

**A  
Guide  
to  
Historical Holdings  
in the  
Eisenhower Library**

**WOMEN'S STUDIES**

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**Guide to Women's Studies**  
**at the**  
**Dwight D. Eisenhower Library**

While the 1940s may conjure up images of "Rosie the Riveter" and women growing produce in their Victory Gardens on the homefront, the 1950s may be characterized as the era of June Cleaver and Harriet Nelson--women comfortable in the roles of mother and wife in the suburban neighborhoods of that era. The public statements concerning women's issues made by President Dwight D. Eisenhower show him to be a paradox:

"...we look to the women of our land to start education properly among all our citizens. We look to them, I think, as the very foundation--the greatest workmen in the field of spiritual development...We have come a long ways in recognizing the equality of women. Unfortunately, in some respects, it is not yet complete. But I firmly believe it will soon be so." (Remarks at the College of Puget Sound, Tacoma, Washington, October 18, 1956)

"I cannot imagine a greater responsibility, a greater opportunity than falls to the lot of the woman who is the central figure in the home. They, far more than the men, remind us of the values of decency, of fair play, of rightness, of our own self-respect--and respecting ourselves always ready to respect others. The debt that all men owe to women is not merely that through women we are brought forth on this world, it is because they have done far more than we have to sustain and teach those ideals that make our kind of life worth while." (Remarks at Business and Professional Women Meeting, Detroit, Michigan, October 17, 1960)

"Today there are 22 million working women. Of that 22 million, 7 and a half million are working mothers, and unquestionably a great number...are working because they have to help keep the wolf from the door. They work because they have to work. But if there is only a tiny percentage doing this because they prefer a career to an active career of real motherhood and care for the little child, I should think they would have to consider what is the price they are paying in terms of the opportunities that child has been denied. Certainly no one can do quite as much in molding the child's habit of thinking and implanting certain standards as can the mother." (White House Conference on Children and Youth, December 16, 1958)

"Well, it's hard for a mere man to believe that woman doesn't have equal rights. [Laughter] I do know that in certain States, and probably in all, there are some things where women do not yet have what they believe to be at least their full rights. And I am in favor of it {equal rights amendment}. I just probably haven't been active enough in doing something about it." (President's News Conference of August 7, 1957 in response to question from May Craig of the Portland Press Herald)

"I steadfastly favor the principle that women workers should have equal rights with men. I sincerely hope that this equality can be accomplished without unnecessary delay." (Letter, Eisenhower to Cross, 9/12/57)

Despite his ambivalent views on women's rights, President Eisenhower's appointment of women to high-level positions in his Administration helped lead the way for the subsequent supporters of the Equal Rights Amendment and the Women's Liberation Movement of subsequent decades. His appointments of women were to positions in his Cabinet, as U.S. Ambassadors, and as representatives to the United Nations--some 42 women in all.

Attached is a guide to the collections of these "pioneering women" which are housed at the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library. In addition, there are other collections in the holdings which are not listed that have scattered references to women's issues and women personalities of the 1940s and 1950s. Anyone studying women's issues of those decades is encouraged to research in Abilene.

For further information on women's studies at the Eisenhower Library, please contact the Library at (913) 263-4751 or write: Dwight D. Eisenhower Library, 200 S.E. 4th, Abilene, KS 67410.

## MANUSCRIPT HOLDINGS

**Bertha S. Adkins**, Republican National committeewoman, Maryland, 1948-58; assistant chairman, Republican National Committee, 1953-58; Under Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, 1958-60: Papers, 1907-83 (30,000 pages)

This collection consists of material covering the positions held by Bertha Adkins (1906-1983) with the Republican National Committee and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The main theme either developed directly or running as an undercurrent throughout this collection is the role of women in public life.

**Ruth M. Briggs**, Secretary to General Walter Bedell Smith: Papers, 1942-54 (125 pages)

Major Briggs was a member of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps in World War II, and served as Secretary to General Walter Bedell Smith. Her foreign service included, among others, assignments in London, North Africa, and Algiers. She was retired from military service with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Most of her collection consists of 326 photographs.

**Margaret Chase**, Red Cross volunteer in North Africa and Europe: Papers, 1942-60 and 1983 (1,100 pages)

The personal papers of Margaret Chase, American Red Cross recreation club worker during World War II, cover the years 1942-60. The largest portion comes from the period August 1942 to May 1945 when she was assigned to England and North Africa near General Eisenhower's headquarters. The material consists of four diaries (1942-45), one hundred sixty items of correspondence with family and friends, and miscellaneous memorabilia. The focus of all of the material is on Red Cross club work and Chase's social life. These papers may be of use in researching the social life of the AFHQ staff, but no information on military decisions is included. She does record the frequency of bombing raids on or

near her duty station.

