

Collection #
M 0969
CT 2124–2132
OM 0473

ANITA BOWSER COLLECTION, 1943–2007

[Collection Information](#)

[Biographical Sketch](#)

[Scope and Content Note](#)

[Series Contents](#)

[Cataloging Information](#)

Processed by

Sarah Newell
November 2008

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: **Manuscript Materials:** 31 manuscript boxes; 2 folders
oversize manuscripts; 9 audio cassette tapes
Visual Materials: 1 box color photographs; 4 folders black
and white photographs; 12 VHS format video tapes; 1 folder
oversized visuals.

COLLECTION DATES: 1943–2007

PROVENANCE:

RESTRICTIONS: None

COPYRIGHT:

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection
must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.

ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2008.0001

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Anita Olga Bowser (formerly Anita Olga Albu) was born on 18 August 1920 in Canton, Ohio. She died on 4 March 2007 in Indianapolis, Indiana. Anita married Russell Bowser (19 September 1905 – 27 November 1967) a professor, in 1948. Russell and Anita Bowser taught classes at Purdue University branch campuses in northern Indiana.

Anita Bowser earned five degrees: a Bachelor of Arts from Kent State University in 1945; a Bachelor of Law from McKinley School of Law in 1949; a Master of Arts from Purdue University in 1967; a Master of Arts from Notre Dame in 1972; and a Doctorate of Philosophy from Notre Dame in 1976.

Bowser became a part time instructor at the Purdue Barker Center (which evolved into Purdue North Central) in 1950. She was the first female professor at Purdue University. From 1967 to her retirement in 1991 Bowser was a professor of Political Science at the Purdue North Central campus.

In 1980 Anita Bowser was chosen to be State Representative Clifford Arnold's replacement. She served as a representative from 1980 to 1992. During this time she became the first woman to hold the position of Deputy Speaker Pro Tempore in Indiana's history. In 1992 Bowser was elected State Senator for the 8th district, representing LaPorte and St. Joseph counties. Bowser continued to serve as a State Senator until her death in 2007.

Bowser's priorities included education, economic development, health care, and the environment. As a State Senator she tried to remain accessible to the citizens she represented. She was often called "the conscience of the Indiana State Senate." She stood up for civil liberties and women's rights. Anita Bowser made her last speech to the Indiana Senate from a wheelchair a month before she died. Her speech was in opposition to a constitutional ban on same-sex marriage.

Sources:

Biographical Information: Box 1, Folder 1. "Anita Bowser Chosen State Representative" by Margaret A. Canessa

House Concurrent Resolution Memorializing Senator Anita Bowser.

(<http://www.in.gov/legislative/bills/2007/HRESP/HC0072.html>). Accessed 6 November 2008.

PNC Announces Sen. Anita Bowser Scholarship Fund. Purdue University North Central. (<http://www.pnc.edu/cd/news/bowser.html>). Accessed 6 November 2008.

Remembering Sen. Anita Bowser. Blue Indiana.Net.

(<http://www.blueindiana.net/showDiary.do?diaryId=143>). Accessed 6 November 2008.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Series 1: Biographical Information, Awards, Certificates, and Speeches. This series includes: résumés, short biographies, a memorial to Russell Bowser, four of the five degrees Bowser earned, speeches she gave on various topics and research material, and programs from events Bowser attended and participated in.

Series 2: Correspondence and Newsletters. This series includes: personal correspondence, a copy of Bowser's Bachelor of Law degree from McKinley School of Law (Folder 2), letters relating to her position as a professor at Purdue North Central, newsletters from Anita Bowser, newsletters from other politicians and organizations or associations she belonged to, letters of recommendation, thank you letters and cards, invitations, holiday greetings, and negative letters.

Series 3: Campaign Materials and Research. This series includes: Bowser's Declaration of Candidacy from 14 February 1994; campaign plans; various campaign flyers, a coloring book, plans for a sign; research on Pat Lain, who ran against Bowser for the 8th district senate seat in 1996; notes and information about President Carter's Administration, from an event; information about the Brown vs. Board of Education 1979 Symposium, an event Bowser attended; the 2001 Legislative Action at a glance; information regarding Cynthia A Hedge vs. Oriental Health Spa, et. al, notes by Bowser; information regarding Helen Boothe vs. Porter County Democratic Precinct Review Committee, Leon West, et. al, notes by Bowser; a review of Senator Bowser's voting record on bills affecting crime 1993–1996; Minutes from September 1995 meeting of the Stepping Stone Shelter for Women; notes taken by Bowser on the Parental Rights and Responsibilities Act, and the Progressive Movement; information on Watergate; and color prints of campaign photographs.

