
ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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MS 1180

**HODGES, ANN ELLISON, ca. 1898-1991
Papers, ca. 1933-ca. 1990 (bulk: ca. 1933-1956)**

DESCRIPTION

Correspondence, clippings, speeches, and photographs relating to the Arizona Sunshine School and the Tucson Womans Club, documenting the years 1930-1991; bulk of collection is ca. 1933-ca. 1956.

5 boxes, 3.5 linear ft.

ACQUISITION

The papers were donated by the Estate of Ann Hodges by personal representative Carolyn Puckett through Munger and Munger, P.C.C.

RELATED MATERIAL

MS 605: Arizona Federation of Womans Clubs
MS 912: Tucson Womans Club

ACCESS

There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

COPYRIGHT

Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be addressed to the Arizona Historical Society, Tucson, Archives Department.

PROCESSING

The collection was processed by Dena McDuffie, December 2000.

ARRANGEMENT

The collection is arranged topically.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Ann Ellison was born in Milledgeville, Georgia at the turn of the last century and came to Tucson in the early 1930s. She was a graduate of Georgia State College for Women and had pursued postgraduate studies at Columbia University. Prior to her move to Tucson, she had been supervisor of art in Orlando, Florida public schools and had taught for 3 years at Georgia State College for Women. She married Percy Wyman Hodges, a graduate of Boston University who had pursued postgraduate studies at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and had lived in Cuba for 12 years. Mr. and Mrs. Hodges both taught and administrated the Arizona Sunshine School in Tucson. The open-air private school was opened in 1927, directed by Evelyn L. Merriman, at 825 North 2nd Avenue. The open-air concept advocated teaching children a healthy, outdoors lifestyle. The curriculum included academic classes (taught in covered ramadas), as well as dancing, music, arts and crafts, woodworking and sewing. In the early 1930s, Alice Templer Young (later Alice Holsclaw) directed the school where Ann Hodges taught music and handcrafts and P.W. Hodges (as he was known) was business manager and taught Spanish and woodworking. In 1932, the school moved to 645 East 3rd Street. At that time, the school began accepting boarding students and the Hodges became the resident directors. Eventually, they bought the school and moved it to 1600 North Craycroft Road.

In 1933, Mrs. Hodges joined the Tucson Womans Club. She was a very active member of the club, serving two terms as its president and heading the club's participation in the National Safety Council campaign. In honor of her efforts for the Safety Council, she was awarded the Carol Lane award for traffic safety, presented to her in Chicago by Shell Oil Company in 1955. She is also credited with starting the first Girl Scout Council in Arizona in 1935 and she served as the group's commissioner for 10 years.

Mrs. Hodges died on December 9, 1991, at age 93. She is buried in the Ellison family plot in Milledgeville, Georgia.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection documents Mrs. Hodges' involvement 1) as a teacher and administrator at the Arizona Sunshine School and 2) in the Tucson Womans Club, especially its program promoting safety on the roads. There is nothing of a personal nature in this collection.

The manuscript portion of the collection is primarily correspondence, newspaper clippings, promotional materials, and brochures.

The photographic portion of the collection is comprised of photographs of children from the Arizona Sunshine School; many of the images chronicle their activities, both at the school and on field trips around Arizona. Also included in the collection are promotional photographs highlighting Mrs. Hodges' activities on behalf of the National Safety Congress.

SERIES NOTE

Series 1: Arizona Sunshine School, ca. 1933-ca. 1940

This series includes correspondence, clippings, promotional materials, and photographs concerning the Arizona Sunshine School. This series is arranged chronologically.

Series 2: Tucson Womans Club, 1933 to 1990

This series includes clippings, correspondence, reports, promotional materials, and photographs pertaining to the Tucson Womans Club. This series is arranged chronologically.

Subseries 1: National Safety Congress, ca. 1950s

This subseries includes clippings, correspondence, speeches, promotional materials, and photographs concerning Mrs. Hodges' activities with one of the Tucson Womans Club's special projects, the National Safety Council, the Safety Belles, local campaigns for driving safety, and the Carol Lane award presented to her by the Shell Oil Company in 1955. This subseries is arranged chronologically.

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Box 1

Series 1: Arizona Sunshine School

- F. 1 Photocopied pages of a scrapbook (Scrapbook A) containing newspaper clippings (some identified by newspaper and date) pertaining to the Arizona Sunshine School, dated 1932-1939.
- F. 2 Brochures, flyers and invitations tucked into a scrapbook (Scrapbook A), including pamphlets promoting the Arizona Sunshine School, cards announcing the school's 9th year of operation, and an Arizona Sunshine School Christmas card, 1927-1935.
- F. 3-7 Black-and-white photographs of students, teachers, buildings, landscapes at the Arizona Sunshine School, ca. 1930s.
- F.8 Faded color 35mm transparencies of students, Native Americans, landscapes, taken during an Arizona Sunshine School picnic, n.d.

Box 2

Series 1, Album 1: Arizona Sunshine School, Photographs

Brown photograph album measuring 10-in x 12-in, containing 136 black-and-white photographs of students, teachers, buildings, landscapes at the Arizona Sunshine School, ca. 1930s.

Box 3**Series 1, Album 2: Arizona Sunshine School, Photographs**

Black photograph album measuring 7-in x 10-in, containing 162 black-and-white photographs of students, teachers, buildings, landscapes at the Arizona Sunshine School, ca. 1930s. Notations on the backs of photographs indicate that the images represent 1) numerous trips taken with students to “Cactus Forest out from Tucson about 20 miles,” “Apache Trail on the road from Roosevelt Dam,” “picnic at Sabino Canyon,” “Grand Canyon,” “Picnicking on the Gill Ranch,” “Tonto National Monument,” and “Tombstone”; 2) outdoor classrooms, Arizona Sunshine School playground, “rest hour at Arizona Sunshine School 1936” with students resting on cots in ramadas, student pictures; and “Snowfall January 7, 1937,” and 3) photos of Ann and P.W. Hodges.

Box 4**Series 2: Tucson Womans Club, 1933-1991**

- F. 9 Speeches and notes pertaining to Mrs. Hodges’ membership in the Tucson Womans Club, including acceptance speech of the presidency in 1952; notes and history of past presidents of the club; and a 1991-1992 Tucson Woman’s Club Year Book.

Box 4**Series 2, Subseries 1: National Safety Council, ca. 1955**

- F. 10 Correspondence, certificates and clippings pertaining to Mrs. Hodges’ involvement in the National Safety Council.
- F. 11 Clippings pertaining to Mrs. Hodges’ involvement in the National Safety Council.
- F. 12 Photographs from Album #3 (Album dismantled and photographs encased in Mylar). Twenty-three photographs by Ray Manley Studios, promotional photos for the National Safety Council Campaign, ca. 1955.
- F.13 Miscellaneous photographs pertaining to Mrs. Hodges’ involvement in the National Safety Council, birthday celebrations.
- F. 14 Photographs from Album #4 (Album dismantled and photographs encased in Mylar). Eleven photographs provided to Mrs. Hodges by Shell Oil Company chronicling the Carol Lane Awards Luncheon in Chicago (included is a letter from Carol Lane, who was the Women’s Travel Director for Shell Oil Company) in 1955.

Box 5, Series 2, Subseries 1: National Safety Council, ca. 1955.

Scrapbook (Scrapbook B) containing clippings and letters relating to Mrs. Hodges’ work with the National Safety Council.