



ArchivesSpace

Mason (Hilda) Statehood Party Collection

An inventory of Hilda Mason, Statehood Party at DC Public Library

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English

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People's Archive, MLK Library

901 G Street NW

Washington, DC

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Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical / Historical	3
Scope and Contents	4
Administrative Information	4
Controlled Access Headings	5
Collection Inventory	5
Series 1	5

Summary Information

Repository:	People's Archive, MLK Library
Title:	Hilda Mason, Statehood Party Collection
ID:	135
Date [inclusive]:	1806-1995
Physical Description:	20 Linear feet
Language of the Material:	English
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	Hilda Mason was a steadfast member of the DC Statehood Party as well as a supporter of the development of the University of the District of Columbia. The bulk of the Hilda Mason Statehood Party Collection dates from the 1970s to the mid-1990s and documents Mason's stalwart commitment to the party. The collection contains committee files (most notably for the Committee on Self-Determination), drafts of the Constitution of the State of "New Columbia," files from DC Statehood Party conventions, and files from the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights. Also included are business cards from various DC leaders, correspondence, news clippings, reports, and speeches.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical / Historical

Hilda Howland Mae Mason was born in Altavista, (Lynch Station, Virginia) on June 4, 1916. She attended Virginia Seminary in Lynchburg and St. Paul's College in Lawrenceville. Mason relocated to Washington, DC in 1945. She later enrolled at Miners Teachers College and earned her undergraduate degree in 1952. She was a teacher, counselor and administrator in the DC public school system for 19 years, until she was elected to the Board of Education from Ward 4. She served from 1972-1977, after which she was appointed to complete the term of Julius Hobson, Sr., the at-Large member of the DC City Council. After completing Hobson's term, she won an at-Large seat on her own merit. Mason was a champion of education in DC as chair of the Council's Education, Libraries and Recreation Committee (1981-1997), the Local, Regional and Federal Affairs Committee, the Human Services Committee, and the Judiciary Committee. To date, her tenure on the City Council remains the longest term of service in the city's history. Mason was also a steadfast member of the DC Statehood Party, as well as a supporter of the development of the University of the District of Columbia. The law school library bears her name

and the name of her husband, Charles N. Mason, Jr., a graduate of Harvard University and Howard University Law School.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents

The bulk of the Hilda Mason Statehood Party Collection dates from the 1970s to the mid-1990s and documents Mason's stalwart commitment to the party. The collection contains committee files (most notably for the Committee on Self-Determination), drafts of the Constitution of the State of "New Columbia", files from DC Statehood Party conventions, and files from the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights. Also included are business cards from various DC leaders, correspondence, news clippings, reports, and speeches.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

People's Archive, MLK Library

901 G Street NW
Washington, DC
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Custodial History

Hilda Mason donated her collection of DC Statehood Party materials to DC Public Library Special Collections in March 1997.

Processing Information

This collection is unprocessed. It was accessioned by the Library in 1997, and was placed in archival containers upon its receipt. A descriptive container listing was created to facilitate access.

Conditions Governing Use

Some material may be copyrighted or restricted. It is the patron's obligation to determine and satisfy copyright or other case restrictions when publishing or otherwise distributing materials found in the collections.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- African Americans
- Black persons

Collection Inventory

Series 1		
Title/Description	Instances	
Free DC hat, undated	Box 1	Folder 1
District of Columbia Chamber of Commerce 1980 Report to the Membership, 1993	Box 1	Folder 2
Southern Poverty Law Center VHS, undated	Box 1	Folder 3
Business Cards, undated	Box 1	Folder 4
COG Annual Meeting badge, undated	Box 1	Folder 5
Free the DC Stickers, undated	Box 1	Folder 6
Councilmember Hilda Mason badge, undated	Box 1	Folder 7
Program for 10th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Breakfast, 1994	Box 1	Folder 8
Local Vocal Vol. 13 No 4 April 1994, 1994	Box 2A	Folder 1
Support for a Bill to Change the Name of the Washington Redskins to the Washington Shulls, 1993	Box 2A	Folder 2
Gray Paper Products Inc. Info, 1994	Box 2A	Folder 3
1993 Annual Report, 1994	Box 2A	Folder 4
Peace Action Vol. 32 - No. 4, 1993	Box 2A	Folder 5
"Jobs justice Peace", 1993		

