



The New York Public Library
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

Eleanor Gould Packard papers

1939-2005

MssCol 23233

Compiled by Kit Fluker, 2016

Summary

Creator: Packard, Eleanor Gould, 1917-2005

Title: Eleanor Gould Packard papers

Date: 1939-2005

Size: 3.32 linear feet (9 boxes)

Source: Donated by Susan H. Packard, 2015.

Abstract: Eleanor Gould Packard was an editor who worked at the New Yorker from 1945 to 1999, first as a copy editor and later as the magazine's Grammarian, a title created for her. Packard's papers contain correspondence, hand-edited galley proofs, articles, photographs, and other material related to her career. Correspondence is with authors, journalists, and editors, including New Yorker writers and staff; the collection also contains many letters from fans. The best-represented correspondents include Janet Flanner, Andrew Porter, and Priscilla Taylor. Drafts of some of Packard's outgoing letters are present. Packard's handwritten line edits and copyedits appear on documents throughout the collection, on proofs as well as published pieces. The collection includes a photocopy of *The Elements of Style* with Packard's edits, and word lists and style-related memoranda from the New Yorker.

Conditions Governing Access:

Video recording unavailable pending digitization.

Preferred citation: Eleanor Gould Packard papers, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library.

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Key Terms

Subjects

English language -- Grammar

Journalism -- Editing

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Letters (correspondence)

Proofs (printed matter)

Titles

New Yorker (New York, N.Y. : 1925)

Container List

- b. 1 f. 1-11 Letters, Proofs, Articles about Packard, and Miscellany 1939-2005
Includes letters of condolence sent to Susan Packard after her mother's death.
- b. 3 f. 1 Articles about Packard 1995-1998
- origvid.241672 *Interview with Packard, CBS News Nightwatch* 1990 May 21
Original video unavailable until digitized.
- b. 2 f. 1 *Magazine Week Profile* 1992-1993
- b. 2 f. 2 *New Yorker Style--Word Lists and Memoranda* 1964-1974
- b. 3 f. 2-3 Photographs 1948-1990s
Packard, her office, and *New Yorker* staff.
- b. 4 f. 1-14 Correspondence and Proofs 1950s-1999
Janet Flanner, Garrison Keillor, Harrison Kinney, Thomas Kunkel, James Lardner, Suzannah Lessard, Bill McKibben, John McPhee, Ved Mehta, and Cynthia Ozick.
- b. 5 f. 1-10 Correspondence and Proofs 1948-1999
Andrew Porter, Ron Swoboda, Priscilla Taylor, E. B. White and Katharine White, and Ben Yagoda. Priscilla Taylor files include a photocopy of an edited manuscript of *The Elements of Style*.
- b. 6 f. 1-6 Christmas Cards 1940s-2000s
- b. 7 f. 1-3 Letters of Condolence 1974
On the death of Frederick Packard.
- Letters from Readers
- b. 7 f. 4-6 1990
Responses to a piece about Packard in the *Wall Street Journal*.
- b. 8 f. 1-6 1990, 1998-1999
- b. 9 f. 1 1998-1999
- b. 9 f. 2-8 *New Yorker Issues and Reprints* 1945-1958, 1987
Includes copies of the Overseas Edition for Armed Forces, printed during World War II.