>Bulletin of the Congregational Library</i>	1959 October
b. 14, f. 183	Scottish Philosophy and American Theology, <i>Church History</i>	1955 September
b. 14, f. 184	Some Thoughts on the Bicentennial, LCA publication	1974
b. 14, f. 184	Soren Kierkegaard, <i>The Lutheran Companion</i>	1957 November 20
b. 14, f. 184	Studying America and American Studies at Yale, <i>Ventures</i> , and <i>American Quarterly</i>	1969 Spring, undated
b. 15, f. 185	Szabadsagunk az egyhaz megreformalasara, <i>Lelkipasztor</i>	1957 June
b. 15, f. 185	Theology and the Present Day Revival, <i>Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science</i>	1960 November
b. 15, f. 186	Thomas Hooker-Puritanism and Democratic Citizenship, <i>Church History</i>	1963 December
b. 15, f. 187	Toward the Idea of a Church College, <i>The Christian Scholar</i>	1960 March
b. 15, f. 188	Toward a Portrait of John Adams as a Young Man	1947 February
b. 15, f. 188-189	Tradition in Transit and Tension, <i>Encounter</i>	1959 Summer
b. 15, f. 190	An Unfortunate Choice, <i>The Lutheran Companion</i>	1960 January 27
b. 15, f. 190	Unity, A Lutheran Imperative, <i>The Lutheran Outlook</i>	1946 February
b. 15, f. 190	What's Lutheran About Higher Education? - A Critique, <i>LCA Papers and Proceedings</i>	1974
b. 15, f. 191	Miscellaneous Papers and Notes	undated
Contributions/Chapters		
b. 16, f. 192	The Middle Period (1840-80), <i>The Harvard Divinity School</i>	1954
b. 16, f. 192	Facing the New World: Augustana and the American Challenge, <i>Centennial Essays: Augustana Lutheran Church 1860-1960</i>	1956
b. 16, f. 193	Samuel Hopkins, <i>Encyclopedia Britannica</i>	1958
b. 16, f. 194	Horace Bushnell, <i>Encyclopedia Britannica</i>	1960
b. 16, f. 195	Horace Bushnell, <i>A Handbook of Christian Theologians</i>	1961
b. 16, f. 196	Theology in America: A Historical Survey, <i>The Shaping of American Religion</i>	1961
b. 16, f. 197	The Puritan Ethic and the Spirit of American Democracy, <i>Calvinism and the Political Order</i>	1965
b. 16, f. 198-200	Mary Baker Eddy, <i>Notable American Women, 1607-1950</i>	1966
b. 16, f. 201	Symposium on the Wolf Paper, <i>Gettysburgiana Bulletin</i>	1967

Contributions/Chapters (continued)

b. 16, f. 202-203	Religion, Revolution and the Rise of Modern Nationalism, <i>Mead Festschrift</i>	1974
b. 17, f. 204	From Puritansim to Evangelicalism: A Critical Perspective, <i>The Evangelicals</i>	1975
b. 17, f. 204	The Religious Dimensions of American Aspirations, <i>An Almost Chosen People</i>	1976
b. 17, f. 205	Theodore Parker, <i>Religious Thought in the 19th Century</i>	1979
b. 17, f. 206	Ministry from the Placid Decade to the Present, <i>The Ministry in Historical Perspectives</i>	1981
Forewords and Introductions		
b. 17, f. 207-208	<i>Transcendentalism in New England</i>	1959
b. 17, f. 209	<i>Piety Vs. Moralism: The Passing of New England Theology</i>	1969
b. 17, f. 210	<i>Religion and the Dilemmas of Nationhood, The Cosmic God, The New Era, or The Coming Kingdom, Philosophy and Christianity, Philosophy of Theism, Progressive Religious Thought in America, The Vicarious Sacrifice, untitled</i>	1975
b. 17, f. 211	<i>The Impact of American Religious Liberalism, The Rise of Modern Religious Ideas in America, Paper by David O'Brien</i>	undated
Letters to the Editor		
b. 17, f. 212	<i>The Lutheran Companion</i>	1958 September 10
b. 17, f. 212	<i>Signs and Times</i>	1962 December 13
Book Reviews		
b. 17, f. 213-215	Reviews	1950-1961
b. 18, f. 216-221	Reviews	1962-1981, undated
Booklength Works		
b. 19, f. 222-223	American Protestantism (published?)	1961
b. 19, f. 224-235	<i>The Christian Unitarian Mind</i> , drafts, notes	undated
b. 20, f. 236-242	<i>The Christian Unitarian Mind</i> , notes, correspondence with publishers	1953-1960, undated
b. 20, f. 243	Contemporary Theology (proposed)	1955?
b. 20, f. 244-245	<i>Crown Pictorial History</i>	1975
b. 20, f. 246-249	<i>Francis Ellingwood Abbott: His Education and Active Career</i> , drafts	1951
b. 21, f. 250-261	<i>Francis Ellingwood Abbott: His Education and Active Career</i> , drafts, notes	1951
b. 21, f. 262b. 22, f. 263-269	<i>The Puritan Spirit and American Life</i> , drafts	1957

