

**Collection #**  
**M 0969**  
**CT 2124–2132**  
**OM 0473**  
**DVD 1489–1493**

**ANITA BOWSER  
COLLECTION, 1943–2007**

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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

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## COLLECTION INFORMATION

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| VOLUME OF<br>COLLECTION: | <b>Manuscript Materials:</b> 31 manuscript boxes; 2 folders<br>oversize manuscripts; 9 audio cassette tapes, 5 audio DVDs<br><b>Visual Materials:</b> 1 box color photographs; 4 folders black<br>and white photographs; 12 VHS format video tapes; 1 folder<br>oversized visuals. |
| COLLECTION<br>DATES:     | 1943–2007  |
| PROVENANCE:              |  |
| RESTRICTIONS:            | None   |
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| RELATED<br>HOLDINGS:     |  |
| ACCESSION<br>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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 Broadcasts.** Digital disks and cassettes tapes regarding 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                      | CONTAINER |
| Scrapbook pages: 1979 – 1980  | Box 6     |
| Scrapbook pages: 1980 – 1982. | Box 7     |

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| Scrapbook pages: 1982 – 1983. | Box 8  |
| Scrapbook pages: 1983 – 1984. | Box 9  |
| Scrapbook pages: 1984 – 1984. | Box 10 |
| Scrapbook pages: 1984 – 1986. | Box 11 |
| Scrapbook pages: 1986 – 1986. | Box 12 |
| Scrapbook pages: 1987 – 1988. | Box 13 |
| Scrapbook pages: 1988 – 1989. | Box 14 |
| Scrapbook pages: 1989 – 1990. | Box 15 |
| Scrapbook pages: 1990 – 1991. | Box 16 |
| Scrapbook pages: 1991 – 1992. | Box 17 |
| Scrapbook pages: 1992 – 1992. | Box 18 |
| Scrapbook pages: 1992 – 1993. | Box 19 |
| Scrapbook pages: 1993 – 1993. | Box 20 |
| Scrapbook pages: 1993 – 1994. | Box 21 |
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| Scrapbook pages: 1996 – 1997  | Box 25 |
| Scrapbook pages: 1997 – 1998. | Box 26 |
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| 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

Rep. Anita Bowser, Pt. 3

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

### **CONTAINER**

Video Tape Storage:  
Box 1, Tape 1

Video Tape Storage:  
Box 1, Tape 2

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 and DVDs**

### **CONTENTS**

Bowser for State Senate “Let Me Tell You” :  
60 Radio. 10–2–96. Public Response Group, Chicago

### **CONTAINER**

CT 2124

Anita Bowser/Ind. State Dem. “Education” :60 R.  
Public Response Group, Chicago.

CT 2125

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| People for Anita Bowser Committee "New Day."<br>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;<br>January, 23, 1989.                   | CT 2130  |
| President Hanson Meeting.  | CT 2131  |
| Pfizer Portfolio of State Issues. Vol. 8 No. 3.  | CT 2132  |
| "New Day," People for Anita Bowser Committee<br>(user copy)                            | DVD 1489 |
| "New Day," People for Anita Bowser Committee<br>(master copy)                          | DVD 1490 |
| Prof. Anita Bowser, Purdue North Central Hgy 421                                       | DVD 1491 |
| WLOI/WCOE Radio spots  | DVD 1492 |
| Indiana House Democrats, Radio Candidate: Anita<br>Bowser                              | DVD 1493 |

### **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                  | Oversize Visuals: |
| Panoramic view in the Indiana State Senate chambers, | Folder 1,         |
| group photograph                                     | FF 1-o            |

