

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER: HIS EARLY YEARS IN ABILENE

MANUSCRIPT MATERIALS

Brooks, Gladys Harding: Papers, 1915-69 [Abilene High School friend of Dwight Eisenhower with whom he remained in contact during his West Point years. Following Dwight Eisenhower's graduation from West Point in the spring of 1915, he spent the summer in Abilene before proceeding to his first post at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.]

Box

1 [Whole Collection]

Eisenhower, Dwight D.: Papers, 1916-52 [Correspondents with whom DDE most likely reminisced about his boyhood years in Abilene]

Name Series

2 Ackers, Deane E. [boyhood friend]
6 Aurand Henry
7 Berk-Bern (Misc.) [DDE religious background]
Betts, Karl 6/23/44
8 BLAU-BLI (Misc.) [Thomas Blazina-growing up in Ks.]
BRAT-BRET (Misc.) [Mrs. Breckbill re influence of parents on sons;
Mrs. Brenneman, DDE's primary grade teacher]
BROO-BROS (Misc.) [C. Brooks, former teacher; C. & H. Brooks,
boyhood friends]
9 BROW-BROWN (Misc.) [H. Brown, boyhood friend]
10 Baughey, Robert M. [boyhood friend]
13 Bradley, Omar
17 Callahan, Joner
19 CULM-CURTIS, E (Misc.) [F. Curry, Abilene friend]
20 Capper, Arthur [family friend]
21 Case, Charles 7/15/44, 3/15/44, 6/23/44
21-23 Clark, Mark
27 Conklin, Dr.
28 Curry, Frances [comments about DDE's mother]
30 DAVID-DAVIES (Misc.) [Abilene family connection]
31 DERR-DEW (Misc.) [Mrs. Beulah de Vries, Abilene friend]
DIX-DODD (Misc.) [H. Dodd re: DDE praise of Honus Wagner]
37 ERSKINE, J.-ESTE (Misc.) [family religious denomination]
38 Etherington, Florence [Abilene cousin]
Esteves, Luis
FAB-FAN (Misc.) [Mrs. V.Hutchinson Fairly, Abilene acquaintance]
39 FORD-FORN (Misc.) [Abe Forney, boyhood friend]
FRAS-FRAZ (Misc.) [correspondence with a cousin]
43 GARB-GARR (Misc.) [Garfield School, Abilene]
GEL-GEN (Misc.) [A. Gentry, Abilene friend]
44 GOM-GOOD (Misc.) [cousin and school friend]
GOSL-GOU (Misc.) [correspondence with Abilene friend]
45 GRUB-GRUT (Misc.) [T. Grubbs, Abilene acquaintance]

- GUA-GW (Misc. [B. Grump re Jim Thorpe and a Kansas baseball player]
 Gans, Charles W. [Abilene friend]
 47 Graham, Emmett S. [Abilene friend]
 48 Grubbs, Ted [Abilene friend]
 49 HANSEN, F.-HANN (Misc.) [Frank Hansen, Abilene friend]
 50 HART, W.-HARTM (Misc.) [J. J. Hartman, acquaintance of Eisenhower family]
 HARTN-NARW (Misc.) [Hartrich-family political affiliation]
 51 HEAT-HEG (Misc.) [Phil W. Heath, Abilene friend]
 HELLER-HEMP (Misc.) [Sam Heller, Abilene friend]
 52 HOD-HOFFMAN, C. (Misc.) [Frank Hodges re DDE's early activities as a Democrat; Phyllis W. Hodgkins, Abilene family acquaintance]
 53 HOWE-HOYT (Misc.) [J. W. Howe, former Abilene acquaintance]
 HUM-HUNN (Misc.) [Mrs. A. S. Humphrey, Abilene classmate]
 HUTCHIS-HY (Misc.) [correspondence with Abilene friends]
 55 Harger, Charles 12/4/46, 8/13/43, 4/8/43, 8/27/42
 56 Hazlett, Swede 6/17/45, 5/23/44
 57 Hodgson, Paul
 59 Hurd, Arthur 1/14/52, 3/25/43, 2/28/43, 1/29/43
 Hurd, Bruce 6/10/43
 60 Irving, F.A..
 JAM-JAN (Misc.) [H.B. Jameson, Abilene newspaper]
 61 JOI-JONES (Misc.) [P. Jolley, Abilene High School acquaintance]
 64 KAN-KAUFFMAN (Misc.) [Kauffman-Abilene family connection]
 KENW-KENY (Misc.) [Mrs. R. F. Kenyon, Abilene friend]
 KIM-KINC (Misc.) [Mrs. Kimpel, Abilene acquaintance]
 65 KNOP-KNOR (Misc.) [correspondence re Bela Kornitzer's writing about DDE's father, David]
 KOC-KOR (Misc.) [H. Kooock, family mush recipe]
 KROR-KUBI (Misc.) [Charles Kubach, Abilene acquaintance]
 66 Kincaid, E. A. [Abilene family friend re mother and friends]
 67 LAB-LAF (Misc.) [correspondence with Evelyn Lady, Garfield School, Abilene]
 69 LUS-LYE (Misc.) [Nell Graves Lutton, AHS classmate]
 85 Nusz, Theodore
 93 Prichard, Vernon
 97 Reese, Ben
 106 Schaefer, J. Earl

