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Guide to the Ardis W. Koester Papers, 1962-1996

Title

Ardis W. Koester Papers (MSS Koester)

Dates

1962-1996 (inclusive)
1975-1995 (bulk)

Creator

Koester, Ardis W.

Summary

The Ardis W. Koester Papers consist of materials assembled and created by Koester in her role as Extension Textile and Clothing Specialist with the Oregon State University Extension Service from 1974 until 1996. The materials include extensive reference materials as well as publications, instructional kits, and slide presentations on textiles used for clothing and interior design.

Quantity

7.5 cubic feet, including 704 photographs (8 boxes)

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
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Web: <http://osulibrary.oregonstate.edu/archives>

Finding aid prepared by Elizabeth Nielsen, 2009.

Biographical Note

Ardis Williams Koester was Textiles and Clothing Specialist with the Oregon State University Extension Service from 1974 to 1996 as an Assistant Professor (1974-1979), Associate Professor (1979-1990), and Professor (1990-1996). In this position she provided educational programs in all aspects of textiles and clothing for individuals and families in Oregon and conducted and published applied research. Koester authored numerous Extension Service publications, teaching guides, instructional kits, and audiovisual presentations.

Ardis A. Williams earned a BS in Home Economics Education from Oregon State University in 1961; she taught homemaking in junior and senior high schools in California from 1961 to 1969. She completed an MS (1972) and Ph.D. (1974) at University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Content Description

The Ardis W. Koester Papers consist of reference materials; audiovisual presentations, instructional sewing kits, and slide presentations; and publications and information resources. The reference materials comprise the bulk of the collection and include clippings, fabric samples, newsletters and publications, and corporate product brochures and promotional materials on a myriad of topics pertaining to textiles for interior design; clothing design and construction; clothing maintenance and laundry; and teenagers' clothing purchases. The reference materials also include lecture notes, syllabi, and student papers documenting the Textiles for Interiors course (AIHM 352) taught by Koester as well as resources on cleaning and maintenance assembled by Extension Housing Specialist Mary Ann Sward.

The audiovisual presentations, instructional sewing kits, and slide presentations were developed by Koester for use by Koester and other Extension Service staff. They address a variety of clothing design topics and include *Clothing Speaks*, *Start Sewing and Keep Sewing*, *Fitting a Basic Dress Pattern*, *Tailoring Women's Jackets with Fusible Interfacing*, *Focus on Color*, and *Appropriate Dress for Work*. These include about 700 slides and 8 cassette tape sound recordings.

The publication and information resources consist of materials written and prepared by Koester and include Extension Service publications, a 4-H Clothing Project Leader Training Guide, and an informational kit (with fabric samples) about microfibers and other textile developments.

The collection also includes a detailed curriculum vitae for Koester that lists her professional activities, publications, and presentations.

Preferred Citation

Ardis W. Koester Papers, Oregon State University Archives, Corvallis, Oregon.

Acquisition Information

The materials were transferred and donated to the Archives in two accessions in 2008.

Processing Note

This collection is not fully processed; this guide is preliminary.

Additional Reference Guides

[Preliminary container list](#) available online.

Related Material

The [Extension Service Records \(RG 111\)](#) and the [College of Home Economics and Education Records \(RG 141\)](#) provide information about the home economics extension and 4-H programs in Oregon. The papers of many Extension specialists and agents are part of the Archives' collections, including [Roberta Frasier Anderson](#), [James F. Bishop](#), [Helen Cowgill](#), [Buena Maris Mockmore](#), Esther Taskerud, and Janet Taylor. The [Apparel, Interiors, Housing, and Merchandising Department Records \(RG 028\)](#) document the teaching, research, and extension activities in clothings and textiles. The Archives' collections also include the [Oregon Fiber Flax Collection](#) and Oregon Custom Weavers Guild Research Notebook.

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

Topics

4-H clubs--Oregon.
Clothing and dress--Care--Handbooks, manuals, etc.
Clothing and dress--Social aspects--Handbooks, manuals, etc.
Home economics extension work--Oregon.
Home economics--Study and teaching (Higher)--Oregon--Corvallis.
Laundry.
Sewing.
Textile research--Oregon--Corvallis.
Textile fabrics.

Forms of Materials in the Collection

Audiocassettes.
Slides.

Other Creators

Oregon State University. College of Home Economics.
Oregon State University. Extension Service.
Oregon State University. School of Home Economics.
Sward, Mary Ann.