

Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. fax	Hilary Klotz to Julie Mason re: crew information [Personally Identifiable Information] [partial] (1 page)	06/11/1999	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Lissa Muscatine
OA/Box Number: 21402

FOLDER TITLE:

Pending Requests

2015-0275-S

rc1984

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

THE WHITE HOUSE

July 31, 1998

Ms. Judith McHale
President and CEO
Discovery Communications Incorporated
7700 Wisconsin Avenue
Bethesda, Maryland 20814-3579

Dear Ms. McHale:

Thank you for your letter and interest in interviewing me for your upcoming documentary, *The Washington Monument: It Stands For All*. I have forwarded copies of your letter to appropriate staff for consideration and appreciate very much *Discovery's* support for the restoration of the Monument.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,


Hillary Rodham Clinton



DISCOVERY
COMMUNICATIONS
INCORPORATED

Judith McHale
President and Chief Operating Officer

7700 Wisconsin Avenue
Bethesda, Maryland 20814-3579
301-986-0444 ext 4747
fax 301-986-8935

cc: Melanne
Ellen
Patti
Marsha

July 6, 1998

Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton
First Lady of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

As you know, Discovery Communications, Inc. is a proud sponsor of the historic restoration of the Washington Monument. In partnership with the National Park Foundation and several other corporate sponsors, Discovery has committed its involvement to this exciting project for the next two years.

Serving as the cornerstone for our restoration partnership involvement is an original Discovery Channel documentary currently in production and tentatively titled **The Washington Monument: It Stands For All**. In cooperation with the National Park Service, we will take a unique look at the history of the monument while following its historic two-year restoration.

I would like to take this opportunity to respectfully request your appearance in this film. We would like to conduct an interview with you to capture your feelings about how the monument restoration project came to be, about the monument as an American symbol of freedom, and how this public/private sector partnership can serve as a model for future projects.

The Washington Monument has a long and remarkable history. It officially opened to the public in October 1888, and has since seen 21 presidents in the White House. Over the years, the monument has come to stand for more than simply a tribute to George Washington. Today, the monument is a symbol of pride and freedom for all of the United States. Our film will capture this fascinating history leading up to, and including, the unveiling of the newly restored Washington Monument on July 4, 2000.

814
talked to Carrie - she'll
call with a tent. date
(late??)

815 per Carrie -
ideal is next march/April
Cherry blossoms - lawn
w Wash Mon. background.
15 min max.
No later than 10/31/99
POTUS?

J. McHale Letter
July 2, 1998
Page 2

Having attended your luncheon in March to discuss Millennium opportunities amongst my industry colleagues, I know how deeply committed you are to identifying ways we can all work together to preserve the treasures of our nation. Clearly, the restoration of the Washington Monument serves as a wonderful complement to that effort, and we would be honored if you would consider appearing on camera in this groundbreaking film.

As I will be in Africa for the month of July, I have asked that Carrie Passmore contact your office in the next two weeks to arrange for an informational meeting and to identify next steps. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Carrie at (301) 771-5216. We will be delighted to work with you and your staff on this project.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. McHale", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

CC: Melanne Verveer
Ellen Lovell

**BEHIND
CLOSED
DOORS**
WITH
JOAN LUNDEN

Julie -
Marsha wants
you to follow up.

6/15 told him
to wait thru
Summer
then well
revisit -
he's sending
sample tapes

19 April 1999

Ms. Marsha Berry
Press Secretary
Office of the First Lady
White House
Old Executive Office Building
Room 103
Washington, DC 20502

Dear Ms. Berry:

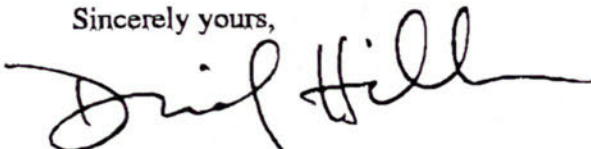
As a follow-up to my conversation with Jennifer Smith and previous correspondence with your office, I am again writing on behalf of Joan Lunden, host and Executive Producer of *Behind Closed Doors with Joan Lunden*. As the title suggests, our show features profiles of people and places that are not normally accessible to our viewers. We would like to revisit an area that we discussed with you last year: going behind closed doors of an official White House state dinner. We would like to capture the amount of work and energy that goes into the planning of such an event. This is an initial brainstorm, we are open to any suggestions that you may have.

