



**ArchivesSpace**  
a community served by ✦ LYRASIS

## Ruth Moore collection, 1917-1995

---

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on January 29, 2020.  
Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Maine Women Writers Collection

Abplanalp Library  
University of New England  
716 Stevens Avenue  
Portland, Maine 04103  
[cmiller10@une.edu](mailto:cmiller10@une.edu)  
URL: <http://www.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 .....	14

---

## Summary Information

---

<b>Repository:</b>	Maine Women Writers Collection
<b>Creator:</b>	Moore, Ruth, 1903-1989
<b>Title:</b>	Ruth Moore collection
<b>ID:</b>	0252
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1917-1995
<b>Physical Description:</b>	8 linear feet 6 boxes Some oversize material
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	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primarily in Greenwich Village (but also as far away as California), she moved in literary circles, and wrote primarily unpublished poetry during these years.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.

[^ 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  
[cmiller10@une.edu](mailto:cmiller10@une.edu)

URL: <http://www.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

---

<b>Manuscripts</b>		
<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Instances</b>	
"In Winter" Words: Ruth Moore [sheet music], circa 1972	Box 1	Folder 001
"Lost Atlantis" [draft], undated	Box 1	Folder 002
RM poetry in college publication, 1926	Box 1	Folder 003
Published articles/reviews by RM, 1945-1964	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
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

Ruth Moore collection, 1917-1995

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, 1917-1995

	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, 1917-1995

	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, 1917-1995

	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, 1917-1995

	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
High Clouds Soaring, Storms Driving Low [publisher's photocopies]	Box 3	Folder 164

Ruth Moore collection, 1917-1995

	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	Box 8	Folder 192a

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

## Reviews, publicity, and correspondence

Title/Description	Instances
-------------------	-----------

## Ruth Moore collection, 1917-1995

The Weir [scrapbook pages], 1943	Box 4	Folder 193
The Weir - clippings, 1943	Box 4	Folder 194
Spoonhandle [scrapbook]	Box 7 (OVS)	Folder 195
Spoonhandle [scrapbook inserts]	Box 4	Folder 196
Spoonhandle clippings, 1946-1948	Box 4	Folder 197
William Morrow Co. correspondence, 1947-1962	Box 4	Folder 198
The Fire Balloon [scrapbook], 1948	Box 7 (OVS)	Folder 199
The Fire Balloon [scrapbook inserts]	Box 4	Folder 200
Candlemas Bay [scrapbook], 1951	Box 7 (OVS)	Folder 201
Candlemas Bay [scrapbook inserts]	Box 4	Folder 202
A Fair Wind Home [scrapbook], 1951	Box 4	Folder 203
A Fair Wind Home advertising poster	Box OVS 2	Folder 204
Man, Time, and Fossils - review, circa 1953	Box 4	Folder 205
Speak to the Winds - reviews/press releases, 1956	Box 4	Folder 206
	Box 4	Folder 207
Wings: The Literary Guild Review, [Speak to the Winds featured], 1956 September-December	Box 4	Folder 208
Cold as a Dog - reviews, 1959	Box 4	Folder 209
Walk Down Main Street - press releases and reviews, 1960	Box 4	Folder 210
TLS from [Maryann?], 1960	Box 4	Folder 211
Second Growth - reviews/publicity, 1962	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	Box 6	Folder 214
Gold and Silver Hooks - reviews/publicity, 1969	Box 6	Folder 215
Lizzie and Caroline - reviews, 1972	Box 6	Folder 216
Correspondence with C.W. Scholl [re: Sea Flower], 1975	Box 6	Folder 217
The Dinosaur Bite - reviews, 1976	Box 6	Folder 218
Sarah Walked Over the Mountain - reviews, 1979	Box 6	Folder 219
Correspondence RM with David Phillips, 1986	Box 6	Folder 220
Letters from E. Trask to Gary Lawless, 1990-2001	Box 6	Folder 221
Correspondence with Mary Elizabeth Vedder Kamenoff, 1950s-1980s	Box 6	Folder 221a

	Box 6	Folder 221b
	Box 6	Folder 221c
Correspondence with Mary Elizabeth Vedder Kamenoff from Sanford Phippen and Jennifer Pixley, 1990s	Box 6	Folder 221d
	Box 6	Folder 221e
Maurice Joseph Marshal letter in The Ellsworth American, 2004	Box 6	Folder 221f
fan letters re: Blackberry reprints, 1987-1993	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	Box OVS 2	Folder 222
N.Y.S. College for Teachers (B.A.) diploma, 1925	Box OVS 2	Folder 223
N.Y.S. College for Teachers - Commencement program, 1925	Box 6	Folder 224
Gott's Island manuscript map, F.L.G., 1941	Box OVS 2	Folder 225
Copy of resume, circa 1940-1949	Box 6	Folder 226
University of Maine - Commencement program, 1947	Box 6	Folder 227
List of manuscripts, galley proofs, editions sent to Univ. of Texas, 1964	Box 6	Folder 228
TLS to RM from H.M. Houghton [re: Moore genealogy], 1967	Box 6	Folder 229
Unity College - Honorary doctorate, 1976	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	Box 6	Folder 232
David Philips - notes for Down East article, 1987	Box 6	Folder 233
"Ruth Moore, Maine Novelist and Poet" by Margaret Andrews [student paper], 1987	Box 6	Folder 234
"Vision of Small Town America Exemplified Through Ruth Moore's The Weir" by Veronika Mayr [thesis], 1990	Box 6	Folder 235
	Box 6	Folder 236
"Ruth Moore, A Modern American Writer" by Ellen McMahan [student paper], circa 1992	Box 6	Folder 237
"Loaves and Fishes" by Rev. Marc Stewart, 1987	Box 6	Folder 237a
Sandy Phippen/J.C. Pixley correspondence re: RM biography, 1995	Box 6	Folder 238

Ruth Moore collection, 1917-1995

"Spoonhandle: Education and Knowledge in the Green World" by Jennifer C. Pixley, 1996 <u>Creator:</u> Craig, Jennifer Lynn, 1945-	Box 6	Folder 239
"Homesick For That Place: Ruth Moore Writes About Maine" by Jennifer C. Pixley, circa 1997 <u>Creator:</u> Craig, Jennifer Lynn, 1945-	Box 6	Folder 240
Articles on RM and Maine fiction, 1947-1979	Box 6	Folder 241
Articles on RM and Maine fiction, 1983-2011	Box 6	Folder 241a
Ruth Moore revival/re-releases, 1986-1987	Box 6	Folder 242
Ruth Moore revival/re-releases, 1990-2004	Box 6	Folder 242a
Abbe Museum - clippings, 1994	Box 6	Folder 243
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
	Box 6	Folder 244a
Copy photographs - RM portrait; at typewriter; in Jeep	Box 6	Folder 245
Photos (2), 1925	Box 6	Folder 245a
Hand-painted island scene by R. Moore, 1925	Box 6	Folder 245b
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 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 8	Folder 250
Opening Reception invitation to "The Indian Shell Heap: Archaeology of the Ruth Moore Site", 1994 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 8	Folder 251
Blue Hill Library newsletter with note on Ruth Moore by Rich Boulet, 2003 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 8	Item 252
National Register of Historic Places form for Moore/Mayo House in Bass Harbor, Maine, 2004 <u>Language of the Material:</u> English.	Box 8	Item 253
"I Have Seen Horizons" playbill from Stonington Opera House, 2018	Box 8	Folder 254

Language of the Material: English.

---

Ruth Moore - Blackberry Books CD, undated

Box 8

Folder 255

Language of the Material: English.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)