



Winthrop University  
**Digital Commons @ Winthrop  
University**

---

Manuscript Collection

Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections

---

2017

## Elizabeth B. Mahon Papers - Accession 1215

All-American Girls Professional Baseball League

Elizabeth Bailey Mahon

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/  
manuscriptcollection\\_findingaids](https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/manuscriptcollection_findingaids)

---

### Finding Aid Citation

Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections, Winthrop University, "Elizabeth B. Mahon Papers - Accession 1215". Finding Aid 51.  
[https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/manuscriptcollection\\_findingaids/51](https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/manuscriptcollection_findingaids/51)

This Finding Aid is brought to you for free and open access by the Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections at Digital Commons @ Winthrop University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Manuscript Collection by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Winthrop University. For more information, please contact [bramed@winthrop.edu](mailto:bramed@winthrop.edu).

The background of the page is a faded, sepia-toned photograph of a large, multi-story brick building with a prominent clock tower. In the foreground, there is a large, circular fountain with a tall, thin water column. Several vintage cars are parked in front of the building. The overall scene is a campus courtyard.

**WINTHROP UNIVERSITY  
LOUISE PETTUS ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

**MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION**

**ACCESSION 1215**

**ELIZABETH B. MAHON PAPERS**

1930s-2001, 2005

8 Boxes, 23 Folders

WINTHROP UNIVERSITY  
LOUISE PETTUS ARCHIVES & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION

ACC. NO.: 1215  
ADDITIONS: \_\_ , \_\_ , \_\_

PROCESSED BY: Andrew Johnston  
DATE: May 23, 2016  
NO. OF SECTIONS: IV

ELIZABETH B. MAHON PAPERS

I

The papers of Elizabeth Mahon, a Winthrop graduate, member of the All American Girls Professional Baseball League and Physical Education teacher were donated to the Louise Pettus Archives by Susan S. Wilson on September 15, 2005.

Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 2.0 linear feet  
Approximate no. of pieces: 4,000 pieces

Restrictions: Open to researchers under the rules and regulations of the Louise Pettus Archives & Special Collections at Winthrop University.

Literary Rights: For information concerning literary rights please contact the Louise Pettus Archives & Special Collections at Winthrop University.

Scope and Content Note: **The Elizabeth B. Mahon Papers consists of the personal papers of former All American Girls Professional Baseball League (AAGPBL) standout Elizabeth “Lib” Mahon. This collection includes an extensive amount of memorabilia pertaining to the All American Girls Baseball League (AAGPBL) and more specifically to Elizabeth “Lib” B. Mahon (1919-2001). Lib Mahon graduated from Winthrop College in 1942 and played in the AAGBL from 1944-1952 mostly with the South Bend Blue Sox. Lib was a great athlete and an all-star outfielder. She twice led the league in RBIs and once stole over 100 bases.**

**The Mahon Papers consist of photographs, newspaper clippings, and memorabilia related to her playing career in the AAGPBL and to reunions of former players. There is also material related to her academic career as an undergraduate at Winthrop College (mostly related to reunions) and graduate work at the University of Indiana (mostly notes and academic papers), as well as records pertaining to her professional career as a teacher and counselor, to her personal life, and to her bowling exploits (mostly trophies).**

## II

### BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

#### ELIZABETH "LIB" MAHON

- 1918 Born in Greenville, South Carolina
- 1931 Began playing in a cotton mill basketball league at age 12.
- 1938-1942 Attended Winthrop College and graduated in 1942 with degree in physical fitness.
- 1942-1944 Worked as a teacher and U.S. Postal service clerk in Whitmire S.C.
- 1944 After successful tryouts for AAGPBL assigned to Minneapolis Millerettes then traded to Kenosha Comets
- 1945-1952 Played for south Bend Blue Sox of the AAGPBL; in off season played for South Bend, Indiana Women's basketball team
- 1952-1981 Worked in South Bend public school system
- 1958-1960 Attended Indiana University, received a Master's in Physical Education
- 1981 Retired from South Bend public school system
- 1988 National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY created a permanent AAGPBL exhibit, which renewed interest in the league and led to the critically acclaimed movie, *A League of Their Own*.
- 1999 Inducted into the Hall of Fame at Coveleski Field in South Bend, Indiana
- 2001 Died at age 83
- 2005 Elizabeth Mahon was inducted into the South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame

