



Guide to the Ruth Earline Whittier Papers, 1917-1984

Administrative Information

Title and Dates:

Ruth Earline Whittier Papers, 1917-1984

Repository:

New Hampshire Historical Society
30 Park Street
Concord, NH 03301
603-228-6688
<http://www.nhhistory.org/>

Collection Number:

1991.001

Author of Finding Aid:

Katelynn Vance

Creator:

Ruth Earline Whittier, 1903-1991

Language:

The materials in this collection are in English.

Extent:

2 Boxes

Abstract:

The Ruth Earline Whittier Papers consists of correspondence, as well as articles writing by Whittier. Also, included are materials relating to Whittier's time at the New Hampshire State Library. Other items in the collection focus on Whittier's interest in doll collecting and music.

Access and Use

Acquisition Information and Provenance:

Purchased by the New Hampshire Historical Society, January 1991.

Processing Information:

The finding aid was updated by Katelynn Vance in October 2014. This finding aid follows the standards set-forth by *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*.

Access Restrictions:

Available for research.

Location:

The collection is housed at the New Hampshire Historical Society in Concord, New Hampshire.

Copyright/Conditions Governing Use:

For permission to reproduce or publish materials from this collection, please contact the New Hampshire Historical Society. Researchers are responsible for following all copyright and intellectual property laws.

Preferred Citation:

Item title, Ruth Earline Whittier Papers, 1991.001. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH. Date Accessed.

Collection Overview

Biographical Information/ Administrative Information:

Ruth E. Whittier was the daughter of Kate Diamond (of Danbury) and John E. Whittier. John E. Whittier was the manager of the Boston Store in Concord, NH. She had one sister Gladys D. (Mrs. Arthur) Read of Keene, NH.

Ruth Whittier was a state employee for 45 years. She worked at the Department of Motor Vehicles from 1925-1931 and then at the New Hampshire State Library for the next 38 years. She was active in the establishment of the State Library bookmobile.

Ms. Whittier had a broad range of interests including art, music, and doll collecting. She was the founder and president of the Granite State Dolls Club, and by 1964, owned 600 foreign and antique dolls. She was an active member of the Business & Professional Women's Club and the Merrimack Valley Arts and Crafts Club.

Collection Scope and Content Note:

The Ruth E. Whittier Papers are composed of correspondence, published and non-published works, items related to her library career, items related to her interest in music, and other miscellaneous items. Much of Whittier's correspondence is of routine nature, but there are letters from well known figures such as Dorothy Vaughn (regarding her

New Hampshire Map, 1931), Sally Bridges (1934 and note regarding her death in 1938), Mary Louise Hancock (1950), Harry May, made an alter set from the Whittier maple, Norman Vincent Peale (1961), author Elizabeth Yates McGreal (1982), Gordon Humphrey (1984), artist Herbert Waters (Box 1, Folder 15). The collection also includes some of Whittier's publications. There are also items having to do with Whittier's career in the State Library, some related to her involvement with the State Library Bookmobile. Whittier was also interested in music and musicians and the collection reflects that interest, with material on composers and music teachers, especially concerning New Hampshire women.

Arrangement:

Series I. Personal Papers

Series II. Writings and Articles

Series III. Library

Series IV. Music

Series V. Miscellaneous

Contents List

Box 1

Series I. Personal Papers, 1925-1987

Extent: 1 box

Scope and Content: Personal papers of Whittier include her school papers, essays, and poetry as an autograph book. There is also a diary dated 1967. Correspondents include Dorothy Vaughn (regarding her New Hampshire Map, 1931), Sally Bridges (1934 and note regarding her death in 1938), Mary Louise Hancock (1950), Harry May, made an alter set from the Whittier maple, Norman Vincent Peale (1961), author Elizabeth Yates McGreal (1982), Gordon Humphrey (1984), artist Herbert Waters (Box 1, Folder 15). Ruth Whittier was a member of an "artistic covers club." This group of people from all over the United States sent each other envelopes of which they had done original art work, drawings, paintings, block prints, etc. There are many of the covers she received in the collection.

