

PRELIMINARY INVENTORY
K1287 (KA2139)
BERTHA MAE BOWMAN COOPER (1916-2013) PAPERS, 1946-2007

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City. If you would like more information, please contact us at kansascity@shsmo.org.

Introduction

Approximately 10 cubic feet

Scrapbooks and textual materials relating to Bertha Mae Bowman Cooper's community involvements. Bertha Cooper was the president of over 25 clubs and service organizations in the Kansas City area.

The collection consists of correspondence, photographs, booklets, newspaper clippings, meeting minutes, awards, certificates, greeting cards, newsletters, and other related materials pertaining to organizations in which Bertha Cooper was a member. Examples of these organizations include: the Order of the Eastern Star, Missouri Congress of Parents and Teachers, Paseo High School Parent Teacher Association, Order of DeMolay, Ararat Shriners, Missouri Federation of Women's Clubs, United Methodist Church, American Mothers, Inc., Missouri Mothers Association, Salvation Army, Kansas City Rose Society, National Association of Parliamentarians, Missouri State Association of Parliamentarians, Children's Mercy Hospital, National League of American Pen Women, The Rehabilitation Institute, Presidents and Past Presidents, Maywood Club, and PEO.

Biographical Statement

Bertha Mae Bowman was born on February 26, 1916, to Harry W. and Ada Bowman. Bertha was diagnosed at the age of six with osteomyelitis, an infection of the bone marrow, in her left leg. From age 8 to 16 she lived at Children's Mercy Hospital and underwent 15 operations. After being released, she committed herself to her studies and graduated near the top of her class.

On August 19, 1939, Bowman married Allen Lee Cooper, Sr. At this time, she became actively involved as a volunteer in a wide variety of organizations including the Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary (where she served as president), the Truman Medical Center Auxiliary Board, the Kansas City Rose Society, the Presidents and Past Presidents General Assembly, the Rehabilitation Center Auxiliary Board, the Missouri State Association of Parliamentarians, and the national board of directors of American Mothers, Inc. In 1979, she was named Missouri Mother of the Year.

Bowman passed away on November 15, 2013, at the age of 97. She is buried at the Mt. Moriah Cemetery.

Donor Information

The collection was donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Carol Cooper on November 1, 2013 (KA2139).

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Copyright and Restrictions

The Donor has given and assigned to the University of Missouri all rights of copyright which the Donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor's works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the University from others.

Location note:

The collection is stored offsite and will need to be retrieved before viewing.

Box List

Box 001

- f. 1 Scrapbook contents, Bertha Cooper: Community and Organization Involvement, 1946-1998 (1 of 4)
- f. 2 Scrapbook contents, Bertha Cooper: Community and Organization Involvement, 1946-1998 (2 of 4)
- f. 3 Scrapbook contents, Bertha Cooper: Community and Organization Involvement, 1946-1998 (3 of 4)
- f. 4 Scrapbook contents, Bertha Cooper: Community and Organization Involvement, 1946-1998 (4 of 4)
- f. 5 Order of the Eastern Star, news bulletin, 1949
Guestbook, reports of the Grand Officers, 1956
- f. 6 Order of the Eastern Star, photographs, 1955-1956
- f. 7 Order of the Eastern Star, cards, programs, correspondence, etc., 1956-1964
- f. 8 Missouri Congress of Parents and Teachers, October 28-30, 1958
- f. 9 Paseo High School, Parent Teacher Association, 1964-1965 (1 of 2)
- f. 10 Paseo High School, Parent Teacher Association, 1964-1965 (2 of 2)
- f. 11 Order of DeMolay, 1964-1977
- f. 12 Ararat Shriners birthday and greeting cards, 1960s-1980s
- f. 13 Scottish rite birthday cards, 1960s-1980s
- f. 14 Awards, certificates of appreciation, 1970-1999
- f. 15 The Longan Study Club, 1975-1976, 1982

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- f. 1 Missouri Federation of Women's Clubs, second district, 1974-1987 (1 of 2)
- f. 2 Missouri Federation of Women's Clubs, second district, 1974-1987 (2 of 2)
- f. 3 United Methodist Church scrapbook contents, 1974-2003 (1 of 4)
- f. 4 United Methodist Church scrapbook contents, 1974-2003 (2 of 4)
- f. 5 United Methodist Church scrapbook contents, 1974-2003 (3 of 4)
- f. 6 United Methodist Church scrapbook contents, 1974-2003 (4 of 4)
- f. 7 "Courage, Not Complaints: Mother of the Year Beat Handicap to Share Love,"
Kansas City Times article, April 16, 1979
- f. 8 Newspaper clippings, 1970s
- f. 9 Assorted materials (binder contents), 1970s-1980s (1 of 2)
- f. 10 Assorted materials (binder contents), 1970s-1980s (2 of 2)
- f. 11 Correspondence to Bertha Cooper, 1981-1983
- f. 12 American Mothers Inc., newsletters, 1982-1989 (1 of 4)