Series 4: This series includes: an incomplete collection of Statehouse Statements from 1983 to 1999; an incomplete collection of press releases from 1979 to 1999; an incomplete collection of radio reports from 1993 to 1999; Legislation Reports and Session Reviews; information on HB 2047 Concerning Health, HEA 1084 Concerning Courts and Court Officers, and SEA 404 Civil War Flags Commission; State Budget information from 1982; various Memorandums; Directories; information on Senate District 8; articles on welfare, the environment, and solid waste districts; notes and research on Reproductive Rights; the 1996 Managed Care Conference; information on Labor and Prevailing Wage; information and articles on the proposed Indiana Department of Correction Hog Farm; article "Gender Gap in Politics" from Campaigns and Elections October/November 1995 issue; and information on Jerry Olbur who received a Sagamore of the Wabash in 1997.

Series 5: Papers by Anita Bowser. This box contains five papers written by Anita Bowser.

Series 6: Scrapbook pages. These contain newspaper clippings, photographs, letters, and certificates 1979–2003.

Series 7: Color Photographs. This box includes portraits of Bowser, group photographs, photographs from campaigns and speeches, and photographs of unidentified people.

Series 8: Black and White Photographs. This box includes a portrait of Joe Kernan, portraits of Anita Bowser, group photographs, and photographs from campaigns or speeches.

Series 9: VHS. The majority of the videos are campaign spots and interviews.

Series 10: Audio Cassette. The cassettes are recordings of campaign spots for radio and tapes from hearings and meetings.

Series 11: Oversize Manuscript. Two folders containing certificates and manuscripts.

Series 12: Oversize Visuals. One folder containing a panoramic group photograph of the Indiana State Senate and a photo collage design for a campaign flyer.

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Work and Biographical Information, 1943–2007

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Biographical Information – Russell and Anita Bowser, 1943–2007	Box 1, Folder 1
Kent State University, Bachelor of Arts Degree – 1945.	Box 1, Folder 2
Purdue University, Master of Arts Degree – 1967.	Box 1, Folder 3
University of Notre Dame du Lar, Master of Arts Degree – 1972	Box 1, Folder 4
University of Notre Dame du Lar, Ph. D. Philosophy – 1976	Box 1, Folder 5
Certificates of Election, Certificate of Appointment, Senate Resolutions, 1961–2006	Box 1, Folder 6
Certificates of Appreciation, Certificates of Recognition, 1987–2005	Box 1, Folder 7
Awards and Membership Certificates, 1973–1999	Box 1, Folder 8
Graduation Speech, LaPorte LaLumiere H.S., 1985	Box 1, Folder 9
Memorial Day Speech, 1988	Box 1, Folder 10
Speech about Abortion – 29 January 1990.	Box 1, Folder 11
Speech Materials, 1990s	Box 1, Folder 12
Event Programs, 1980s–1990s	Box 1, Folder 13

Series 2: Correspondence and Newsletters, 1949–2005

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Personal and Education related correspondence, 1949–2000	Box 2, Folder 1

Work related correspondence, 1955–1999	Box 2, Folder 2
Anita Bowser Newsletters, 1992–2001	Box 2, Folder 3
Newsletters, General, 1963–1999	Box 2, Folder 4
Letters of Recommendation and Support – in support of and written by Senator Bowser, 1988–1997	Box 2, Folder 5
Thank you letters, Letters of Appreciation, Congratulatory letters, 1973–2001	Box 2, Folder 6
Letters from Candidates, 1990–1999	Box 2, Folder 7
Invitations and Questionnaires, 1980–1997	Box 2, Folder 8
Letters Requesting Support, 1977–1999	Box 2, Folder 9
White House Holiday Greetings, Inaugural Invitations, and Presidential Campaign prints, 1980s–2004	Box 2, Folder 10
Holiday Greetings, 1980s–2005	Box 2, Folder 11
Negative Letters, 1970s–1995	Box 2, Folder 12