	Box 2A	Folder 6
1992 Annual Report, 1902-1992	Box 2A	Folder 7
NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund, 1991-1992	Box 2A	Folder 8
Memorandum: Explanation of the Enclosed Expense Budget, 1990	Box 2A	Folder 9
Council of the District of Columbia Owner's Manual, undated	Box 2A	Folder 10
Council of the District of Columbia City Hall Brochure, 1975-1977	Box 2A	Folder 11
Revision of the Council's "City Hall" Brochure, 1979	Box 2A	Folder 12
Newspaper Clippings, 1988-1994	Box 2A	Folder 13
Newspaper Clippings, 1988-1994	Box 2A	Folder 14
Newspaper Clippings, 1988-1994	Box 2A	Folder 15
Newspaper Clippings, 1988-1995	Box 2A	Folder 16
Superior Court of the District of Columbia Civil Division: Guinan v Board of Elections and Ethics, 1980	Box 2A	Folder 17
Misc, 1994	Box 2A	Folder 18
Basement Construction at 2314 Peggy Lane Silver Spring MD - Correspondence, 1984	Box 2A	Folder 19
"A Moral Appeal to Resist Facism" by Jesse L. Jackson, 1985	Box 2A	Folder 20
Peformance Poet Garth Tate, 1988	Box 2A	Folder 21
Remarks of Dr. Farley W. Wheelright, 1988	Box 2A	Folder 22
Phyllis Wheatley Young Women's Chrisitan Association Inc., 1987	Box 2A	Folder 23
Grandaughter Bio, 1985	Box 2A	Folder 24
Corporate Sponsors and Supporters, 1988	Box 2A	Folder 25
Full Moon Revisited, 1988	Box 2A	Folder 26
The Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Foundation Quarterly Newsletter, 1988	Box 2A	Folder 27
Leadership Conference on Civil Rights Index, 1989	Box 2A	Folder 28
Newspaper Clippings, 1988-1994	Box 2B	Folder 2
Newspaper Clippings, 1988-1994	Box 2B	Folder 3
Newspaper Clippings, 1988-1994	Box 2B	Folder 4
Newspaper Clippings, 1988-1994	Box 2B	Folder 5
Business Cards, undated	Box 3	Folder 1
Business Cards, undated	Box 4	Folder 1

"About Now Article" by Lisa McCormack, 1987	Box 5	Folder 1
1987 Inaugural Brochure and Swear in Statement, 1979	Box 5	Folder 2
Proposed Campaign Strategy for Councilwoman Hilda Mason and Hida's Helpers, 1991	Box 5	Folder 3
Board of Elections and Ethics DC Polling Place List 7/13/90 Calender, 1990	Box 5	Folder 4
Hilda Mason Reports, 1987	Box 5	Folder 5
"The National Guard as Political" and "In Kelly's Own Camp Misgivings about Pleas for Federal Help" Articles, 1993-1994	Box 5	Folder 6
Correspondence and Thank you letter, 1990	Box 5	Folder 7
"While you were out memos" and Business Cards, 1994	Box 5	Folder 8
DC League of Women Voters Education Fund, 1990	Box 5	Folder 9
Letters, 1992-1994	Box 5	Folder 10
Explanation of Enclosed Materials for Hilda Mason's Review and Action, 1990	Box 5	Folder 11
Award Dinner and Event Programs and Invitation 1 of 3, 1990-1994	Box 5	Folder 12
Award Dinner and Event Programs and Invitation 2 of 3, 1990-1994	Box 5	Folder 13
Award Dinner and Event Programs and Invitation 3 of 3, 1990-1994	Box 5	Folder 14
David Clarke Documents, 1993	Box 6	Folder 1
Washington D.C Schools, 1994	Box 6	Folder 2
Event Programs and Invitations, 1993-1994	Box 6	Folder 3
Event Programs and Thank you correspondence, 1992-1994	Box 6	Folder 4
Event Invitations/Programs/Thank you letters, 1993-1994	Box 6	Folder 5
Cash Management Team Establishment Act, 1994	Box 6	Folder 6
Committee on Education and Libraries, 9 December 1991	Box 6	Folder 7
Committee on Education and Libraries, 2 December 1991	Box 6	Folder 8
Education and Libraries Regular Meeting, 5 October 1992	Box 6	Folder 9
Event Invitations/Programs/Thank you Letter, 1992-1994	Box 6	Folder 10
Education and Libraries Board of Education Budget Hearing, 8 February 1993	Box 6	Folder 11
Education and Libraries Board of Education Budget Hearing, 8 February 1993	Box 6	Folder 12
Education and Libraries Budget Hearing 2/10/93 1 of 2, 1993	Box 6	Folder 13

