Gertrude Glutsch Jensen papers, 1951-1970

Overview of the Collection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Creator</th>
<th>Jensen, Gertrude Glutsch, 1903-1986</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Gertrude Glutsch Jensen papers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dates</td>
<td>1951-1970 (inclusive)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantity</td>
<td>3 linear feet, (2 containers)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Collection No.</td>
<td>Ax 658</td>
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<tr>
<td>Repository</td>
<td>University of Oregon Libraries, Special Collections and University Archives.</td>
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<td>UO Libraries--SCUA</td>
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<td>1299 University of Oregon</td>
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<td>Eugene OR</td>
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<td>97403-1299</td>
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<td>Telephone: 541-346-3068</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:spcarref@uoregon.edu">spcarref@uoregon.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Access Restrictions</td>
<td>Collection is open to the public. Collection must be used in Special Collections and University Archives Reading Room. Collection or parts of collection may be stored offsite. Please contact Special Collections and University Archives in advance of your visit to allow for transportation time.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional Reference Guides</td>
<td>See the Current Collection Guide for detailed description and requesting options.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Languages</td>
<td>English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sponsor</td>
<td>Funding for encoding this finding aid wwas provided through a grant awarded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.</td>
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Historical Note

Gertrude Glutsch Jensen was born on May 17, 1903 in Portland, Oregon. She attended Shatuck Grade School, and Lincoln High School before graduation from Franklin high School. Upon graduation in the 1920s, Gertrude attended Reed College, where she studied political science. Upon graduation from Reed, she became a free-lance journalist for The Oregonian for fourteen years. During this time, specifically the 1930s and 1940s, Gertrude worked to help people who were deaf, as her mother was deaf.

In 1938, she became a real estate broker and helped to create state legislation to regulate real estate brokerage conduct. This being the first such legislature in the nation. Gertrude really got her start
in conservation activism when she took a trip with her son, Frederic, down the Columbia Gorge to Latourell Falls. There they saw loggers cutting down the trees. She was prompted to examine why loggers were allowed to log in the gorge.

With her new-found desire, Gertrude became the first chairwoman of the Oregon Columbia River Gorge Commission, which she was instrumental in forming. She retained this post from 1953 to 1969. During and after that time, she fought vigorously to keep industrial development out of the Gorge at one point launching a one woman campaign to oust members of the State Highway Commission who she felt were jeopardizing the gorge. She also fought a bitter battle to prevent the erection of a scrap steel mill at Cascade Locks. By the end of her tenure, she had been instrumental in designating 3,000 acres of Oregon land as scenic area.

Gertrude Jensen received numerous awards for her activism throughout her lifetime. These awards and distinctions include: The Award of Merit in New York from the American Society for Preservation of Scenic and Historic Areas (1953); the Matrix Table Award by the Portland Alumni Chapter of Theta Sigma Phi, a journalism honorary (1960); Department of Interior's Conservation Service Award (considered her greatest honor) (1961); Portland Women's Forum's Woman of the Year (1963); and she was the first recipient of Gov. Tom McCall's Distinguished Service Award (1964). She had also earned the name "Angel of the Gorge" by the mid-1960s.

Gertrude Glutsch Jensen was an amazing woman who was always trying to better the world. She was constantly trying to convince senators and politicians of the importance of her mission. Mrs. Jensen died in December of 1986 from a long battle with heart trouble. She was survived by her only son, two grandsons, and five great-grand children.


Content Description

The Gertrude Glutsch Jensen Papers contains activist materials for various conservation organizations and public matters in Oregon. The papers comprise minutes and other records of organizations in which Mrs. Jensen was interested, notably the Columbia River Gorge Commission, 1951-1970, the Oregon Roadside Council, 1960-1970; and the Civil War Centennial Commission, 1958-1960. The correspondence files include correspondence with Guy Cordon, Charles Ladd, Paul Patterson, Richard Neuberger, Maurine Neuberger and Wayne Morse. There are also 40 letters from Kathleen Eloisa Rockwell, "Klondike Kate," spanning from 1951 to 1957.

Administrative Information

Detailed Description of the Collection

Description

Guide to the Gertrude Glutsch Jensen Papers
Names and Subjects

Subject Terms:
Conservation of natural resources--Oregon
Environmental law--Oregon
Environmental protection--Oregon
Environmentalists--Oregon
Land use--Oregon
Logging--Oregon
Wilderness areas--Law and legislation--Columbia River Gorge (Or. and Wash.)
Women conservationists--Oregon

Personal Names:
Cordon, Guy F., 1890-1969
Morse, Wayne L. (Wayne Lyman), 1900-1974
Neuberger, Maurine B. (Maurine Brown), 1907-2000
Neuberger, Richard L. (Richard Lewis), 1912-1960
Patterson, Paul L.
Rockwell, Kathleen Eloisa, 1876-1957

Corporate Names:
Oregon Roadside Council
Oregon. Columbia River Gorge Commission
Portland Women's Forum (Portland, Or.)
United States. Civil War Centennial Commission

Geographical Names:
Columbia River Gorge (Or. and Wash.)

Form or Genre Terms:
Correspondence

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