### III

#### DESCRIPTION OF SERIES

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
1	1	<b>BIOGRAPHICAL</b> This series consists of biographical articles from magazines and newspapers that chronicle Lib Mahon's AAGPBL career and her other athletic exploits. There are also some that pertain to her academic and working careers as well. Her obituary is also included in this series. <i>*Copies of her Birth Certificate and other personal documents are restricted to her Donor Control File.</i>	1930s-1950s, 1981, 1995, 1997, 2001
1	2	<b>HIGH SCHOOL</b> This series consists of records related to her 1937 graduation from Parker High School in Greenville, SC. The records include a class history, a copy of the Alma Mater, and a class directory all related to their 30 <sup>th</sup> anniversary.	1967
1	3	<b>WINTHROP UNIVERSITY</b> This series pertains to Lib Mahon's 1942 graduation from Winthrop College. Most of the materials pertain to reunions held at Winthrop and include class poems, correspondence, schedules, directories, and other reunion materials, but also includes her 1942 diploma for her Bachelor of Science degree. <i>*See the box 5, folder 23 for reunion photographs.</i>	1987, 1992, 1997
1-2	4-5	<b>INDIANA UNIVERSITY</b> This series relates to lib Mahon's academic career at Indiana University. She graduated on September 6, 1960 with a Master of Science in Education. Most of the materials in this series consists of course notes and course work, papers, grades, handouts, and other course material, but also includes her diploma as well.	1958-1960
2	6-7	<b>TEACHING CAREER</b> This series consists of records related to Lib Mahon's teaching career. The materials in this series consists of teaching certificates from South Carolina and Indiana, contracts, correspondence, awards and certificates (Teacher of the Year Award), resignation letter, and other materials. <i>*See the box 5, folder 23 for teaching career photographs.</i>	1942, 1948, 1951-1981

III

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES (cont.)

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
2	8	<b>CORRESPONDENCE</b> This series consists of correspondence received by Lib Mahon that did not fit with other series. Correspondence was not removed from other series if it pertained directly to the subject in that series.	1991, 1999
2	9	<b>ADDRESS BOOKS</b> This series consists of address books kept by Lib Mahon that contains entries for family, friends, and other former AAGPBL players.	nd
2	10	<b>AAGPBL YEARBOOKS</b> This series consists of a South Bend Blue Sox yearbook and a Fort Wayne Daises Yearbook.	1947
2	11	<b>AAGPBL PLAYER DIRECTORIES</b> This series consists of player directories printed for the use of charter voting members of the AAGPBL Players Association.	1991, 1993, 1995, 1997, 2000
3	12-13	<b>AAGPBL REUNION RECORDS</b> This series consists of records related to reunions held for former players of the AAGPBL. The materials in this series consist of souvenir programs, calendars of events, schedules of events, meeting minutes, notes, financial records, league histories, and other records pertaining to various reunions. The majority of the material pertains to the 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion of the league held in 1993.	1986, 1993, 1998, 2000
3	14	<b>AAGPBL: NATIONAL BASEBALL HALL OF FAME</b> This series consists of materials related to the permanent exhibit on the AAGPBL at the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY. The materials consist of a Hall of Fame Certificate presented to Lib Mahon, schedules of events, programs, brochures, menus, newspaper articles, flyers and other records related to the AAGPBL ceremony at the Baseball Hall of fame on November 5, 1988.	1988

III

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES (cont.)

