

---

Search the Manuscript Collection (Finding Aids) [Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer+ Collection](#)

---

4-2014

## **LG MS 031 Dale McCormick Papers Finding Aid**

Christina E. Walker

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/lgbt\\_finding\\_aids](https://digitalcommons.usm.maine.edu/lgbt_finding_aids)



Part of the [American Studies Commons](#), [Cultural History Commons](#), [Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Studies Commons](#), [Other Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Commons](#), [Social History Commons](#), and the [United States History Commons](#)

---

### **Recommended Citation**

Dale McCormick Papers, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Collection, Jean Byers Sampson Center for Diversity in Maine, University of Southern Maine Libraries.

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer+ Collection at USM Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Search the Manuscript Collection (Finding Aids) by an authorized administrator of USM Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [jessica.c.hovey@maine.edu](mailto:jessica.c.hovey@maine.edu).

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MAINE LIBRARIES  
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

**JEAN BYERS SAMPSON CENTER FOR DIVERSITY IN MAINE  
LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER+ COLLECTION**

**DALE McCORMICK PAPERS  
LG MS 31**

**Total Boxes: 16  
Linear Feet: 8.5**

**By  
Christina E. Walker**

**Portland, Maine  
April 2014**

**Copyright 2014 by the University of Southern Maine**

## **Administrative Information**

Provenance: The bulk of the material was donated by Dale McCormick in 2001, and in 2008 she donated the gay studies materials.

Ownership and Literary Rights: The Dale McCormick Papers is the physical property of the University of Southern Maine Libraries. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the creator or her/his legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the Head of Special Collections.

Cite as: Dale McCormick Papers, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer+ Collection, Jean Byers Sampson Center for Diversity in Maine, University of Southern Maine Libraries.

Restrictions on access: This collection is open for research.

## **Biographical Note**

Dale McCormick was born in 1947 in New York City to Elizabeth and Kenneth McCormick; the former was a teacher and the latter, editor-in-chief at Doubleday. When she was still a child, McCormick's family moved to Sigourney, Iowa, where she graduated from high school in 1965. In 1970, McCormick graduated with a BA and a teaching certificate from the University of Iowa. McCormick's political activism began soon after - in the early 1970s she participated in various movements, such as women's and lesbians' rights and anti-war. In 1975, McCormick apprenticed as a carpenter with the International Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, and in 1975, Dale McCormick became the first journeywoman carpenter in the nation. From 1977 to 1980, McCormick ran her own cabinetry business in Iowa City.

After moving to Maine in the early 1980s, McCormick helped found and became the first President of the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance (now called EqualityMaine), which advocates statewide for civil rights and better treatment for lesbian/gay/bi/transgender/ and questioning people. In 1988, McCormick founded Women Unlimited, a program that successfully trains women on welfare to compete for high-paying jobs in trade and technical occupations. She was a co-founder of Northeast Women in Transportation, which educated women's organizations around the country about the opportunities in the Federal Intermodal Surface Transportation and Efficiency Act (ISTEA) for increasing the number of women and minorities in the construction industry. McCormick won a seat in the Maine Senate in 1990 and was re-elected twice in a conservative district. She was elected Treasurer of the State of Maine on December 4, 1996 and served eight years, Maine's first female Constitutional Officer. In 2005, Governor John Baldacci appointed McCormick Director of the Maine State Housing Authority; she was reappointed to that position in February 2010.

McCormick has received many honors in recognition of her efforts to attain social, political and economic equality for women, lesbians, and other minorities. In 1997, McCormick received the Maryann Hartman Award for her political leadership and her work training women for non-traditional careers. McCormick received the Crystal Vision Award from the

National Association of Women in Construction in 2006, and in 2008 she was presented with the Catalyst for Change Award from the University of Southern Maine's Jean Byers Sampson Center for Diversity in Maine. In 2007, McCormick was inducted into the Maine Women's Hall of Fame.

She has also written two books: *Against the Grain: A Carpentry Manual for Women*, and *Housemending: Home Repair for the Rest of Us*.

## **Description of the Collection**

This collection contains materials documenting McCormick's political career and LGBT and AIDS activism in Maine, including records and research material associated with McCormick's work as president of the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance (MLGPA), along with materials on conferences and events attended by McCormick. In addition, there are materials on a course she taught in the spring of 1988 at the University of Southern Maine, *Relating Professionally to Homosexuality*. The materials span from the 1970s to the early 2000s, with the bulk of the material dating to the 1980s.