Booklength Works (continued)

A Religious History of the American People

b. 22, f. 270	Volumes 1 and 2	1975 Edition
b. 22, f. 271	Draft of chapters 1-10	undated
b. 23, f. 272-280	Draft of chapters 11-51	undated
b. 24, f. 281-289	Draft of chapters 52-63, footnotes, drawings, outline	1972
b. 24, f. 290-291	Correspondence with publisher	1970-1972
b. 25, f. 292-294	Correspondence with publisher	1973-1978, undated
b. 25, f. 295-303	Book reviews	1972-1981
b. 26, f. 304-305	Book reviews	undated
b. 26, f. 306-315	Related material including the 1973 National Book Award	1972-1982, undated
b. 26, f. 316-318	<i>Theology in America: The Major Protestant Voices from Puritanism to Neo-Orthodoxy</i> , notes, correspondence with publishers	1963-1968

Series IV: Course Related Material, 1946–1984

The material in this series is arranged alphabetically by title of course with the contents (i.e. syllabi, exams, lecture notes, course evaluations) noted.

b. 27, f. 319	American Church History from Edwards to the Antebellum	1983-1984
	American Church History Survey Course	
b. 27, f. 320-327	Syllabi and exams	1955-1976, undated
b. 27, f. 328-332	Lecture notes	1957-1971
b. 28, f. 333-346	Lecture notes	1972-1983, undated
b. 29, f. 347-354	Lecture notes	undated
b. 29, f. 355-356	Course evaluations	1971-1978
b. 29, f. 357	American Intellectual History (syllabi)	1962-1979, undated
b. 29, f. 358	American Religious Conservatism (syllabi)	undated
b. 29, f. 358	American Religious History: Problems and Controversies (syllabi)	undated
b. 29, f. 359	American Religious Liberalism (syllabi and exams)	undated
b. 29, f. 360	American Religious Thought: The Major Thinkers from Jonathan Edwards to H. Richard Niebuhr (syllabi and exams)	1974, undated
b. 30, f. 360a	The Church and the Ministry (notes taken by student Kenneth E. Rowe)	1959-1960
b. 30, f. 361	Church Polity (syllabi and exams)	1957-1970
b. 30, f. 362	History of American Religion and Its Socio-Political Impact (syllabi)	undated
b. 30, f. 363-367	History of Rome (lecture notes)	1947
b. 30, f. 368-369	Humanities (lecture notes)	1953-1954
b. 30, f. 370-373	Ideology and Dissent in the American Tradition (syllabi, exams, and lecture notes)	1976
b. 30, f. 374	Jonathan Edwards Seminar (reading lists)	undated
b. 30, f. 375	Nathaniel William Taylor Seminar (syllabi and lecture notes)	undated
b. 31, f. 376	New England from Dwight to Emerson (syllabi and exams)	1961, 1963, undated
b. 31, f. 377-378	Rauschenbusch Lectures on Puritanism (lecture notes)	undated
b. 31, f. 379-380	Renaissance and Reformation (lecture notes)	1952, undated
b. 31, f. 381-384	Romanticism (syllabi, exams, and lecture notes)	1971, 1976-1977, undated
b. 31, f. 385	Social Gospel Reading Course	1971

b. 31, f. 385	YMCA Course in Religion	undated
b. 31, f. 386	Miscellaneous Exams	undated
b. 31, f. 387-389	Miscellaneous Lecture Notes	1946-1947, 1968, undated

