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## Guide to the Elizabeth Henley Collection, 1928-1981

### Title

Elizabeth Henley Collection (MSS Henley)

### Dates

1928-1981 (inclusive)

1955-1972 (bulk)

### Creator

Henley, Elizabeth, 1912-

### Summary

The Elizabeth Henley Collection documents the writings and life of poet and Oregon State English professor Elizabeth W. Henley. The collection includes poems, newspaper clippings, publications, and photographs. Henley joined the faculty at Oregon State College in 1959.

### Quantity

0.15 cubic foot, including 8 photographs (1 box)

### Restrictions on Access

Collection is open for research.

Oregon State University Libraries, University Archives  
121 The Valley Library  
Oregon State University  
Corvallis, OR 97331-4501  
Phone: 541-737-2165  
Email: [archives@oregonstate.edu](mailto:archives@oregonstate.edu)  
Web: <http://osulibrary.oregonstate.edu/archives>

Finding aid prepared by Elizabeth Nielsen, 2010.

## Biographical Note

Elizabeth Watts Henley was an Assistant Professor of English and Creative Writing at Oregon State University from 1959 until her retirement in 1972. Henley was born in Bellingham, Washington, and attended Western Washington University. She earned bachelor's and master's degrees in English from the University of Washington. Henley taught at the University of Washington, Hunter College, and Portland State College before coming to Corvallis. She was active in the OSU Poetry Association; many of her poems were published in magazines, journals, and anthologies. Henley died in Corvallis in 1981.

## Content Description

The Elizabeth Henley Collection documents Henley's life and work as a poet and English professor at Oregon State University. The collection includes poems, newspaper clippings, publications, and photographs. Three handwritten and typed poems are included with the collection. Three anthologies that include poems by Henley are part of the collection: The March 1960 issue of the journal *Poetry* (v. 95, no. 6); *Unique: 66 Poems by 66 Poets*, a 1969 anthology of Oregon poems collected and edited by Ruth McCorkle; and *Birthday Candles Burning Bright* by Sara and John E. Brewton (1960).

The photographs consist of b/w and color photographic prints depicting Henley and her family. The photographs include several portrait photographs of Henley and her home at 826 NW 34th Street in Corvallis.

## Preferred Citation

Elizabeth Henley Collection, Oregon State University Archives, Corvallis, Oregon.

## Acquisition Information

The materials were donated to the Archives in 2009 by Henley's son, John Henley.

## Related Material

The OSU Archives houses the papers of several Oregon State English faculty including Peter Copek; Richard E. Dankleff, with poetry by Dankleff; Ray S. Hewitt; Sigurd H. and Ruth Peterson; and [M. Ellwood Smith](#). The English Department Records are part of the [College of Liberal Arts Records \(RG 143\)](#); the [English Department Photographs \(P 222\)](#) consist of photographs of Bernard Malamud during his years as a faculty member at Oregon State; the OSU Libraries Special Collections includes the [Bernard Malamud Papers](#). The [Edwin T. Reed Papers](#) include poetry written by Reed.

## Subjects

This collection is indexed under the following headings in the OSU Libraries Catalog. Researchers desiring materials about related topics, persons, or places should search the catalog (<http://oasis.oregonstate.edu>) using these headings.

## Organizations

Oregon State University--Faculty.

## Topics

American poetry--Oregon.

Children's poetry.

Poetry--Women authors.

## Forms of Materials in the Collection

Photographic prints.

## Other Creators

Brewton, John Edmund, 1898-1982.

Brewton, Sara Westbrook.

McCorkle, Ruth.