Family Series

- 171-75 [Whole series; correspondence with brothers, occasional references to Abilene]

Organization Series

- 179 Clubs & Assns. - Abilene Rotary Club

Speech Series (speeches with references to Abilene)

- 192 Abilene, KS. Homecoming, 6-22-45
- 194 Guildhall Speech, London, 6-12-45
Maybole, Scotland, 10-5-46
Conf. of Mayors, Washington, DC, 1-20-47
- 195 Newspaperboy Thrift Club Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, 10-1-48
Columbia Univ., 10-8-49
- 197 SHAPE briefing, Paris, 11-19-51
Command Post Exercise, Paris, TV Address, 4-11-52
Abilene, Ks., 6-4-52

Miscellaneous File

- 20 Speech of Nov. 9, 1909 [speech by DDE to Democratic rally]
- 22 1905-1913 [correspondence during this period]

Dwight D. Eisenhower Library: Composite Collection

- A68-26 Folder: Correspondence between former residents
- A69-56 Folder: Script for "American Riches"
- A74-4 Folder: DDE letter to Nellie Stover, 2/27/05
- A05-01 Folder: Hesselbarth, Maynard [Photographs of the boyhood home and DDE's parents]
- A08-10 Folder: Over, Addie: Scrapbook

Eisenhower, Dwight D.: Papers as President (Ann Whitman File), 1953-61

Name Series

- 8-9 DDE-Personal
- 10-13 Family Correspondence
- 14 Family History
- 17-18 Hazlett Correspondence, 1941-58
- 34 West Point Questionnaire

Speech Series (speeches with references to Abilene)

- 5 FFA, 10-15-53
Kansas City, 10-16-53
Anti-Defamation League, 11-23-53
- 8 National Editorial Assn., 6-22-54
- 10 Abilene Museum Dedication, 11-11-54
- 12 U.S. Chamber of Commerce, 5-2-55
- 13 Bull Elephants Club, 8-2-55
- 18 Radio and TV Broadcast, "Women Ask the President," 10-24-56
- 20 National Educational Assn., 4-3-57
- 31 Eisenhower Library Groundbreaking, Abilene, 10-13-59
Luncheon Remarks, Abilene, 10-13-59
Greece-Goodwill Tour 1959 (12-15-59—speech to Greek Parliament)
- 33 South America Trip-Brazil (1)(2) [2-23-60 civic reception, Brasilia]

Eisenhower, Dwight D.: Post-Presidential Papers, 1961-69

1962 Principal File

49 Chron File May 1962 (1)-(3) [greatest childhood influences]

1962-63 Signature File

18 Private Affairs (PA) (1)-(3)
23 Speeches (SP) Dedication of Eisenhower Library, 5-1-62
29 Che [re studying Latin in schools]
33 Eisenhower (1)(2)
39 HOP [DDE-success in life]
48 NA [books that influenced history]
49 OS [childhood influences]
50 PIC [news of Abilene-Lelia Picking]
53 RUF [religious affiliation of DDE's parents]