Education and Libraries Budget Hearing 2/10/93 2 of 2, 1993	Box 6	Folder 14
Hispanic Voter List, undated	Box 6	Folder 15
Primary/Election Matters, 1990-1992	Box 6	Folder 16
Committee Agendas, 1988	Box 7	Folder 1
Statehood Convention initiatives/bills/memos/news releases, 1979-1986	Box 7	Folder 2
Home Rule/Voting Rights/Statehood Party Articles 1 of 2, 1993	Box 7	Folder 3
Home Rule/Voting Rights/Statehood Party Articles 1 of 2, 1993	Box 7	Folder 4
Statehood Bio Sketches/Convention Correspondence/ Amendments, 1988-1995	Box 7	Folder 5
Council owners manual, 1989	Box 7	Folder 6
Tax and Economic Statehood Articles, 1993	Box 7	Folder 7
Statehood: '91 Statehood Matters/events, 1991	Box 7	Folder 8
DC Statehood Press Packet Meeting, Aug. 17 1992	Box 7	Folder 9
The Statehood Papers, 1992	Box 7	Folder 10
DC Statehood Party 1992 Convention Agenda, 1992	Box 7	Folder 11
"The New Columbia Voice" and voter registration info, 1990-1991	Box 7	Folder 12
D.C Statehood Flag Sticker Bag, undated	Box 7	Folder 13
One-Month Daily Curriculum for D.C Statehood Campaign, 1991	Box 7	Folder 14
D.C Statehood Jan. File, 7 February 1990	Box 7	Folder 15
Statehood Bill Introduction Protest and Resolution, 1985	Box 7	Folder 16
Statehood Economic issues/constitutional introduction/anti-statehood article, 1987	Box 7	Folder 17
Central Committee Meeting, 10 December 1991	Box 7	Folder 18
Long Island Statehood Research Questions, 1992	Box 7	Folder 19
Statehood Party By-Laws and Referendum, 1980-1990	Box 7	Folder 20
On the Road to New Columbia Rob Charles 51, 1993	Box 8	Folder 1
Budget Hearing Committee on Education & Libraries C/M Mason, 13 February 1990	Box 8	Folder 2
Budget Hearing Committee on Education & Libraries C/M Mason, 12 February 1990	Box 8	Folder 3
Councilmember Hilda Mason Swearing In, 1991	Box 8	Folder 4
D.C School of Law "Graduation 1991" part 1, 1991	Box 8	Folder 5
D.C School of Law "Graduation 1991" part 2, 1991	Box 8	Folder 6

Budget Hearing Committee on Education and Libraries C/M Mason 1 of 2, 12 February 1990	Box 8	Folder 7
31st Legislative Meeting, 27 Feb 1990	Box 8	Folder 8
Get a New Attitude About Cancer 9/25/91 RT 5:10, 1991	Box 8	Folder 9
Get a New Attitude About Cancer 9/25/91 RT 5:10, 1991	Box 8	Folder 10
Get a New Attitude About Cancer 9/25/91 RT 5:10, 1991	Box 8	Folder 11
Committee on Education & Libraries Summit on the State of Education in D.C., 22 April 1991	Box 8	Folder 12
Town Meeting Statehood 2/12/82, 1982	Box 8	Folder 13
51st State Committee Road, 1981	Box 9	Folder 1
Comm. On Human Rights Brief, 1981	Box 9	Folder 2
Statehood Federal Enclave - Definition (Nat'l Cap. Serv. Area), 1974	Box 9	Folder 3
Campaign '81 Flyers, 1981	Box 9	Folder 4
Statehood (MW File) 1 of 2, 1982	Box 9	Folder 5
Statehood (MW File) 2 of 2, 1982	Box 9	Folder 6
Fundraising Lists and Proposals, 1981	Box 9	Folder 7
Statehood Party Platform, undated	Box 9	Folder 8
Statehood Petition Circulation Lists, 1980	Box 9	Folder 9
Statehood initiative - 1980 Statehood, 1980-1981	Box 9	Folder 10
Copies of Initiative, 1981	Box 9	Folder 11
Statehood Flyers - General, undated	Box 9	Folder 12
Statehood Amendment Copies for Distribution, 1982	Box 9	Folder 13
Bill 4-4229, 1981	Box 9	Folder 14
Statehood Emergency Resolution & Bill, 1991	Box 9	Folder 15
Emergency Legislation - Constitution Ballot, 1982	Box 9	Folder 16
51st Statehood, 1981	Box 9	Folder 17
N.A.C.C., 1981	Box 9	Folder 18
"Washington Big Four" Article Wash. Post, 1982	Box 9	Folder 19
DC Employees in Hilda Mason Campaign, 1977	Box 9	Folder 20
Election '86 Results, 1986	Box 9	Folder 21
Compact Commission, 1982	Box 9	Folder 22
DC Statehood Compact Commission, 1988	Box 9	Folder 23

