

Rilma Oxley Buckman Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2021

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm2019086315>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms019046>

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

Finding aid encoded by Manuscript Division staff, 2021

Collection Summary

Title: Rilma Oxley Buckman Papers

Inclusive Dates: 1885-2015

Bulk Dates: 1945-2001

ID no.: MSS86315

Creator: Buckman, Rilma Oxley, 1915-2015

Extent: 1,575 items

Extent: 5 containers

Extent: 1.8 linear feet

Extent: 1 digital file (3.33 GB)

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm2019086315>

Summary: Social worker and American Red Cross administrative assistant. Correspondence, writings, memoranda, reports, printed matter, newspaper clippings, photographs, memoir, and biographical material relating primarily to Buckman's career as American Red Cross club director and assistant social welfare officer.

Acquisition Information

The papers of Rilma Oxley Buckman were given to the Library of Congress by Gloria Godfrey in 2019 and 2020.

Processing History

The papers of Rilma Oxley Buckman were arranged and described by Rosa Hernandez in 2019.

A digital file was received as part of the Rilma Oxley Buckman Papers on a DVD-RW, which was assigned a unique digital ID number. Use the digital ID number to request an access copy of the file. A description of the standard processes taken on all born digital records can be found in the Processing History Note: Born Digital Collection Material at <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.digital>.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Rilma Oxley Buckman is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Rilma Oxley Buckman are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Division prior to visiting in order to determine whether the desired materials will be available at that time.

Certain restrictions to use or copying of materials may apply.

Technical Requirements

The video file is in MP4 format and can be opened in VLC media player.

Preferred Citation

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

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1915, July 18	Born, Woodstock, Vt.
1937	B.A., economics and sociology, Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, Mass.
1940-1942	Stenographer, Planned Parenthood Federation, New York, N.Y.
1944	M.A., sociology, New York University, New York, N.Y.
1944-1945	Administrative assistant, American Red Cross field offices in New York, N.Y. and Washington, D.C.
1945-1946	Club director, American Red Cross, Eleventh United States Airborne Division, Sendai, Japan
1946-1947	Assistant public welfare officer, Eighth United States Army, military government, Yokohama, Japan
1948-1954	Professor, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind.
1952	Ph.D., sociology, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.
1954-1955	M.S.W., University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.
1955-1958	Executive secretary, Council of Social Agencies, Toledo, Ohio
1958-1963	Senior executive secretary, Welfare Council of Metropolitan Chicago, Chicago, Ill.
1963-1971	Director and planning associate, Welfare Federation, Cleveland, Ohio
1971-1973	Director of Social Work Programs and Professor of Applied Sociology, Medical College of Ohio at Toledo
1973-1980	Co-director and research analyst, Federation for Community Planning, Cleveland, Ohio
2015, July 28	Died, Toledo, Ohio

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Rilma Oxley Buckman (1915-2015) span the years 1885-2015, with the bulk of the material dating from 1945 to 2001. The collection documents Buckman's activities working in the American Red Cross and the Eighth United States Army, as well as her family, personal life and interests, and other aspects of her career in social welfare. The papers are in English.

A major part of the collection is made up of correspondence between Buckman and her parents, 1945-1947. Most of the letters relate to her activities while working for the American Red Cross and the Eighth United States Army, military government in Japan. Although she worked in Japan three months after the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, only a few letters describe the country after the bombings. Also featured in the files are her efforts as club director of the Red Cross to organize a recreation and service club Eleventh United States Airborne soldiers in Sendai, Japan, and her tenure as assistant social welfare officer for the Eighth United States Army, military government where she worked on social welfare activities. In addition, a 1950 travel journal chronicles Buckman's journey on the Alaska-Canadian (ALCAN) highway with a friend shortly after the highway opened to the public.

The collection also documents her work for the Federation of Community Planning and her activism against the Vietnam War, including her arrest at a Pentagon protest. The papers also include her memoir, *Tales of a Vintage Vermonter*, and family papers consisting of recollections, obituaries, newspaper clippings, and photographs.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material.

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

Buckman family--Correspondence.

Buckman family.

Buckman, Rilma Oxley, 1915-2015.

Buckman, Rilma Oxley, 1915-2015. Tales of a vintage Vermonter. 2001.

Organizations

American Red Cross.

Federation of Community Planning.

United States. Army--Military life.

United States. Army. Airborne Division, 11th.

United States. Army. Army, 8th.

Subjects

Americans--Japan.

Social service--Ohio--Cleveland.

Social service--United States.

Vietnam War, 1961-1975--Protest movements--United States.

Women--Vermont--Biography.

Places

Alaska Highway--Description and travel.

Alaska--Description and travel.

Canada, Western--Description and travel.

Cleveland (Ohio)--Social conditions--20th century.

Japan--History--Allied occupation, 1945-1952.

Occupations

Administrative assistants.

Social workers.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	American Red Cross, 1944-1946
BOX 1	Autograph book and photographs, 1963
BOX 1	Biographical material, 1915, 1936-1975, 2008 (2 folders)
BOX 1	College papers, 1931, 1949-1955
BOX 1	Correspondence
BOX 1	1912, 1928, 1945 (6 folders)
BOX 2	1946-1947 (11 folders)
BOX 3	1979, 1986-1991 (2 folders)
BOX 3	Family papers, 1971-1997 (2 folders)
BOX 3	Federation for Community Planning, 1973-1979 (2 folders)
DF	Interview with Rilma Buckman, 2013 Digital ID: 86315_208_001
BOX 3	Japan, military reports on social welfare during occupation, 1946-1947 (5 folders)
BOX 3	Memoir by Buckman
BOX 3	Draft, undated
BOX 4	Final copy, 2001 (2 folders)
BOX 4	Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, Mass., forty-fifth class reunion, 1981
BOX 4	Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, Mass., fiftieth centennial class reunion, 1987
BOX 4	Passports and travel documents, 1937-1948
BOX 4	Photographs, 1885-1998 (3 folders)
BOX 4	Printed matter, 1916, 1944-1966, undated (2 folders)
BOX 4	Retirement papers, 1979-1980
BOX 5	Travel journal, 1950
BOX 5	Vietnam War
BOX 5	Activism against, 1957-1985, undated (2 folders)
BOX 5	Protest in Washington, D.C., 1979