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## MS-219: Michaela Pyle Mamie Eisenhower Collection

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## MS-219: Michaela Pyle Mamie Eisenhower Collection

### **Description**

The collection includes stories and interviews collected by Michaela Pyle as part of her unfinished biography of First Lady Mamie Eisenhower, as well as news stories, correspondence, and artifacts related to her interactions with the Eisenhower family in Gettysburg and her work for the biography. Pyle's interviews with and recollections of Mamie Eisenhower are unique and detail the former First Lady's time living in Gettysburg, especially after the death of her husband and former President Dwight D. Eisenhower. Much of the collection focuses on the last years of Mamie Eisenhower's life and the reactions to her death in 1979, but Series 3 includes items relating to a birthday celebration for President Eisenhower in Gettysburg in 1956.

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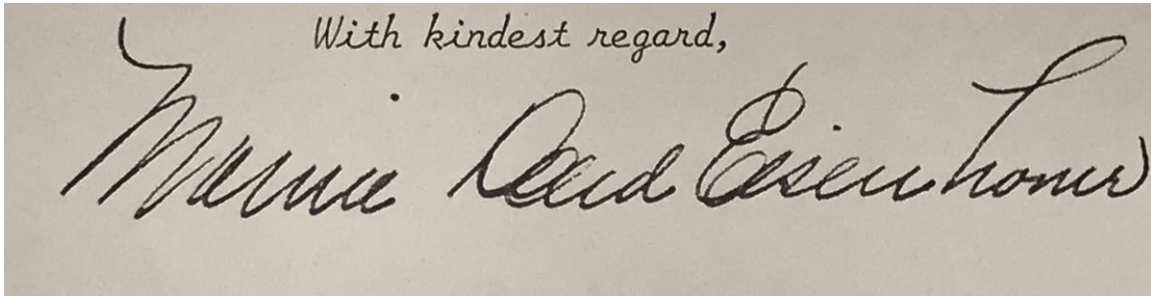
### **Keywords**

Dwight D. Eisenhower, Mamie Doud Eisenhower, Gettysburg Times, 1945-1980, Gettysburg

### **Disciplines**

Political History | Public History | United States History

**Guide to  
MS-219: Michaela Pyle Mamie Eisenhower  
Collection**



**Jeffrey Lauck '18, Fortenbaugh Intern  
February 2018**

## **MS – 219: Michaela Pyle Mamie Eisenhower Collection**

(1 box, .25 cubic feet)

Location:

Inclusive Dates: 1956-2015

Bulk Dates: 1956, 1976-1979

*Processed by Jeffrey Lauck*

*February 2018*

### **Provenance**

Items donated to the Eisenhower Institute by Michaela Pyle's daughter in 2015. The Eisenhower Institute gave the collection to Special Collections in 2018.

### **Biographical Note**

Michaela Pyle (1916-2000) was a reporter for the *Gettysburg Times* who was approached by former First Lady Mamie Eisenhower to write her biography. The book was never finished.

### **Historical Note**

President Dwight David Eisenhower and First Lady Mamie Eisenhower lived in Gettysburg after President Eisenhower's tenure in the White House. After his death in 1969, Mamie Eisenhower lived in their farmhouse alone until her death in 1979. Before her death, Mamie Eisenhower approached local *Gettysburg Times* reporter Michaela Pyle to write her biography, which was never finished.

### **Scope and Content Notes**

The collection includes stories and interviews collected by Michaela Pyle as part of her unfinished biography of First Lady Mamie Eisenhower, as well as news stories, correspondence, and artifacts related to her interactions with the Eisenhower family in Gettysburg and her work for the biography. Pyle's interviews with and recollections of Mamie Eisenhower are unique and detail the former First Lady's time living in Gettysburg, especially after the death of her husband and former President Dwight D. Eisenhower. Much of the collection focuses on the last years of Mamie Eisenhower's life and the reactions to her death in 1979, but Series 3 includes items relating to a birthday celebration for President Eisenhower in Gettysburg in 1956.

### **Subjects**

Eisenhower, Dwight D.