DC Statehood Compact/Commission Material 1 of 2, 1986-1989	Box 9	Folder 24
DC Statehood Compact/Commission Material 2 of 2, 1986-1989	Box 9	Folder 25
DC Statehood Summit Task Force and Elections Committee, 1994	Box 9	Folder 26
Report of the D.C Council Home Rule Transition Commission, 1974	Box 9	Folder 27
Report of the D.C Council Home Rule Transition Commission, 1974	Box 9	Folder 28
Statehood Letters to Voters, 1980	Box 10	Folder 1
Post Initiative #3 Actions, 1981	Box 10	Folder 2
Statehood - Newspaper Articles, 1976-1977	Box 10	Folder 3
Reference Materials - Articles etc., 1979-1981	Box 10	Folder 4
Statehood History 1 of 2, 1976-1980	Box 10	Folder 5
Statehood History 2 of 2, 1976-1980	Box 10	Folder 6
2nd Version Complete, undated	Box 10	Folder 7
Statehood Information 1 of 2, 1981-1982	Box 10	Folder 8
Statehood Information 2 of 2, 1981-1982	Box 10	Folder 9
Statehood - Speeches/Statements Re, 1978-1981	Box 10	Folder 10
Statehood Article by Hilda Mason for Board of Trade News, 1981	Box 10	Folder 11
Initiative: #3 Statehood 1 of 3, 1981	Box 10	Folder 12
Initiative: #3 Statehood 2 of 3, 1981	Box 10	Folder 13
Initiative: #3 Statehood 2 of 3, 1981	Box 10	Folder 14
Statehood Press Release + Press Accounts, 1976-1982	Box 10	Folder 15
Legislative Aide Applicant Resumes, 1980	Box 10	Folder 16
Statehood - Petitions Statehood Act, 1977	Box 10	Folder 17
Statehood Bill - 1776, 1975-1977	Box 10	Folder 18
Envelopes with Notes, undated	Box 10	Folder 19
Letter Written to the Washington Post, 1979	Box 10	Folder 20
New Columbia, 1984	Box 10	Folder 21
League of Women Voters, 1979-1981	Box 10	Folder 22
Statehood P.R. Statehood Newspaper Articles, 1985	Box 10	Folder 23
General File - Mailing Lists, 1980	Box 10	Folder 24
Statehood Bill 1 of 2, 1985	Box 11	Folder 1
Statehood Bill 2 of 2, 1985	Box 11	Folder 2

