
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:

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:

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
Folder 6  Diary, 1967
Folder 7  Correspondence, 1917-1929
Folder 8  Correspondence, 1930-1934
Folder 9  Correspondence, 1935-1939
Folder 10  Correspondence, 1940s
Folder 11  Correspondence, 1950s
Folder 12  Correspondence, 1960s
Folder 13  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 *Granite Monthly*
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