



ArchivesSpace

a community served by †Lyrasis

Ruth Moore collection, 1917-2018

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on April 24, 2024.

Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Maine Women Writers Collection

Abplanalp Library

University of New England

716 Stevens Avenue

Portland, Maine 04103

mwwc@une.edu

URL: <https://library.une.edu/mwwc/>

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical/Historical Note	3
Collection Scope and Content	4
Arrangement	4
Administrative Information	4
Related Materials	5
Controlled Access Headings	5
Collection Inventory	6
Manuscripts	6
Reviews, publicity, and correspondence	12
Biographical material and memorabilia	15

Summary Information

Repository:	Maine Women Writers Collection
Creator:	Moore, Ruth, 1903-1989
Title:	Ruth Moore collection
ID:	0252
ID [aspace_uri]:	/repositories/3/resources/697
Date [inclusive]:	1917-2018
Physical Description:	8 linear feet 6 boxes Some oversize material
Language of the Material:	English .

Preferred Citation

Ruth Moore collection, Maine Women Writers Collection, University of New England, Portland, Maine

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical/Historical Note

Ruth Moore (1903-1989) was the second of four children born to Philip and Lovina Moore of Gott's Island, Maine. Moore was raised and attended grammar school on the island, but left at the age of 14 to attend high school in Ellsworth. Soon after finishing high school, she entered the State Teacher's College in Albany, NY, graduating with a degree in English in 1925. Moore remained in New York after college, and her parents left Gott's Island in 1927. For four years, starting in 1926 Moore worked as a secretary for NAACP founder Mary White Ovington. In 1936 she worked for novelist Alice Tisdale Hobart, and in 1942, she became editor at Reader's Digest until 1947. Living primarily in Greenwich Village (but also as far away as California), she moved in literary circles, and wrote primarily unpublished poetry during these years. Moore wrote a number of novels before publishing *The Weir* (W. Morrow and Co.) in 1943. Her second novel, *Spoonhandle* (1946), was turned into the movie "Deep Waters" by 20th Century Fox, the proceeds of which allowed her to buy land in Bass Harbor, but Moore ultimately disliked the results. From 1947 onward, Moore lived in Maine with her friend Eleanor Mayo. Moore had published 13 novels by 1979, including *The Walk Down Main*

Street (1960), *The Sea Flower* (1965), and *The Gold and Silver Hooks* (1969). Although she disliked the designation, Moore is considered a regional writer, often identified as the strongest one that Maine has produced. Her works are emotionally, politically, and socially complex reflections of life in small-town Maine, written with vivid descriptions of the landscape, and including local dialect. In addition to her novels, Moore published three compilations of poetry, including *The Tired Apple* (Blackberry Books) in 1990. Most of Moore's novels have been re-released by Blackberry Books, and she enjoyed a resurgence of popularity in the late 1980s. In 1976, she received an honorary doctorate from Unity College. Moore died in Bass Harbor in 1989. A collection of her letters, titled *High Clouds Soaring, Storms Driving Low: The Letters of Ruth Moore*, was edited by Sanford Phippen and published by Blackberry Books in 1993. In 2021, Islandport Press acquired the rights to the Ruth Moore catalogue, and they have reissued many of Moore's books.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Collection Scope and Content

This collection includes manuscripts of Moore's post-1955 novels and poetry collections, as well as editor's notes, advance copies and galleys of these works. Also included are scrapbooks and loose clippings of reviews and publicity, as well as fan mail and literary correspondence. The collection includes biographical material about Moore and some memorabilia.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

This collection is organized into three series: I. Writing; II. Review, publicity, and correspondence; III. Biographical material and memorabilia

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Maine Women Writers Collection

Abplanalp Library

University of New England
716 Stevens Avenue
Portland, Maine 04103
mwwc@une.edu
URL: <https://library.une.edu/mwwc/>

Access

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

For permission to reproduce or publish, please contact the Curator of the Maine Women Writers Collection.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Related Materials

Ruth Moore Papers, The University of Texas at Austin, Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, Austin, Texas

Thayer Hobson Papers, The University of Texas at Austin, Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, Austin, Texas

