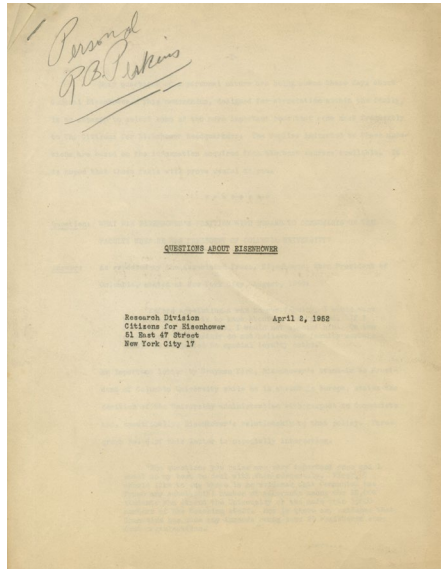


Gettysburg College  
Musselman  
**Library**  
*special collections*

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Guide to MS-303:  
The Roswell B. Perkins Papers



Gettysburg College, Musselman Library  
Special Collections and College Archives

Sydney Dyer, Class of 2025, Fortenbaugh Internship  
March 2023

## MS-303: The Roswell B Perkins Papers

Processed by Sydney Dyer

March 2023

### Location

Knouse

### Size

3 boxes, 3 cubic feet

### Dates

Inclusive: 1952- 1989

Bulk: 1954-1957, 1974

### Provenance

This collection was given by Susan Perkins, widow of Roswell, via the Eisenhower Institute.

### Biographical Note

Roswell B. Perkins held many titles throughout his life, working in both the government and in law. Born in Boston in 1926, he was a graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School. He joined the law firm Debevoise, Plimpton, and McLean in 1949, and remained in the firm until retiring in 2001. He was also president of Youth for Eisenhower in 1951 and 1952, before joining as the Assistant Secretary to the newly formed Department of Health, Education, and Welfare during the department's first years from 1953-1956. After his years as Assistant Secretary, he became a partner at this law firm in 1957 and Counselor to Governor Nelson Rockefeller from 1958-59. He was also president of the American Law Institute from 1980 to 1993, and continued to have many other titles throughout his life, working on committees and many other endeavors. He passed away in 2019.

### Scope and Content Note

This collection contains a variety of research, records, and correspondence related to Perkins' work throughout his lifetime. Folders were organized according to their original organization where possible. There are many documents from HEW during his time as Assistant Secretary, detailing subjects such as the approval of the Salk Polio Vaccine, statements to Congress over water safety, departure letters to and from other members of the department, and his advisory work to the department after his stint as assistant secretary (such as the 1974 Medicare review by an advisory committee he chaired). There is a fair amount of research from outside parties into the first Secretary of HEW, Oveta Culp Hobby, whom Perkins worked with and gave interviews and information on for these research projects. There is also a large amount of Eisenhower memorabilia from throughout his life, from his work at Youth for Eisenhower to the communications between him and the Eisenhower Memorial Committee as an advisor.

It also contains books kept by Perkins with inscriptions or other importance to the collection.

## Series Description

This collection is divided into – Series. **Series 1:** HEW Assistant Secretary Documents, **Series 2:** 1974 Advisory Committee on Medicare, **Series 3:** Eisenhower Memorabilia, **Series 4:** Books and other Publications.