**Jacqueline Cochran**, Aviator; director of Women Pilots, U.S. Air Force, 1943-45; colonel, U.S. Air Force Reserve; consultant to NASA; Author, *The Stars at Noon*; cosmetics company executive; member, California State and Riverside County Republican Central Committees; participant in the campaign to secure the Republican party's presidential nomination for Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1952: Papers, 1932-75 (380,000 pages)

This voluminous collection documents the careers of Miss Cochran, (1906-1980) businesswoman and aviatrix--a "female Chuck Yeager" of her time. Miss Cochran was director of the Women's Airforce Service Pilots (WASPS) during World War II. As a pilot she set many airplane speed records and was the first woman to break the sound barrier. The collection also includes documentation on the cosmetics company which she established in 1935 and ran until its sale in 1963. Miss Cochran was also active in the presidential campaign of Dwight D. Eisenhower and ran for congress herself in California in 1956. She defeated five male opponents to gain the Republican nomination, but was defeated by the Democratic candidate in the general election.

**Edith M. Davis**, Officer, Women's Army Corps, 1942-46; Commander of WAC detachment at SHAEF and USFET, 1944-46: Papers, 1943-86 [interfiled into the World War II Participants and Contemporaries collection]

**Eleanor Lansing Dulles**, Economic Officer, State Department, 1942-45; U.S. Representative, Bretton Woods Conference on International Monetary Fund, 1944; Financial Attaché, Vienna, 1945-49; Western European Division, State Department, 1949-51; Special Assistant, Office of German Affairs, State Department, 1952-62; professor, Georgetown University, 1963-71: Papers, 1880-1973 (40,000 pages)

The role of women in the foreign service is personified by Eleanor Lansing Dulles (1895-1996 ). While

her brothers, John Foster Dulles and Allen Dulles served as President Eisenhower's Secretary of State and Director of the Central Intelligence Agency respectively, Eleanor herself had twenty-six years of government service as economic officer in the State Department, financial attaché in Vienna, and special assistant with the Office of German Affairs in the State Department during the Eisenhower Administration.

**DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER**, Papers as President of the United States, 1953-61 (Ann Whitman File) (245,000 pages)

There are scattered items of interest to those interested in women's studies in the papers of Dwight D. Eisenhower which were filed and organized by his secretary, Ann C. Whitman. Researchers should look under subjects, names or dates in the various series of this collection. For example: anyone interested in Oveta Culp Hobby should take a look at the **Cabinet Series** for the contributions she made at official Cabinet meetings as Secretary of HEW; there are folders on Katharine Howard, Mary Jane McCaffree and Margaret Chase Smith in the **Name Series**; and the **Press Conference Series** would provide information on such women news reporters as Sarah McClendon and the questions she asked President Eisenhower at news conferences.

**DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER**, Records as President of the United States, White House Central Files, 1953-61 (6 1/2 million pages)

The White House Central Files are divided into separate series. Among those series are the **Official File** which contains the following categories pertinent to woman:

OF 158-A	WOMEN'S ENFRANCHISEMENT DAY
OF 158	WOMEN
OF 20-B	WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE, National (Federal Civil Defense Administration)
OF 3-C-5	WOMEN'S AIR FORCE (WAF)

OF 3-A-3 WOMEN'S ARMY CORPS (WACS)



OF 138-C-4-D WOMEN ASK THE PRESIDENT  
(T.V. Panel with Women, 10-24-56)

OF 6-J WOMEN'S BUREAU (Department of Labor)

OF 138-C-1-A WOMEN'S DIVISION  
(Republican National Committee)

OF 158-A WOMEN, Equal Rights for

OF 325-GG WOMEN'S GROUPS COMMITTEE  
(People to People Program)

OF 79-D WOMEN, Inter-American Commission of

OF 3-B-17 Women's Marine Corps WOMEN'S MARINE CORPS

OF 9-A-3 WOMEN'S RESERVE, Coast Guard

OF 3-SS WOMEN IN THE SERVICES, Defense Advisory  
Committee on

OF 85-L WOMEN, United Nations Commission on the  
Status of

The **President's Personal File** contains the following codes pertinent to women:

