INVENTORY

MAMIE DOUD EISENHOWER COLLECTION

# 222

COLORADO HISTORICAL SOCIETY
AUGUST 1984
INTRODUCTION:

Mamie Doud Eisenhower, wife of Dwight David Eisenhower, thirty-fourth President of the United States, lived in over thirty-five residences during her life. This, the result of being the wife of a career army officer. When asked what residence she called "home," Mrs. Eisenhower always responded, "750 Lafayette Street, Denver, Colorado."

Mamie Doud Eisenhower first came to 750 Lafayette Street in 1906 with her parents, John Sheldon Doud and Elivera Mathilda Doud, and three sisters, Eleanor, Eda Mae, and Frances. The family had moved from Boone, Iowa on account of Mrs. Doud's poor health.

In 1910 the Douds bought a home in San Antonio, Texas where they could spend the winters. In 1915, at Fort Sam Houston, Mamie met her future husband, Dwight David ("Ike") Eisenhower, a recent graduate of West Point. Eisenhower, the son of David Jacob Eisenhower and Ida Elizabeth Stover Eisenhower, was born on October 14, 1890 in Denison, Texas. "Ike" and Mamie were married at 750 Lafayette Street on July 1, 1916.

During their early years of marriage the Eisenhowers visited the Douds in Denver often. On September 23, 1917 the Eisenhower's first son, David Dwight Eisenhower, was born. The young child, stricken with scarlet fever, passed away in January 1921. On August 8, 1922, a second son, John Sheldon Doud Eisenhower, was born in Denver.

Dwight D. Eisenhower remained active in the Army, working hard and being justly rewarded with promotions. By 1943 he was Supreme Commander, Allied Expeditionary Forces; and while serving in that capacity led the Normandy invasion on June 6, 1944.

In 1948 General Eisenhower left the army life temporarily and accepted the position of president of Columbia University. His stint away from the army was brief for in 1950 Eisenhower accepted the position of Supreme Commander of NATO Forces.
While Commander of SHAPE, Supreme Headquarters of Allied Powers in Europe, the Eisenhowers lived in Paris. Mamie's father passed away in June 1951. Mamie's mother became a regular visitor at the Eisenhower residence.

In 1952 Eisenhower resigned from the Army and announced his candidacy for the presidency. During the months of campaigning, Mrs. Doud accompanied the Eisenhowers on their campaign trail which took them across the United States.

Eisenhower during his campaign promised that, if elected, he would "go to Korea" to seek "an early and honorable" end to the war in Korea. The Korean promise swelled the size of Eisenhower's election victory over Adlai E. Stevenson of Illinois. Eisenhower carried all but nine states.

Eisenhower began his first term on January 20, 1953. The American public viewed "Ike" as a man of good moral sense and having the ability to administer huge missions of crucial importance as demonstrated by his army career, and more specifically, the Normandy invasion. His political popularity continued to swell, and despite bouts with serious illness in both 1955 and 1956, Eisenhower ran for a second term and defeated Adlai Stevenson once again by an overwhelming margin.

While Ike and Mamie resided at the White House, Mrs. Doud continued to make lengthy visits to her daughter and son-in-law's home. And, during the Eisenhower presidency 750 Lafayette Street became the summer White House. In the late 1950's, due to failing health, Mrs. Doud returned to 750 Lafayette Street. She passed away in Denver on September 28, 1960 at the age of eighty-two. The home was sold in 1961.

The Eisenhowers retired from public life in 1961. "Home" became a farm house in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania that they had built during their years at the White House.

"Ike" passed away on March 28, 1969 from congestive heart failure; Mamie died on November 2, 1979 after suffering a paralyzing stroke.
INVENTORY: MAMIE DOUD EISENHOWER COLLECTION (Cont.)

SIGNIFICANCE:

The collection contains material related to the Eisenhower and Doud families. Included are pieces of correspondence (1908-1958), wedding announcements (1894, n.d.), an autograph book of Mamie Doud Eisenhower's (1903), programs, dance cards, name and/or calling cards, a business card, a pass card, pamphlets, a booklet, newsletters, election campaign material, newspaper clippings, scrapbooks, magazines, and books. Many of the records pertain to the Eisenhower years in the White House, and more specifically, with the social events held during the Eisenhower administration.