Eisenhower, Mamie Doud

*Gettysburg Times*

Gettysburg—History—Postwar period, 1945-1980

## **Series Description**

This collection is divided into three Series. **Series 1:** Michaela Pyle Items, **Series 2:** News Stories on Eisenhower Family, **Series 3:** President Eisenhower's 1956 Birthday Celebration

**Series 1** consists of an email from Michaela Pyle's daughter explaining the collection and her mother's work on writing a Mamie Eisenhower biography, as well as an obituary for Michaela Pyle, a publication she wrote for *A.D.* magazine on Mamie Eisenhower, a letter to her from Dwight D. Eisenhower, and a collection of notes and interviews Michaela Pyle collected for her biography.

**Series 2** consists of AP draft stories and newspaper clippings about Mamie Eisenhower and the Eisenhower family.

**Series 3** consists of correspondence from President and First Lady Eisenhower regarding a 1956 celebration for the President's birthday held in Gettysburg, as well as a program and pin from the event.

## **Box List**

### **Box 1**

1-0 Finding Aid and Biographical Information

#### **Series 1—Michaela Pyle Items**

1-1 Michaela Pyle Correspondence, Obituary, and Published Work

- Printed Email from Kathryn Pyle to the Eisenhower Institute, November 4, 2015 giving background information on her mother (Michaela Pyle) and her efforts to write Mamie's biography
- Letter from Dwight D. Eisenhower to Michaela Pyle, November 7, 1966, thanking Pyle for sending him some reproduction paintings
- Obituary for Michaela S. Pyle, *The Gettysburg Times*, December 14, 2000, photocopy of newspaper clipping
- November 1976 edition of *A.D.* magazine, including article "Mamie Eisenhower Reflects" written by Michaela S. Pyle

1-2 Interviews and Notes for Unfinished Mamie Eisenhower Biography

- Interviews and stories as part of a manuscript of Michaela Pyle's unfinished biography of Mamie Eisenhower

#### **Series 2—News Stories on Eisenhower Family**

1-3 Draft AP News Stories

- AP news story draft describing Mamie Eisenhower's funeral, November 6, 1979
- AP new story draft describing last interview Mamie Eisenhower did, November 2, 1979

1-4 Newspaper Clippings on Eisenhower Family

- Photocopy of *Gettysburg Times*, October 15, 1977, stories on birthday tributes to late President Eisenhower in town
- Photocopy of *Gettysburg Times*, November 2, 1979, articles on death of Mamie Eisenhower

- Newspaper clipping of “Ike’s Grandchild Heads His Group,” *Sunday Patriot News*, March 19, 2000
- Photocopy of page in a book titled *First Ladies*, including information on First Lady Rosalynn Carter
- Photocopy of “Mamie Eisenhower to be Remembered During Two Programs in Gettysburg,” *The Gettysburg Times*, October 17, 1996

**Series 3—President Eisenhower’s 1956 Birthday Celebration**

1-5 President Eisenhower’s Birthday Celebration in Gettysburg, 1956

- IKE pin
- Program for President Eisenhower’s Birthday Salute, October 13, 1956, Gettysburg, PA
- Photocopy of message from President Eisenhower thanking Adams County residents for birthday celebration in his honor
- Photocopy of letter from First Lady Mamie Eisenhower to Blaine W. Hughes, October 29, 1956, thanking her for President Eisenhower’s birthday celebration in Gettysburg
- Photocopy of letter from First Lady Mamie Eisenhower to Blaine Hughes, VP of Adams County Council of Republican Women, December 13, 1956 thanking her for recent letter regarding birthday cake
- Photocopy of letter form First Lady Mamie Eisenhower to Blaine Hughes, June 15, 1959, thanking her for recent letter regarding Visiting Day at Adams County Home
- Envelope in which items were donated

**Related Collections**

MS – 071: [Mamie Eisenhower letters](#)

MS –109: [Dwight D. Eisenhower Appointment Books 1961-1967](#)

MS – 111: [Papers of The Dwight D. Eisenhower Society](#)