1963 Principal File

8 GI Gifts-J (1)(2) [booklet on Abilene, 1915]
10 IN Invitations Accepted-Abilene, 10-21-63
32 AL (1)-(3) [books DDE preferred as a boy]
34 BA (1)-(7) [DDE-baseball]
43 DR [DDE-riding bicycle as a boy]
47 GO (2)-(4) [DDE-baseball]
49 I (1)-(3) [Eisenhower ancestry]
58 O (2)-(5) [hunting, fishing, baseball]
69 WI (1)-(6) [trip to Abilene]
WO (1)-(4) [DDE-baseball]
71 Biographical Sketch and Clippings-Life of DDE

1964 Principal File

39 HO (1)-(6) [church attendance in Abilene]
41 KO (1) [changes in medicine since boyhood]
51 RO (2)-(7) [leg injury as youth]

1965 Principal File

2 AP-1 Morin, Pat, 8-25-65 (1)(2) [interview re boyhood, influence of mother, leg injury as youth, selling produce in Abilene]
5 IN-1 Abilene, Ks., 10-6-65
16 PU-1 Publications-Accepted (1)-(10) [DDE's religious faith]
18 AL (1)-(3) [family genealogy]
20 BI (1)(2) [boyhood job]
26 DOS [talk, Denison, Texas, 9-1-65]

- 27 EL (1)(2) [book that impressed DDE as youth]
EN [DDE re Engle family in Abilene]
- 28 FOS [American traditions and moral values]
- 30 GRO [DDE's family history]
- 47 SI [DDE comments on reversal of his first and middle names]
- 49 TAR [American morals]
- TH (1)-(4) [religious references in DDE's speeches]
- 53 WH (1)-(3) [DDE critiques story about himself]

1965 Signature File

- 2 GI-1 Gifts Received by DDE and MDE-S [reversal of first and middle names; who DDE was named after]
- 14 EN [1890's photo of family group]

1966 Principal File

- 2 EC-3 Eisenhower Library [Abilene High School yearbooks]
- 5 GI-2 Gifts to the General (Oct. 13-31, 1966) (1) [John Wickman to DDE
re 1904 Class Day Exercises and speech; diagram from Lelia Picking identifying members of Abilene High School Class of 1909 in photographs]
- 13 PR-3-1 Public Relations-Autographs, Photographs [1948 article on DDE's boyhood by former Abilene resident]
- 14 PR-5-1-1 Public Relations-Publicity, Broadcasts, Telecasts, Tapes, Films (1) [Florence Engle Northcott writes of childhood experiences in Abilene and includes an Ida Eisenhower anecdote]
- 16 PR-7 Public Relations-Complimentary Letters [J. P. Pattin re boyhood days in Abilene and memories of Edgar and Dwight Eisenhower]
- 18 RM Religious Matters [incident re DDE leg injury as youth]
- 25 BU [favorite childhood book]
- 26 CAS [Charlie Case-Abilene]
- 27 CO [DDE-Abilene "will always be 'home'"]
CR [story re role of prayer and DDE's boyhood leg injury]
- 31 FO [death of Abe Forney, boyhood friend]
- 34 HO (3) [Coleman family in Abilene]
- 35 HOP [story re DDE's boyhood leg injury in *Guideposts*]
HU [DDE responds to query re boyhood leg injury]
- 38 LO (1)-(3) [John E. Long, attended school with DDE in Abilene]
- 40 MU (1)-(3) [Mrs. W. H. Mustard, formerly Maggie Broadfoot, Abilene Classmate]
- 46 SC (1)-(7) [Herb Schiveley, Abilene classmate]

1966 Signature File

- 2 Gifts Received (GI-1) Mc [Abilene High School yearbooks]