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
3	15	<p>AAGPBL: HALL OF FAME</p> <p>This series consists of a program related to a Fort Wayne Baseball Hall of Fame Banquet Lib attended on May 14, 1999, a poster (oversize) advertising Lib's induction into the Hall of Fame at Coveleski Field in South Bend, IN, and an acceptance speech given by Lib Mahon's great-niece or great-nephew at Lib's posthumous induction into the South Carolina Athletic Hall of Fame.</p> <p>*Poster was transferred to oversize: drawer 26, folder 100, Item 681</p>	1999, 2005
3	16	<p>AAGPBL MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS</p> <p>This series consists of miscellaneous records related to the AAGPBL that were collected and/or received by Lib Mahon. These records include a 1990 resolution honoring Lib Mahon by the City of South Bend, IN (oversize) and a 1998 resolution honoring the AAGPBL from the Village of Crestwood, Illinois, a 1993 brochure announcing an AAGPBL exhibit being held at the Northern Indiana Historical Society in South Bend, Indiana, correspondence, brochures, oversize baseball card (oversize), oversize poster with AAGPBL roster of all former players printed in 1997 (oversize) and other records related to the printing of AAGPBL baseball cards, and order forms for AAGPBL apparel, baseball cards (Lib Mahon and Betsy Jochum), and other memorabilia.</p> <p>*Oversize items were transferred: oversize drawer 26, folder 100, Item 681</p>	1984, 1986, 1990, 1993, 1996, 1997- 1999, nd

### III

#### DESCRIPTION OF SERIES (cont.)

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
3	17-18	<b>AAGPBL: NEWSPAPER AND MAGAZINE ARTICLES</b> This series consists of newspaper and magazine articles collected by Lib Mahon. A vast majority of the articles pertain to the AAGPBL. The articles consist of box scores, histories, biographies, and obituaries. Some of subjects covered in these articles include: Baseball Hall of Fame; reunions; league events and celebrations; the movie, <i>A League of Their Own</i> ; South Bend Blue Sox; Grand Rapids Chicks; Bonnie Baker; Helen Callaghan; Kelly Candaele; Nancy DeShone; Thelma Eisen; Madeline Kathleen English; Jean Faut; Rose Gacioch; Chet Grant; Alice Haylett; Anna Mae Hutchinson; Betsy Jocham; Dorothy Kamenshek; Merle Keagle; Phyllis Koehn; Karen Kunkel; Sophie Mary Kurys; Ruth Lessing; Lib Mahon; Carolyn Morris; Carolyn Odell; Dorothy Schroeder; Twila Shively; Karl Wunsch; Joanne Winter; Connie Wisniewski; Dottie Wiltse; Renae Youngberg;	1940s-2000s
4	19	<b>AAGPBL PHOTOGRAPHS: PLAYING CAREER</b> This series consists of photographs of Lib Mahon during her playing career and include candid and posed images of other players, practices, ballgames, stadiums, and of player outings. These photographs offer a good snapshot into the lives of the players during their playing careers.	1940s-1950s
4-5	20-22	<b>AAGPBL PHOTOGRAPHS: POST CAREER REUNIONS AND GATHERINGS</b> This series consists of photographs and images of former AAGPBL players during their reunions and other gatherings and celebrations.	1981, 1983, 1987, 1990, 1991, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1999, 2001, nd
5	23	<b>PERSONAL PHOTOGRAPHS</b> This series consists of Lib Mahon's personal photographs of herself, family, and friends. Many of the photographs pre-date Lib's baseball career and several depict her time at Winthrop College from which she graduated in 1942. There are also candid and posed photographs of vacations, family gatherings, some related to her teaching and coaching career, and other post-career photographs. There are also several images of Winthrop Reunions (1987, 1993).	1941, 1942, 1958, 1961, 1967-1968, 1975, 1982, 1987, 1993, nd



III

DESCRIPTION OF SERIES (cont.)

<u>Box(es)</u>	<u>Folder(s)</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
6-8	--	MEMORABILIA This series consists of the memorabilia collected. Most of the memorabilia pertains to Lib's playing career and association with the AAGPBL and to her bowling exploits. The memorabilia consists mostly of trophies, certificates, patches, and lapel pins. *see Appendix I for a listing of memorabilia. Box 6 is on Oversize Shelf.	1958, 1960-1962, 1964-1971, 1975- 1977, 1980-1981, ca1984, 1986-1987, 1991-1995, 1997