Series V: Collected Material, 1948–1981

The material in this series is arranged alphabetically by topic. In most cases the material is in chronological order within each topic. Some of the topical headings come directly from Ahlstrom's subject file. The two folders of newspaper clippings are a sampling of material clipped by Ahlstrom and cover a variety of subjects. Two subdivided categories of material follow the general alphabetical listing of topics. A section of collected essays and articles on History/Religion/Education is arranged alphabetically by author. The final section "Antislavery/Racial Issues" is arranged chronologically.

General		
b. 32, f. 390-391	Bicentennial	1975-1976
b. 32, f. 392-394	Cults and New Religions	1970-1979, undated
b. 32, f. 395	Ethnicity	1967, 1972-1975, undated
b. 32, f. 396	Mary Baker Eddy	undated
b. 32, f. 397-399	JFK Campaign/Election (articles and correspondence)	1957, 1960-1961, 1968
b. 32, f. 400-402	Lutheran	1955-1977, undated
b. 33, f. 403	Lutheran	undated
b. 33, f. 404	Music	1960, undated
b. 33, f. 405-406	Newspaper Clippings	1948-1980, undated
b. 33, f. 407	Periodicals: <i>The American Benedictine Review</i> , <i>The American Historical Review</i> , <i>Christianity Today</i>	1960 March, 1976 April, 1976 October 22
b. 33, f. 408	Periodicals: <i>Daedalus</i> , <i>New Haven Advocate</i> , <i>Studies in Romanticism</i>	1967 Winter, 1975 November, 1971 Summer
b. 33, f. 409	Roman Catholicism	1960-1964
b. 33, f. 410-414	Student Strike and Protests at Yale	1960, 1965-1970
b. 34, f. 415-420	Student Strike and Protests at Yale	1970, undated
History/Religion/Education		
b. 34, f. 421	Abelove, Henry; Abzug, Robert H.; Adams, Michael; Aiken, Henry D.; Alden, Jerome	
b. 34, f. 422	Allshouse, Merle F.; Anthony, Dick; Armstrong, James	
b. 34, f. 423	Baker, George; Barnes, Jack; Barr, Stringfellow; Barr, William Richard; Bernstien, Richard J.; Barrett, Lee; Biersdorf, John E.; Blank, Sarah; Blau, Joseph L.	

History/Religion/Education (continued)

b. 34, f. 424	Bloch, Ruth H.; Bloom, Harold; Bonhoeffer, Dietrich; Bowden, Henry Warner
b. 34, f. 425	Branson, Roy; Brauer, Jerald C.; Bremer, Francis J.; Brown, J. Douglas; Brumbaugh, Robert S.; Brumm, Ursula; Bryce-Laporte, R. S.; Burtenshaw, Claude J.
b. 34, f. 426	Calhoun, Robert; Care, Norman S.; Carpenter, Joel A.; Carpenter, M. F.; Carroll, John; Carter, Paul A.
b. 34, f. 427	Chamberlin, Mark A.; Clark, Ramsey; Clebsch, William A.; Cogley, John; Cohen, Mark; Commager, Henry Steele
b. 35, f. 428	Conant, James Bryant; Constantin, Charles C.; Coughlan, Neil; Cracraft, Jane; Cronon E. David
b. 35, f. 429	Dastin, Barry L.; Davis, David Brion; Delattre, Roland A.
b. 35, f. 430	Delattre, Roland A.; DePillis Mario S.; Diamon M. L.; Dirks, J. Edward; Dixon, John W.
b. 35, f. 431	Eismann, Bernard N.
b. 35, f. 432	Elshtain, Jean Bethke; Elson, Edward L. R.; Elvee, Richard; Emerson, Ralph Waldo
b. 35, f. 433	Fendelman, Earl; Ferre, Frederick; Filson, Floyd V.; Ford, Franklin L.; Ford, Gerald R.
b. 35, f. 434	Foreman, Terry H.; Fousek, Marianka; Frantz, John B.; Frei, Hans W.; Frey, Betsy; Fulbright, J. William
b. 35, f. 435	Gallie, W. B.; Gardell, Peter
b. 35, f. 436	Gaustad, Edwin S.; Gay, Ruth Peter; Geertz, Clifford; Godbey, John C.
b. 35, f. 437	Goen, Clarence C.; Gottlieb, Gerald H.; Gould, Samuel B.; Graebner, Norman A.; Grier, Edward F.
b. 36, f. 438	Gustafson, James M.
b. 36, f. 439	Hamre, James; Harrison, John F. C.; Harrison, Paul; Hartt, J. N.; Hatch, Nathan O.; Hawes, Richard M.
b. 36, f. 440	Healey, Robert M.; Heilbroner, Robert L.; Henry, Kenneth; Henry, Patrick; Higgins, George G.
b. 36, f. 441	Hitchcock, Ethan Allen
b. 36, f. 442	Hitchcock, Ethan Allen
b. 36, f. 443	Hodgkinson, Harold L.; Hoffman, Stanley; Holbrook, Clyde A.
b. 36, f. 444	Holifield, E. Brooks; Holmes, David; Holmes, Arthur; Hunt, Erling M.; Hutchins, Robert M.; Hutchison, William R.
b. 36, f. 445	Iggers, Georg G.; Ireland; Robert E.; Irving, William S.; Irwin, Joyce L.
b. 36, f. 446	Jennings, Francis; Jenson, Richard

