

**Ruth R. Woodman papers, circa 1930-1972**  
**MS2009.002**  
**A Guide to the Collection**

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

September 23, 2009

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Cleveland Colby Colgate Archives  
Cleveland Library/Learning Center

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Cleveland Colby Colgate Archives
<b>Creator</b>	Woodman, Ruth
<b>Title</b>	Ruth R. Woodman papers,
<b>Date [bulk]</b>	Bulk, 1962-1972
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	circa 1930-1972, undated
<b>Extent</b>	2.0 Linear feet (1 oversize box and 1 half manuscript box)
<b>Location</b>	AS 17-13 and AS 15-9
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	The collection documents Ruth Randolph Woodman's life, in relation to the pieces that do not pertain to her husband's work and life. This includes childhood photos, high school and college degrees, miscellaneous photos from her adulthood, and correspondence directly from Ruth to someone unrelated to the Woodman family.

### Preferred Citation

Identification of Item, Box Number, Folder Number, Ruth R. Woodman Papers, MS.2009.002, Cleveland Colby Colgate Archives, Colby-Sawyer College.

## Biographical Sketch:

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Ruth Randolph was born in 1920, and spent her childhood in Newton, Massachusetts, where she graduated from High School in 1938. As a child, she and some of her younger family members enjoyed playing the parts of families in what were called "Kewpie Doll Weddings," where Ruth or one of her siblings would act as the woman to be married, and one of her cousins would play the groom.

After High School, Ruth decided to attend Colby Junior College, which is where she first met her husband, Everett Woodman. He was studying at Dartmouth College at the time. While Ruth did not stay to finish her degree at Colby Junior College, she did follow another calling as wife and mother. She married Everett in March of 1941, and supported him in his career moves throughout his life, which included staying at home while he went overseas to fight in World War II, moving to India when he gained a position there, and being his right hand man during his term as president of Colby Junior College. Ruth was the proud mother of four children, all girls: Elizabeth or "Betsy"; Ethel Lee, or "Lee Lee"; Jane; and Dorothy, more fondly known as "D.J." Nicknames were favored in their household, as was evident in Everett's fondness for calling Ruth "Poochie."

Ruth was passionate about dance, and though she was classically trained, she enjoyed learning new methods and styles. She expressed this interest while she and her husband lived in India, joining a dance troupe and learning how to belly dance, as well as honing her ballet skills. Ruth was obviously a talented and smart individual, which was proven in 1972, when Ruth was presented with an Honorary Colby Junior College Degree by her husband, who was acting in his last capacity as president of the college.

In her older age, Ruth and her husband retired to Ragged Mountain in Andover, NH, where they enjoyed a home, family, and friends. Sadly, her husband Everett passed away in July of 2007. Today, Ruth spends her time living at Woodcrest in New London, NH, and is still surrounded by the friends and family that she hosted and enjoyed at Ragged Mountain.

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## Scope and Contents

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This collection documents the life of Ruth Randolph Woodman. The materials date from 1920 to 2008, though much is undated and merely falls into that time period. It includes correspondence from Ruth to her friends, her diplomas from college and high school, and many photos from her childhood and adult life. There are also some news clippings pertaining to her honorary degree received in 1972. This information is very useful in filling out a profile of Ruth Woodman, especially in conjunction with a full Woodman family portrait which includes information on her husband, Everett.

## **Administrative Information**

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### **Publication Information**

Cleveland Colby Colgate Archives

### **Restrictions on Access**

Collection is open for research.

### **Copyright Restrictions**

Copyright interests have not been transferred to Colby-Sawyer College. For further information, see the section on copyright in the Cleveland Colby Colgate Archives' Rules for the Reading Room.

### **Provenance**

The materials in this collection were created and collected by the Woodman family, and mainly by Ruth Woodman herself. The collection was donated after the death of Dr. Woodman in 2007, when additions were made to his collection of papers. These pieces were sorted out as a separate collection for Ruth.

### **Source of Acquisition**

Gift, Woodman Family, Fall 2007

### **Processing Information**

Processed by Sarah Hoke, April 2009.

### **Additional Copies**

Every piece in this collection is known so far as the only copy of that document or photograph. The one exception to this is the information on Ruth's Honorary Degree from Colby Junior College, of which there is information in Dr. Woodman's collection as well.

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## **Related Materials**

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### **Related Materials**

For more information on Ruth Woodman's adult life, please consult her husband's collection: Dr. E.M. Woodman Papers (MS.1997.046).

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## Controlled Access Headings

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### Personal Name(s)

- Woodman, Everett M.
- Woodman, Ruth

## Collection Inventory

	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Childhood Photos, circa 1930, undated	1	1
Degrees- High School Diploma, 1938 June	1	2
Miscellaneous Photos, circa 1938	1	3
Camp Marlyn- Mrs. E.M. Woodman, 1941 Summer	1	4
Miscellaneous Letters to Ruth Woodman, 1945, 1953	1	5
News Circle, 1960-1963	1	6
Ruth Receives Honorary Degree, 1972 June	1	7

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Ruth Receives Honorary Degree, 1972 June	1	8
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Degrees- Colby Junior College, 1972 June	1	9
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Correspondence from Ruth Woodman, 1952, undated	1	10
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Family Reflection on Ruth Woodman, undated	1	11
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Miscellaneous Photos, undated	2	1
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