

Guide to the Eileen Brookman Papers

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Summary Information

Repository:	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
Creator:	Brookman, Eileen
Title:	Eileen Brookman Papers
ID:	MS-00620
Date [inclusive]:	1941-2002
Physical Description:	9.6 Linear Feet (17 boxes, 1 oversized box)
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	The materials in this collection document the political career of Assemblywoman Eileen Brookman, a Nevada Democratic legislator. Materials span from 1941 to 2002 and include Brookman's speeches, research material, constituent correspondence, bumper stickers, election returns, and other campaign material; clippings and programs from Jewish service organization B'nai B'rith; documents reflecting Brookman's legislative committee and conference work; correspondence; clippings; pamphlets; invitations; photographs; and scrapbook materials.

Preferred Citation

Eileen Brookman Papers, 1941-2002. MS-00620. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Biographical Note

Eileen (Milstein) Brookman (1921-2004) was member of the Nevada Assembly from 1967-1977 and 1987-1990. Small in stature but nicknamed "Queenie" by her admirers, she advocated passionately for the rights of persons with disabilities, minorities, people of low incomes, women, and especially the elderly. Brookman entered state politics in 1962 when she was appointed Indian Commissioner by Nevada Governor Grant Sawyer. She was also active in many organizations, including the NAACP, the Senior Citizen Resource Center Advisory Board, the Clark County Association on Mental Health, and the National Conference of Christians and Jews. She served as Anti-Defamation League (ADL) chairman of the Las Vegas, Nevada chapter of B'nai B'rith, and was also a lifetime member of Hadassah and the Sisterhood of Temple Beth Sholom. In 1982 Brookman was chairman of the Nevada delegation to the White House

Conference on Aging, and was subsequently appointed to the Nevada Commission on Aging. She received many local and regional awards, including Clark County Humanitarian Mother of the Year, Outstanding Woman of the West, Nevada Distinguished Citizen, and B'nai B'rith Outstanding Woman of the Year. Eileen B. Brookman Elementary School in Las Vegas, Nevada is named in her honor.

Eileen Milstein was born on October 25, 1921, in Denver, Colorado. The Milstein family relocated to Southern California and Eileen attended Eagle Rock High School in Los Angeles and Los Angeles City College. She married George Brookman in 1941, while he was in the US Army. After the birth of their two children the family moved to Las Vegas, Nevada, where George became a general contractor and Eileen entered the political arena.

During her 16 years in the legislature Brookman served on some of the most important Assembly committees, including Government Affairs, Health and Welfare, and Education. She was the vice-chairman of the Legislative Functions and Assembly Ways and Means committees, and she co-chaired the Clark County Assembly Delegation. In her last term, she served on the interim committee studying the Youth Services Division and the Juvenile Justice System, and was the Assembly Representative to the State Commission on Aging.

Brookman sponsored such legislative milestones as the reorganization of the Nevada National Guard, the adoption of the Nevada Code of Military Justice, the passage of the "hate crimes" bill for Nevada, and the creation of the Governor's Advisory Council on Education Relating to the Holocaust. During the 1975 legislative session, Brookman introduced a bill to eliminate pay toilets, which were a national issue of gender inequality at the time.

Brookman was a consistent supporter of legislation to establish and improve senior citizen programs. She sponsored the Older Americans Act, which created the State Division of Aging Services and secured funding for senior citizen benefits such as reduced transportation fares and the "Meals on Wheels" program. She also sponsored the creation of the Aging Services Division of the Department of Human Resources, the prohibition of discrimination in private employment on the basis of age, and the entitlement of senior citizens to vote by absentee ballot.

In 1990, Brookman ended her political career to attend to family matters. Eileen Brookman passed away in her Las Vegas home on July 1, 2004, after a battle with cancer; her husband died only a few weeks later. Both are survived by their daughter Deborah.

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Scope and Contents Note

The Eileen Brookman papers includes speeches and research materials, letters of support and gratitude, plus bumper stickers, endorsements, and other campaign materials. The election returns from each of her campaigns are also included. There is extensive information on B'nai B'rith, including a scrapbook, clippings, programs, and correspondence.

The Political papers (1949-1990) contain more general information about state government and outlines the committees and functions that Brookman was involved with. There is extensive coverage of the 1982

White House Conference on Aging and the work she did in Nevada as a result of the conference. Her other involvements are outlined in folders on the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the Women's Democratic Club, Nike House, Campus Security, American Business Women, and the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). Also included are correspondence, clippings, pamphlets, invitations, and photographs.