History/Religion/Education (continued)

b. 36, f. 447	Kamogawa, Takahiro; Keniston, Kenneth; Katigawa, Joseph M.; Koester, Helmut; Kuklick, Bruce
b. 36, f. 448	Landauer, Carl; Land, Paul H. D.; Lawrence, David Ernst; Lea, S.; Lewis, W. Arthur; Lincoln, Abraham; Lindbeck, George
b. 37, f. 449	Linder, Robert D.; Luedtke, Luther S.; Lynn, Robert Wood
b. 37, f. 450	MacCormac, Earl R.; Marty, Martin E.
b. 37, f. 451	May, Henry F.; McCormack, Clyde; McCutcheon, W. J.; McLoughlin, William G.
b. 37, f. 452	Mead, Edwin, D.; Mead, Sidney E.; Meier, Richard; Merrill, Charles; Miller, Perry G. E.
b. 37, f. 453	Miller, William Robert; Mills, Frederick V.; Moore, LeRoy; Moorehead, James H.; Morgan, Edmund S.; Morison, Samuel Eliot; Mulder, John M.; Muller, Dorothea R.; Musto, David F.
b. 37, f. 454	Napier, Davie; Nassikas, John; Neuhaus, Richard John; Neusner, Jacob; Niebuhr, H. Richard; Noll, Mark; Norton, Andrews; Nuechterlein, James A.
b. 37, f. 455	Olson, Richard E.; Osterle, Heinz D.; Outka, Gene; Oxtoby, Willard Gurdon
b. 37, f. 456	Panoch, James V.; Pearson, Norman Holmes; Pierson, George Wilson; Pattillo, Manning M.
b. 37, f. 457	Ribuffo, Leo P.; Rodgers, John; Roeber, Anthony Gregg; Rose, Annie
b. 37, f. 458	Sageser, David B.; Sandeen, Ernest R.; Sarna, Jonathan D.; Schafer, Thomas A.; Schell, Jonathan; Scott, Ray
b. 37, f. 459	Seaborg, Glenn T.; Shaull, Richard; Shaw, Steven; Sherrell, Richard E.; Sheen, Fulton J.
b. 37, f. 460	Siegman, Henry; Smith, Timothy L.; Smith, Wilson
b. 38, f. 461	Smylie, James H.; Solberg, Winton U.; Spaeth, Harold J.
b. 38, f. 462	Stein, Stephen J.; Stendahl, Krister; Stone, Lawrence; Sullivan, Thomas V.; Swierenga, Robert P.
b. 38, f. 463	Teahan John F.; Tillich, Paul; Tiryakian, Edward A.; Tulga, Chester E.
b. 38, f. 464	Vahanian, Gabriel; Gilkey, Langdon; Vikner, Filip; von Moschzisker, Michael
b. 38, f. 465	Waterman, Leroy; Weber, Donald; Wiley, David N.; Williams, Peter W.
b. 38, f. 466	Wilson, John F.; Wise, Isaac M.; Wright, Conrad
b. 38, f. 467	Zaretsky, Irving I.
b. 38, f. 468-469	Anonymous