### **Series 1. MLGPA (Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance) (1984-1990)**

This series contains the organizational, committee and political records of the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance. Materials relate to various issues, such as MLGPA's work with AIDS awareness, gay rights and healthcare. These materials include reports, surveys, articles, newspaper clippings, and professional correspondence. Materials associated with the organization's legislative activity are also included in this series. For example, there are materials on the 1985, 1987 and 1989 Gay Rights Bills. There are newspaper clippings, statements, and notes from the trial for the murder of Charles Howard. In addition, there are records pertaining to the trial of Robert Gravel, along with information on his harassment complaint.

### **Series 2. AIDS (1984-1990, undated)**

This series contains materials on McCormick's AIDS activism and political work, dealing with such issues as discrimination, insurance access, public policy and law, ACTUP, and services. This series also contains materials associated with the Caribou Mail Caper, in which an AIDS educational brochure was labeled as a "sexually orientated advertisement" by the Caribou postmaster.

### **Series 3. USM Course, SWO 267: Relating Professionally to Homosexuality (1970-1988)**

This series contains material from a course taught by McCormick in the spring of 1988 at the University of Southern Maine. Topics covered include coming out, AIDS, homophobia (including a homemade educational game), and stereotypes. There are also reading lists and copies of the syllabus.

### **Series 4. Conferences and Events (1983-1990)**

This series contains materials associated with conferences and events either attended by McCormick or those at which she presented. For example, there are newspaper clippings, copies of court documents and correspondence related to Madison Tolerance Day which

was supposed to be an event at a school in Madison, Maine to foster tolerance and counter bullying in Maine schools, but school officials canceled the event after learning that McCormick would be giving a speech. In addition, there are both copies and original, handwritten speeches given by McCormick.

**Series 5. Legislative and Political Activity (1977-1993)**

This series contains materials related to McCormick's legislative and political activities. For example, there are press releases, correspondence and reports related to the 1983 Gay Rights Bill. In addition, there are copies of the 1989 Hate Crimes Bill, which sought to include the term "Sexual or Affectional Preference" in the Maine Human Rights Act.

**Series 6. Organizations (1975-1988)**

This series contains materials related to various organizations that McCormick was either involved with or researched, such as the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, National Organization for Women, various regional gay groups, and Parents and Friends of Gays.

**Series 7. Statistics and Studies (1981-1988)**

This series includes multiple reports on various studies and statistics relating to the LGBT community, including statistics on crime and violence perpetrated upon homosexuals in Maine.

**Series 8. Printed Materials and Clippings (1982-2001)**

This series includes newspaper clippings covering topics related to the LGBT community. Also included are publications such as the Maine Legislative Record.

**Series 9. Subject Files (1970-1995)**

This series contains a diverse range of topics. There are materials on Paul Cameron an American psychologist who was expelled from the American Psychological Association in 1983 after producing homophobic pamphlets that misrepresented other social scientists' research. There are also various political leaflets and broadsides, along with materials associated with Maine Won't Discriminate.

**Series 10. Oversize**

This series contains materials too large or awkward to fit into regular boxes. Listed within their regular series, they are included here to give their physical location.

Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
<b>Series 1.1. MLGPA. Organizational Records (1984-1990)</b>			
1	1	Haymarket Peoples Fund Grant	1984-1985
1	2	Early Records (folder 1 of 2)	1984-1985
1	3	Early Records (folder 2 of 2)	1985-1988
1	4	Finances	1984-1988
1	5	Correspondence (folder 1 of 2)	1984-1986,

			undated
1	6	Correspondence (folder 2 of 2)	1987, 1988, undated
1	7	Mailing Lists	1985, undated
1	8	Candidate Evaluations (folder 1 of 2)	1986
1	9	Candidate Evaluations (folder 2 of 2)	1986
1	10	Legislative Candidates (folder 1 of 2)	1986
1	11	Legislative Candidates (folder 2 of 2)	1986
1	12	Mailings	1986-1987
1	13	Tax Status	1986-1987
1	14	Anti-Gay Correspondence	1987
1	15	IOLTA Grant (Interest on Lawyers' Trust Accounts)	1987
Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)

**Series 1.1. MLGPA. Organizational Records (cont.)**

1	16	Correspondence with Legislature	1987-1988
1	17	Mail List: To be added to computer (folder 1 of 3)	1987-1990
1	18	Mail List: To be added to computer (folder 2 of 3)	1987-1990
2	19	Mail List: To be added to computer (folder 3 of 3)	1987-1990
2	20	Computer	1988
2	21	Endorsements (folder 1 of 2)	1988
2	22	Endorsements (folder 2 of 2)	1988
2	23	By-Laws and Policies	undated
2	24	Forms	undated