As you know, our program is very positive in nature, not controversial and we are tremendously sensitive to security and privacy issues. Previous specials have given our audience unprecedented access behind the doors to the Secret Service, CIA, Betty Ford Center, Celine Dion, and Pentagon to name of few.

Joan would be thrilled to have you participate in this special. Please feel free to contact me directly to discuss any questions you may have at (818) 380-8056.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely yours,



David Hillman
Segment Producer



George Washington
1999
B I C E N T E N N I A L

December 30, 1998

Ms. Mary Ellen McGuire
Assistant to the Deputy Chief of Staff
The Office of the First Lady
The White House
Room 101
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mary Ellen:

It was wonderful to chat with you yesterday regarding participation of the President and First Lady at the grand opening of the *George Washington Bicentennial* at Mount Vernon on **Monday, February 15, 1999**, the official observance of Washington's Birthday/Presidents' Day. I have attached the details of the morning event for your review and presentation to the President's scheduling office.

Knowing that it will take some time to secure final details of the President and First Lady's schedules, and understanding that there is always a possibility that their schedules may change at the last minute, we are hoping to gain approval for a Presidential endorsement of the invitation. I have enclosed a draft invitation, however, we look to you and your legal department for the exact wording. We would like to deliver the invitation to cabinet level officials, U.S. Governors, and to all members of Congress in two weeks and therefore seek your approval by January 7, if possible.

Invitations to participate in the program have also been issued to former Presidents Ford, Carter and Bush. The Governor and First Lady Gilmore of Virginia plan to join us as well. We hope to determine the details of the speaking program by the week of January 11.

We expect hundreds of visitors to join us for the program and national media attention is counted upon as well (Presidents' Day celebrations at Mount Vernon traditionally deliver national media attention without a VIP program). Once the 1999 Birthday program of speakers is secure and if the President and First Lady plan to join us, we will work with The White House press office to target the appropriate media and aggressively work towards national coverage. Early indicators show interest from *Good Morning America*, *CNN*, *Home & Garden Network* and *C-Span*.

The *Bicentennial of George Washington* officially kicks-off at Mount Vernon on February 15 we had some programs open this fall. To date, the media coverage has been terrific including November 23rd coverage on *The Today Show*. I have also enclosed a few Bicentennial print clips to demonstrate the potential of this event as a national news and feature story.

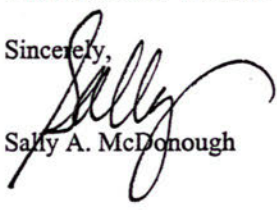
Additionally, we briefly discussed the possibility of involving the First Lady in a media "first tour" of the Mansion. In preliminary conversations with PBS and other national outlets, we feel that this would be of great interest and a wonderful tie-in to Mrs. Clinton's *Saving America's Treasures* program. I have attached a press release that describes the 100-object tour (see press kit). Of course, there are many natural tie-ins for broadcast of such an event: February (President's Day); April (with a gardening focus); July 4th; and December (the death of Washington). Scheduling from your office as well as from the chosen broadcast house will dictate the broadcast timeframe. We can discuss this in further detail with your press office.

159-807

As promised, I have enclosed the background information from the scheduled September Presidential visit that was cancelled due to rain and a Bicentennial press kit. This should provide the necessary background information.

I look forward to working with you and Shirley Sagawa on this project (Charlene Duryea will be thrilled to be working with Shirley). I can be reached at 703-799-8607 or by email at smcdonough@mountvernon.org. It will be a wonderful occasion for the Clintons to host this kick-off celebration in honor of the First President, on President's Day -- during their inaugural visit to Washington's beloved Mount Vernon.

Sincerely,


Sally A. McDonough

George Washington's
MOUNT VERNON
E S T A T E & G A R D E N S

Marketing Department
Fax Cover Sheet

TO:

Ms. Shirley Sagawa
The White House

FROM:

Sally McDonough



Manager of Media Relations, Mount Vernon

Direct Dial: 703-799-8607 Main Number: 703-780-2000

Fax Numbers: 703-799-8609 or 703-799-8698

Internet Address: smcdonough@mountvernon.org

Web Site: <http://www.mountvernon.org>

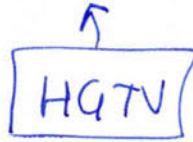
Transmitting 2 Number of Pages, Including Cover

Comments:

Charlene suggested that I fax this
to you. HGTV (54 million viewers) is still a
viable option, however, it will require a
larger time commitment as it is not live.
Whatever Julie suggests, we will do it. Of course,
I'd like to do both! Have a great weekend.