PPF 60 WOMEN

PPF 49-B-1 Women's Div. WOMEN'S DIVISION - Republican National  
Committee

PPF 22-D-2 WOMEN'S FORUM ON NATIONAL SECURITY

The **General File** contains the following subjects:

GF 120 W.C.T.U WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION

GF 136 WOMEN

GF 12-0 WOMEN'S ARMY CORPS (WAC) (Dept. of the Army)

GF 20-K WOMEN'S BUREAU (Dept. of Labor)

GF 20-K-1 & End. WOMEN'S BUREAU (Dept. of Labor) Director

GF 120 Women's Clubs WOMEN'S CLUBS, General Federation of  
GF 105-J WOMEN, Commission on the Status of (United Nations)  
GF 109-A-1 Women WOMEN'S DIVISION (RNC)  
GF 136-A WOMEN, Equal Rights for  
GF 93-B WOMEN, Inter-American Commission of (Organization of  
American States)  
GF 11-Q WOMEN IN SERVICE, Defense Advisory Committee

There may be many more codes/subjects within the White House Central Files of interest to women. These are some of the most obvious ones.

**Mamie Doud Eisenhower**, First Lady: Papers, 1894-1979 (596,000 pages)

The Library's largest "women's" collection deals with the more "traditional" role, that of First Lady Mamie Doud Eisenhower (1896-1979). These papers contain insight into the role Mamie played as the wife of one of the most important military and political figures of the 20th Century. [for further information concerning this collection, see Martin M. Teasley's "Ike Was Her Career: The Papers of Mamie Doud Eisenhower," *Prologue*, Summer 1987 (Vol. 19, No. 2), 106-115.]

**Joan B. Gaines**, Director of interpretation, White House Conference on Children and Youth, 1958-60: Papers, 1958-60 (400 pages)

The Joan B. Gaines collection consists of material acquired by Mrs. Gaines while serving as director of interpretation of the 1960 White House Conference on Children and Youth. Most of the material consists of printed items such as news clippings, periodicals, programs, posters and reports issued by the Conference. [see also White House Conference on Children and Youth: Records, 1930-70]

**Oveta Culp Hobby**, Editor and publisher, *Houston Post*, 1952-53: Administrator, Federal Security

Administration, 1953; Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, 1953-55: Papers, 1952-55 (145,000 pages)

Oveta Culp Hobby (1905-1995) had careers in the news business, Federal Security Administration and had the distinction of being the first Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare--only the second female cabinet officer in U.S. history up to that time. Her collection covers those careers as well as her participation in the 1952 presidential campaign in "Democrats for Eisenhower."

**Katherine Howard**, Republican party official, 1945-53; Deputy Administrator, Federal Civil Defense Administration, 1953-54; U.S. delegate to NATO Committee on Civil Defense, 1953-56; Deputy U.S. Commissioner-General, Brussels International Exposition, 1957-58: Papers, 1917-74 (25,000 pages)

Katherine Howard (1898-1986) served in various Republican party positions, with the Federal Civil Defense Administration, the NATO Committee on Civil Defense, and the Brussels International Exposition. Her collection documents Massachusetts and national politics, civil defense and the Brussels Exposition. Women in politics and government is also covered, with a small amount on the Cold War.

**Mrs. J. E. Johntz**, State Chairman, American Mothers' Committee on the Golden Rule Foundation: Papers re selection of Mrs. Ida S. Eisenhower as Kansas Mother of the Year, 1945 (100 pages)

This collection contains correspondence, news clippings and brochures about the selection of Mrs. Ida Stover Eisenhower, Dwight D. Eisenhower's mother, as Kansas Mother of the Year for 1945.

**Mary Pillsbury Lord**, U.S. Representative, U.N. Human Rights Commission, 1953-61; U.S. Alternate Representative, U.N. General Assembly, 1953-59; U.S. Delegate, U.N. General Assembly, 1958 and 1960: Papers, 1941-72 (1,000 pages)

The bulk of the papers of Mary Pillsbury Lord concern the period 1953-61 when Mrs. Lord served on the United Nations Human Rights Commission and with the United Nations General Assembly. The first box contains correspondence, 1941-72, received by Mrs. Lord, most of which are personal in nature. Also included is the 1952 press release and form letter written by Eleanor Roosevelt, Mrs. Lord's predecessor at the U.N., regarding her resignation from the U.N. The second box contains magazine and newspaper clippings, and other printed material regarding Mrs. Lord's involvement in civilian defense during the war, political activities, and U.N. matters.