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Maine -- Fiction
- Mount Desert (Me. : Town)
- Manuscripts
- Music
- Clippings
- Typescripts
- Scrapbooks
- Correspondence
- Memorabilia

- Maps
- Diplomas
- Ephemera
- Photographs
- Obituaries
- Phippen, Sanford, 1942-
- Lawless, Gary
- Moore, Ruth, 1903-1989
- William Morrow and Company
- Blackberry (Publisher)

Collection Inventory

Manuscripts		
Title/Description	Instances	
"In Winter" Words: Ruth Moore [sheet music], circa 1972 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 001
"Lost Atlantis" [draft], undated	Box 1	Folder 002
RM poetry in college publication, 1926 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 003
Published articles/reviews by RM, 1945-1964 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 1	Folder 003a
Dandelion Wine, Part I [m.s. unpublished]	Box 1	Folder 004
	Box 1	Folder 005
	Box 1	Folder 006
	Box 1	Folder 007
	Box 1	Folder 008
Speak to the Winds [typescript]	Box 1	Folder 009
	Box 1	Folder 010
	Box 1	Folder 011
	Box 1	Folder 012
	Box 1	Folder 013
	Box 1	Folder 014
Speak to the Winds [corrections]	Box 1	Folder 015
Walk Down Main Street [typescript - fragments]	Box 1	Folder 016

Ruth Moore collection, 1917-2018

Walk Down Main Street [editorial comments]	Box 1	Folder 017
Second Growth - Part I [typescript]	Box 1	Folder 018
Second Growth - Part 2 [typescript w/ revisions]	Box 1	Folder 019
Second Growth - Part 3 [typescript w/ revisions]	Box 1	Folder 020
	Box 1	Folder 021
Second Growth - Part 4 [typescript]	Box 1	Folder 022
Second Growth - Part 5 [typescript]	Box 1	Folder 023
	Box 1	Folder 024
Second Growth - Part 6; Epilogue [typescript]	Box 1	Folder 025
The Sea Flower [draft w/ revisions]	Box 1	Folder 026
	Box 1	Folder 027
	Box 1	Folder 028
	Box 1	Folder 029
	Box 1	Folder 030
	Box 1	Folder 031
	Box 1	Folder 032
Cat's Cradle [The Sea Flower - final draft w/ copyediting]	Box 1	Folder 033
	Box 1	Folder 034
	Box 1	Folder 035
	Box 1	Folder 036
The Sea Flower [front matter]	Box 1	Folder 037
Gold and Silver Hooks [typescript w/ revisions]	Box 1	Folder 038

Ruth Moore collection, 1917-2018

	Box 1	Folder 039
	Box 1	Folder 040
	Box 1	Folder 041
	Box 1	Folder 042
	Box 1	Folder 043
	Box 1	Folder 044
	Box 1	Folder 045
	Box 1	Folder 046
	Box 1	Folder 047
	Box 1	Folder 048
	Box 1	Folder 049
	Box 1	Folder 050
	Box 1	Folder 051
	Box 1	Folder 052
	Box 1	Folder 053
	Box 1	Folder 054
	Box 1	Folder 055
<hr/>		
Gold and Silver Hooks [m.s. w/ proofreader's marks]	Box 1	Folder 056
	Box 1	Folder 057
	Box 1	Folder 058
	Box 1	Folder 059
	Box 2	Folder 060
	Box 2	Folder 061
	Box 2	Folder 062
	Box 2	Folder 063
<hr/>		
Lizzie and Carolyn [late draft]	Box 2	Folder 064
	Box 2	Folder 065
	Box 2	Folder 066
	Box 2	Folder 067
	Box 2	Folder 068
	Box 2	Folder 069
	Box 2	Folder 070
<hr/>		
Lizzie and Carolyn [m.s. marked for printer]	Box 2	Folder 071