DC Public Schools Average Class Size Data, 1995	Box 11	Folder 3
Statehood Solidarity Committee, 1993	Box 11	Folder 4
Statehood Economics Seem financially sound, 1986	Box 11	Folder 5
Leadership Conference on Civil Rights Material 1 of 2, 1992	Box 11	Folder 6
Leadership Conference on Civil Rights Material 2 of 2, 1992	Box 11	Folder 7
June 6 1989- Statehood/Compact Commission, 1989	Box 11	Folder 8
Statehood Correspondence, 1988-1994	Box 11	Folder 9
U.S House Testimony on H.R.51 by PATSYT Mink, 17 March 1987	Box 11	Folder 10
Home Rule Study and Voting Rights Act Info, 1950-1990	Box 11	Folder 11
Statehood Model City Council Records, undated	Box 11	Folder 12
Bill 7-154 Constitution for the State of New Columbia Approval Act, 1987	Box 11	Folder 13
H.R 51 New Columbia Admission, 1987	Box 11	Folder 14
Articles: The Future of District of Columbia Home Rule, 1990	Box 11	Folder 15
Catholic University Law Review, 1990	Box 11	Folder 16
New Columbia Approval Act, 1987	Box 11	Folder 17
Hearing Notice: Statehood for the District of Columbia, 1984	Box 11	Folder 18
Committee on DC House of Representatives Ninety- Eighth Congress, 1982	Box 11	Folder 19
Constitution of the State of New Columbia - Address List and Statehood Article, 1982	Box 11	Folder 20
Chronology of Events in Pursuit of Full Self government for Washington D.C, undated	Box 11	Folder 21
D.C Supreme Court Legislation, 1988	Box 11	Folder 22
Constitution of the State of New Columbia, 1982	Box 11	Folder 23
Civil Rights Articles and Statehood Activism, 1993	Box 12	Folder 1
Statehood Correspondence/agendas/civil rights documents/action plan, 1992-1995	Box 12	Folder 2
Statehood Summit: New Columbia 51, 1993	Box 12	Folder 3
Citywide statehood plan of action, 1992-1993	Box 12	Folder 4
Statehood Mission Team and Steering Committee, 1987-1993	Box 12	Folder 5
DC Statehood Party 1992 Convention- Agenda, 1992	Box 12	Folder 6
Testimony to C.O.W Election plan/policy articles/statements, 1991-1992	Box 12	Folder 7

DC Council Journal - Excerpts from Elections and Ethics Minutes etc., 1981	Box 12	Folder 8
Calenders, 1993	Box 12	Folder 9
Bicennial Celebration of US States Constitution Article and History of 1987, 1987	Box 12	Folder 10
One month daily curriculum for statehood campaign and articles, 1991	Box 12	Folder 11
April is Tax Day Protest and Articles, 1991-1993	Box 12	Folder 12
Statehood Calypso Lyrics, undated	Box 12	Folder 13
Gathering ideas for the statehood party conference, 1993	Box 12	Folder 14
The New York Times: "Feel the Government's Plantation", 1991	Box 12	Folder 15
Democrats name list and articles about partisan support, 1993	Box 12	Folder 16
1993 Statehood Correspondence, 1993	Box 12	Folder 17
No justice, no peace, New Columbia Times, undated	Box 12	Folder 18
Statehood Correspondence, 1987-1993	Box 12	Folder 19
Statehood Presentation, 24 April 1991	Box 12	Folder 20
Economic Reports, 1987-1992	Box 12	Folder 21
DC Statehood Party Condemns Paris; Demands Democracy Here at Home, 1987	Box 12	Folder 22
Subcommittee Hearing, 1 April 1987	Box 12	Folder 23
Domniation, Democracy, and the District: The Statehood Position, 1990	Box 12	Folder 24
H.R 51, 1987	Box 12	Folder 25
Statehood Lobbying info - House of Reps info etc, 1993	Box 12	Folder 26
Statehood Party Memos/letters/correspondence/advertisements, 1983-1995	Box 13	Folder 1
Statement of Jeffrey Standen before the Subcomm on Jud and Ed., 1992	Box 13	Folder 2
Statehood Flag and sticker, undated	Box 13	Folder 3
Rebuttal to Washington Post Editorial " Tax Dollars to Push Statehood?" in Friday's editorial section, 1993	Box 13	Folder 4
Chronology of events in the pursuit of full self government for Washington D.C, undated	Box 13	Folder 5
Statement of Matthew S. Waston on Behalf of the D.C Statehood Commission, undated	Box 13	Folder 6
Financial research assoc. - notes testimony and Compact Commission Correspondence, 1986	Box 13	Folder 7

