

**The New York Public Library  
Manuscripts and Archives Division**

**Dorothy Fooks  
Papers 1913 - 1990**

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July 1990**

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## **Summary**

- Title:** Dorothy Fooks Papers 1913-1919 (bulk dates 1960 - 1989)
- Size:** 5.5 linear feet ( 5 RC, 1 AB, 1 FB)
- Source:** Gift of Dorothy Fooks, 1987-1990
- Biographical Note** Fooks is an attorney, author and founder of *The Murray Hill News*, which she has published since 1952.
- Description** Correspondence, writings, subject and organization files, photographs and printed matter documenting the career of Dorothy Fooks, especially her activities as publisher of *The Murray Hill News*.

## Biographical Note

Dorothy Fooks, lawyer, author and publisher was born on February 12, 1899. She received her LL.B in 1918 and her LL.M the following year, both from Hamilton College. Fooks served as attorney for the Salvation Army from 1920 to 1921. She was a writer for *The Evening World* (New York) from 1920 to 1932 and she has published *The Murray Hill News* since 1952.

Fooks has long been active in public affairs. She worked to institute the Small Claims Court in the 1920's and regularly presents her ideas at the conferences of the American Bar Association, the Inter-American Bar Association and the International Bar Association. In the 1970's Fooks worked to stop passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. She has also been involved in working to establish a labor court. Her pamphlet, *Labor Courts-Outlaw Strikes*, was published in 1984. On the local level, she has served as president of the Murray Hill Association and regularly covers local issues in *The Murray Hill News*.

Fooks writes frequently for *The Murray Hill News*. In addition she has written both fiction and non-fiction works over the years. Her published works include: *All in Love*, *Love's Law*, *The American Heart*, *The Olympic Torch*, *How To Use Small Claims Court*, *Over the Heads of Congress*, *Are You a Happy American?*, and *Lady Lawyer* (her autobiography).

As a veteran of both World War I (Navy) and World War II (Army- Judge Advocate's Office), Fooks is an active participant in veteran's organizations. She has served as National Commander of the Women World War Veterans and worked with the Veterans of World War I and the Retreads, an organization for veterans who served in both world wars.

## Scope and Content Note

**NOTE:** The paragraphs that follow describe boxes 1 - 4, which made up the original gift. The most recent additions to the papers (boxes 5 - 7) have not been interfiled and are described below under the heading **Additions**.

The papers of Dorothy Fooks include correspondence, writings, published pamphlets, subject and organization files and photographs.

The correspondence (1942-1987), most of which dates from the 1970's includes both business and personal letters and reflects Fooks's involvement with *The Murray Hill News*, veterans organizations, the anti-ERA movement, and the publications and promotion of her works. Additional correspondence may be found in the subject and organization files. Correspondence directly related to Fooks's writings is filed with the manuscripts.

Writings include manuscripts, published and unpublished, published pamphlets and resolutions on various legal issues and public policy matters, written by Fooks and presented at conferences and conventions. A few of the manuscripts were written for *The Murray Hill News*. Also included are files on *First Ladies of the White House*, written by Gertrude Z. Brooks and promoted by Fooks, and miscellaneous papers and correspondence relating to publications.

The Subjects and Organizations series includes files on various veterans organizations, the Murray Hill Association, the Equal Rights Amendment and the naming of Norman Thomas High School in New York City. Information on conventions and conferences attended by Fooks is also filed in this series. Most of the material dates from the 1960's and 1970's.

Photographs (c.1915-1985) include portraits of Fooks through the years. Many of these were taken at special events and include political figures and celebrities. These photos are mainly from the 1970's and many were published in *The Murray Hill News*. Also included are a few photographs of women veterans. Several drawings, made by Harry Bell for *The Murray Hill News*, are boxed with the photographs.

### **Additions:**

Additions to the collection include correspondence, writings, photographs, clippings, miscellaneous papers and printed matter. The correspondence (1921-1990) relates to both personal and business matters. The bulk of the letters are from the 1980's and relate to *The Murray Hill News* and Fooks's promotion of her books and pamphlets.

The writings include manuscripts by Fooks and others, some of which may have been written for *The Murray Hill News*. The earliest item in the collection is a school speech written by Fooks in 1913. Also included is a scrapbook of Fooks' columns for *The Evening World* (1928-1929) and several radio broadcasts made by her (1930-1939).

The photographs (c.1915-1984) include portraits of Fooks and pictures of her at various events.

The clippings (c.1920-1989) include articles about Fooks, material from , and general items.

Miscellaneous files include information on conferences attended by Fooks, resolutions which she presented at various meetings and several files of mailings (mostly 1980's) from Republican fund-raising organizations.

Printed matter is made up for the most part of programs, annual reports, and membership directories from organizations with which Fooks is affiliated.

### **Related Materials**

Published works by Fooks can be located in the General Research Division. Recent issues of *The Murray Hill News* are in the Periodicals Room. The bound issues are in the General Research Division. Original drawings by Edward Caswell for *The Murray Hill News* are in the Art Division.

Several scrapbooks relating to Fooks are at the New-York Historical Society.

