

REFERENCE CODE: AkAMH

REPOSITORY NAME:

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Guide prepared by: Heather McClain, Senior Archivist

TITLE: Hermann Collection

COLLECTION NUMBER: B1965.009

OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION

Dates: 1956

Extent: 3 items

Language and Scripts: The collection is in English.

Name of creator(s): Unknown

Administrative/Biographical History:

Mildred Robinson Hermann was born on February 28, 1891 in Brookfield, Indiana. She moved to Juneau, Alaska in 1919, where she studied law with James Wickersham. She married her husband, Russell Hermann, in 1920. Hermann was admitted to the Alaska Bar in 1934 and had a private practice until 1942. At the time of passing the Bar, Hermann was the only practicing women lawyer in Alaska. She was very involved in the community and worked as a radio commentator and newspaper columnist covering the Alaska Legislature for five years. From 1942 to 1947, Hermann served as the Office of Price Administration Territorial Administrator. Hermann was instrumental in the movement for Alaska statehood serving as Secretary of the Alaska Statehood Commission, the official organization responsible for organizing statewide support for Alaska's admittance into the Union, from 1949 to 1959.

At the Constitutional Convention Mildred was elected the Temporary President on the first day of the convention and was chosen as the delegate to close the convention, in honor of her long service on behalf of statehood. The convention lasted 75 days and with the wave of her

rolling pin, Mildred reminded her colleagues daily of the volume of work to be accomplished to meet the schedule.¹

After the convention, she became a reporter for the Anchorage Times covering the state legislature and the new state government she had helped to launch. She was an active member of the Alaskan Federation of Women's Clubs, the National Federation of Women's Clubs, the National Association of Women Lawyers, the National Association of Press Women, the Soroptimist Club, Republican Women's Association and served on the board of the Alaska Tuberculosis Society for 18 years. Hermann passed in Juneau on March 16, 1964

Scope and Content Description:

This collection consists of a booklet and two photos of Mrs. Mildred R. Hermann of Juneau, one in which she signs the new Alaska State Constitution in Fairbanks.

Arrangement: Collection arranged by previous archivist.

CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS AND USE

Restrictions on Access: The collection is open for research use.

Physical Access: Original items in good condition.

Technical Access: No special equipment is needed to access the materials.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:

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Preferred Citation:

Hermann Collection, Anchorage Museum, B1965.9

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Acquisition and Appraisal Information

Donated to the Cook Inlet Historical Society by Mrs. Helen D. Sheahan of Portland, Oregon in 1965.

¹ Mildred (Robinson) Hermann, Alaska Women's Hall of Fame, <https://alaskawomenshalloffame.org/alumnae/mildred-hermann/>

RELATED MATERIALS

1961.003.001 48-star flag
1961.004.001 49-star flag
1961.005.001 49-star flag
B2009.054 AK Statehood 25th Anniversary stamp
B2013.009 Statehood Sound Recordings
B2013.069 Alaska Statehood Flag Correspondence

SUBJECTS

Hermann, Mildred Robinson, 1891-1964
Statehood (American politics)
Alaska – Politics and government – 1867-1959
United States—Politics and government—1953-1961

Detailed Description of the Collection

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- .1 – booklet, “Statehood for Alaska! A report on four years of achievement,” Alaska Statehood Committee
- .2 – Mrs. Mildred R. Hermann of Juneau signing new Alaska State Constitution, Fairbanks [Milred Hermann sitting at a desk with ink, pen, and paper in Fairbanks, Alaska, February 5, 1956]
- .3 – Mrs. Mildred R. Hermann of Juneau Sec., Alaska Statehood Committee [portrait of Mildred Hermann]

Guide written: February 3, 2025