Hearing on Economic issues raised by statehood for D.C, 1986	Box 13	Folder 8
Oversight hearing on revised version of the constitution of the State of New Columbia, 1987	Box 13	Folder 9
Statehood Coalition time strategy for Spring/Summer '87 Statehood Activities, 1987	Box 13	Folder 10
Report on the Statehood Mission Team Meeting, 1987	Box 13	Folder 11
Statehood Party Testimony, undated	Box 13	Folder 12
Fauntroy Reports and Correspondence, 1987	Box 13	Folder 13
Opening Statement of Ronald V. Deullums Chairman - Committee on D.C Mark-up of H.R, 30 April 1987	Box 13	Folder 14
DC Voting Rights Amendment Correspondence, 1983	Box 13	Folder 15
Statehood party member correspondennce, 1987	Box 13	Folder 16
League of Women Voters letter about statehood initiative, 1979	Box 13	Folder 17
"If You Favor Freedom" Briefing Booklet, 1986	Box 13	Folder 18
Statehood Bill and Newspaper Articles, 1982-1984	Box 13	Folder 19
Statement by Hilda Mason before Jud. And Ed. Subcommittee, 16 November 1991	Box 13	Folder 20
Ward Meeting to Organize and Train Lobbying Teams for H.R. 4718, 1992	Box 13	Folder 21
Statehood for D.C: A Workplan for Accomplishing the Transition Correspondence, 1990	Box 13	Folder 22
"Taking Care of Business" Captive Capital: Colonial Life in Modern Washington, 1974	Box 13	Folder 23
Facts You May Not Know about D.C Statehood, undated	Box 13	Folder 24
Outuline Materials/Preparation/Activities of the D.C Statehood/ Compact Commission '88 Democratic Party National Convention, 1992	Box 13	Folder 25
Canadian Public Broadcasting Service, 1991	Box 13	Folder 26
Summary of Admission to the Union, analysis of the statehood bill, and issues related to statehood, undated	Box 13	Folder 27
Opening Statement of Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton Hearing on H.R 2482, 1992	Box 13	Folder 28
D.C Plantation: Freedom Soon" New York Times Articles, 1991	Box 13	Folder 29
Congress and Home rule in the Nation's Capital: District of Columbia Appropriations, 1990	Box 13	Folder 30
Statement of Matthew S. Watson before Subcomm. On Jud. And Ed., 1992	Box 13	Folder 31

How Will Statehood Affect the Federal Payment that has been regularly made to the District of Columbia, 1987	Box 13	Folder 32
One Month Daily Curriculum on D.C Statehood, undated	Box 13	Folder 33
The District of Columbia Voting Rights Amendment, 1983	Box 13	Folder 34
State Status Report - December 1983 D.C Voting Rights Amendment, 1983	Box 13	Folder 35
Press Release on Training workshop for D.C Public School Teachers, 1987	Box 13	Folder 36
DC Statehood Party Resolution, 1987	Box 13	Folder 37
Statehood Economics: Facts and Figures, undated	Box 13	Folder 38
Washington Urban League Inc Support, 1987	Box 13	Folder 39
Statehood Newspaper Articles, 1987	Box 13	Folder 40
The Island Agenda, 1993	Box 13	Folder 41
History of Congress, 1806	Box 13	Folder 42
The Politics of Staehood in Puerto Rico, 1990	Box 13	Folder 43
Steering Committee on Statehood for DC, 1993	Box 13	Folder 44
Correspondence on Fauntroy's Civil Rights Act, 1994	Box 13	Folder 45
DC Statehood Senator Jesse Jackson's Report to D.C, 1993	Box 13	Folder 46
Common Cause, 1993	Box 13	Folder 47
Remarks of Senator Edward M. Kennedy intro of Senate Legislation to Make DC 51st State, 1993	Box 13	Folder 48
Voting Representation, 1984	Box 14	Folder 1
New Columbia, 1984-1985	Box 14	Folder 2
The District of Columbia Statehood Act, 1977	Box 14	Folder 3
Self Determination for D.C Voting, 1984	Box 14	Folder 4
Alaska Statehood, 1981	Box 14	Folder 5
Questions about Statehood and Constitution, 1983	Box 14	Folder 6
Statehood: D.C Statehood Newspaper Articles, 1980-1981	Box 14	Folder 7
Constitution: Passage, 1984	Box 14	Folder 8
Articles of Incorporation, 1981	Box 14	Folder 9
Campaign Finance - Conflict of Interest Investigation, 1981	Box 14	Folder 10
Leadership Candidacy, 1981	Box 14	Folder 11
Constitutional Convention, 1981	Box 14	Folder 12
Initiative 3 Statehood article, 1982	Box 14	Folder 13

