

JAMES M. O'TOOLE

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EDUCATION

A.B., History, Magna Cum Laude, Boston College, 1972.
A.M., History, College of William and Mary, 1973.
M.S., Library Science, Simmons College, 1975.
Ph.D., History, Boston College, 1987.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

1998-present: Department of History, Boston College.
Charles I. Clough Millennium Chair in History, 2006-present.
Professor, 2003-present; Associate Professor, 1998-2003; Acting Department Chair,
2002; Director, University Strategic Planning Initiative, 2003-2006.
Courses: History of American Religion; American Catholic History; Boston History;
Study and Writing of History; Graduate Research Seminars.

1986-1998: Department of History, University of Massachusetts at Boston.
Lecturer, 1986-1987; Assistant Professor, 1987-1993; Associate Professor, 1993-1998.
Courses (undergraduate and graduate): U.S. History Survey; Historical Research and
Methods; History of American Religion; History of Boston; Historiography.
Planned and directed archives concentration in history M.A. program.
Assistant Graduate Program Director for History Department (1986-1998); Graduate
Program Director (1990-1991); Department Vice Chair (1991-1993, 1996).

1978-1986: Archivist, Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston.
Planned and directed archival program; supervised staff of 4; budget, facilities, and
grants management.
Served as Governor's Appointee, Massachusetts Archives Commission, 1982-1983.

1974-1977: Archives, Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
Served successively as Assistant Chief (Archives Division), Acting State Archivist, and
Deputy State Archivist.
Supervised staff of 10; budget, facilities, and grants management.

1974: Assistant Curator of Manuscripts and Rare Books, New England Historic
Genealogical Society, Boston.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Mellon Foundation Research Fellowship in Modern Archives, Bentley Library,
University of Michigan: 1987, 1993, and 1997.
M. Claude Lane Award, Society of American Archivists: 1986.
Phi Beta Kappa: 1972.

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

The Faithful: A History of Catholics in America. Cambridge, Mass.: Belknap Press of
Harvard University Press, 2008.

Habits of Devotion: Catholic Religious Practice in Twentieth Century America (Edited).
Ithaca, New York: Cornell University Press, 2004.

Boston's Histories: Essays in Honor of Thomas H. O'Connor. Co-edited with David
Quigley. Boston: Northeastern University Press, 2004.

Passing for White: Race, Religion, and the Healy Family, 1820-1920. Amherst:
University of Massachusetts Press, 2002.
Book of the Month Club, Alternate Selection, May 2003.
New England Historical Association Book Award, 2003.
Georgia Historical Records Advisory Board Award for Excellence in Research, 2003.

The Records of American Business (Edited). Chicago: Society of American Archivists,
1997.
Winner, Leland Prize, Society of American Archivists, 1998.

Militant and Triumphant: William Henry O'Connell and the Catholic Church in Boston,
1859-1944. Notre Dame, Indiana: University of Notre Dame Press, 1992.

Understanding Archives and Manuscripts. Chicago: Society of American Archivists,
1990. Second edition, with Richard J. Cox, 2006.

Catholic Boston: Studies in Religion and Community, 1870-1970. Co-edited with
Robert E. Sullivan. Boston: Archdiocese of Boston, 1985.

Guide to the Archives of the Archdiocese of Boston. New York: Garland, 1982.
Winner, Leland Prize, Society of American Archivists, 1983.

Most recent articles:

“‘These Stray Letters of Mine’: Forgery and Self-Creation in the Letters of Cardinal William O’Connell,” New England Quarterly 81 (September 2008): 489-502.

“Studying Popular Devotional Life: The Work of Joseph Fichter and Others as Sources,” American Catholic Studies 119 #3 (Fall 2008): 1-20.

“The Six Ages of Catholicism in America,” Church Ethics and Its Organizational Context: Learning from the Sexual Abuse Scandal in the Catholic Church, ed. by Jean M. Bartunek, et al. (Lanham, Md.: Rowman and Littlefield, 2006), 31-41.

“Between Veneration and Loathing: Loving and Hating Documents,” Archives, Documentation, and Institutions of Social Memory: Essays from the Sawyer Seminar, ed. by Francis X. Blouin, Jr., and William G. Rosenberg (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2006), 43-53.

“Archives and Historical Accountability: Toward a Moral Theology of Archives,” Archivaria 58 (Fall 2004): 3-19.

“In the Court of Conscience: American Catholics and Confession, 1900-1975,” in Habits of Devotion, ed. O’Toole, 131-185.

“Catholics: Majority Faith with a Minority Mindset,” in Religion and Public Life in New England: Steady Habits, Changing Slowly, ed. Andrew Walsh and Mark Silk (Walnut Creek, California: Altamira, 2004), 41-60.

Complete list of other articles, encyclopedia entries and book reviews on request.

OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Catholic University of America, School of Library and Information Science.
Summer institute: Introduction to Archives, 1997, 1999, 2001, and 2003.

Western Archives Institute, Society of California Archivists, 1993 and 1995.

University of Hawaii, School of Library and Information Studies. Introduction to Archives Management, 1989.

University of Rhode Island, New England Studies Seminar. Religion and Ethnicity, 1981.

Northeastern University, Department of History. Archives Administration, 1976-1978.

CONSULTING EXPERIENCE

Boston Symphony Orchestra. Consultant in development of archives and records management program, 1989-1991. BSO Archives Committee, 1991-present.

Arthur and Elizabeth Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America, Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University. Advisory Committee, 1995-2002.

Martin Luther King, Jr., Center for the Study of Non-Violent Social Change, Atlanta. Consultant and expert witness in court case regarding the papers of Martin Luther King, Jr., 1993.

Religious Archives: Consultant in development of archives programs for the Diocese of Fort Worth, Texas (1988), the Archdiocese of Hartford, Connecticut (1982-1983), and Trinity Church (Episcopal), New York, New York (1980-1981).

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Catholic Historical Association. 1978-present.
Shea Book Prize Committee, 1995 and 1999-2000; chair, 2000.

American Historical Association. 1988-present.

Association of Catholic Diocesan Archivists. 1982-present.
President, 1983-1985.

Colonial Society of Massachusetts. 1984-present.

Massachusetts Historical Society. Member, 1992-present; Fellow, 2000-present.
Collections Committee, 2005-present.

New England Archivists. 1974-present.
Executive Board, 1978-1981. President, 1981-1982.

New England Historical Association, 1990-present.
Vice President, 2001-2002; President, 2002-2003.

Organization of American Historians. 1975-present.

Society of American Archivists. 1975-present.
Executive Council, 1988-1992; Publications Editor, 1991-1994; Committee on Education and Professional Development, 1986-1987 and 1995-1999; American Archivist Editorial Board, 1994-2002. Elected Fellow of the Society, 1993.