Antislavery/Racial Issues

Antislavery/Racial Issues (continued)

b. 38, f. 470	Including: "Christian Interpretations of the Civil War," by W. Clebsch; "Bishop Turner's African Dream," by E. Redkey; Text of Summary of Report by National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders	1961-1967
b. 38, f. 471	Including: "The Methodist Schism of 1844 and the Popularization of Antislavery Sentiment," D. Mathews; "White Racism and Black 'Emancipation'," C. Vann Woodward; "Race, Values and American Unity," J. K. Morland	1968-1969 March
b. 38, f. 472	Including: "The Emergence of Black Political Leadership During Reconstruction, 1865-1890," T. Holt; "Radicalism for Humanity, A Study of Lutheran Abolitionism," D. Strange; "The Road to the Top is Through Higher Education-Not Black Studies," W. A. Lewis	1969 May-1970
b. 38, f. 473	Including: "Uncle Remus and the Malevolent Rabbit," B. Wolfe; "Evangelicalism and 'Immediate Emancipation' in American Antislavery Thought," A. Loveland	1978, 1981, undated
b. 38, f. 474	Including: "The Southern Ethic in a Puritan World," C. Vann Woodward; "Attitudes Toward the White Minority on a Black Southern Campus: 1966-1968," I. Melish; "Zeroing in on a Fugitive Figure: The First Negro in America," J. Mirsky	undated

Series VI: Biographical Documentation, 1931–1985

The material in this series is arranged in chronological order with notable events listed on the folders. Photographs are integrated chronologically and noted on the folder.

b. 39, f. 475	Including: Gustavus material	1931, 1941, 1943
b. 39, f. 476	At Harvard	1946, 1948
b. 39, f. 477	Including: Fulbright in Strasbourg; YDS Talks; Sermons	1950-1954
b. 39, f. 478	YDS Arts Festival (panel moderator); New England Association for American Studies Meeting: The State of Religion in New England Villages, 1790-1830	1955 February-June
b. 39, f. 479	YDS Arts Festival (panel moderator); New England Association for American Studies Meeting: The State of Religion in New England Villages, 1790-1830	1955 August-November
b. 39, f. 480	Including: Lutheran Faculty Conference; Photographs	1955 November
b. 39, f. 481	Franco-American Conference	1956 March
b. 39, f. 482	Including: Franco-American Conference; YDS Talk	1956 April-May
b. 39, f. 483	Including: Summer Course in American Studies, Stetson University, FL	1956 June-August
b. 39, f. 484	Including: March of Faith Lecture Series	1956 September-November
b. 40, f. 485	Including: A Tercentenary Retrospect on the Lutheran Church in American Culture	1957 February, June
b. 40, f. 486	Including: Sermons	1957 July
b. 40, f. 487	Including: American Society of Church History Program	1957 September-December
b. 40, f. 488	Including: Conference on Christian Higher Education	1958 March-April
b. 40, f. 489	Including: New England Lutheran Faculty Conference; YDS Talks	1958 September-December
b. 40, f. 490	Including: Lutheran College Faculties	1959 January, October
b. 40, f. 491	Including: Our Protestant Heritage Lectures; The New Pietism Lecture; Sophomore Night at Branford College	1960 January-September
b. 40, f. 492	Including: Sermons; 20 Lutheran Scholars Back JFK	1960 October-November
b. 40, f. 493	Including: Commencement Address: Parochial Theology in a Contemporary Mood , 1961 May, July Augustana Theological Seminary	
b. 41, f. 494	Including: Religion in America Lecture, Amherst College; Sermons	1962 January-April

