

**MS-91, Ruth Herr Papers**

**Collection Number:** MS-91

**Title:** Ruth Herr Papers

**Dates:** 1935-1949

**Creator:** Herr, Ruth, 1897-1985

**Summary/Abstract:** Ruth Herr was an art teacher in the Dayton and Oakwood public schools. The materials in this collection reflect her interest in women's rights and include a constitution and by-laws for the National Woman's Party, a speech by Mrs. Herr, several copies of the National Woman's Party newspaper *Equal Rights*, and clippings and miscellaneous material pertaining to the National Woman's Party.

**Quantity/Physical Description:** .25 linear feet

**Language(s):** English

**Repository:**

Special Collections and Archives, Paul Laurence Dunbar Library, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435-0001, (937) 775-2092.

**Restrictions on Access:** There are no restrictions on accessing material in this collection.

**Restrictions on Use:**

Copyright restrictions may apply. Unpublished manuscripts are protected by copyright. Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the repository and the copyright holder.

**Preferred Citation:**

[Description of item, Date, Box #, Folder #], MS-91, Ruth Herr Papers, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio.

**Acquisition:** The papers were donated to the Wright State University's Special Collections and Archives in September 1979 by Mrs. Jeanette Fatton, a great-niece of Ruth Herr.

**Other Finding Aid:** The finding aid is available on the Special Collections & Archives, Wright State University Libraries web site at

[http://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collection\\_guides/guide\\_files/ms91.pdf](http://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collection_guides/guide_files/ms91.pdf). It is also available in the OhioLINK Finding Aid Repository at <http://ead.ohiolink.edu/xtf-ead/>.

**Related Materials:** Papers relating to Ruth Herr's involvement in the early history of aviation, are housed at the Aviation Hall of Fame in Dayton, Ohio.

**Processed by:** Judith McCune, 1981 May

**Processing Information:**

The researcher should be aware of the following before using the collection:

1. The only information that is personal to Ruth Herr is the speech in the second folder.
2. The information on the National Woman's Party is very sketchy, consisting mainly of broadsides.
3. The newspaper clippings are much deteriorated. Because of this, they are to be xeroxed, and the xeroxed copies will be placed in the collection.
4. The Equal Rights newspapers are not complete. Because of deterioration, they are to be xeroxed, and the xeroxed copies will be placed in the collection.

**Arrangement:** Materials are arranged chronologically across 5 folders.

**Biographical Note:**

Ruth Herr was born October 13, 1897. Her husband, Jim (James), took her for her first airplane ride as a birthday present in 1924. She learned how to fly in 1947.

Mrs. Herr delivered an airplane part to Wilbur Wright Field (now Patterson Field, a part of Wright-Patterson Air Force Base) for the first airplane to fly non-stop from Oakland, California, to Wheeler Field, Honolulu, Hawaii; the two flyers were Lt. Albert G. Hegenberger and Lt. Lester Maitland. Her husband called her at 1:00 A.M. on June 1927 and told her to drive her Ford Roadster to McCook Field to get the part. When she arrived at Wright Field, she refused to get out of the car because of the rattlesnakes there.

Mrs. Herr retired in 1960 after thirty-nine years of teaching art at the Dayton Art Institute and Oakwood public schools.

**Scope and Content:**

The papers of Ruth Herr contain a small selection of materials relating to women's rights, covering approximately the years 1935-1949. Even though Ruth Herr was involved in the early history of aviation, this collection does not include materials on that topic. The materials in this collection include information on the National Woman's Party, and the Equal Rights Amendment. Also in the collection is a speech given by Ruth Herr; the Constitution of the National Woman's Party of the Third Congressional District and a set of proposed amendments to it; newspaper clippings; and newspapers from Equal Rights.

**Subject Terms:****Persons/Families**

Herr, Ruth, 1897-1985 – Manuscripts

**Organizations/Corporate Names**

National Woman's Party

**Subjects (General)**

Women's rights – United States – History – 20<sup>th</sup> century  
Equal rights amendments – United States

**Material Types**

Broadsides (notices)  
Speech  
Clippings (informational artifacts)

**Collection Inventory**

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
1	1	Constitution and By-Laws Proposed Amendments	1935
	2	Speech by Ruth Herr	undated
	3	Miscellaneous Material On National Woman's Party	1935
	4	<u>Equal Rights</u> National Woman's Party	1935-1949
	5	Miscellaneous Newspaper Clippings	1935-1936