The scrapbooks (1941-1989), are primarily composed of materials related to Eileen Brookman's political career and personal life. An oversized box contains many of Brookman's awards and certificates. There are two scrapbooks entitled "Gemco Student Scholarship Awards" and one about her husband George.

The materials added in 2005 (1967-2002), consist of papers donated by the Brookman Estate after Eileen Brookman's death.

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Arrangement

The collection is organized into four series:

Series I. Personal Papers, 1950-1995;

Series II. Political Materials, 1949-1990;

Series III. Scrapbook Materials, 1941-1989;

Series IV. Materials added in 2005, 1967-2002.

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Administrative Information

Access Note

Collection is open for research. Portions of this collection have been digitized and are available online at <http://d.library.unlv.edu/cdm/search/searchterm/MS-00620>

Publication Rights

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Acquisition Note

Materials were donated in 1995 by Eileen Brookman and in 2005 by the Brookman Estate; accession number 95-14.

Processing Note

Materials were processed by Joyce Marshall Moore, in 1997, February. In 2005 Su Kim Chung processed an addition that was donated by Brookman's estate. In 2015, as part of a legacy finding aid conversion project, Hana Gutierrez revised and enhanced the collection description to bring it into compliance with current professional standards.

Revision Description

The finding aid was revised and enhanced by Hana Gutierrez to bring it into compliance with current professional standards. 2015 July

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Related Materials

Separated Materials

Several photographs from both the 1995 and 2005 accessions, including photographs of Brookman with Nevada dignitaries, were relocated to the UNLV Special Collections Photo Collections, PH-00303.

In addition, books on Senate and Assembly history and some legislative manuals have been separated and described individually in the [University Libraries' catalog](#).

Related Materials

The following resources may provide additional information related to the materials in this collection:
Eileen Brookman Photo Collection, 1960-1989. PH-00303. Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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Names and Subjects

- Businesswomen—Nevada -- Las Vegas--Biography
- Women – Nevada – Las Vegas – Biography
- Las Vegas – Nevada -- Politics and government
- White House Conference on Aging

- Photographs
- Nevada. Legislature. Assembly

Collection Inventory

Series I. Personal Papers, 1950-1995

Physical Description: 2.1 Linear Feet (5 boxes)

Scope and Contents Note: The Personal Papers series dates from 1950 to 1995 and consists of information about Eileen Brookman's personal life, family, community involvement, and political career. The series includes photographs, family papers, and records of Brookman's work with B'nai B'rith, the Jewish community service organization. Personal materials from her political career include speech drafts, election returns, and business cards.

Arrangement: Materials remain in original order.

Title/Description	Containers
Preliminary inventories (handwritten), 1995	box 01
Arvey, Lawrence: criminal case clippings, 1978	box 01
Brookman biographical information, 1972, 1987, 1990	box 01
B'nai B'rith, scrapbook pages, 1957	box 01
B'nai B'rith, clippings, 1960-1975	box 01
B'nai B'rith, correspondence, 1960-1974	box 01
Brookman, Michael file, 1976	box 01
Brookman Motel, 1972	box 01
Personal correspondence, 1965-1978	box 01
High School diplomas, 1940, 1934	box 01
Jewelry appraisal, 1968	box 01
Oriental design post cards, undated	box 01
Photographs, 1960s-1980s	box 02
Photographs, mostly candid, 1948-1960s	box 02
Programs, miscellaneous, 1950-1987	box 02
UNLV football programs, 1973	box 02
Temple Beth Shalom, Family Album program, 1988 April 23	box 02
Political Career Papers, 1963-1993	
Campaign: bumper stickers, posters, and business cards, 1987, 1985, undated	box 03
Campaign: endorsements, 1988	box 03
Campaign: endorsement thank you letters, 1988	box 03

Campaign: miscellaneous, 1976, 1987	box 03
Correspondence: thank you letters, 1977-1992	box 03
Holiday cards and letters, 1990-1993	box 03
Newspaper clippings, 1975-1992	box 03
Speech drafts and reference material, 1963-1976	box 03
Speech drafts, undated	box 03
Bank statements, envelopes, and stationary, 1984, undated	box 03
Election candidates, 1992	box 04
Election returns, 1964	box 04
Election returns, 1966	box 04
Election returns, 1968	box 04
Election returns, 1970	box 04
Election returns, 1972	box 04
Election returns, 1974	box 04
Election return statistics, 1974	box 04
Election returns, 1976	box 04
Election information ballots, 1988	box 04
Election returns, 1988	box 04
Film, clock, business cards, totebags, nametags, and flag, 1948-1989, undated	box 05