**Series 1.2. MLGPA. Committees and Organizations (1984-1990, undated)**

2	25	Maine Democratic Party	1984-1987
2	26	Steering Committee	1985-1990
2	27	Education Committee	1986-1987, undated
2	28	Progressive Coalition (folder 1 of 2)	1986-1989
2	29	Progressive Coalition (folder 2 of 2)	1986-1990
2	30	Consumers for Affordable Healthcare (folder 1 of 2)	1988, undated
2	31	Consumers for Affordable Healthcare (folder 2 of 2)	1989-1990, undated
2	32	Dirigo Alliance	1988-1990
3	33	Dirigo PAC (folder 1 of 2)	1988-1989
3	34	Dirigo PAC (folder 2 of 2)	1988-1989
3	35	Legislative Committee	undated

**Series 1.3. MLGPA. AIDS (1985-1991)**

Dale McCormick Papers  
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer+ Collection  
Jean Byers Sampson Center for Diversity  
University of Southern Maine Libraries

3	36	Forums	1985-1986
3	37	Legislation	1986-1988
3	38	Legislation: "Operation Heat" (folder 1 of 2)	1986-1991
3	39	Legislation: "Operation Heat" (folder 2 of 2)	1986-1991
<b>Series 1.4. MLGPA. Gay Rights (1981-1990)</b>			
3	40	Legislation	1981-1987
3	41	Defense Documents	1982-1988
3	42	Charles Howard, Murder of	1984
3	43	Gay Rights Bill 1985 (folder 1 of 7)	1985-1986
3	44	Gay Rights Bill 1985 (folder 2 of 7)	1985-1987
4	45	Gay Rights Bill 1985 (folder 3 of 7)	1985-1988
4	46	Gay Rights Bill 1985 (folder 4 of 7)	1985-1986
4	47	Gay Rights Bill 1985 (folder 5 of 7)	1985-1987
4	48	Gay Rights Bill 1985 (folder 6 of 7)	1985-1988
4	49	Gay Rights Bill 1985 (folder7 of 7)	1985-1989
Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
<b>Series 1.4. MLGPA. Gay Rights (cont.)</b>			
4	50	Gay Rights Bill 1987 (folder 1 of 2)	1987
4	51	Gay Rights Bill 1987 (folder 2 of 2)	1987
4	52	Gay Rights Bill Testimony: 1987	1987
4	53	Gay Rights Bill 1989 (folder 1 of 2)	1985-1989
4	54	Gay Rights Bill 1989 (folder 2 of 2)	1985-1990
<b>Series 1.5. MLGPA. Homophobia (1985-1988)</b>			
4	55	Violence Survey	1985-1987
5	56	Violence Reporting	1985-1988
5	57	Congressional Hearings on Violence	1986
5	58	Robert Gravel Trial (folder 1 of 6)	1986-1987
5	59	Robert Gravel Trial (folder 2 of 6)	1986-1987
5	60	Robert Gravel Trial (folder 3 of 6)	1986-1987
5	61	Robert Gravel Trial (folder 4 of 6)	1986-1987
5	62	Robert Gravel Trial (folder 5 of 6)	1986-1987
5	63	Robert Gravel Trial (folder 6 of 6)	1986-1987
5	64	Robert Gravel Harassment Complaint	1987
5	65	Anti-Bias Crime Bill (folder 1 of 5)	1987
5	66	Anti-Bias Crime Bill (folder 2 of 5)	1987
6	67	Anti-Bias Crime Bill (folder 3 of 5)	1987
6	68	Anti-Bias Crime Bill (folder 4 of 5)	1987

6	69	Anti-Bias Crime Bill (folder 5 of 5)	1987
<b>Series 1.6. MLGPA. Other Issues (1984-1988, undated)</b>			
6	70	Precinct Results	1984
6	71	Lobbying Materials (folder 1 of 3)	1984, 1985, undated
6	72	Lobbying Materials (folder 2 of 3)	1984, 1985, undated
6	73	Lobbying Materials (folder 3 of 3)	1984, 1985, undated
6	74	Religion (folder 1 of 2)	1985-1988
6	75	Religion (folder 2 of 2)	1985-1988
6	76	Hospitality House	1987
		Framed award: MLGPA to Cameron Duncan See Oversize	1988
6	77	Caucus Training Project	1988
6	78	Uncommitted Voters	1988
<b>Series 2. AIDS (1984-1989, undated)</b>			
6	79	Act to Correct Retirement Inequities	1987
6	80	ACT UP	1988
Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
<b>Series 2. AIDS (cont.)</b>			
6	81	Articles	1987
6	82	Behavior Change	1985, 1987
7	83	Caribou Mail Caper	1986-1987
7	84	CIU, RTS, Clippings	1987-1988
7	85	Confidentiality	1986
7	86	Criminalization of HIV	1988-1989
7	87	Discrimination	1986-1988
7	88	First Bill, Process	1985
7	89	Healthcare Workers	undated
7	90	Hospice/Housing	1987
7	91	In the Workplace	1985
7	92	Insurance (folder 1 of 2)	1984-1987
7	93	Insurance (folder 2 of 2)	1984-1987
7	94	Laws, Elsewhere	1987, undated
7	95	Clippings	1987
7	96	Medical/Psych	1986-1987
7	97	Noncompliant Carriers	1987-1988



