

**Florence Ellinwood Allen Papers**  
**A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



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

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm73010454>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009313>

Prepared by J. K. Kearney

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2009

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Florence Ellinwood Allen Papers

**Span Dates:** 1907-1965

**ID No.:** MSS10454

**Creator:** Allen, Florence Ellinwood, 1884-1966

**Extent:** 2,700 items

**Extent:** 9 containers plus 2 oversize

**Extent:** 4 linear feet

**Language:** Collection material in English

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

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm73010454>

**Summary:** Judge, feminist, author, and lecturer. Correspondence, speeches, scrapbooks, honors and citations, clippings, photographs, and other papers relating to Allen's service as an associate justice of the Ohio Supreme Court, her tenure on the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, and her activities in behalf of women's rights and peace through international law.

## Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

### People

Allen, Florence Ellinwood, 1884-1966.

Astor, Nancy Witcher Langhorne Astor, Viscountess, 1879-1964--Correspondence.

Roosevelt, Eleanor, 1884-1962--Correspondence.

Smith, Margaret Chase, 1897-1995--Correspondence.

### Organizations

International Federation of Women Lawyers.

Ohio. Supreme Court.

United States. Court of Appeals (6th Circuit)

### Subjects

Courts--Ohio.

International law.

Peace.

Women's rights.

### Occupations

Authors.

Feminists.

Judges.

Lecturers.

## Provenance

The papers of Florence Ellinwood Allen were given to the Library of Congress by Allen and by Lamprey Stantial between 1962 and 1965.

## Processing History

The papers of Florence Ellinwood Allen were arranged and described in 1973. The finding aid was revised in 2009.

## Other Repositories

Other papers of Florence Ellinwood Allen can be found at the Schlesinger Library on the History of Women in America, Radcliffe College, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

## Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Florence Ellinwood Allen 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 Florence Ellinwood Allen 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, Florence Ellinwood Allen Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

Date	Event
1884, Mar. 23	Born, Salt Lake City, Utah
1904	B.A., Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio
1908	M.A., Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio
1913	LL.B., New York University, New York, N.Y.
1920	Judge, court of common pleas, Cuyahoga County, Ohio
1922-1934	Associate justice, Ohio Supreme Court
1934-1959	Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
1940	Published <i>This Constitution of Ours</i> . New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons
1952	Published <i>The Treaty as an Instrument of Legislation</i> . New York: Macmillan
1959-1966	Senior judge, United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
1965	Published <i>To Do Justly</i> . Cleveland: Press of Western Reserve University
1966, Sept. 12	Died, Waite Hill, Ohio

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Florence Ellinwood Allen (1884-1966) span the period 1907-1965 and relate to her position as associate justice of the Ohio Supreme Court and as judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. Allen was an active feminist instrumental in obtaining women's suffrage and the first woman to sit on an American court of last resort. She was also the first woman in the United States to occupy the position of senior judge of a federal court of appeals. The papers are organized into the following series: [Correspondence](#), [Subject File](#), [Speech and Article File](#), and [Miscellany](#).

Allen's interest in the women's rights movement is documented by the speeches and articles in her papers. The collection also reveals her interest in the subjects of peace, war, disarmament, and international law. Many of her speeches were delivered to bar associations and subsequently published. Allen received many honorary degrees and the speeches delivered on these occasions are included in the papers.

Approximately half of the collection consists of newspaper clippings pertaining to the judge's activities on behalf of women's suffrage, her campaigns for Congress, consideration of her for a seat on the United States Supreme Court, and honors received in 1959 when she became senior judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

Correspondents include Eleanor Roosevelt, Nancy Witcher Langhorne Astor, Viscountess Astor, Margaret Chase Smith, and members of the International Federation of Women Lawyers.

## **Arrangement of the Papers**

This collection is arranged in four series:

- [Correspondence, 1915-1965](#)
- [Subject File, 1921-1958](#)
- [Speech and Article File, 1911-1963](#)
- [Miscellany, 1907-1959](#)

## Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1	<p><b><u>Correspondence, 1915-1965</u></b></p> <p>Correspondence. Organized into general correspondence, arranged chronologically, and special correspondence, arranged alphabetically by name of person or organization.</p>
BOX 1-3	<p><b><u>Subject File, 1921-1958</u></b></p> <p>Biographical sketches, speeches, book reviews, notes, honors and citations, legal papers, cartoons, newspaper clippings, and other material documenting Allen's activities and interests. Arranged by topic or type of material.</p>
BOX 4-5	<p><b><u>Speech and Article File, 1911-1963</u></b></p> <p>Speeches and articles. Arranged alphabetically by topic or title of material.</p>
BOX 6-11	<p><b><u>Miscellany, 1907-1959</u></b></p> <p>Photographs, scrapbooks, addresses, newspaper clippings, and other material. Arranged by type of material and topic.</p>

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<b>Container</b>	<b>Contents</b>
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<b>BOX 1</b>	Roosevelt, Eleanor, 1948-1959
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<b>BOX 1-3</b>	<b>Subject File, 1921-1958</b> Biographical sketches, speeches, book reviews, notes, honors and citations, legal papers, cartoons, newspaper clippings, and other material documenting Allen's activities and interests. Arranged by topic or type of material.
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## Subject File, 1921-1958

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