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Ruth Thompson

Ruth Thompson became Michigan's first woman in Congress when voters elected her to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1950. A Whitehall native, Thompson (1887-1970) spent her entire working life as a public servant. While serving three terms as a Muskegon County probate judge (1925-1937), she gained national recognition as an advocate for children's rights. Thompson was elected the county's first female state representative in 1938. During and after World War II she worked as a civilian employee of the U.S. Army in Washington, D.C., and in Europe. Upon taking Congressional office on January 3, 1951, she received the first House Judiciary Committee appointment granted to a woman. Re-elected for two subsequent terms, Thompson lost her primary bid for a fourth term in 1956 and retired to her home in Whitehall.

Significant Date:

Industry and Invention (1875-1915)

Registry Year: 1993 **Erected Date:** 1994

Marker Location

Address: 405 E. Colby

City: Whitehall

State: MI **ZipCode:**

County: Muskegon

Township:

Lat: 43.40959000 / **Long:** -86.34259000

Web URL:

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