1967 Principal File

- 20 ME-1 Messages to Adults, July-August 1967 [1909 photo of Abilene

- Scene and anecdote about Dwight Eisenhower]
- 25 NS National Security-Defense [DDE to Olin Ball, former Abilene resident, re Liberty Lobby]
- 32 PR-3-8 Requests for Information, April-July 1967 [DDE never sanded horses in the C. W. Parker carousel factory in Abilene; DDE never sold magazines]
- 36 PR-6 Thank You Letters, March-May 1967 [O. F. Grubbs, may have taught DDE in Abilene]
PR-7 Complimentary Letters, Nov.-Dec. 1967 [Hallberg to DDE re people in Abilene including the Sexton family]
- 38 PU-2 Books by the General, July 1967 [DDE comments on Col. Patsy Dugan and trapping muskrat and mink as a youth]
PU-2 Books by the General, Jan.-June 1967 [DDE to Irvin Davis, a nephew of Bob Davis, a “boyhood hero” who taught DDE to trap, hunt, play poker]
- 41 RM Religious Matters [Schulz corrects story that appeared in *Guideposts* re DDE’ injury as a youth and role of prayer]
- 42 TR Site Dedication (Palm Desert), April 30, 1967 [DDE to Wilbur Jeffcoat, former Abilene classmate]
- 48 D [DDE never worked for C. W. Parker in Abilene]
- 50 H [DDE to Hallberg re families in Abilene and food; friends in Abilene]
- 51 J [letter to Jeffcoat re Abilene & flood of 1903]
- 52 LI [DDE never sold magazine subscriptions as a youth ; Ruby Lucier and Gladys Harding]
- 54 R [DDE comments on trapping animals as a youth]
- 56 T [Abilene, Kansas]
- 57 WH [changes in Abilene]

1968 Principal File

- 24 PR 6 Thank You Letters [DDE to Rickabaugh re “carefree life that we were living in 1909, 1910, and 1911,” world events since then, Abilene schools]
- 26 PR 6 The General’s 78th Birthday, Oct.-Dec. 1968 (4) [DDE to Rickabaugh re boyhood in Abilene]

1969 Principal File

- 10 PR 6 (Thank You Letters) (3) [letter from Mrs. O. F. Grubbs, her husband knew DDE in Abilene, includes program for Abilene High School commencement in 1905 and clipping re: Ike’s 7th grade teacher being named National Teacher of 1955]
- 11 PU 4 (Of Interest to DDE) (1) letter re Abilene High School Class Book for 1905
- 12 TR (Walter Reed) (2) [Bill Jeffcoat, reports on Abilene friends]
- 13 J [Bill Jeffcoat to DDE re friends in Abilene]
- 14 SCO [DDE to Spyros Skouras re: growing up in Abilene, Hellenic College, and Skouras Center]

Secretary's Series

- 1 DDE Drafts (2) [DDE re baseball]
- 9 BI [morality and values]
- 13 Eisenhower [DDE-baseball anecdote from his youth]
EL [DDE genealogy]
- 15 SH [reversal of first and middle names]
- 17 A [biographical questionnaire]
HI [childhood blood-poisoning story]
- 18 ME [DDE re small towns]
PA [DDE on character and spiritual matters; DDE and Abilene High School; Dwight Moody-namesake]
SA [Abilene boyhood and friends]
- 19 T [favorite books; western novels]
WI [DDE's uncles]
- 20 CA [DDE on Abilene childhood]
DA [Abilene boyhood hero]
Eisenhower [Eisenhower ancestry]
E [Dr. Seelye business in Abilene]
J [Abilene boyhood friends]
L (1) [Abilene boyhood]
- 21 P [Abilene boyhood]
RA [Abilene boyhood; DDE's two greatest heroes]
SA [DDE's boyhood]

Speech Series (the following speeches have references to Abilene)

- 1 6-15-61 World Conf. on Local Govts., Wash., DC
- 2 5-1-62 Library Dedication, Abilene, Ks.
- 5 12-6-62 Lotos Club, NYC
- 5 5-17-63 Cornell University
- 10 6-12-66 Exeter Academy (1)-(6)