**Mary Jane McCaffree**, Social secretary to Mamie Eisenhower, 1953-61: Papers, 1953-69 (3,000 pages)

The papers of Mary Jane McCaffree are comprised of three series with the White House Social Office series comprising 80% of the material. The Scrapbook Subseries consists of six scrapbooks for White House social functions from 1953-61. Included are guest lists, seating arrangements, menus, programs, and notes on each social function, including receptions, teas and dinners. The Miscellaneous Subseries consists of a variety of information relating to the functions of the Social Office. Included are information on the use of Blair House, a variety of photographs, a list of Eisenhower's favorite songs, and miscellaneous information on various social functions. Also included are basic rules and protocol governing White House social activities.

**Pearlie McKeogh (with Michael J.)**, Military aides, 1942-45: Papers, 1941-48 (400 pages)

This collection consists of articles and photographs pertaining to the military careers and marriage of Pearlie Hargrave McKeogh and Michael J. McKeogh. Emphasized are her activities as a driver at AFHQ and SHAEF and Michael's activities as an enlisted aide to General Eisenhower from 1942 to the

end of World War II. There is also material pertaining to WACS in general.

**Elizabeth Phillips**, Red Cross Nurse, World War I; Organizer of aid to Allied Prisoners of War, World War II: Papers, 1918-55 (10,000 pages)

The papers of Elizabeth Phillips span the years 1917 through 1955, but the bulk of the papers (correspondence, record books and newsletter publications) pertain to Miss Phillips' efforts during World War II to organize the sending of relief parcels from America to British prisoners of war in Europe. Miss Phillips began the project which provided soldiers with "godmothers" and "godfathers" who volunteered to assist in the sending of letters and parcels. The program was affiliated with the Women's Overseas Service League and sponsored by the American Red Cross.

**Anne Williams Wheaton**, Assistant to the director of publicity, Republican National Committee, 1939-57; Associate Press Secretary, White House Office, 1957-61: Papers, 1957-69 (partly on microfilm) (250 pages)

The Anne Williams Wheaton collection consists of congratulatory notes to Mrs. Wheaton on her appointment as Associate Press Secretary to President Eisenhower in 1957, correspondence with Dwight D. Eisenhower, news clippings concerning her White House appointment, and memorabilia concerning Dwight D. Eisenhower. There are no materials relevant to her career prior to 1957.

**WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH:** Records, 1930-70 (221,000 pages)

The White House Conference on Children and Youth is a periodic presidential conference, having been held every decade since 1909. This collection consists of the records of the 1960 conference, as well as various predecessor and successor organizations. These include publications resulting from the 1930 and 1940 conferences; the administrative records of the 1950 conference; the records of the Council of National Organizations for Children and Youth (1951-59) which was formed to follow up on the work

of the 1950 conference; the records of the President's National Committee for the Golden Anniversary White House Conference on Children and Youth (1960-70) which was formed to follow up on the work of the 1960 conference. The records contain the administrative files of the various organizations, copies of federal and state government publications, and extensive correspondence and subject files pertaining to youth-related activities of federal, state and local governments and private organizations.

**WORLD WAR II PARTICIPANTS AND CONTEMPORARIES:** Papers (a composite collection) (54,000 pages)

During World War II women served their country in the Women's Army Corps, the Red Cross and on the homefront. The stories of many women are told in this collection compiled as part of the efforts of the Eisenhower Library to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of World War II. The Library has acquired the personal papers, diaries, printed materials and photographs of men and women who served as veterans of the war and on the homefront. As of April 1994 material has been received from over 200 donors.

**ORAL HISTORY TRANSCRIPTS** (description followed by year of interview and number of pages)

**OH 324**      **Helen Ackenhausen**, Active in the Republican party in Texas, and the Republican presidential nomination campaign of 1952 (written permission), 1972, 57pp.

**OH 58**      **Bertha S. Adkins**, Active in Women's Division of the Republican National Committee, 1950-58; Under Secretary of HEW, 1958-61, 1967, 73pp.

**OH 171**      **Vivion Brewer**, President of the Women's Emergency Committee to Open Our Schools, Little Rock, Ark., 1958-60, 1971, 44pp.