PROVENANCE:

The collection was donated to the Colorado Historical Society in 1961 by Mamie Doud Eisenhower and Frances Doud Moore.
INVENTORY: MAMIE DOUD EISENHOWER COLLECTION (Cont.)

BOX I

FF 1: Correspondence, 12/22/1908-12/12/1961 and no dates
FF 2: Christmas greeting cards, 1952-1958 and no dates
FF 4: Wedding announcements: Ellen M. Carleson - John S. Doud, 10/9/1894; Barbara Jean Thompson - John Sheldon Doud Eisenhower, 6/10/7?
FF 5: Autograph book: Mamie Doud Eisenhower Autograph Book, 1903
FF 6: Miscellaneous programs, 1896-1955 and no dates
FF 7: Programs for political events, 1953-1957
FF 8: Dinner menus for political events, 1952-1953
FF 9: Seating arrangements: Inaugural Ball, 1957; unidentified
FF 10: Tickets to Inaugurations, 1/20/1953; 1/21/1957
FF 11: Dance cards: Graduation Hop, 5/28/1942; 1943-1944; 6/1944
FF 12: Name and/or calling cards; business card; pass card
FF 13: Prayer: Prayer by President Eisenhower, Opening of Inaugural Address, 1/20/1953
FF 14: Pamphlet: An Album Pertaining to the Doud-Eisenhower Material Exhibited in the State Museum, Denver, Colorado, no date
FF 15: Miscellaneous pamphlets
FF 16: Booklet: Inaugural Parade, General Order No. 1, 1/21/1957

BOX IA

FF 19: Blank checks
FF 20: Blank stationery and envelopes
FF 21: Election campaign material
FF 22: Election campaign material
FF 23: Newspaper clippings

BOX II

Item 1: Certificate: Junior Department Promotion Certificate, Edith Doud, 10/1/1911

Item 2: Print: Doud Herald
Item 3: Scrapbook: Souvenir cards
Item 4: Scrapbook: Trade cards
Item 5: Scrapbook: Newspaper clippings
Item 6: Scrapbook: Newspaper clippings
Item 7: Scrapbook (blank)
Item 8: Scrapbook (blank)

BOX III Books and magazines: Strive and Thrive: A Tale, Mary Hewitt, 1855; Websters
Inventory: Mamie Doud Eisenhower Collection, MSS 222, (cont.)

Books
6. Elsie Dinsmore, Martha Finley, 1893.
7. Ole Mammy’s Torment, Annie Fellows Johnston, 1897.
10. A Friend or Two, Wilbur D. Nesbit, 1907.
12. A Master’s Degree, Margaret Hill McCarter, 1913.
16. Links of Memory, Mershon Company, nd.
17. Little Friends, Thomas Nelson & Sons, nd.
18. Margaret Craven or Beauty of the Heart, nd.
22. Thoughts for Companions, Mershon Company, nd.

Serials
24. The American, April, 1944; November 1947
25. The American Boy, July 1936
26. The American Home, November 1943; December 1943; March 1944
27. Boy’s Life, August 1936
28. Click, June 1944
29. Colliers, September 25, 1943
30. Cosmopolitan, November 1943; November 1945
31. The Diplomat, February 1953
32. Red Book, April 1949
33. Saturday Evening Post, September 16, 1944; November 24, 1945; December 15, 1945; December 22, 1945
34. Tank Corps Folio, nd.
35. Time, November 6, 1942; September 13, 1943; June 19, 1944, January 19, 1953
36. Today’s Woman, June 1948
37. Town & Country, April 1944
39. *True Comics*, December 1942; Spring 1945
40. *True Story*, December 1949
41. *Vogue*, February 15, 1949
42. *Woman's Home Companion*, July 1953
43. *Life*, November 14, 1955
44. *Look*, December 12, 1944
45. *Newsweek*, May 8, 1944; October 18, 1948; August 1, 1949; October 7, 1957.

Printed material

32. Presidential Inauguration, January 20, 1953

*Woodwards Music Monthly*, May 1884 [in scrapbook binder]