IV

APPENDIX

MEMORABILIA INVENTORY

<u>Box</u>	<u>Item Number</u>	<u>Description of Item</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
6	1	Councilor Appreciation Plaque from Brown 9 <sup>th</sup> Graders "A Great Counselor Thanks For Your Help"	1980-1981
6	2	Honory Life Membership Special Guest Award to Lib Mahon from The Old Timers Baseball Association of Chicago	Apr. 24, 1995
6	3	Erskine, Reduction of Handicap Golf Trophy	1958
6	4	Sundown league Bowling Trophy	1960-1961
6	5	Sundown League Bowling Trophy	1964
6	6	B.V.L. Bowling Trophy	1972-1973
6	7	Sundown League Bowling Trophy	1967-1968
6	8	Valpo Invitational "A" Bowling Trophy	1968
6	9	Pepsi Cola Award, "A" 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place (possibly Bowling) Trophy	1969
6	10	South Bend Teachers League Champions Bowling trophy	1965-1966
6	11	South Bend Women Teachers League Champions Bowling Trophy	1964-1965
6	12	Yeager Brown Buick League Champions Bowling Trophy	1976-1977
6	13	"Pro Softball Reunion Club Low Gross-18 Holes 1966-Lib Mahon" "Trophy	1966
6	14	Sundown League Bowling Champions Trophy	1970-1971
6	15	B.V.L. League Winner Bowling Trophy	1975-1976
6	16	Sundown League Bowling Trophy	1961-1962
6	17	Bowling Trophy	nd
--	18	Thursday Sundown League Champions Trophy *Oversize: On Oversize Shelf	1986-1987
6	19	Sundown League Champions Plaque	1991-1992
7	20	Lapel Pin: The old Timers' Baseball Association Chicago	1995
7	21	Lapel Pin: Olympics USA Rings Logo	ca1984
7	22	Lapel Pin: Oval Olympics Pin	nd
7	23	Lapel Pin: Northern Indiana Center for History Pin	ca1993
7	24	Lapel Pin: Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary Pin	nd
7	25	Lapel Pin: Winged Angel Pin	nd
7	26	Lapel Pin: "IQ" Pin	nd
7	27	Lapel Pin: 200 Club Bowling Pin	nd
7	28	Lapel Pin: 500 Club Bowling Pin	nd
7	29	Lapel Pin: 500 Series Bowling Pin	nd
7	30	Lapel Pin: 200 Club Bowling Pin	nd

IV

APPENDIX

MEMORABILIA INVENTORY (cont.)

<u>Box</u>	<u>Item Number</u>	<u>Description of Item</u>	<u>Year(s)</u>
7	31	Lapel Pin: 600 Bowling Club Pin	nd
7	32	Lapel Pin: League High Series WIBC Bowling Pin (Shield)	nd
7	33	Lapel Pin: League High Series WIBC Bowling Pin (Round)	nd
7	34	Lapel Pin: League High Series WIBC Bowling Pin (Shooting Star)	nd
7	35	Stick Pin: League Award Special WIBC Bowling Pin (2)	nd
7	36	Lapel Pin: WIBC 600 Award Bowling Pin	nd
7	37	Lapel Pin: Pin in the shape of a Bowling Pin (3)	nd
7	38	Pendants: Bowling for Veterans League Bowling Pendant (2)	nd
8	39	Ribbon: "Golden Memories" from the 50 <sup>th</sup> Reunion of the AAGPBL held in South Bend, Indiana	Aug. 1993
8	40	Ribbon: "A Ball at the Beach" from the reunion of the AAGPBL held in Myrtle Beach, SC.	Oct. 1997
8	41	Luggage Tag: Inscribed "'43 AAGPBL '54: 1993 South Bend 50 <sup>th</sup> Reunion	1993
8	42	Miniature Baseball Bat: Louisville Slugger Inscribed "50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary AAGPBL 1993"	1993
8	43	Baseball Hat: "A League of Their Own"	ca1993
8	44	Honorary Life membership Card issued to Elizabeth Mahon by The Old Timers Baseball Association of Chicago	1995
8	45	Volunteer ID Card and Lapel Pin for the International Summer Special Olympics Games	1987
8	46	Video Recording (VHS): School presentation on the AAGPBL at Brookwood Inter./ Glenwood	May 25, 1990
8	47	Patch: League Champion WIBC Bowling Patch	1994-1995