**OH 42**      **Jacqueline Cochran**, Aviatrix; active in the Eisenhower campaign, 1951-52, 1968-73, 257pp.

- OH 70** **Eleanor Lansing Dulles**, Diplomat and economist; State Department official, 1962-67, 977pp. [Also covers her two years in Paris working for refugee relief organizations after World War I]
- OH 193** **Patricia House**, Vice President of the Women's Emergency Committee to Open Our Schools, Little Rock, Ark., 1958-60, 1971, 47pp.
- OH 255** **Katherine G. Howard**, Secretary, Republican National Committee, 1948-52; Member, Eisenhower's Campaign Policy and Strategy Committee, 1952; Deputy Administrator, Federal Civil Defense Administration (FCDA), 1953-54; Special Advisor to FCDA, 1954-57; U.S. delegate to NATO committee on civil defense, 1953-56; Deputy U.S. Commissioner General to the Brussels World Fair, 1957-58, 1968-71, 603pp.
- OH 194** **Elizabeth Huckaby**, Vice Principal for girls, Little Rock, Ark., Central High School, 1957-59, 1972, 76pp.
- OH 517** **Sue Sarafian Jehl**, WAC member of General Eisenhower's administrative staff at SHAEF Headquarters and also as Chief of Staff, 1943-47, 48pp.
- OH 365** **Helen S. King**, Secretary to General Eisenhower while he was President of Columbia University, 1948, 1975, 29pp.
- OH 115** **Mary Pillsbury Lord**, Active in the Eisenhower campaign, 1951-52; U.S. Representative, United Nations Human Rights Commission, 1953-61; U.S. Alternate Representative, 1953-59, and Delegate, 1958, 1960, to United Nations General Assembly, 1967-69, 428pp.
- OH 220** **Clare Boothe Luce**, U.S. Ambassador to Italy, 1953-57, 1968, 108pp. [Manuscript

material on Luce may be found in various collections such as the Papers of C.D. Jackson and the Papers of Alfred M. Gruenther]

- OH 360** **Marie McCrum**, Secretary to Charles Douglas (C.D.) Jackson, 1946-64, 1975, 89pp.
- OH 500** **Katherine Brownell Oettinger**, Chief of the Children's Bureau, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, 1957-68 and Deputy Assistant Secretary, 1968-69, 1985, 432pp.
- OH 148** **Irene Samuel**, Leader of the Women's Emergency Committee during the Little Rock, Ark., school integration crisis in 1957-59, 1970, 49pp.
- OH 409** **Inez G. Scott**, Driver for General Eisenhower during the North African Campaign, 1943, 1979, 34pp.
- OH 71** **Ilene Slater**, Secretary to the Chairman of Citizens for Eisenhower in 1952; Secretary to Sherman Adams, 1953-57 (written permission), 1968, 59pp.
- OH 332** **Janet P. Tourtellotte**, (with Edith D. Williams), Active in the Republican party in Washington and the Eisenhower campaign in 1952, 1972, 68pp.
- OH 64** **Anne W. Wheaton**, Director of Women's Publicity for the Republican National Committee, 1939-57; Associate White House Press Secretary, 1957-61, 1968, 180pp.
- OH 511** **Ann C. Whitman**, Personal Secretary to the President, 1953-61, 1991, 35pp.
- OH 332** **Edith D. Williams**, (with Janet P. Tourtellotte), Active in the Republican party in Washington and the Eisenhower campaign of 1952, 1972, 68pp.





## **AUDIOVISUAL HOLDINGS**

**Bertha S. Adkins**. Photographs of Adkins, her family and friends. Most of the photographs document her involvement with the Republican National Committee (1948-58) and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (1958-60). 1907-1970. 293 items.

**Ruth M. Briggs**. World War II principals, Allied soldiers, Nazi prisoners of war, European battlefronts and civilians, and the Tehran Conference are a few of the subjects of the photographs collected by Briggs while serving as General Walter Bedell Smith's secretary during World War II. 1942-45. 352 items.

**Jacqueline Cochran**. Photographs of Cochran's family, friends, and business associates. Most document her career in aviation and her involvement with the Eisenhower presidential campaigns. 1932-1975. 1500 items.

**Eleanor Lansing Dulles**. Photographs collected by Dulles of her family, friends, and business associates. Includes photographs documenting her career in government (1942-62). 1889-1971. 1500 items.

**Oveta Culp Hobby**. Photographs documenting activities of the Health, Education and Welfare Department (1953-55) with the exception of a few photographs of Hobby during her military career. 1945-1955. 150 items.