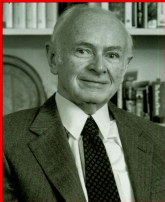


SPRING-SUMMER 2006

# DELAWARE HISTORY



Dr. John A. Munroe  
1914-2006

*Editor of Delaware History, 1969-1995*

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*John Andrew Munroe*  
*1914–2006*



FIGURE 1. Dr. John A. Munroe. (Courtesy of the University of Delaware Archives.)

**I**t was with deep sadness that the editors of *Delaware History* learned of John A. Munroe's death on September 6, 2006. Dr. Munroe was the single most important person in the life of our publication. He served on the magazine's editorial board for forty-seven years, from 1948 until 1995, and was its editor from 1969 until 1995. A number of articles by John Munroe have appeared in our pages. Perhaps even more significantly, he guided the conceptualization, research, and writing of many other articles that we have published that were written by his graduate and undergraduate students.

John A. Munroe was a native of Wilmington, Delaware, and a graduate of Wilmington High School. He graduated from the University of Delaware in 1936 and earned a Ph.D. in history at the University of Pennsylvania in 1947. His dissertation became the basis for his first book, *Federalist Delaware* (1954). He joined the faculty of the University of Delaware in 1942 and became chairman of the History Department ten years later. During his seventeen-year tenure as chair, John Munroe led the development of graduate studies in history at Delaware. He helped to create two outstanding programs with local, world-class museums that combined history with museum studies: the Winterthur Program and the Hagley Program.

In the meantime, amid his many duties as teacher, mentor, public speaker, and administrator, John Munroe continued to write. His books, including *Louis McLane: Federalist and Jacksonian* (1974), *Colonial Delaware* (1978), *History of Delaware* (1979), and *The University of Delaware: a History* (1986) set a new professional standard for historical research and writing about the First State.

During his long career John Munroe won many well-earned honors from both his state and university. He was frequently recognized as "the dean of Delaware Historians." His leadership, wise counsel, insight, and just plain hard work have kept this publication vital for many decades. It is for those of us who remain to continue *Delaware History*, the field and the publication, as the best means to bring historical understanding to the present generation and to generations yet to come.

Carol E. Hoffecker  
Editor, *Delaware History*