

Guide to the Blanche Merrill Yeaton Papers, 1912-1980, bulk 1949-1958

Administrative Information

Title and Dates:

Blanche Merrill Yeaton Papers, 1912-1980, bulk 1949-1958

Repository:

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

Collection Number:

2012.080

Author of Finding Aid:

Sandra L. Wheeler

Creator:

Yeaton, Blanche Merrill, 1899-1968
Merrill, Patricia R., about 1928-2011

Language:

The materials in this collection are in English.

Extent:

1 box ; 0.33 linear feet

Abstract:

The papers of Blanche Merrill Yeaton consist primarily of several volumes of her diaries: 1923, 1949, 1951, 1956, and 1958, along with a notebook into which a child has copied poems and a recipe book containing recipes of the mothers of young children. Her brief diary entries speak of the weather, her husband's work, and visits from friends and relatives. The collection also contains a few items written by or belonging to Patricia Rowe, wife of Yeaton's nephew, Lauris Merrill.

Access and Use

Acquisition Information and Provenance:

The Blanche Merrill Yeaton Papers were purchased by the New Hampshire Historical Society on December 7, 2012.

Processing Information:

This collection was processed first by Bill Copeley in 2012 and finalized by Sandra L. Wheeler in September 2022. The finding aid was written by Bill Copeley in March 2013 and updated by Sandra L. Wheeler in September 2022. 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.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:

The materials in this collection are paper based and have no special technical requirements for use.

Copyright/Conditions Governing Use:

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

Preferred Citation:

Item title, Blanche Merrill Yeaton Papers, 2012.080. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH. Date accessed.

Collection Overview

Biographical Information

Blanche Merrill Yeaton (1899-1968) was born on February 3, 1899 at Manchester, NH, the daughter of Herbert I. and Mary (McDonald) Merrill of Sanbornton, New Hampshire. At Sanbornton on July 3, 1927 she married Robert A. Yeaton (1889-1974), also of Sanbornton, where they continued to live. They owned a farm and Robert also worked as a teamster and lumber contractor. They had no children, but raised two nephews: Lauris (also known as Louis, Larry) and Wendell Merrill. These were the children of her brother, Allison Merrill, and his wife, Inza Merrill.

Patricia Ruth Rowe was born in about 1928 to Marcellous H. Rowe and Ruth N. Chappell in Concord, NH. She lived with her parents in Suncook, NH, and worked as a telephone operator. Rowe graduated from Pembroke Academy in 1946 and married Blanche Merrill Yeaton's nephew, Lauris Robert Merrill (1927-2000), of Sanbornton, NH, on December 24, 1947.

Collection Scope and Content Note:

Aside from a few items of juvenilia, papers of Blanche Merrill Yeaton (1899-1968) consist of her diaries. The first is dated 1923; they were kept sporadically between 1949 and 1958. Most entries are very brief, noting the weather, work done by her husband Robert (1889-1974), visitors, and local activities. The collection also includes an undated cookbook (recipes on mimeographed paper) that appears to have been a project for young school children, and some correspondence, including a bawdy poem titled "Hail – Hitler" (see folder 1).

Also among the Blanche Merrill Yeaton papers are a few items belonging to Patricia Rowe and dated in the 1940's. These include an autograph book, one letter about President Richard Nixon, and a couple of small diaries with song lyrics. Patricia Ruth Rowe was the wife of Blanche's nephew, Lauris Merrill.

Arrangement:

Items are arranged by genre (correspondence, diaries, etc.) and then chronologically.

Contents List**Box 1**

Folder 1	Correspondence, incoming, 1912, 1917, undated
Folder 2	Diaries, 1923, 1949
Folder 3	Diaries, 1951, 1956
Folder 4	Diary and expense book, 1958, undated
Folder 5	Writings, 1913, undated 1913: copies of poems written in a composition book Undated: mimeographed recipes in construction paper folder
Folder 6	Printed matter, 1960, 1961, 1980 Programs, Order of Eastern Star
Folder 7	Patricia Rowe Merrill, autograph book, 1943
Folder 8	Patricia Rowe Merrill, correspondence, incoming, 1972
Folder 9	Patricia Rowe Merrill, diaries, 1941, 1943

Subject Terms**People:**

Merrill, Patricia R., about 1928-2011
Nixon, Richard M. (Richard Milhous), 1913-1994
Yeaton, Blanche Merrill, 1899-1968

Organizations:

Order of the Eastern Star

Subjects:

Correspondence
Diaries
Farm life
Formulas, recipes, etc.

Programs
World War, 1939-1945

Locations:

Sanbornton, NH
Suncook, NH

Occupations:

Farmers
Housewives