b. 41, f. 495	Including: Bethesda Library Project	1961 August, December
b. 41, f. 496-497	Thomas Hooker Lecture: Thomas Hooker, Puritanism and Democratic Citizenship	1962 May
b. 41, f. 498-499	Including: Brewer Lectures, Beloit College, WI	1962 October
b. 41, f. 500	Including: Minister's Seminar: The Theology of H. Richard Niebuhr; Commencement Address; Sermons	1963 March-June
b. 41, f. 501	Including: Sermons	1963 August, October
b. 41, f. 502-504	National Study Conference on Church and State	1964 January, February
b. 42, f. 505-507	Sabbatical in France	1964 April-1965 June
b. 42, f. 508	Including: Sermons	1965 September-December
b. 42, f. 509	Including: LCA Synod Convocation Lecture: The Puritan Age in America; Sermons	1966 January-September
b. 42, f. 510	Including: LCA Synod Convocation Lecture: The Puritan Age in America; Sermons	1966 October-December
b. 42, f. 511	Including: Convocation Lecture, Colgate Rochester Divinity School; Sermons	1967
b. 42, f. 512	Including: Convocation Lecture, Colgate Rochester Divinity School; Sermons	1968
b. 42, f. 513	Organization for American Historians Lecture: The Moral and Theological Revolution of the 1960s	1969 April
b. 42, f. 514	Including: American History Association Meeting: Puritan Studies, Problems and Directions; Sermon	1969 September-December
b. 42, f. 515	Fulbright in Germany	1970
b. 42, f. 516	Fulbright in Germany	1971
b. 42, f. 517	Including: Keynote Address: Tamkang American Studies Conference	1972 April-July
b. 43, f. 518	Kyoto Summer Seminar in American Studies, Japan	1972 July
b. 43, f. 519	International Congress of Learned Societies in the Field of Religion, Los Angeles, CA	1972 September
b. 43, f. 520	Lectures: University of Iowa	1971 October
b. 43, f. 521	Including: Crown Pictorial History; Yosemite National Park Lecture	1973 January-February
b. 43, f. 522	Including: ASCH: Institute of Early American History and Culture; Aspen Institute for Humanistic Studies, Aspen, CO	1973 March-May

b. 43, f. 523	Including: Colloquium on Ecumenical Dialogue, Minneapolis, MN; Woodid Wilson International Center for Scholars: Symposium on Growth as a Value in American Culture	1973 June
b. 43, f. 524	American Studies for Teachers, University of South Carolina	1973 June-July
b. 43, f. 525	Seminar on the Bicentennial, Bryn Mawr College	1973 November
b. 43, f. 526	Religion in America Television Show	1974 January
b. 43, f. 527	Including: Address to the Lutheran Education Conference of North America: What's Lutheran About Higher Education? -A Critique	1974 January
b. 43, f. 528	Including: Address to the Lutheran Education Conference of North America: What's Lutheran About Higher Education? -A Critique	1974 April
b. 44, f. 529	Including: Address to the Lutheran Education Conference of North America: What's Lutheran About Higher Education? -A Critique	1974 May
b. 44, f. 530	American Jewish Historical Society	1974 May
b. 44, f. 531	Aspen Institute	1974 May
b. 44, f. 532	Lecture: On Lutheran Higher Education, Concordia College	1974 June
b. 44, f. 533	Bicentennial Reflections for the LCA	1974 July
b. 44, f. 534	Bicentennial Reflections for the LCA	1974 August
b. 44, f. 535	Lecture: Theology in America, Wheaton College	1974 October
b. 44, f. 536	Otis-Stone Lecture I, II	1974 November
b. 44, f. 537	Including: Otis-Stone Lectures III, IV; Religion in America Seminar, Washington D.C.; Photographs	1974 November-December
b. 44, f. 538	Including: Otis-Stone Lectures III, IV; Religion in America Seminar, Washington D.C.; Photographs	1975 January-March
b. 44, f. 539	Including: Association of Yale Alumni Workshop; Lecture Series on the Bicentennial, Brandeis University	1975 April
b. 44, f. 540	Including: New Haven Bicentennial Committee; Lecture, Trinity College	1975 April
b. 45, f. 541	Including: Commencement Address, Upsala College; Australia	1975 June-July
b. 45, f. 542	Australia and New Zealand Society for Theological Studies	1975 August
b. 45, f. 543	Including: LCA Assembly Presentation; Stowe-Day Foundation	1975 October
b. 45, f. 544	Society for the Scientific Study of Religion Session, Washington D.C.	1975 October
b. 45, f. 545	Including: Interfaith Bicentennial Project; Lecture, Princeton University; sermons	1975 November-December
b. 45, f. 546	Including: Lecture: Bicentennial Look at Religious America, Emory University; Lecture: Land of the Pilgrim's Pride, Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington D.C.	1976 January

