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Introduction to Chronological Charts: Letters to and about Elizabeth Seton

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Seton Writings Project – Sisters of Charity Federation

Introduction to Chronological Charts – Letters to/about Elizabeth Seton

1a: 1767- June 1804 (97 entries)

1b: June 1804-June 1808 (196 entries)

2a: June 1808 – December 1809 (175 entries)

2b: January 1810 – December 1813 (194 entries)

3: January 1814 – December 1816 (198 entries)

4: January 1817 – December 1820 (187 entries)

5: January 1821 – December 1821 (71 entries)

The Seton Writings Project, Phase One, sponsored by the Sisters of Charity Federation, researched and published a comprehensive edition of letters, journals, notes, translations, and other writings of Saint Elizabeth Ann Bayley Seton (1774-1821). See Regina Bechtle, S.C., and Judith Metz, S.C., eds., Ellin M. Kelly, mss. ed., *Elizabeth Bayley Seton Collected Writings*, 3 vols. (New City Press: New York, 2000-2006).

Phase Two of this project is now focused on gathering letters, notes, journal entries, and reflections written to and about Elizabeth Seton, her family, friends and advisers. It seeks to document the religious and secular context in which:

- she grew as an Episcopalian wife, mother and widow and as a Catholic convert,
- she founded the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph's in Emmitsburg, MD,
- the community expanded as the Catholic Church grew in, and immigrants flocked to, the United States.

For example, these documents shed light on turmoil at the New York parish where Elizabeth worshipped after becoming a Catholic, on the rocky early years of the Sisters of Charity as three successive Sulpician superiors brought their different personalities and visions, and on the struggles of ecclesiastical superiors to interpret the Sisters' rule in light of evolving needs and circumstances.

Phase Two material encompasses over 1,000 documents from 1767 through 1821, including undated material. Editors have attempted to select the most relevant documents.

As a first step, a set of chronological charts of documents and their archival locations is here being made available digitally. Researchers will find these digital charts helpful in locating materials relevant to the spread of the Vincentian charism in the United States, and early American Church history in general.

Digital transcripts of selected documents are posted for each chart (subject to archival permissions).

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List of Abbreviations

Archives - The following archival designations are used:

AAB, AASMSU	Archives of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, Associated Archives at St. Mary's Seminary & University, Baltimore, MD
AAB, AASUS	Archives of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, Archives of the Associated Sulpicians of the United States
ACM	Archives of the Carmelite Monastery, Baltimore, MD
AGU	Archives of Georgetown University, Washington, DC
AGU, SJ	Maryland Province Archives of the Society of Jesus
AMSJ	Archives of the Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati, Mount St. Joseph, OH
AMSMU	Manuscript collection, Rhoads Memorial Archives, Mount St. Mary's University, Emmitsburg, MD
AMSV	Archives of the Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, Mount St. Vincent, Bronx, NY
APSL (formerly ASJPH or formerly AMPH)	Daughters of Charity Archives, Province of St. Louise, Emmitsburg (Citations on charts are abbreviated to last 2 digits; e.g. 11:1 indicates full citation 1-3-3-11:1)
ASCH	Archives of the Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, Halifax, NS, Canada
ASCN	Archives of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, Nazareth, KY
ASCSE	Archives of the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth, Convent Station, NJ
ASCSH	Archives of the Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill, Greensburg, PA
ASLA	Archdiocese of St. Louis Archives
AUQ	Les Archives des Ursulines de Québec, Québec, Canada
Bruté FA	Bruté Family Archives, private collection, Damien Bruté-de-Remur, Montpelier, France
Fil A	Filicchi Archives, Gubbio, Italy
HSP	Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
MHS	Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, MD
MSA	Maryland State Archives, Annapolis, MD
PAHRC	Philadelphia Archdiocesan Historical Research Center, Philadelphia, PA
Seton Hall	Msgr. William Noé Field Archives and Special Collections Center, Early Seton Papers, Seton Hall University, South Orange, NJ
UNDA	Archives of the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN
S-J	Seton-Jevons Collection (documents formerly in possession of the Jevons family, Elizabeth Seton's last direct descendants, later distributed among various Sisters of Charity Archives; numbered collection includes both originals in various archives and photostatic copies, some of which are the only versions extant). Unless otherwise indicated, S-J documents or copies listed on charts are located at AMSV.