Series 3: Campaign Materials and Research, 1973–2001

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Declaration of Candidacy and Campaign Plans, 1986–1996	Box 3, Folder 1
Campaign Materials, 1980s	Box 3, Folder 2
Research on Pat Lain, 1996	Box 3, Folder 3
President Carter’s Administration – Notes, agenda, 1980	Box 3, Folder 4
Brown vs. the Board of Education 1979 Symposium.	Box 3, Folder 5
2001 Legislative Action at a Glance.	Box 3, Folder 6
Cynthia A. Hedge vs. Oriental Health Spa, et. al. and notes by Anita Bowser, 1996	Box 3, Folder 7

Helen Boothe vs. Porter County Democratic Precinct Review Committee, Leon West, et. al., 1996	Box 3, Folder 8
Senator Bowser's Voting Record on Bills Affecting Crime 1993 – 1996	Box 3, Folder 9
Stepping Stone Shelter for Women, Inc. 28 September 1995, Meeting Minutes	Box 3, Folder 10
Notes, 1990s	Box 3, Folder 11
Watergate: The Story So Far; The World Behind Watergate, 1973	Box 3, Folder 12
Color prints (computer generated) of campaign photographs, 2000	Box 3, Folder 13

Series 4: Legislative Materials, 1979–1999

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Statehouse Statements, 1983–1999	Box 4, Folder 1
Press Releases, 1979–1999	Box 4, Folder 2
Radio Reports, 1993–1999	Box 4, Folder 3
Legislation Reports, 1993 Session Outlook, Session Review, Session Wrap-up	Box 4, Folder 4
HB 2047, Concerning Health; HEA 1084, Concerning Courts and Court Officers; SEA 404, Civil War Flags Commission, 1994	Box 4, Folder 5
State Budget Information, 1982–1983	Box 4, Folder 6
Memorandums, 1980–1999	Box 4, Folder 7
Directories: Indiana State Senators 2007, Michigan City Women's Democratic Club 1996.	Box 4, Folder 8
Senate District 8 Information, 1986–1992	Box 4, Folder 9
Welfare, Environment, Solid Waste Districts, 1992–1996	Box 4, Folder 10

Reproductive Rights – Notes and Research, 1989	Box 4, Folder 11
Managed Care Conference, 1996	Box 4, Folder 12
Labor and Prevailing Wage, 1995	Box 4, Folder 13
Indiana Department of Corrections Hog Farm, Copies of Newspaper Articles, 1985–1986	Box 4, Folder 14
Copy of article “Gender Gap in Politics” from Campaigns and Elections October/November 1995.	Box 4, Folder 15
Diary, Trip to Japan, June–July n.d.	Box 4A, Folder 1
“Cash” Book, Appointments and Addresses, 1996	Box 4A, Folder 2
Jerry Olbur, Sagamore of the Wabash, 1997	Box 4, Folder 16

Series 5: Papers by Anita Bowser, 1965–1977

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Clarence Darrow: An Active Practitioner, by Anita Bowser. August 1965	Box 5, Folder 1
Legal Effects of Nonrecognition in the Courts of the United States, by Anita Bowser. January 1970	Box 5, Folder 2
Man in Outer Space: Some International Legal Implications, by Anita Bowser. January 1970	Box 5, Folder 3
Intelsat in Consonance with Comsat or International and Domestic Control of Communication Satellites, by Anita Bowser. April, 1970	Box 5, Folder 4
Summary of Events by Anita Bowser. Information on the Nuclear Arms Race, 1970s	Box 5, Folder 5
Delimiting Religion in the Constitution: A Classification Problem, by Anita Bowser. 1977	Box 5, Folder 6

Series 6: Scrapbook Pages, 1979–2003

CONTENTS

Scrapbook pages: 1979 – 1980

Scrapbook pages: 1980 – 1982.

Scrapbook pages: 1982 – 1983.

Scrapbook pages: 1983 – 1984.

Scrapbook pages: 1984 – 1984.

Scrapbook pages: 1984 – 1986.

Scrapbook pages: 1986 – 1986.

Scrapbook pages: 1987 – 1988.

Scrapbook pages: 1988 – 1989.

Scrapbook pages: 1989 – 1990.

Scrapbook pages: 1990 – 1991.

Scrapbook pages: 1991 – 1992.

Scrapbook pages: 1992 – 1992.

Scrapbook pages: 1992 – 1993.

Scrapbook pages: 1993 – 1993.

Scrapbook pages: 1993 – 1994.

Scrapbook pages: 1994 – 1995.

Scrapbook pages: 1995 – 1995.

Scrapbook pages: 1995 – 1996.