b. 45, f. 547	Including: TCU Minister's Week; Bicentennial Festival, Notre Dame	1976 February-March
b. 45, f. 548-549	Lecture: The Making of a Redeemer Nation, Pomona College	1976 March
b. 45, f. 550-551	Lecture: The Making of a Redeemer Nation, Pomona College	1976 April
b. 45, f. 552b. 46, f. 553	Lecture: Piety, Revolution and Nationhood, United Theological Seminary	1976 April
b. 46, f. 554	Including: Commencement Address, Susquehanna University	1976 May
b. 46, f. 555	LCA Seminary Week: Dilemmas of Pluralism in America	1976 May
b. 46, f. 556	LCA Convention, Boston	1976 July
b. 46, f. 557	LCA Convention, Boston	1976 August-September
b. 46, f. 558	LCA Convention, Boston	1976 October
b. 46, f. 559	Including: Rockefeller Award	1977 January-February
b. 46, f. 560	Including: Rockefeller Award	1977 March-May
b. 46, f. 561	Lecture: American Religious Values and the Future of America, Villanova University	1977 June
b. 46, f. 562	Lecture: American Religious Values and the Future of America, Villanova University	1977 June-July
b. 47, f. 563	Itasca Seminar: The Value of Urban Life: Cities as if People Mattered	1977 October
b. 47, f. 564	Including: Photographs	1977 December
b. 47, f. 565	Including: Photographs	1978 January
b. 47, f. 566	Including: Gnosticism at Yale	1978 February-March
b. 47, f. 567	Including: Gnosticism at Yale	1978 May
b. 47, f. 568	Including: Photographs	1978 August-October
b. 47, f. 569	Including: Currie Lectures, Austin Theological Seminary	1979 January
b. 47, f. 570	Including: Currie Lectures, Austin Theological Seminary	1979 February-April
b. 47, f. 571	Including: Report to Rockefeller Foundation	1979 August-September
b. 47, f. 572	Including: Itasca Seminar: The Nature of Leadership in a Changing Society	1979 September
b. 48, f. 573	Including: Wheaton College Bible Seminar	1979 November
b. 48, f. 574	Including: Wheaton College Bible Seminar	1980 February

b. 48, f. 575	Including: Union Theological Seminary Doctoral Consultation	1980 September
b. 48, f. 576	Including: Union Theological Seminary Doctoral Consultation	1980 October- November
b. 48, f. 577-578	Beecher Lectures: The Preacher-Theologian in the American Puritan Tradition, Yale Divinity School	1981 February
b. 48, f. 579	Beecher Lectures: The Preacher-Theologian in the American Puritan Tradition, Yale Divinity School	1981 February- April
b. 48, f. 580	Including: Leave of Absence information	1981-1982
b. 48, f. 581	Including: Reflections article: In Memory of Sydney Ahlstrom, by George Lindbeck; Tribute to Sydney Ahlstrom, Journal of the New England Lutheran Historical Society	1984, 1985
b. 48, f. 582-583	Including: Photographs	undated
b. 49, f. 584	Haverford Lectures on Romanticism	undated
b. 49, f. 585-586	Richmond Lectures	undated
b. 49, f. 587	Selected bibliography for the White House Library	undated
b. 49, f. 588-589	Including: Sermons	undated
	Miscellaneous	
b. 49, f. 590	Bibliographies	undated
b. 49, f. 591	Curriculum Vitae	1954-1965
b. 49, f. 592	Curriculum Vitae	1967-1979
b. 49, f. 593	Miscellaneous notes	undated

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Educators
Religious education
Universities and colleges -- Religion

Geographic Names

United States -- Religion

Names

Ahlstrom, Sydney E., 1919-1984
Frei, Hans W.
Gustafson, James M., 1925-
Handy, Robert T., 1918-2009
Hartt, Julian Norris, 1911-
Kuklick, Bruce, 1941-
Miller, Samuel Howard, 1900-1968
Ramsey, Paul

Corporate Bodies

American Society of Church History
Yale University