Ruth Moore collection, 1917-2018

	Box 2	Folder 072
	Box 2	Folder 073
	Box 2	Folder 074
	Box 2	Folder 075
	Box 2	Folder 076
<hr/>		
Lizzie and Carolyn [dead material]	Box 2	Folder 077
	Box 2	Folder 078
	Box 2	Folder 079
	Box 2	Folder 080
	Box 2	Folder 081
	Box 2	Folder 082
	Box 2	Folder 083
	Box 2	Folder 084
	Box 2	Folder 085
	Box 2	Folder 086
<hr/>		
The Dinosaur Bite [original m.s.]	Box 2	Folder 087
	Box 2	Folder 088
	Box 2	Folder 089
	Box 2	Folder 090
	Box 2	Folder 091
	Box 2	Folder 092
<hr/>		
The Dinosaur Bite [typescript with revisions]	Box 2	Folder 093
	Box 2	Folder 094
	Box 2	Folder 095
	Box 2	Folder 096
	Box 2	Folder 097
	Box 2	Folder 098
	Box 2	Folder 099
<hr/>		
The Dinosaur Bite [m.s. marked for printer]	Box 2	Folder 100

Ruth Moore collection, 1917-2018

	Box 2	Folder 101
	Box 2	Folder 102
	Box 2	Folder 103
	Box 2	Folder 104
	Box 2	Folder 105
<hr/>		
Sarah Walked Over the Mountain [dead material]	Box 2	Folder 106
	Box 2	Folder 107
	Box 2	Folder 108
	Box 2	Folder 109
	Box 2	Folder 110
	Box 2	Folder 111
	Box 2	Folder 112
	Box 2	Folder 113
	Box 2	Folder 114
	Box 2	Folder 115
	Box 3	Folder 116
	Box 3	Folder 117
	Box 3	Folder 118
	Box 3	Folder 119
	Box 3	Folder 120
	Box 3	Folder 121
	Box 3	Folder 122
	Box 3	Folder 123
	Box 3	Folder 124
	Box 3	Folder 125
	Box 3	Folder 126
<hr/>		
Sarah Walked Over the Mountain [draft with editor's notes and correspondence]	Box 3	Folder 127
	Box 3	Folder 128
	Box 3	Folder 129
	Box 3	Folder 130
	Box 3	Folder 131
	Box 3	Folder 132
	Box 3	Folder 133
<hr/>		
Sarah Walked Over the Mountain [m.s. marked for printer]	Box 3	Folder 134

Ruth Moore collection, 1917-2018

	Box 3	Folder 135
	Box 3	Folder 136
	Box 3	Folder 137
	Box 3	Folder 138
	Box 3	Folder 139
	Box 3	Folder 140
	Box 3	Folder 141
Ballads published in Cold as a Dog and The Wind Northeast	Box 3	Folder 142
Cold as a Dog copyright certificate	Box 3	Folder 143
Time's Web [original m.s.]	Box 3	Folder 144
	Box 3	Folder 145
	Box 3	Folder 146
	Box 3	Folder 147
Time's Web [first drafts, etc.]	Box 3	Folder 148
	Box 3	Folder 149
	Box 3	Folder 150
	Box 3	Folder 151
Tired Apple Tree [m.s. with marks]	Box 3	Folder 152
	Box 3	Folder 153
	Box 3	Folder 154
Tired Apple Tree [m.s.]	Box 3	Folder 155
	Box 3	Folder 156
	Box 3	Folder 157
Tired Apple Tree [m.s.]	Box 3	Folder 158
	Box 3	Folder 159
	Box 3	Folder 160
	Box 3	Folder 161
High Clouds tributes collected	Box 3	Folder 162
Copies of RM letters collected by S. Phippen [18 TLS], 1975-1988	Box 3	Folder 163
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
High Clouds Soaring, Storms Driving Low [publisher's photocopies]	Box 3	Folder 164

