Envisioning Anne of Green Gables: How L.M. Montgomery Shaped a Classic

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A close examination of L.M. Montgomery's *Anne of Green Gables* reveals her process of envisioning and creating her first and best-known novel. Eight hundred forty-four pages of handwritten text, including some 500 notes Montgomery added to the main text, comprise the115-year-old manuscript. Some of the additions and changes Montgomery made to the main text will be highlighted. For instance, what were the first changes Montgomery made to the manuscript? How did she change the narrative in Chapter 16 to allow enough time for Diana to become inebriated on currant wine? What famous lines in the novel were “afterthoughts,” added to the main text later? What was Montgomery's coding method used to indicate the addition of notes to the original version of the text? Which chapter has the most added notes? How does the manuscript differ from the published version? Slides will illustrate these additions and changes,showing relevant pages from the manuscript itself (most of which have never been published before or even seen by anyone except for a few scholars).

Envisioning *Anne of Green Gables*: How L.M. Montgomery Shaped a Classic. 2020. Video by Carolyn Strom Collins. Some photos in the video have all rights reserved (see video credits).

About the Author: Carolyn Strom Collins is the author of several books and many articles on L.M. Montgomery, as well as companion books on *Little Women*, *The*

Secret Garden, and Laura Ingalls Wilder's “Little House” books. Her latest books are *Anne of Green Gables:The Original Manuscript* and *After Many Years: Twenty-one “Long-Lost” Stories by L.M. Montgomery*. She compiled and edited *An Annotated Bibliography of L.M. Montgomery's Stories and Poems*, updating considerably the 1986 bibliography. She is the founder of the L.M. Montgomery Literary Society, co-editor of its e-newsletter, *The Shining Scroll*, the founder of the Friends of the L.M. Montgomery Institute, and is on the editorial board of the *Journal of L. M. Montgomery Studies*.

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