7	98	Political (folder 1 of 2)	1985-1988
7	99	Political (folder 2 of 2)	1985-1988
7	100	Public Policy & Law (folder 1 of 2)	1986-1988
7	101	Public Policy & Law (folder 2 of 2)	1986-1988
8	102	Services	1985, undated
8	103	Studies (folder 1 of 2)	1985-1986
8	104	Studies (folder 2 of 2)	1985-1986
8	105	Summit	1986-1989
8	106	Task Force	1985-1986
8	107	The Public Policy Issues Teleconference	1986
8	108	Walkathon	1987

**Series 3. USM Course, SWO 267: Relating Professionally to Homosexuality Spring 1988 (1970-1988, undated)**

8	109	AIDS	undated
8	110	Coming Out	1975, undated
8	111	Gay Men	1970, undated
8	112	Gay Parenting	undated
8	113	History	1984, 1988, undated
8	114	Homophobia Homophobia game See Oversize	undated undated

Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
-----	--------	-------------	---------

**Series 3. USM Course, SWO 267: Relating Professionally to Homosexuality Spring 1988 (cont.)**

8	115	Maine Conference on Professional Work	1985, undated
8	116	Materials Possibly Used for Course	undated
8	117	Mental Health Professionals	1982-1988, undated
8	118	Myths and Stereotypes	1981, 1983- 1985, undated
8	119	Parents of Gays	1984, undated
8	120	Prejudice/Discrimination	1987, undated
8	121	Resources	1977, 1985- 1988
9	122	Religion	1986, 1987, undated
9	123	Sexual Identity	1984, 1985, 1988

9	124	Syllabus	1988
9	125	Values Clarification	1988, undated
9	126	Audio Cassettes: Rev. Dr. Barry Wood; Defamation, narrated by Harvey Fierstein produced for the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation	undated

**Series 4. Conferences and Events (1977-1993, undated)**

9	127	Pornography, Take Back the Night Workshop	1983-1984
9	128	Madison Tolerance Day (Folder 2 of 5)	1985
9	128	Madison Tolerance Day (Folder 1 of 5)	1985
9	129	Madison Tolerance Day (Folder 3 of 5)	1985
9	130	Madison Tolerance Day (Folder 4 of 5)	1985
9	131	Madison Tolerance Day (Folder 5 of 5)	1985
9	132	Maine, Gay/Lesbian Symposium	1985
9	133	Women & Power Conference	1986
9	134	Connections between Civil Rights, Reproductive Choice, and Right to Privacy Workshop	1986
9	135	Family Life Education Leaders Training	1986
9	136	Speeches, McCormick	1987-1988
9	137	Aroostook Retreat	1988
9	138	Gay & Lesbian Health Conference	1988
9	139	Gay and Lesbian Youth Conference and Reed Leadership Workshop	1988
10	140	War Conference	1988-1989
10	141	Audio Cassette, The Making of a Homosexual Minority	1989
10	142	National Lobby Days	1990
10	143	March on Washington	1993
Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)

**Series 4. Conferences and Events (cont.)**

10	144	Lavender Caucus	undated
10	145	October 16, Meeting: Sample Sign-Up Sheet for Mailgrams to be sent by the Fairness Fund	undated
10	146	Gay Rights Bill 1983	1977-1983

**Series 5. Legislative and Political Activity (1977-1993)**

10	147	Hate Crimes Bill	1984-1989
10	148	Election: 1984, Gay Vote	1984
10	149	Coalition for the '86 Elections	1986
10	150	Election, Statistics	1986-1987
10	151	Election: 1988	1987-1988