Statehood Correspondence, 1981	Box 14	Folder 14
Bill 4-450 "Statehood Convention Procedural Amendments Act of 1982, 1982	Box 14	Folder 15
Bill 4-450 "Statehood Procedural Amendments, 13 May 1982	Box 14	Folder 16
"Take Care of Business" Chapter, 1974	Box 14	Folder 17
"Statehood for the District of Columbia", 1974	Box 14	Folder 18
DC Statehood Party Resolution on Military Spending and National Budget Priorities, 1984	Box 14	Folder 19
"51st State New Columbia" DC Statehood Day, 24 Jan 1985	Box 14	Folder 20
Statehood Revenues and Expenditures, 1985	Box 14	Folder 21
Senate Bill S. 293, 1985	Box 14	Folder 22
New Columbia 51st State: Statehood Reception June 28 1984, 28 June 1984	Box 14	Folder 23
D.C Statehood Support Committee and Petitions, 1984	Box 14	Folder 24
Constitution and Statehood Legislation, 1958-1985	Box 14	Folder 25
Edward M. Kennedy Press Release for Legislation, 1984	Box 14	Folder 26
Statehood Articles, 1984	Box 14	Folder 27
Statehood Reference Materials 1 of 2, 1982-1985	Box 14	Folder 28
Statehood Reference Materials 2 of 2, 1982-1985	Box 14	Folder 29
Statehood Hatch Act Restrictions CSC Explanation, 1974	Box 14	Folder 30
Misc Correspondence, 1981	Box 14	Folder 31
Qualifications of Candidates for Delegates for Statehood Constitutional Convention, 1981	Box 14	Folder 32
General Elections, 3 November 1981	Box 14	Folder 33
DC Women's Political Caucus Endorsement Policy and Caucus Info, 1981	Box 14	Folder 34
Model State Constitution, undated	Box 14	Folder 35
Mason New Release, 6 August 1981	Box 14	Folder 36
Home Rule Study Memo, 5 March 1990	Box 14	Folder 37
"Greater Washington Area Population" Washington Post, 1985	Box 14	Folder 38
Report on Bill 7-154, 1987	Box 14	Folder 39
Amendment to H.R 51 re: Condition: voters delete sec. 1110 committee Mark-up, 2 June 1987	Box 14	Folder 40
An Amendment to the Committee Print Offered by Mr. Combest of Texas, undated	Box 14	Folder 41

Fiscal Prospects of the State of New Columbia, 1986	Box 14	Folder 42
Fauntroy Responses and Remarks, 1987	Box 14	Folder 43
D.C Statehood Convention Delegates Addresses, undated	Box 14	Folder 44
Committee Print: H.R 51 Subcommittee on Fiscal Affairs and Health, 1987	Box 14	Folder 45
Statehood Mark-up, 19 May 1987	Box 14	Folder 46
Substitute to the Committee Print of Bill 8-488 Representatives and Senators terms of Office Compensation and Procurement Amendment Act, 1990	Box 14	Folder 47
Constitution of the State of New Columbia, 29 May 1982	Box 14	Folder 48
Constitution for the State of New Columbia Approval Act, 1987	Box 14	Folder 49
H.R 1629 and H.R 51, 1987	Box 14	Folder 50
1984 Statehood Memos, 1984	Box 14	Folder 51
1990 Memos and Reports, 1990	Box 14	Folder 52
Mount Zion United Methodist Church, 1981	Box 15	Folder 1
Sumner School, 1986	Box 15	Folder 2
Statehood Clippings 1987 1 of 2, 1987	Box 15	Folder 3
Statehood Clippings 1987 2 of 2, 1987	Box 15	Folder 4
Statehood Clippings, 1989	Box 15	Folder 5
Statehood Clippings 1988 1 of 2, 1988	Box 15	Folder 6
Statehood Clippings 1988 2 of 2, 1988	Box 15	Folder 7
Julius Hobson Info 1 of 3, 1977	Box 15	Folder 8
Julius Hobson Info 2 of 3, 1977	Box 15	Folder 9
Julius Hobson Info 3 of 3, 1977	Box 15	Folder 10
Dennis Sobin for D.C City Council, 1988	Box 15	Folder 11
"A Legislator with Statehood on His Mind "NY Times, 1986	Box 15	Folder 12
Faith For U.S Representatives, 1992	Box 15	Folder 13
Mt. Zion Cemetery, 1981	Box 15	Folder 14
Briefing Book from H.R 51, 1983	Box 16	Folder 1
Democracy, Federalism and the Governance of the Nation's Capital, 1976	Box 16	Folder 2
Testimony from March 5 1993 Budget Hearing, 1993	Box 16	Folder 3
Constitution of the State of New Columbia, 29 May 1982	Box 16	Folder 4