Walk through of house.

event



$\frac{1}{2}$ hour piece

Tour then speaking PROGRAM.



April 16, 1999



Ms. Julie Mason, Media Relations
Office of the First Lady
Old Executive Office Building
Room 100
Washington, DC 20500
Via email: julie_e._mason@who.eop.gov

Dear Julie:

I know how very busy you are so I wanted to get the details of our request, in writing, so that you may proceed as you need to with scheduling, if all is approved.

As we have discussed with Shirley Sagawa and Ellen McCulloch-Lovell in previous conversations and proposals, we would like to involve Mrs. Clinton in the celebration of George Washington's Bicentennial. We suggested that she provide a media tour of the mansion of the new bicentennial exhibition, Mount Vernon as it Was: One Hundred Objects from the Life and Times of George Washington. For this exhibition, we borrowed over one hundred 18th objects so as to present Mount Vernon as authentically as possible during this very special year. We thought that this concept would fit nicely with Mrs. Clinton's millennium efforts to *Save America's Treasures* as we have worked with private and public institutions as well as private donors to secure these loans.

As you may know, Mount Vernon is one of the best-documented and most authentic historic homes in the country. It is also second only to the White House in the number of visitors it attracts each year. Mount Vernon is just 16 miles south of the White House and we would make every effort to make this broadcast convenient and rewarding for the First Lady.

With Shirley and her staff, we had suggested trying to film in May because it is an absolutely beautiful time to be at Mount Vernon as the gardens and grounds are in all of their spring glory. Ideally, we would suggest the week of May 3, preferably Friday, May 7, or the week of May 17.

With permission to gage the interest with the media, I proceeded to talk about the story idea with Good Morning America and 20/20, looking for a Diane Sawyer connection that would deliver an audience in excess of 25 million. Diane Sawyer and her executive producer, Shelley Ross, were thrilled with the opportunity and are anxious to discuss the possibilities. As you may know, May delivers a good media audience, and as reported in the Washington Post this week, GMA is recapturing their audience at fast and furious rate, due to the success of their new hosts, Diane Sawyer and Charlie Gibson. Ms. Sawyer is committed to doing a full, live broadcast from Mount Vernon with Mrs. Clinton, if her schedule allows for it. They would also like to discuss the opportunities for extending the story with a sit-down session for 20/20.

I hope that this helps with your evaluation and planning of the event. I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,


Sally McDonough
Enclosures (by mail only)

Cc: Ellen McCulloch-Lovell, Deputy Assistant to the President and First Lady, The New Millennium Council
Shirley Sagawa, Deputy Chief of Staff, The First Lady, The White House
Charlene Duryea, Director of Marketing, Mount Vernon, James Rees, Executive Director, Mount Vernon

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S MOUNT VERNON P.O. Box 110 Mount Vernon, VA 22121 ☎ (703) 780-2000 ✉ www.gwashington1999.org

TO ELLEN: FAX 303-6504

SALLY
703-799-8607

MEMORANDUM
OF CALL

Previous editions usable

TO:

MB JM

Sept

☐ YOU WERE CALLED BY— ☐ YOU WERE VISITED BY—

Barbara McAdams

OF (Organization)

Art News

☐ PLEASE PHONE ☐ DSN

212-398-1690

☐ WILL CALL AGAIN ☐ IS WAITING TO SEE YOU
☐ RETURNED YOUR CALL ☐ WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

Exclusive

legacy of HRC - plans for next
year - what HRC has collected? -
personality of HRC. Did piece 3 yrs
ago on Prez + Art.