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- f. 13 American Mothers, Inc., newsletters, 1982-1989 (2 of 4)
- f. 14 American Mothers, Inc., newsletters, 1982-1989 (3 of 4)
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- f. 16 The Missouri Mothers Association, 1983-1996

Box 003

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- f. 2 Salvation Army scrapbook contents, 1985-1989 (2 of 4)
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- f. 5 The Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary and related materials, 1987-1989 (1 of 2)
- f. 6 The Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary and related materials, 1987-1989 (2 of 2)
- f. 7 "Bonnets and Belles," Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary newsletters, September 1987-June 1989
- f. 8 Correspondence, cards, etc., 1987-1994
- f. 9 Kansas City Rose Society newsletters, January 1990-September 1991
- f. 10 Kansas City Rose Society scrapbook contents, 1990-1992 (2 of 4)
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- f. 5 Children's Mercy Hospital (binder contents), 1997-2007 (1 of 2)
- f. 6 Children's Mercy Hospital (binder contents), 1997-2007 (2 of 2)
- f. 7 Assorted materials (binder contents) (1 of 2)
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- Scrapbook 1 Order of the Eastern Star, 1949-1954
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- Scrapbook 4 Presidents and Past Presidents, 1981-1983

Box 006

Museum without Walls: Building Community through Art

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Museum Without Walls, board profile grid
Museum Without Walls, Michael Klein letter, 1996
Museum Without Walls, board activities, building a board
Museum Without Walls, Henry Bloch Foundation, 1993-1994
Museum Without Walls, committee lists, 1994-1996
Museum Without Walls, coalition for positive family relationships, 1996
Museum Without Walls, Chicago Art Institute
Museum Without Walls, Judy Chicago
Museum Without Walls, event calendars, 1995
Museum Without Walls, Council of American Jewish Museums, 1997
Museum Without Walls, story
Museum Without Walls, *Maus* Student Cartoon Competition, 1995
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Chagall financial records
Advocacy statements
Jerry Nerman
The People Puzzle
Museum Without Walls, newsletters
National Teachers Hall of Fame
Mizel
Morgan Gallery
Musée D'Art et D'Histoire, Du Judaïsme
Museum Shop materials

Box 007

Missouri Humanities Grant
Missouri Citizens for the Arts
Naples, Fla
Kahn, Norman
Kahn, Ted
Kahn, Barbara
Kahn, Stuart
Kahn, Sybil
Kansas Re-installment
Kansas City Consensus
Kansas City Round-Up
Kansas City Association for Retarded Children
Kansas City Arts Council
Kansas City Artists Coalition
Kansas City Adult Rehabilitation Center
Kansas City Labor History, Frank Walsh
Kansas City Arts Institute
Kansas City 150
Kansas City Area Archivist
Kansas City Business Committee for the Arts

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Kansas City Century Society
Kansas City Clay Guild
Kansas City Co-Operative Pre School
Kansas City Friends of Jung
Kansas City Jewish Chronicle
Kansas City Jewish Family Commission
Kansas City History
Kansas City Jazz Festival
Kansas City Symphony
Kansas City Museum

Box 008

Kansas City Symphony
Kansas City Symphony Foundation
Kansas City Women's Division, annual meeting, May 4, 1995
Kansas City Writers
Kansas Citians
Kansas City Young Audiences
Kansas City New Discoveries Daily
Kelley, Sean, letter
Kemper Museum materials
Kindest Kansas Citian Award
Kinko's
Kehilath Israel Synagogue
Kleeblatt

Box 009

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Mo Tax Registration ID
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Olson, James
Oppenstein
Other Museums
National Endowment for the Humanities
Bezalel Narkiss, February 1995
National Conference of Christians and Jews
PayChex
Paper-butter
Children's Museum
Campbell, Connie
Council of American Jewish Museums
C. F. Associates (Carol Fineberg)
American-Israel Cultural Foundation

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Beth Torah
Artists
Articles on Artists and Exhibits
Applebee's
Bagel and Bagel
Berlin
Attorneys thank you for contributions
Arts Partners
Center for Management Assistance
Center for Jewish Art
Center for Art on Film
Celebration of Angles
The Central Agency for Jewish Education

Flat Box 010

Photograph Charles E. Langton Memorial Class 134th Reunion, Ancient and Accepted
Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, November 14-17, 1950