	Box 3	Folder 165
	Box 3	Folder 166
	Box 3	Folder 167
	Box 3	Folder 168
	Box 3	Folder 169
	Box 3	Folder 170
	Box 3	Folder 171
	Box 3	Folder 172
	Box 3	Folder 173
	Box 4	Folder 174
	Box 4	Folder 175
High Clouds Soaring, Storms Driving Low [completed manuscript]	Box 4	Folder 176
	Box 4	Folder 177
	Box 4	Folder 178
	Box 4	Folder 179
The Rockwood Tree [Sea Flower] - printer's proof	Box 5	Folder 180
The Sea Flower - printer's proof	Box 5	Folder 181
Gold and Silver Hooks - galley proof	Box 5	Folder 182
	Box 5	Folder 183
Gold and Silver Hooks - galley proof	Box 5	Folder 184
	Box 5	Folder 185
Lizzie and Caroline - galley proof	Box 5	Folder 186
The Dinosaur Bite - author's galley proof	Box 5	Folder 187
The Dinosaur Bite - reader's set	Box 5	Folder 188
The Dinosaur Bite - page proofs and memos	Box 5	Folder 189
The Dinosaur Bite - galley proof	Box 5	Folder 190
Sarah Walked Over the Mountain - author's galley proof	Box 5	Folder 191
Sarah Walked Over the Mountain - galley proof	Box 5	Folder 192
Jeb Ellis of Candlemas Bay -- galley proof, undated <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 8	Folder 192a

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Reviews, publicity, and correspondence

Title/Description	Instances	
The Weir [scrapbook pages], 1943 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 4	Folder 193
The Weir - clippings, 1943 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 4	Folder 194
Spoonhandle [scrapbook]	Box 7 (OVS)	Folder 195
Spoonhandle [scrapbook inserts]	Box 4	Folder 196
Spoonhandle clippings, 1946-1948 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 4	Folder 197
William Morrow Co. correspondence, 1947-1962 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 4	Folder 198
The Fire Balloon [scrapbook], 1948 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 7 (OVS)	Folder 199
The Fire Balloon [scrapbook inserts]	Box 4	Folder 200
Candlemas Bay [scrapbook], 1951 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 7 (OVS)	Folder 201
Candlemas Bay [scrapbook inserts]	Box 4	Folder 202
A Fair Wind Home [scrapbook], 1951 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 4	Folder 203
A Fair Wind Home advertising poster <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box OVS 2	Folder 204
Man, Time, and Fossils - review, circa 1953 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 4	Folder 205
Speak to the Winds - reviews/press releases, 1956 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 4	Folder 206
	Box 4	Folder 207
Wings: The Literary Guild Review, [Speak to the Winds featured], 1956 September-December <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 4	Folder 208
Cold as a Dog - reviews, 1959 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 4	Folder 209
Walk Down Main Street - press releases and reviews, 1960 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 4	Folder 210
TLS from [Maryann?], 1960 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 4	Folder 211
Second Growth - reviews/publicity, 1962		

Ruth Moore collection, 1917-2018

<u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 6	Folder 212
"Deep Water" movie poster, 1963 <u>Physical Description</u> : 28cm x 36cm <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 7 (OVS)	Folder 213
Sea Flower - reviews/publicity, 1965 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 6	Folder 214
Gold and Silver Hooks - reviews/publicity, 1969 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 6	Folder 215
Lizzie and Caroline - reviews, 1972 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 6	Folder 216
Correspondence with C.W. Scholl [re: Sea Flower], 1975 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 6	Folder 217
The Dinosaur Bite - reviews, 1976 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 6	Folder 218
Sarah Walked Over the Mountain - reviews, 1979 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 6	Folder 219
Correspondence RM with David Phillips, 1986 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 6	Folder 220
Letters from E. Trask to Gary Lawless, 1990-2001 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 6	Folder 221
Correspondence with Mary Elizabeth Vedder Kamenoff, 1950s-1980s <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 6 Box 6 Box 6	Folder 221a Folder 221b Folder 221c
Correspondence with Mary Elizabeth Vedder Kamenoff from Sanford Phippen and Jennifer Pixley, 1990s <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 6 Box 6	Folder 221d Folder 221e
Maurice Joseph Marshal letter in The Ellsworth American, 2004 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 6	Folder 221f
fan letters re: Blackberry reprints, 1987-1993 <u>Language of the Material</u> : English.	Box 6	Folder 221g
Deep Water movie poster, 1948	Box OVS 2	Folder 221h

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical material and memorabilia

