

# Shelley L Dowling papers

Shelley L. Dowling papers

1904-2019

---

## Title Statement

Shelley L Dowling papers Guide to the Shelley L Dowling papers MS 00369

**Author:** William & Mary Special Collections Research Center staff

## Publication Statement

**Publisher:** Special Collections Research Center

William & Mary Special Collections Research Center

Earl Gregg Swem Library

400 Landrum Dr

Williamsburg, Virginia

Business Number: 757-221-3090

spcoll@wm.edu

URL: <https://libraries.wm.edu/libraries-spaces/special-collections>

---

## Profile Description

**Creation:** This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2025-08-30 07:03:17 -0400.

**Language Usage:** Description is written in: English, Latin script.

**Descriptive Rules:** Describing Archives: A Content Standard

## Descriptive Summary

### Unit ID

MS 00369

### Unit ID

/repositories/2/resources/9751

### Unit Date

1904-2019

### Language

English

### Extent

20.34 Linear Feet 22 boxes

### Repository

Special Collections Research Center

## Administrative Information

## Conditions Governing Access

Collection is open to all researchers. Manuscript collections and archival records may contain materials with sensitive or confidential information that is protected under federal or state right to privacy laws and regulations, such as the Virginia Public Records Act (Code of Virginia, § 42.1-76-91); and the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (Code of Virginia § 2.2-3705.5). Confidential material may include, but is not limited to, educational, medical, and personnel records. If sensitive material is found in this collection, please contact a staff member immediately. The disclosure of personally identifiable information pertaining to a living individual may have legal consequences for which the College of William and Mary assumes no responsibility.

## Conditions Governing Use

Before publishing quotations or excerpts from any materials, permission must be obtained from the Curator of Manuscripts and Rare Books, and the holder of the copyright, if not Swem Library.

## Immediate Source of Acquisition

Donated by Shelley L. Dowling, MLS, JD Archive

## Preferred Citation

Shelley L Dowling papers, Special Collections Research Center, William & Mary Libraries.

# Biographical / Historical

Shelley L. Dowling was the Librarian of the United States Supreme Court from 1989 to 2003. She graduated from Bishop Amat Memorial High School in 1965 and entered Mount Saint Scholastica College. After graduation, she worked in Cornell Library System, Georgetown University Law Library, and other libraries before working for the Court.

# Content Description

This collection includes career correspondence, documents, photographs, awards, books, artifacts, and research material (dated from 1904 to 2019) from the 45-year career of Law Librarian Shelley L. Dowling. Included are materials from Dowling's college, graduate school, and Law school. The collection primarily contains materials from the United States Supreme Court where Dowling was Librarian of the Court from 1989 to 2003. Correspondence includes those from professional colleagues, visitors to the Court, and Supreme Court Justices.

# Keywords

Burger, Warren E., 1907-1995

# Arrangement

The collection is arranged in four series: Series I. Chief justices papers, Series II. Correspondence, Series III. Personal papers, and Series IV. Professional papers.

# Description of Subordinate Components

## Series I. Chief Justices papers

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606804

**Unit Date** 1979-2019

### Scope and Contents

This series primarily contains documents from and related to the United States Supreme Court justices. The justices include chief justices Warren Burger and William Rehnquist as well as justices Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg. The documents include letters, photographs, printed copies of email, magazines, and newspaper articles.

### Chief Justice William Rehnquist

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606808

**Unit Date** 1989-2007

**Mixed Materials** 1 (Binder)

**David Souter, Clarence Thomas, Anthony Kennedy, Byron White, Samuel Alito**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606809

**Unit Date** 1990-2014

**Mixed Materials** 2 (Binder)

**Harry Blackmun, Thurgood Marshall**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606810

**Unit Date** 1990-2004

**Mixed Materials** 3 (Binder)

**Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606811

**Unit Date** 1993-2019

**Mixed Materials** 4 (Binder)

**Justice Sandra Day O'Connor**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606812

**Unit Date** 1989-2014

**Mixed Materials** 5 (Binder)

**Warren E. Burger, William Brennan, Antonin Scalia, Stephen Breyer, Sonia Sotomayor**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606813

**Unit Date** 1985-2017

**Mixed Materials** 6 (Binder)

**Betty Wells prints (copies)**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606835

**Unit Date** 1979-1999

**Mixed Materials** 22 (box)

**Container** 1 (Folder)

**Justice Sandra Day O'Connor magazine articles**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606836

**Unit Date** 1989-2006

**Mixed Materials** 22 (box)

**Container** 2 (Folder)

**Series II. Correspondence**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606805

**Unit Date** 1968-2019

**Scope and Contents**

This series includes correspondence documents related to Shelley L. Dowling. They include gift cards, letters, printed copies of emails between Shelley L. Dowling and visitors and scholars to the Supreme Court.

**Birthday cards, etc.**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606817

**Unit Date** 1999-2015

**Mixed Materials** 7 (Binder)

**Christmas cards**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606820

**Unit Date** 1994-2017

**Mixed Materials** 8 (Binder)

#### **Correspondence**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606821

**Unit Date** 1985-2019

**Mixed Materials** 9 (Binder)

#### **Correspondence**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606823

**Unit Date** 1989-2003

**Mixed Materials** 10 (Binder)

#### **Correspondence cards & letters**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606824

**Unit Date** 1985-2015

**Mixed Materials** 11 (Binder)

#### **Correspondence cards & letters**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606825

**Unit Date** 1988-2003

**Mixed Materials** 12 (Binder)

#### **Correspondence cards & letters**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606826

**Unit Date** 1988-2007

**Mixed Materials** 13 (Binder)

#### **Correspondence email**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606827

**Unit Date** 1999-2017

**Mixed Materials** 14 (Binder)

#### **White House: inaugurations; Christmas cards, stamps**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606828

**Unit Date** 1968-2009

**Mixed Materials** 15 (Binder)

### **Series III. Personal papers**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606806

**Unit Date** 1967-2019

#### **Scope and Contents**

This series contains Shelley L. Dowling's personal papers. The documents include photographs, letters, printed copies of emails, newspaper articles, resumes, and printed internet articles. Papers include those from Shelley Dowling's high school, Bishop Amat Memorial High School as well as other schools and educational institutions she had studied and worked at, including William & Mary, Georgetown University, and Cornell University.

#### **Bishop Amat Memorial High School**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606830

**Unit Date** 1992-1996

**Mixed Materials** 16 (Binder)

**Resume documents: Georgetown Law, UMKC Law, Pasadena LIB, Rutgers, Cornell, MSSC**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606829

**Unit Date** 1967-2019

**Mixed Materials** 17 (Binder)

**Series IV. Professional papers**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606807

**Unit Date** 1904-2016

**Scope and Contents**

This series includes Shelley L. Dowling's professional documents, primarily her resumes, speeches, and reports of events during which she worked as the Supreme Court Librarian. The documents include printed copies of emails, letters, photographs, newspaper articles, and drafts of speeches.

**Helen Newman (1904-1965), Supreme Court Librarian 1947-1965**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606831

**Unit Date** 1904-1965

**Mixed Materials** 18 (Binder)

**SCT, library events + reports**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606833

**Unit Date** 1990-2007

**Mixed Materials** 19 (Binder)

**Shelley Dowling Supreme Court resume documents**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606832

**Unit Date** 1989-2003

**Mixed Materials** 20 (Binder)

**Speeches, Lehrman Award**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/606834

**Unit Date** 1992-2016

**Mixed Materials** 21 (Binder)