2 mos. min lead time

RECEIVED BY <i>S</i>	DATE <i>7-27</i>	TIME <i>2:42</i>
-------------------------	---------------------	---------------------

NSN 7540-00-634-4018
50363-111
UNICOR FPI-SST

OPTIONAL FORM 363 (Rev. 7-94)
General Services Administration

MEMORANDUM
OF CALL

Previous editions usable

TO:

MB

☒ YOU WERE CALLED BY— ☐ YOU WERE VISITED BY—

Robin Cembalest

OF (Organization)

Editor - Art News

☒ PLEASE PHONE ☐ DSN

212-398-1690 x. 112

☐ WILL CALL AGAIN ☐ IS WAITING TO SEE YOU
☐ RETURNED YOUR CALL ☐ WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

Barbara McAdams
212-398-1690

RECEIVED BY <i>LMS</i>	DATE <i>7/23</i>	TIME <i>4:28</i>
---------------------------	---------------------	---------------------

NSN 7540-00-634-4018
50363-111
UNICOR FPI-SST

OPTIONAL FORM 363 (Rev. 7-94)
General Services Administration

To: Mrs. Clinton

From: Marsha Berry

Re: Stories for Art News and Art and Antiques

Date: June 10, 1998

Aug 27
Betty / Barbara
tour WH
3pm

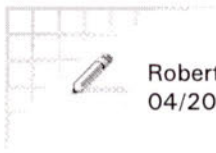
I mentioned to you about a week ago that I had spoken with Betty Monkman regarding the story outlines for both Art News and Art and Antiques. The idea is to offer them an opportunity to learn about your contributions to the White House and at the same time give them a look into the private White House. Since part of these interviews would be dealing with the residence, I want to make sure you are comfortable with the concepts. In addition to some time with you, both Betty Monkman and Kaki Hockersmith would be available to give background information. The hope is to meet with the reporters in July for their September publications.

Art News: For Art News we would show the breadth of your interest in art by focusing on the acquisitions and loans that have occurred during your tenure at the White House. In particular, we would talk about the process of acquiring art for the White House collection, the role of the Committee for Preservation of the White House and your efforts in raising the funds to complete the White House Endowment. This then leads directly into what has been acquired during the past five and one-half years and would give us the opportunity to talk about the Tanner and the O'Keeffe, but also to highlight some of the lesser known items like the two Childe Hassam paintings, the painting by Mrs. Wilson, and the William Draper painting of President Kennedy. In addition, we should highlight the modern art that is featured on the second floor and the Impressionist pieces that are in the dining room.

Art and Antiques: For Art and Antiques we would show the unique combination use of the White House as an executive mansion open to the public and also a functioning home by focusing on the blending of the permanent collection in with the personal art that is displayed in the residence. This would include personal and official gifts and also special collections like the letters from past presidents that are in the President's study. Some of the items Betty thought would be of interest are the President's collection of frogs and also the displays of icons, Mexican pots and wooden boxes. I think it would be important to address your effort to renovate and update the State Floor by highlighting the work that has been done in the Blue Room and in the Cross Hall. In addition the story of the Map Room is an interesting one. I also think your efforts to bring sculpture to the White House is important to highlight.

Please let me know your feelings about these ideas.

she
wants to
wait for
more



Roberta W. Greene
04/20/98 09:42:15 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Marsha E. Berry/WHO/EOP

cc:

Subject: Magazine Strategy

Kaki and I are getting concerned that even our revised magazine timetable is falling far behind. She will be in Washington again from late afternoon on April 29th until the morning of May 5th, and if she can get the airlines to cooperate, she can stay through the 6th - we should try to schedule some key meetings during that period. I know how busy you are, but if you and Kaki coordinate your calendars, she can make the necessary calls.

HRC is eager to move this process forward, so I'd like to have some appointments to report the next time she asks.

Thanks.

MARCH 19, 1998

MEMORANDUM TO MARSHA BERRY

FROM: KAKI HOCKERSMITH

RE: MAGAZINE MEETING

CC: Mrs. Clinton, Melanne Verveer, Bobbie Greene, Capricia Marshall

As a follow-up to our March 18 meeting I wanted to give you the names of the individuals at the publications we discussed who have expressed an interest in articles about our projects.

I liked Hillary's idea of flipping the order of the design pieces so that the more formal record of prominent spaces would be featured first and any more intimate story will be done at a time we deem appropriate.

There is an especially long lead time with Architectural Digest, so plans for such an article would have to begin now. As Hillary also pointed out, that time frame would allow us to complete the refurbishment of the State Dining Room and the Movie Theater.