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Series II. Political Materials, 1949-1990

Physical Description: 2.9 Linear Feet (7 boxes)

Scope and Contents Note: The Political Materials series dates from 1949 to 1990 and documents Eileen Brookman's political work. It contains a map of the Nevada voting districts, information about governor's conferences, and various studies of political issues related to Nevada such as Indian Affairs, brothels, and the state health plan. The series also contains materials about the White House Conference on Aging and information about the aging adult population in Nevada.

Arrangement : Materials remain in original order.

Title/Description	Containers
Biennial message of Gov. Richard Bryan, 1987 January	box 06
Booklets and pamphlets, 1955-1992	box 06
Brothels in Nevada, 1985-1988	box 06
Business and Professional Women Roster, 1987-1988	box 06

Campus Security Bill, 1988	box 06
Campus Security, University of Nevada System, 1964-1969, 1988	box 06
Certificates and awards, 1968-1988	box 06
Correspondence, 1970-1989	box 06
Date book, 1988	box 06
10 Directory Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, 1969	box 06
E.R.A. pamphlets and clippings, undated	box 06
18th Annual N.A.A.C.P. Freedom Fund Banquet, 1972	box 06
Governor's Conference, 1973	box 07
Governor's Conference, Houston, Texas, 1972	box 07
Governor's Conference: Dinner hosted by Alaska, 1977	box 07
Governor Mike O'Callahan file, 1970s	box 07
Inaugural invitations, 1964-1993	box 07
Indian Affairs, 1969-1970s	box 07
Key to the Constitution (booklet), 1949	box 07
Lobbyist listing, 1989 January	box 07
N.A.A.C.P., 1960-1965	box 08
National Conference of Christians and Jews-dinner, 1988	box 08
Nevada P.T.A., member plaque, 1988	box 08
Nevada Public Affairs Review, 1987	box 08
Nevada State Educational Association Handbook, 1988	box 08
Nevada State Health Plan, 1988	box 08
Nevada Wage Survey, 1988	box 08
Newspaper clippings featuring Nevada issues or Eileen Brookman, 1968-1988	box 08
Nike House, 1987	box 08
Northern Nevada Information, 1970-1977	box 08
Orientation to Older Americans, 1983	box 08
Political History of Nevada, 1965	box 09
Political History of Nevada, 1979	box 09
Presidential Inauguration, 1976-1977	box 09
Pyramid Lake Task Force, 1971	box 09
Questions and Answers on Government, 1969	box 09

Technical Report on American elections, 1988	box 09
U.S. Governors list booklet, 1975	box 09
Vintage Views and News, 1974-1977	box 09
Voting district plat map, undated	box 09
Women in politics, 1985-1987	box 09
Women's Democratic Club roster, 1977-1987	box 09
White House Conference on Aging, 1967-1991	
Clippings and Correspondence, 1980-1981	box 10
Correspondence: seniors, 1975-1991	box 10
White House Engineering work tape (cassette), 1981	box 10
Final Reports and profiles on aging people, 1981	box 10
White House Conference on Aging Americans materials, 1977-1988	box 10
Aging Conference material and other information on aging Americans, 1981-1993	box 10
White House Conference on Aging handbook, 1981	box 11
Grant information booklet, undated	box 11
White House Conference seminar booklets, 1981	box 11
Photographs of the Las Vegas senior citizen center, undated	box 11
Committees' recommendations from the White House Conference on Aging, 1981	box 11
Scrapbook materials, 1981	box 11
Photographs, Reno, 1981	box 11
Materials for Reno scrapbook, 1981	box 11
Materials for Senior Citizen Center scrapbook, 1981	box 11
Assembly history, Nevada legislature, 1977	box 12
Biographies of members of the Nevada Legislature, 1979	box 12
National Directory of Elected Women Officials, 1987	box 12
Nevada Legislative Handbook, 1967	box 12
Nevada Legislature, 1973	box 12
Nevada Legislature Handbook, 1987-1989	box 12
Nevada Legislature, 1989-1990	box 12
State Legislative Council, letter, 1988	box 12

