

# Hildegard Thompson Papers

## A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



LIBRARY OF  
CONGRESS

Manuscript Division, Library of Congress  
Washington, D.C.  
2009

Contact information:

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Additional search options available at:

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms008138>

LC Online Catalog record:

<http://lcn.loc.gov/mm96083650>

Prepared by Karen Linn Femia

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Hildegard Thompson Papers

**Span Dates:** 1951-1974

**ID No.:** MSS83650

**Creator:** Thompson, Hildegard

**Extent:** 200 items ; 2 containers ; .8 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

**Location:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**Summary:** Author, educator, author, and government official. Correspondence, writings, articles, biographical material, printed matter, photographs, and other papers relating to Thompson's career in American Indian education including her service as chief of the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs Branch of Education.

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### People

Thompson, Hildegard.

### Organizations

United States. Bureau of Indian Affairs. Branch of Education.

### Subjects

Indians of North America--Education.

Navajo Indians--Education.

### Occupations

Authors.

Educators.

Public officials.

## Administrative Information

### Provenance

The papers of Hildegard Thompson, author, educator, and government official, were given to the Library of Congress in 1995 by Bonna Holzheimer.

### Processing History

The papers of Hildegard Thompson were arranged and described in 1996. The finding aid was revised in 2009.

### Transfers

Some photographs have been transferred to the Prints and Photographs Division where they are identified as part of the Hildegard Thompson Papers.

### Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Hildegard Thompson in these papers and in other collections of papers in the custody of the Library of Congress has been dedicated to the public.

### Access and Restrictions

The papers of Hildegard Thompson are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

### **Preferred Citation**

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Hildegard Thompson Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

### **Biographical Note**

Hildegard Steerstedter (later Hildegard Thompson) was born January 13, 1901 in DePauw, Indiana. She taught in Harrison County, Ind., schools from 1921-1930; was a teacher and textbook writer with the Bureau of Education in the Philippine Islands, 1931-1936; and served in various positions relating to education, including chief of Bureau of Education with the U.S. Department of Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs between 1937 and 1965. She died in 1983.

### **Scope and Content Note**

The papers of Hildegard Thompson (1901-1983) span the years 1951-1974 and consist of book drafts, articles, correspondence, photographs, and printed matter, all concerning American Indian education, especially Navajo schools, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The collection is arranged alphabetically by subject or type of material and chronologically therein.

### **Arrangement of the Papers**

This collection is arranged alphabetically by subject or type of material and chronologically therein.

# Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	American Indian schools, photographs, 1951, undated
BOX 1	Biographical material, 1952-1960, undated
BOX 1	Bureau of Indian Affairs, staff, 1966-1970, undated
BOX 1	Notebook
BOX 1	Correspondence
BOX 1	Former Navajo school staff, 1974, undated
BOX 1	Publisher, 1974
BOX 1	Miscellany, 1974, undated
BOX 1	Printed matter, 1952-1962, undated
BOX 1	Writings
BOX 1	"Bitter Roots," book draft, circa 1973
BOX 1	Front matter and introduction
BOX 1	Part I, chapters 1-4
BOX 1	Part II
BOX 1	Chapters 1-9 (3 folders)
BOX 2	Chapters 10-13, back matter (2 folders)
BOX 2	"Education among American Indians: Institutional Aspects," 1957
BOX 2	"The Education of American Indians," 1964
BOX 2	"From Buckskin to Sheepskin," 1958
BOX 2	"History of Navajo Education," book draft, undated (2 folders)
BOX 2	"Indian Materials Center," 1965
BOX 2	"Indian Truth," 1965
BOX 2	"El Uso de Lenguas Indigenas en el Desarrollo de los Indios Americanos en los Estados Unidos," 1964-1965