Folder 1	Personal Papers
Folder 2	School Writing
Folder 3	School Papers
Folder 4	School Poetry
Folder 5	Autograph Book, 1925-1926 Diary, 1967
Folder 6	Correspondence, 1917-1929
Folder 7	Correspondence, 1930-1934
Folder 8	Correspondence, 1935-1939
Folder 9	Correspondence, 1940s
Folder 10	Correspondence, 1950s
Folder 11	Correspondence, 1960s
Folder 12	Correspondence, 1970s

- Folder 13 Correspondence, 1980-1987
- Folder 14 Correspondence, undated
- Folder 15 Letters from Herbert Waters and other New Hampshire Artists
- Folder 16 Artistic Cover Club Covers
- Folder 17 Artistic Cover Club Letters

Box 2

Series II. Writings and Articles, 1920-1972

Extent: 14 folders

Scope and Content: Writings and articles contains Whittier's various publications.

- Folder 1 Buttermilk to Chicken, Country & City, Yankess, etc.
- Folder 2 Christmas, Tragedy of North Chichester, Concord Flood, 1936
- Folder 3 Vacations
- Folder 4-7 Articles submitted, 1923-1932, 1936
- Folder 8 We Go Motoring, 1936
- Folder 9 Articles submitted, 1940s
- Folder 10 Martha Hilton Wentworth, 1963
- Folder 11 Lace Trimmed Underwear, 1972
- Folder 12 Gentleman's Use of Lace
- Folder 13 Skits
- Folder 14 Library Play, Trustees Meeting, 1938

Series III. Library

Extent: 12 folders

Scope and Content: Series three contains materials related to Whittier's career as state librarian. She was involved in the State Library Bookmobile program and designed the bookmobile logo. There are materials pertaining to New Hampshire State Library employees Catherine Pratt and Grace Blanchard in Box 2, Folders 22-23.

- Folder 15 New Hampshire State Library, correspondence, 1929-1984
- Folder 16 Bookmobile
- Folder 17 History of the New Hampshire Library Commission
- Folder 18-19 Library Articles, 1938-1939
- Folder 20 Transcript of Radio Broadcast
- Folder 21 Personnel Records of Ruth Earline Whittier
- Folder 22 Catherine Pratt
- Folder 23 Grace Blanchard
- Folder 24-25 State Employees Association & Committees
- Folder 26 Miscellaneous

Series IV. Music

Extent: 10 folders

Scope and Content: Series four contains materials related to Whittier's interests in music, specifically New Hampshire music and musicians. Box 2, Folder 35 contains materials referring to Helen Cramm, composer and music teacher from Pembroke, NH. Ms. Whittier's interest in dolls and doll collecting is also reflected in Box 2, Folders 42-43. Box 2, Folder 38 contains a list of New Hampshire Women compiled by Ms. Whittier.

Folder 27	Correspondence, 1929-1933
Folder 28	Correspondence, 1935-1943
Folder 29	Memoranda and notes for bibliography
Folder 30	New Hampshire Music bibliography
Folder 31	Program, New Hampshire musicians
Folder 32	Articles
Folder 33	New England Women in Music, bibliography
Folder 34	New Hampshire musicians, reprint from <i>Granite Monthly</i>
Folder 35	Helen Cramm
Folder 36	Printed Items

Series V. Miscellaneous

Folder 37	Trip to Canada
Folder 38	List of New Hampshire Women
Folder 39	Concord High, class of 1921
Folder 40	Concord High, Grace Weston Memorial Fund
Folder 41	Certificates
Folder 42	Dolls, autograph book
Folder 43	Dolls, correspondence

Separated Materials:

Original artwork by Hebert Waters and Ruth Whittier, NHHS Museum Collection
Photographs of the State Library Bookmobile, NHHS Photograph Collection

Subject Terms

People:

Blanchard, Grace
Bridges, Sally, - 1938
Cramm, H. L. (Helen L.)
Hancock, Mary Louise, 1920 –
Humphrey, Gordon J., 1940 -
May, Harry
McGreal, Elizabeth Yates, 1905-2001
Peale, Norman Vincent, 1898-1993
Pratt, Catherine
Vaughn, Dorothy M., 1904-2004
Waters, Herbert Odgen, 1903-1996

Whittier, Ruth Earline, 1903-1991

Organizations:

New Hampshire State Library

Subjects:

Author

Musicians

Music

Libraries

Women

Dolls – Collectors and collecting

Flood, Concord, NH, 1936

Locations:

Concord, NH

New Hampshire

Occupations:

Author

Librarians