The Sometime Governments: A Critical Study of the 50 American Legislatures, 1971	box 12
Women in Congress, 1976 Physical Description: (pamphlet)	box 12
Senate History, 1967	box 12

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Series III. Scrapbook Materials, 1941-1989

Physical Description: 2.2 Linear Feet (2 boxes, 1 oversized box)

Scope and Contents Note: The Scrapbook Materials series dates from 1941 to 1989 and consists of folders filled with newspaper clippings, photographs, and completed scrapbook pages related to Eileen Brookman. There is also a folder of awards and certificates. It is unclear if each folder represents an individual scrapbook or holds material that was intended for assembly into a scrapbook. There are neither bound nor completed scrapbooks in this series.

Arrangement : Materials remain in original order.

Title/Description	Containers
Scrapbook materials, 1973, 1983	box 13
Scrapbook materials, 1960-1961	box 13
Scrapbook materials, 1972-1974	box 13
Scrapbook materials for Gemco Charitable and Scholarship Foundation, 1980-1981	box 13
Scrapbook materials for George Brookman, 1941-1977	box 13
Scrapbook materials on National Conference of Christian and Jews, 1960-1979	box 13
Scrapbook materials for unidentified scrapbook, 1964-1976	box 14
Scrapbook materials, 1968-1978	box 14
Photographs of Brookman and other government officials at various events, 1975-1979	box 14
Scrapbook materials, 1970-1978	box 14
Awards and certificates, 1973-1988	oversized box 15

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Series IV. Materials added in 2005, 1967-2002

Physical Description: 2.5 Linear Feet (3 boxes)

Scope and Contents Note: The Materials added in 2005 series consists of materials added to the collection from the Brookman Estate after Eileen Brookman's death in July 2004. This series includes Assembly bills Brookman worked on, bills she sponsored, and her state Assembly vehicle license plates.

Arrangement: Materials remain in original order.

Title/Description	Containers
Appointment book, 1982	box 16
Brookman sponsored bills, 1967, 1968, 1969	box 16
Brookman sponsored bills, 1971	box 16
Brookman sponsored bills, 1973	box 16
Brookman sponsored bills, 1977	box 16
Brookman sponsored bills, 1987	box 16
Brookman sponsored bills, 1989	box 16
Brookman bills: drafts and miscellaneous, 1987, undated	box 16
Brookman bills pending: drafts and related documents, 1973	box 16
Brookman school naming, 1999-2000	box 16
Candidate declarations of expenditures and campaign, 1987	box 16
Correspondence, 1972-1977	box 16
Ethics Review Board: City of Las Vegas, 1993-2002	box 16
Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary Congratulations for Eileen and George Brookman (various correspondence, including with government officials), 1991	box 16
Miscellaneous memos and correspondence, 1972-1993	box 16
Nevada Legislature, 1975	box 16
Nevada Legislature, 1989	box 16
Newspaper clippings, 1970-1971	box 16
Newspaper clippings, 1974-1987	box 16
Photographs, 1960s	box 16
Second Wind (organ transplant organization), 1967-1999	box 16
Women's Democratic Club of Clark County: rosters, constitution, and bylaws, 1994-1995	box 16
Plaque: Life Member of Hadassah, 1986	box 16
Plaques: Vice Chairman, Committee on Legislative Functions; Las Vegas B'Nai B'rith Women, 1989, 1965	box 16
Plaque: Nevada Outstanding Citizen Award for Meritorious Service, undated	box 16
Plaques: Worst tie and Delegate to White House Conference on Aging, 1981,1987	box 16
Assembly Bills, 1969	box 17
Physical Description: (bound volumes annotated by Brookman)	
Assembly Bills, 1973	box 17

Assembly Bills, 1975	box 17
Assembly Bills, 1977 Physical Description: (Assembly bills, senate bills concurrent resolutions)	box 17
Assembly Bills, 1987	box 17
Assembly Bills, 1987 Physical Description: (Assembly bills, senate bills concurrent resolutions)	box 17
Assembly Bills, 1989	box 17
Eileen Brookman biography (blank), undated	box 17
Assembly Bills, Senate Bills, and concurrent resolutions, 1977	box 17
Nevada legislature manual, 1977	box 17
Nevada license plates for Nevada Assemblywoman Brookman, undated	box 18

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