"Fiscal Propects for the State of New Columbia" Report by Brimmer & Company Inc., 1986	Box 16	Folder 5
Home Rule Act as Amended, 1973	Box 16	Folder 6
Hearing and Markup Before House of Representations, 1981	Box 16	Folder 7
H.R 3861, 1983	Box 16	Folder 8
" A Decade of Home Rule: The Challenge Continues", 1985	Box 16	Folder 9
New House Rule Notes (typed), undated	Box 16	Folder 10
State of the District Address '85, 1985	Box 16	Folder 11
Committee on Self- Determination Budget Hearing, 22 February 1994	Box 16	Folder 12
Committee on Self-Determination Budget Mark-up, 11 March 1994	Box 16	Folder 13
Committee on Self-Determination Budget Mark-up, 28 April 1993	Box 16	Folder 14
Committee on Self-Determination, 18 April 1994	Box 16	Folder 15
Committee on Self-Determination, 28 April 1993	Box 16	Folder 16
Committee on Self-Determination Public Hearing, 28 April 1993	Box 16	Folder 17
Statehood Const. Conv Budg. '85 Req, 1985	Box 16	Folder 18
Committee on Self-Determination Committee Meeting, 4 February 1993	Box 16	Folder 19
Committee on Self-Determination Budget Hearing, 5 March 1993	Box 16	Folder 20
Committee on Self-Determination Budget Mark-up, 12 March 1993	Box 16	Folder 21
Committee on Self-Determination, 5 March 1993	Box 16	Folder 22
Committee on Self-Determination Budget Mark-up, 12 March 1993	Box 16	Folder 23
Committee on Self Determination, 5 November 1992	Box 16	Folder 24
Committee on Self-Determination, 4 June 1992	Box 16	Folder 25
Committee on Self-Determination, 6 February 1992	Box 16	Folder 26
Committee on Regional Authority Regular Committee Meeting, 1992	Box 16	Folder 27
Committee on Self-Determination, February 1993	Box 16	Folder 28
Committee on Judiciary and Education Mark-up Meeting, 5 August 1993	Box 16	Folder 29
Mark-up H.R 51- D.C Statehood Bill, 5 August 1993	Box 16	Folder 30
Statehood Commission Amendment Act of 1994, 1994	Box 16	Folder 31

Bill 7-154 Constitution for the State of New Columbia Approval Act, 1987	Box 16	Folder 32
Building Safer Communities with our Youth: Preventing Crime and Drug Abuse, 1993	Box 16	Folder 33
H.R 3861, 1983	Box 17	Folder 1
Constitutional Convention Minute Request, 1984	Box 17	Folder 2
Copies of Correspondence and Newspaper articles, 1984	Box 17	Folder 3
Correspondence to Supporters of self determination, 1979	Box 17	Folder 4
Council of the District of Columbia Notice D.C Law 3-171, 1981	Box 17	Folder 5
Statehood Constitutional Convention Initiative of 1979 Bill, 1990	Box 17	Folder 6
The Plan for Judicial System autonomy for the District of Columbia, 1979	Box 17	Folder 7
Statehood 1 of 4, 1987	Box 17	Folder 8
Statehood 2 of 4, 1987	Box 17	Folder 9
Statehood 3 of 4, 1987	Box 18	Folder 1
Statehood 4 of 4, 1987	Box 18	Folder 2
Statehood Constitutional Convention and After 1 of 2, 1982-1985	Box 18	Folder 3
Statehood Constitutional Convention and After 2 of 2, 1982-1985	Box 19	Folder 1
The Briefing Book for H.R 51 The D.C Statehood Bill, undated	Box 19	Folder 2
Statehood Party ACCC 99-30, 1971-1994	Box 20	Folder 1

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)