## Box List

### Box 1

1-0 Finding Aid

### Series 1: HEW Assistant Secretary Documents

- 1-1 Diary Sheets
- 1-2 Performance Reviews
- 1-3 Correspondence with Hobby
- 1-4 Speeches (1 of 2)
- 1-5 Speeches (1 of 2)
- 1-6 HEW Accomplishments
- 1-7 Perkins Notebook September through November 1953
- 1-8 Salk Vaccine Documents
- 1-9 Land Grant Colleges
- 1-10 Analysis of Blanketing-In
- 1-11 House of Representatives Hearings on H.R. 7199
- 1-12 Testimony of Nelson Rockefeller on Medicaid
- 1-13 Public Assistance Report (Copy 1)
- 1-14 Public Assistance Report (Copy 2)
- 1-15 Old Age and Survivors Insurance Report (Copy 1, Folder 1 of 2)
- 1-16 Old Age and Survivors Insurance Report (Copy 1, Folder 2 of 2)
- 1-17 Old Age and Survivors Insurance Report (Copy 2, Folder 1 of 2)
- 1-18 Old Age and Survivors Insurance Report (Copy 2, Folder 2 of 2)
- 1-19 Departure Letters (1 of 2)
- 1-20 Departure Letters (2 of 2)
- 1-21 Research Correspondence about Hobby
- 1-22 Interview Tapes with Sutphen
- 1-23 Columbia University Researchers

### Box 2

### Series 2: 1974 Advisory Committee on Medicare

- 2-1 Final Report Copies (1 of 2)
- 2-2 Final Report Copies (1 of 2)
- 2-3 Correspondence
- 2-4 Supplementary Materials
- 2-5 Reports Generated by SSA (1 of 7)
- 2-6 Reports Generated by SSA (2 of 7)

- 2-7 Reports Generated by SSA (3 of 7)
- 2-8 Reports Generated by SSA (4 of 7)
- 2-9 Reports Generated by SSA (5 of 7)
- 2-10 Reports Generated by SSA (6 of 7)
- 2-11 Reports Generated by SSA (7 of 7)
- 2-12 Perkins Committee Background Material (1 of 4)
- 2-13 Perkins Committee Background Material (2 of 4)
- 2-14 Perkins Committee Background Material (3 of 4)
- 2-15 Perkins Committee Background Material (4 of 4)

### Series 3: Eisenhower Memorabilia

- 2-16 Accomplishments and Philosophy of the Eisenhower Admin
- 2-17 New York Times Series "Eisenhower's Last Years"
- 2-18 Eisenhower Campaign Material
- 2-19 Eisenhower Campaign Newsletters
- 2-20 Eisenhower Materials and Clippings (1 of 2)
- 2-21 Eisenhower Materials and Clippings (2 of 2)

### Box 3

#### Series 3 Continued

- 3-1 Eisenhower Institute
- 3-2 "Young Voters" Article
- 3-3 Youth for Eisenhower Pre-Convention Campaign Publicity
- 3-4 Eisenhower Memorial Commission (1 of 2)
- 3-5 Eisenhower Memorial Commission (2 of 2)
- 3-6 Miscellaneous

### Series 4: Books and Journals

Health Policy Research Group. "Private Foundation Health Expenditures: A Survey Analysis."  
*Georgetown University.*

U.S. Congress. Senate. Committee on Finance. *Hearings before the Committee on Finance United States Senate Eighty-Third Congress Second Session on H.R. 9366.* 83rd Cong., 2d sess., 1954. S. Doc.

Rovere, Richard H. "Affairs of State: The Eisenhower Years." New York: Farrar, Straus, and Cudahy, 1956.

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## Removed from collection

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- The Evolution of Medicare . . . from idea to law* by Peter A. Corning, U.S. Dept. of HEW, 1969
- Health Maintenance Organizations and Academic Medical Centers* edited by James I. Hudson, M.D. and Madeline M. Nevins, Ph.D., The Kaiser Family Foundation, 1981.
- Healthy People: The Surgeon General's report on Health Promotion and Disease Prevention*, by the Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences, [1979]
- Know Your Social Security* by Arthur Larson, Harper & Brothers Publishers, 1955
- Psychiatric Insurance: Financing short-term ambulatory treatment* by Helen Hershfield Avnet, Group Health Insurance, 1962
- Psychological Aspects of Aging* edited by John E. Anderson, American Psychological Association, 1956
- Physicians, Law, and Ethics* by Carleton B. Chapman, New York University Press, 1984
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- Serious and Unstable Condition: Financing America's Health Care* by Henry J. Aaron, The Brookings Institution, 1991
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