Convenience File

- 1 Biographies
DDE Personals [favorite books; birthplace; childhood hero; reversal of first and middle names]
Important Moments in Life of DDE

Endacott, J. Earl: Papers, 1944-74

- 4 Home and Family Introduction and Early History

Forney, Abram H.: Papers, 1946-62 [Abram H. Forney was born near Abilene, Kansas, on October 12, 1888. His father J.K. Forney was one of the founders of the Belle Springs Creamery in Abilene. Abram Forney worked at the Creamery for several years in the early 1900s, where he became acquainted with Dwight D. Eisenhower.]

1 [Whole Collection]

Lucier, Ruby Norman: Letters from Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1913-67 [Ruby Norman Lucier (1891-1967) was born in Abilene, Kansas and attended school with Dwight D. Eisenhower. They became friends and Eisenhower wrote to her sporadically after he left Abilene.]

1 [Whole Collection]

Schulz, Robert L.: Papers, 1937-1980

60 Biographies / Personal Data (DDE)
78 Home File (Eisenhower Home Committee) [Engineers' preliminary report on the preservation of the home, 1956; correspondence]
79 Preservation and Renovation of Home

ORAL HISTORY MATERIALS

Asper, Levi J. (OH-2) Friend and neighbor of the Eisenhowers in Abilene. [EL] 1964. 18 pages.

Eisenhower, Dwight D. (OH-106) [OTHER] 1967. 35 pages.

Forney, Abram (OH-3) Boyhood friend of Dwight D. Eisenhower in Abilene, Kansas. [EL] 1964. 18 pages.

Long, Mrs. Robert J. (OH-1) Bookkeeper at the Belle Springs Creamery when David Eisenhower and his two sons, Edgar and Dwight, worked there. [EL] 1964. 7 pages.

Picking, Lelia G. (OH-7) Classmate of Dwight D. Eisenhower in Abilene, Kansas. (EL) 1965. 24 pages.

Snider, Orin (OH-6) Childhood friend of Dwight D. and Edgar Eisenhower in Abilene, Kansas. (EL) 1964. 52 pages.

Witter, Reverend Ray I. (OH-5) Relative (his mother and Dwight D. Eisenhower's father were brother and sister), discusses the church the Eisenhowers attended. [EL] 1964. 41 pages.

NEWSPAPERS ON MICROFILM

Abilene Daily Chronicle
Abilene Weekly Chronicle
Dickinson County News

Abilene Daily Reflector
Abilene Weekly Reflector

VERTICAL FILE MATERIAL

Abilene High School: Class of 1909 (1) (2)
Abilene High School: Yearbooks, 1905, 1909 (book collection)
Belle Springs Creamery (Abilene, KS)
Eisenhower, David Jacob and Ida Stover
Eisenhower, Dwight D.: Boyhood (1890-1911)

MONOGRAPHS

Davis, Kenneth S. Soldier of Democracy: A Biography of Dwight Eisenhower (Garden City, NY; Doubleday & Co., 1945).

Eisenhower, Dwight D. At Ease: Stories I Tell to Friends (Garden City, NY; Doubleday & Co., 1967).

Holt, Daniel D., editor. Eisenhower: The Prewar Diaries and Selected Papers, 1905-1941 (Baltimore and London, Johns Hopkins Univ. Press, 1998).

Jameson, Henry B. Heroes By the Dozen (Abilene and Topeka, 1961).

MISCELLANEOUS SOURCES

Unpublished Mss. "Dickinson County History, " Vol. I, II, & III (1870-1935). In Book Collection.

Article, Branigar, Thomas: "No Villains-No Heroes: The David Eisenhower-Milton Good Controversy," Kansas History, Vol. 15, No. 3, Autumn 1992, pp. 168-179.

Dickinson County Historical Society
Census Records , 1900 & 1910 City Directories—1904-

Note: For additional manuscripts, books, and articles relating to Eisenhower's religious background and beliefs see our guide to Eisenhower and Religion.