Title/Description	Instances	
Tremont Grammar Schools diploma, 1917 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box OVS 2	Folder 222
N.Y.S. College for Teachers (B.A.) diploma, 1925 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box OVS 2	Folder 223
N.Y.S. College for Teachers - Commencement program, 1925 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 6	Folder 224
Gott's Island manuscript map, F.L.G., 1941 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box OVS 2	Folder 225
Copy of resume, circa 1940-1949 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 6	Folder 226
University of Maine - Commencement program, 1947 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 6	Folder 227
List of manuscripts, galley proofs, editions sent to Univ. of Texas, 1964 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 6	Folder 228
TLS to RM from H.M. Houghton [re: Moore genealogy], 1967 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 6	Folder 229
Unity College - Honorary doctorate, 1976 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 6	Folder 230
"Ruth Moore - Lively Lady of Modern Maine Literature" by Isabel Currier [typescript]	Box 6	Folder 231
Correspondence from RM to Gary Lawless [19 TLS], 1983-1989 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 6	Folder 232
David Philips - notes for Down East article, 1987 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 6	Folder 233
"Ruth Moore, Maine Novelist and Poet" by Margaret Andrews [student paper], 1987 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 6	Folder 234
"Vision of Small Town America Exemplified Through Ruth Moore's The Weir" by Veronika Mayr [thesis], 1990	Box 6 Box 6	Folder 235 Folder 236

Ruth Moore collection, 1917-2018

<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
"Ruth Moore, A Modern American Writer" by Ellen McMahan [student paper], circa 1992	Box 6	Folder 237
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
"Loaves and Fishes" by Rev. Marc Stewart, 1987	Box 6	Folder 237a
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
Sandy Phippen/J.C. Pixley correspondence re: RM biography, 1995	Box 6	Folder 238
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
"Spoonhandle: Education and Knowledge in the Green World" by Jennifer C. Pixley, 1996	Box 6	Folder 239
<u>Creator:</u> Craig, Jennifer Lynn, 1945-		
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
"Homesick For That Place: Ruth Moore Writes About Maine" by Jennifer C. Pixley, circa 1997	Box 6	Folder 240
<u>Creator:</u> Craig, Jennifer Lynn, 1945-		
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
Articles on RM and Maine fiction, 1947-1979	Box 6	Folder 241
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
Articles on RM and Maine fiction, 1983-2011	Box 6	Folder 241a
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
Ruth Moore revival/re-releases, 1986-1987	Box 6	Folder 242
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
Ruth Moore revival/re-releases, 1990-2004	Box 6	Folder 242a
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
Abbe Museum - clippings, 1994	Box 6	Folder 243
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
Publicity mailer for "An Evening With Ruth Moore" presented by Abbe Museum; story and song by Dennis Damon and Jackson Gillman 8/11/??, Undated	Box 6	Folder 243a
Obituaries / memorials, 1989-1993	Box 6	Folder 244
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
	Box 6	Folder 244a
Copy photographs - RM portrait; at typewriter; in Jeep	Box 6	Folder 245
Photos (2), 1925	Box 6	Folder 245a
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
Hand-painted island scene by R. Moore, 1925	Box 6	Folder 245b

Language of the Material: English.

Ruth Moore Weekend - fliers	Box 6	Folder 246
"I Read Ruth Moore" bumper sticker	Box 8	Folder 247
Hermes 3000 typewriter - on display	Box 8	Folder 248
Chellie Pingree letter to Gary Lawless, undated	Box 8	Folder 249
High Clouds Soaring, Storms Driving Low correspondence Sanford Phippen, ed., 1993	Box 8	Folder 250
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
Opening Reception invitation to "The Indian Shell Heap: Archaeology of the Ruth Moore Site", 1994	Box 8	Folder 251
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
Blue Hill Library newsletter with note on Ruth Moore by Rich Boulet, 2003	Box 8	Item 252
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
National Register of Historic Places form for Moore/Mayo House in Bass Harbor, Maine, 2004	Box 8	Item 253
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
"I Have Seen Horizons" playbill from Stonington Opera House, 2018	Box 8	Folder 254
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		
Ruth Moore - Blackberry Books CD, undated	Box 8	Folder 255
<u>Language of the Material:</u> English.		

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)