Scrapbook pages: 1996 – 1997

Scrapbook pages: 1997 – 1998.

Scrapbook pages: 1998 – 1999

Scrapbook pages: 1999 – 2000

CONTAINER

Box 6

Box 7

Box 8

Box 9

Box 10

Box 11

Box 12

Box 13

Box 14

Box 15

Box 16

Box 17

Box 18

Box 19

Box 20

Box 21

Box 22

Box 23

Box 24

Box 25

Box 26

Box 27

Box 28

Scrapbook pages: 2000 – 2001.

Box 29

Scrapbook pages: 2002 – 2003.

Box 30

Series 7: Color Photographs

CONTENTS

Portraits of Anita Bowser.

Group Photographs. Anita Bowser with other politicians and pages.

Photographs from Campaigns or Speeches.

Unidentified. Group and candid shots of unidentified people.

CONTAINER

Color Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1

Color Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 2

Color Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 3

Color Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 4

Series 8: Black and White Photographs

CONTENTS

Portrait of Joe Kernan.

Photographs from Campaigns or Speeches.

Portraits of Anita Bowser.

Group Photographs. Most are Anita Bowser with other politicians.

CONTAINER

Photographs:
Folder 1

Photographs:
Folder 2

Photographs:
Folder 3

Photographs:
Folder 4

Series 9: VHS Cassette Tapes, 1990–2002

CONTENTS

Rep. Anita Bowser Pt. 1

CONTAINER

Video Tape Storage:
Box 1, Tape 1

Rep. Anita Bowser, Pt. 3

Video Tape Storage:
Box 1, Tape 2

Senator Anita Bowser "Consultants" PRG-AB-01 :30
10/7/96

Video Tape Storage:
Box 1, Tape 3

N.I.F. Day Care 3/21/90 WLPS

Video Tape Storage:
Box 1, Tape 4

Third House Session – Feb. 17, 1990.

Video Tape Storage:
Box 1, Tape 5

Veterans Day 1991

Video Tape Storage:
Box 1, Tape 6

Indiana State Board of Health 9/88
Introduction to AIDS Universal Precautions
AIDS/Schools and Senate Bill 9
Legal Issues and Senate Bill 9

Video Tape Storage:
Box 1, Tape 7

30 Minutes Each.

Public Policy Committee Hearing.
H.B. 1034 – Edited – to 1 hour

Video Tape Storage:
Box 1, Tape 8

Commitment to Quality trt 7:18

Video Tape Storage:
Box 1, Tape 9

Priority One Indiana: An Economic Development
Project for Our Future. 11:36

Video Tape Storage:
Box 1, Tape 10

WNIT34 1997 Year in Review/State of the Station
9:42

Video Tape Storage:
Box 1, Tape 11

WNIT Public Television. State of the Station. TRT
14:25, 2001

Video Tape Storage:
Box 1, Tape 12

Letter from Trina Cutter, WNIT34 President and
General Manager. March 3, 1998.

Video Tape Storage:
Box 1, Folder 1

Letter from Trina Cutter, WNIT Public Television
President and General Manager, January 18, 2002.

Video Tape Storage:
Box 1, Folder 1

Series10: Audio Cassette Tapes

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Bowser for State Senate "Let Me Tell You" : 60 Radio. 10-2-96. Public Response Group, Chicago	CT 2124
Anita Bowser/Ind. State Dem. "Education" :60 R. Public Response Group, Chicago.	CT 2125
People for Anita Bowser Committee "New Day." Nordlinger Associates, Washington, DC.	CT 2126
Anita Bowser, 1 at :60, 1 at :30.	CT 2127
Lootens Grievance, Tape 1.	CT 2128
Lootens Grievance, Tape 2.	CT 2129
Marcia Metzees, Westville Correctional Center; January, 23, 1989.	CT 2130
President Hanson Meeting.	CT 2131
Pfizer Portfolio of State Issues. Vol. 8 No. 3.	CT 2132

Series11: Oversize Manuscripts. 1982-2004

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
Certificates, 1982-1995	OM 0473, Folder 1
Newspaper Clippings, 1989-2004	OM 0473, Folder 2

Series12: Oversize Visuals

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
"Now More Than Ever!" poster design Panoramic view in the Indiana State Senate chambers, group photograph	Oversize Visuals: Folder 1, FF 1-o

CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog:
<http://opac.indianahistory.org/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, M 0969).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.