10	152	WLAC (Women's Legislative Agenda Coalition)	1987-1989
10	153	Insurance Bill: 1989	1987-1989
10	154	National Legislation	1987
10	155	Legislation: 1988	1988
10	156	Other Issues	1991, 1993
<b>Series 6. Organizations (1975-1988, undated)</b>			
10	157	Gay/Lesbian Youth (folder 1 of 2)	1975-1986, undated
11	158	Gay/Lesbian Youth (folder 2 of 2)	1975-1986, undated
11	159	National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (folder 1 of 2)	1983-1987
11	160	National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (folder 2 of 2)	1983-1987
11	161	NOW, Women in Politics	1983, undated
11	162	Maine Lesbian & Gay Democratic Club	1984
11	163	National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs	1984-1986
11	164	Maine NOW PAC	1984-1985
11	165	Vermont, VLGR (Vermonters for Lesbian and Gay Rights)	1985-1986
11	166	BPW (Business and Professional Women's) Clubs	1985-1986
11	167	New England Gay Groups	1985-1987
11	168	Bowdoin Gay Group	1986
11	169	Christian Civic League of Maine	1987-1988
11	170	Out & Outraged	1987
11	171	Parents & Friends of Gays	undated
11	172	PAC 88, Pinetree	undated
<b>Series 7. Statistics and Studies (1981-1988, undated)</b>			
11	173	Bias Crime Study	1981, 1987
11	174	Voter Registration Statistics	1983-1985
Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
<b>Series 7. Statistics and Studies (cont.)</b>			
11	175	Gay Statistics	1985-1986
12	176	Children's Statistics	1987
12	177	Violence, Maine	1987-1988
12	178	Anti-Semitic Incidents	1988
12	179	Michigan	undated
12	180	Minnesota	undated
<b>Series 8. Printed Material and Clippings (1982-2001, undated)</b>			

12	181	Newspaper Clippings	1982-2000
12	182	Gay Clippings (folder 1 of 2)	1984-1989
12	183	Gay Clippings (folder 2 of 2)	1984-1990
12	184	Testing, Center for Disease Control	1985, 1987
12	185	Publications (folder 1 of 3)	1986, 1989
12	186	Publications (folder 2 of 3)	1983, 1989, 1990
12	187	Publications (folder 3 of 3)	1992, 1993
12	188	Child Abduction/Abuse	1986
12	189	Family	1987
12	190	Custody	1987-1988
12	191	Domestic Partnership	1989
13	192	Maine Legislative Record (folder 1 of 6)	2000
13	193	Maine Legislative Record (folder 2 of 6)	2000
13	194	Maine Legislative Record (folder 3 of 6)	2000
13	195	Maine Legislative Record (folder 4 of 6)	2000
13	196	Maine Legislative Record (folder 5 of 6)	2000
13	197	Maine Legislative Record (folder 6 of 6)	2000
13	198	Newspapers, unclipped (folder 1 of 3) See also Oversize	2001
13	199	Newspapers, unclipped (folder 2 of 3)	2000
13	200	Newspapers, unclipped (folder 3 of 3)	2000
13	201	SAGE (Services and Advocacy for GLBT Elders)	undated
<b>Series 9. Subject Files (1970-1990, undated)</b>			
13	202	Doctor's Attitudes	1970, 1984
14	203	Cameron, Paul (Rebuttal)	1977-1984
14	204	Right Wing, The (Paul Cameron) (folder 1 of 2)	1982-1985, undated
14	205	Right Wing, The (Paul Cameron) (folder 2 of 2)	1985-1987
14	206	Political, Leaflets/Broadsides	1984-1988
14	207	Phil's Readings (Philip G. Palmer?)	1984-1990
14	208	Statements by Others	1985
Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
<b>Series 9. Subject Files (cont.)</b>			
14	209	Pornography Referendum	1985-1986
14	210	Human Rights Campaign Fund	1985-1988
14	211	Maine Media Sheets	1985, undated
14	212	Sodomy, Laws/Decisions	1986

14	213	High Risk Pool	1986-1987
14	214	Discrimination	1986-1988
14	215	Fundraising Letters	1986-1989
15	216	Victim Assistance	1987
15	217	Planning	1988
15	218	Award Nomination	1988
15	219	Wood for Council (Barb Wood)	1988
15	220	Boycott Colorado	[early 1990s]
15	221	City Ordinances	1992, [1993]
15	222	Maine Won't Discriminate	1995
15	223	English Only	undated

**Series 10. Oversize**

16		Framed award: MLGPA to Cameron Duncan (Ser. 1.6)	1988
16		Homophobia game (Ser. 3)	undated
16		Tabloids, from Newspapers, unclipped (Ser. 8) Globe (1991 Jan 8), National Enquirer (1991 Jan 22), Star (1990 Feb 27), and 3 sections from the San Francisco Examiner (1989 Jun 4, 6, 13)	1989-1991