The Honorable Beverly Barton Butcher Byron  
U.S. Representative of Maryland (1979–1993)

Special Exhibit: A Century of Women in Congress

“Dine with the Byrons”
Representative Byron discusses the materials she used in her congressional campaigns, including a promotional pamphlet with Byron family recipes. The “Dine with the Byrons” campaign tradition started when her husband, Goodloe Byron, ran for the Maryland state house in the 1960s.

Interview recorded June 15, 2016

We had certain things that we used. Everybody has a brochure. And then you got, back in those days, we, they used to use emery boards. I've still got some emery boards from Louis Goldstein, who's been deceased for a long time. I wish people use emery boards again because I need them. We had something that started out when he first ran for the house of delegates with “Dine with the Byrons.” And we would have the front cover of the brochure of the all the family. And then inside would be a series of, of recipes—just, you know, one meal. And I still have people that come up to me and say, “Do you have any left of, of the such-and-such? I've lost my recipe for rock cake, or, or some salad, or something.” So, it was—theory being we want to give somebody something that they would not pitch in the trash as soon as you hand it to them, as a card. And, and so that, you know, I was very much involved in that. And then also baseball cards—I, I played with the Hagerstown Suns. So, I've got my Hagerstown Suns—and then you do the flip side, and it's got some of your history as far as your legislation's concerned.