## **Container List**

### **Correspondence**

Box 1 - Folder 1  
**Bernarr MacFadden, 1942-1954**

Box 1 - Folder 2  
**1943-1958**

Box 1 - Folder 3-4  
**1960-1969**

Box 1 - Folder 5  
**1970**

Box 1 - Folder 6  
**1971**

Box 1 - Folder 7  
**1972**

Box 1 - Folder 8-10  
**1973**

Box 1 - Folder 11-14  
**1974**

Box 1 - Folder 15-18  
**1975**

Box 1 - Folder 19-23  
**1976**

Box 1 - Folder 24-26  
**1977**

Box 1 - Folder 27  
**1978-1979**

Box 1 - Folder 28  
**1980-1982**

Box 1 - Folder 29  
**1983**

Box 1 - Folder 30  
**1984-1987; undated**

Box 1 - Folder 31  
**Leighton and Richard Fooks**

Box 1 - Folder 32  
**Guthrie Crowe**

## **Writings**

Box 1 - Folder 33  
***Acapulco* (manuscripts and notes)**

Box 1 - Folder 34  
**Book promotions and reviews**

Box 1 - Folder 35  
***Alaska* (manuscripts)**

Box 1 - Folder 36  
***It's Up to Us* (manuscript)**

Box 1 - Folder 37  
***Portia on Horseback* (manuscript)**

Box 1 - Folder 38-40  
**unsorted manuscripts**

Box 1 - Folder 41  
**Correspondence regarding sale of manuscripts**

Box 1 - Folder 42-44  
***First Ladies of the White House* / Gertrude Zeth Brooks**

Box 1 - Folder 45  
***Lady Lawyer* (correspondence)**

Box 1 - Folder 46  
***Lady Lawyer* reception guest book**

Box 2 - Folder 1  
***These Angry Americans* / Thomas A. Palmer**

Box 2 - Folder 2-4  
**Resolutions**

Box 2 - Folder 2  
**"Dead Men Practicing Law"**

Box 2 - Folder 3  
**"United Nations"**

Box 2 - Folder 4  
**unsorted resolutions**

Box 2 - Folder 5  
**Pamphlets by Fooks**

**Subjects and Organizations, A - P**

Box 2 - Folder 6  
**American Bar Association, Hawaii, 1974**

Box 2 - Folder 7  
**American Bar Associations, 50 Years / Lady Lawyer Dinner, Hawaii, 1974**

Box 2 - Folder 8  
**Equal Rights Amendment correspondence**

Box 2 - Folder 9-12  
**Equal Rights Amendment printed matter**

Box 2 - Folder 13-14  
**Equal Rights Amendment clippings**

Box 2 - Folder 15  
**Equal Rights Amendment - American Bar Association**

Box 2 - Folder 16  
**Inter-American Bar Association, Atlanta, 1977**

Box 2 - Folder 17  
**International Law Association Conference, 1978**

Box 2 - Folder 18  
**International Women's Year**

Box 2 - Folder 19  
**Legal secretaries**

Box 2 - Folder 20  
**Murray Hill Association**

Box 2 - Folder 21-22  
**Murray Hill Association, Bicentennial**

Box 2 - Folder 23

**Murray Hill Association - Hochberg / Murray Hill Committee**

Box 2 - Folder 24

***Murray Hill News***

Box 2 - Folder 25

***News World* column**

Box 2 - Folder 26

**New York State Women's Meeting, 1977**

Box 2 - Folder 27-28

**Norman Thomas High School**

Box 2 - Folder 29

**Panama Canal**

Box 2 - Folder 30

**Panama Canal Zone Bar Association**

Box 3 - Folder 1

**Retreads**

Box 3 - Folder 2

**Unification Church / Bicentennial**

Box 3 - Folder 3

**United Nations - Little Assemblies**

Box 3 - Folder 4

**Upham Manuscript**

Box 3 - Folder 5-8

**Veterans of World War I**

Box 3 - Folder 9

**Veterans of World War I - art show, 1968**

Box 3 - Folder 10

**Veterans of World War I Convention, Utah, 1970**

Box 3 - Folder 11

**Veterans - newsletters, bulletins**

Box 3 - Folder 12

**Veterans, American Legion**

Box 3 - Folder 13-20  
**Women World War Veterans**

Box 3 - Folder 13-14  
**General**

Box 3 - Folder 15  
**Art Show correspondence, 1965**

Box 3 - Folder 16  
**Art Show, 1965**

Box 3 - Folder 17-19  
**Retirement Home**

Box 3 - Folder 20  
**Retirement Home inquiries**

Box 3 - Folder 21  
**Youth**

**Miscellaneous**

Box 3 - Folder 22  
**Miscellaneous**

Box 3 - Folder 23  
**Miscellaneous programs and invitations**

**Clippings**

Box 3 - Folder 24  
**Clippings**

**Photographs**

Box 4  
**Photographs and drawings**

## **Additions**

### **Correspondence**

Box 5 - Folder 1  
**1921-1959**

Box 5 - Folder 2  
**1960s**

Box 5 - Folder 3-4  
**1970s**

Box 5 - Folder 5-15  
**1980s**

Box 5 - Folder 16  
**Robert H. Tompkins Co., Inc., 1980s**

Box 5 - Folder 17  
**1990**

### **Writings**

Box 5 - Folder 18  
**Writings by Fooks**

Box 5 - Folder 19  
**Richard Fooks writings**

Box 5 - Folder 20  
**George Seeber writings**

Box 5 - Folder 21  
**Writings (for *Murray Hill News*)?**

Box 5 - Folder 22-23  
**Writings**

Box 5 - Folder 24  
**Scrapbook (*Evening World* and radio broadcasts)**

Box 6 - Folder 1  
***The News World***

**Photographs/Graphics**

Box 6 - Folder 2  
**Photographs and graphics**

Box 6 - Folder 3  
**Photographs**

**Clippings**

Box 6 - Folder 4-6  
**Clippings**

**Miscellaneous**

Box 6 - Folder 7  
**Conferences**

Box 6 - Folder 8-9  
**Miscellaneous**

Box 6 - Folder 10-15  
**Republican Campaigns**

Box 6 - Folder 16  
**Resolutions to the American Bar Association, International Bar Association,  
etc.**

**Printed Matter**

Box 7  
**Loose printed material**