Secondary sources (used on charts and document footnotes)

- CW Regina Bechtle, S.C., and Judith Metz, S.C., eds., Ellin M. Kelly, mss. ed., *Elizabeth Bayley Seton Collected Writings*, 3 vols. (New City Press: New York, 2000-2006)
- JCP Timothy O'Brien Hanley, S.J., ed., *John Carroll Papers*, 3 vols. (University of Notre Dame Press: Notre Dame, IN, 1976)
- NC Ellin M. Kelly, ed., *Numerous Choirs*, 2 vols. (Evansville, IN: Mater Dei Provincialate, 1981, 1996)
- An Old Family* Msgr. [Robert] Seton, *An Old Family* (New York: Brentano, 1899)
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- Cheverus Annabelle M. Melville, *Jean Lefebvre de Cheverus, 1768-1836* (Milwaukee, WI: Bruce Publishing, 1958)
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- Flanagan Kathleen Flanagan, S.C., "*The Influence of John Henry Hobart on the Life of Elizabeth Ann Seton*," Union Theological Seminary, 1978, Ph. D. dissertation (unpublished)
- Fox Columba Fox, SCN, *The Life of the Right Reverend John Baptist Mary David (1761-1841), Bishop of Bardstown and Founder of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth* (New York: United States Catholic Historical Society, 1925)
- Hannefin Daniel Hannefin, DC, *Daughters of the Church: A Popular History of the Daughters of Charity in the United States 1809-1987* (Brooklyn, NY: New City Press, 1989)
- McCann Mary Agnes McCann, SC, *The History of Mother Seton's Daughters: The Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati, Ohio, 1809-1917*, 3 vols. (London: Longmans, Green & Co., 1917)
- McNeil, VH Betty Ann McNeil, DC, "*The Sulpicians and the Sisters of Charity: Concentric Circles of Mission*," *Vincentian Heritage* 20:1 (1999), 13-61
- McSweeney Edward Francis Xavier McSweeney, et al. *The Story of the Mountain: Mount St. Mary's College and Seminary, Emmitsburg, Maryland, Begun by Mary M. Meline ... And Continued by Rev. Edw. F.X. McSweeney*. 2 vols. (Emmitsburg, MD: Weekly chronicle, 1911)
- MAD-MXC *Mother Augustine Decount and Mother Xavier Clark* (Emmitsburg, Maryland, Saint Joseph's Central House, 1938)
- MRW *Mother Rose White* (Emmitsburg, MD, Saint Joseph's Central House: 1936)
- PFN Sara Trainer Smith, "*Philadelphia's First Nun*," *Records of the American Catholic Historical Society of Philadelphia*, V:4 (Philadelphia: American Catholic Historical Society of Philadelphia, 1894), 417-522
- Records *Records of the American Catholic Historical Society* (Philadelphia: American Catholic Historical Society of Philadelphia, 1887-c2000)
- RSM Robert Seton, ed., *Memoirs, Letters and Journal of Elizabeth Seton*, 2 vols. (New York: P. O'Shea, 1869)
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White (1853) Rev. Charles I. White, *Life of Mrs. Eliza A. Seton* (New York: Edward Dunigan & Brother, 1853)

1809-1959 [Sister John Mary Crumlish, DC] (Emmitsburg, Maryland, 1959)

Conventions and Other Notes

1. Charts include first lines and some contextual information.
2. Numerous documents are undated. The editors have attempted to place them in an appropriate time context.
3. Documents have been selected for their relevance to Elizabeth Seton, the Bayley and Seton families, the Sisters of Charity, and lay and clerical figures connected with the early community and its works.
4. Brackets around a date indicate that it does not appear in the manuscript but has been determined from internal or other evidence. Brackets also enclose missing letters, words, punctuation, or explanatory words added by the editors for clarity.
5. Documents marked "No original located" have been included on these charts because notes in primary or secondary sources point to their existence at some time. It is hoped that archival locations for such documents will eventually be discovered.
6. Many early documents refer to either Seton or Bayley extended family members.
7. The Italian city of Livorno is known in English as Leghorn.

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