

Era Bell Thompson: Journalist and Author

Era Bell Thompson grew up in Driscoll, North Dakota, graduated from Bismarck High School, attended the University of North Dakota, and became an editor for Ebony magazine. She was presented with the Theodore Roosevelt Rough Rider Award in 1976. This pathfinder will lead researchers to several resources available at the North Dakota State Archives highlighting the life and career of Era Bell Thompson.

Archival Collections

11118 Era Bell Thompson Papers

Correspondence, printed material, photographs and newspaper clippings of pioneering editor of Ebony magazine and North Dakota native.

20673 Era Bell Thompson Papers

Letter from Thompson to Thelma and Jack Vantine concerning personal matters, politics, and civil rights.

10680 Frances M. (Cox) Wold Papers

Box 4, File 12

Consists of correspondence, newspaper clippings, photographs, brochures, note cards, greeting cards, World War I and World War II ephemera, interviews, local history files on Burleigh County and North Dakota, a scrapbook of poems for children, ephemera, and working papers for articles in various publications

11144 Thomas P. Newgard Papers

Papers consist of Newgard's research materials on which the book *African Americans in North Dakota: Sources and Assessments: Personal Accounts and Background Information as Found in Newspapers, Land Records, Interviews and Miscellaneous Documents* (Newgard, William C. Sherman and John Guerrero) is based. The research papers include correspondence, research files which are organized alphabetically by subject, location, and last name, miscellaneous research notes, manuscripts and school papers, publications and newspaper clippings, photographs and interviews on cassette tapes.

10157 North Dakota Oral History Project Records

Oral history interview transcripts, indexes to recorded oral history interviews, interview referral files, interview files, photographs, lists of donations to the Project, oral history interview transcripts relating to the Governor's Mansion, family histories, biographies, reminiscences, and manuscripts.

Useful Search Guidance

Subjects

- Theodore Roosevelt Rough Rider Award
- Ebony magazine
- Johnson Publishing Company

People

- Era Bell Thompson, 1905-1986

Locations

- Driscoll, North Dakota
- University of North Dakota

Journal Articles

Era Bell Thompson: A North Dakota Daughter
Kathie Ryckman Anderson – *North Dakota History* Vol. 49 Issue 4

A Journey Into Literary North Dakota
Kathie Ryckman Anderson – *North Dakota History* Vol. 62 Issue 3

Books

Africa, Land of My Fathers

1954 - Era Bell Thompson

Call Number: 916 T4699a 1954

African Americans in North Dakota: Sources and Assessments: personal accounts and background information as found in newspapers, land records, interviews and miscellaneous documents

1994 – Thomas P. Newgard, William C. Sherman

Call Number: 978 .400496 N547a

American Daughter

1946 – Era Bell Thompson

Call Number: 920 T372

Introducing North Dakota Writers to North Dakota Readers

1981 – Kathie Anderson

Call Number: 809.8917 An23

Thompson, Era Bell

General Information File Biography

Online Resources

[Marking Women's History Month in the Archives](#)

Daniel Sauerwein – State Historical Society of North Dakota Blog

[SHSND Photobook](#)

State Historical Society of North Dakota's Online Search Portal for all digitized photographs

[Digital Horizons](#)

Online consortium of historic photographs from the collections of the State Historical Society of North Dakota

[WorldCat](#)

State Historical Society of North Dakota's publication search portal

External Resources

[Rough Rider Award: Era Bell Thompson](#)

Short description of Era Bell Thompson's accomplishments on the North Dakota governor's website

[Era Bell Thompson On My Doorstep](#)

Article written by Tom Isern for Prairie Public Broadcasting

State Archives

For more information related to the collections and resources available at the North Dakota State Archives, please email archives@nd.gov or call (701) 328-2668.



North Dakota State Archives Subject Guides made possible through a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).