I believe I told you about the rather undiplomatic handling of a proposed article in Architectural Digest in 1994. The name I have listed was involved at that time and is therefore the best initial contact.

Let's talk about scheduling meetings with the publishers or journalists so I can make economic travel plans. I look forward to working with you on these various projects.

Southern Accents

Melissa Bigner
1 (800) 366-4712 ext. 6386

✓ Art News

Barbara McAdam
(212) 398-1690

212/768-4002
768/4002

✓ Art and Antiques

Paula Rackow
212/752-5557

House and Garden

Wendy Moonan
(212) 880-8800 ext. 4705

Architectural Digest

Adele Cygleman
(213) 965-3713

Audio Visual Interiors

Maureen C. Jenson (818) 593-3900

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

WHITE HOUSE ACQUISITIONS

William J. Clinton Administration

January 20, 1993 - Present

FINE ARTS

Portraits

BARBARA PIERCE BUSH, 1925- .

Herbert E. Abrams, 1921- . Oil on canvas, 1994, 38 x 31 7/8.
Gift of Robert E. and Elizabeth W. Krueger. 995.1753.1

GEORGE HERBERT WALKER BUSH, 1924- .

Herbert E. Abrams, 1921- . Oil on canvas, 1994, 50 1/4 x 40 1/8.
Gift of Robert E. and Elizabeth W. Krueger. 995.1752.1

JAMES ABRAM GARFIELD, 1831-1881.

Unknown artist. Parian ware, possibly late 19th century,
15 3/4 x 11 1/4 x 6.

Gift of Mr. and Mrs. John L. Sanders in honor of Ben M.
Jones III. 994.1740.1

* JOHN F. KENNEDY, 1917-1963.

William Franklin Draper, 1912- . Oil on canvas, 1962,
30 x 25 1/16.
Gift of the White House Historical Association. 996.1764.1

* DOLLEY PAYNE TODD MADISON (Mrs. James Madison), 1768-1849.

Gilbert Stuart, 1755-1828. Oil on canvas, 1804, 29 3/16 x 24 1/8.
Gift of the Walter H. and Phyllis J. Shorenstein Foundation
in memory of Phyllis J. Shorenstein. 994.1737.1

JOHN TYLER, 1790-1862,

after Mathew B. Brady (photograph), c.1823-1896.
wood engraving, from Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper,
February 16, 1861, 9 7/8 x 6 1/8 (page - 16 1/2 x 11 1/4).
Entitled, Hon. John Tyler, Ex-President of the United States and
President of the Peace Convention Now Sitting in Washington.
Gift of Ed Hotaling. 993.1730.1

Portraits (continued)

DANIEL WEBSTER, 1782-1852.

Unknown artist. Marble, possibly mid-19th century,
5 3/4 x 3 5/8 x 2 7/8.

Gift of Mr. and Mrs. John L. Sanders in honor of Stephen Neal
Dennis. 993.1726.1

Other Paintings and Prints

CHILDE HASSAM, 1859-1935.

Seascape; oil on canvas, 1900, 18 3/16 x 22 in.
Bequest of Alice Tully.

996.1768.1

CHILDE HASSAM, 1859-1935.

Street Scene in Winter (Snowstorm, New York);
oil on canvas, 1901, 16 1/2 x 12 1/2 in.
Bequest of Alice Tully.

996.1767.1

GEORGIA O'KEEFFE, 1887-1986.

Bear Lake, New Mexico; oil on canvas, 1930, 30 x 40 in.

Gift of the Georgia O'Keeffe Foundation and William D. Rollnick
and Nancy Ellison Rollnick. 997.1770.1

WILLIAM HENRY POWELL (attributed), 1823(?) - 1879.

Emigrant Scene; oil on canvas, c.1837, 37 x 61.

Gift of the White House Historical Association. 995.1745.1

NORMAN ROCKWELL, 1894-1978.

Statue of Liberty; oil on panel, 1946, 21 1/2 x 16 15/16.

Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Steven A. Spielberg - S.A.M. Trust.
994.1742.1

HENRY OSSAWA TANNER, 1859-1937.

Sand Dunes at Sunset, Atlantic City; oil on canvas, c.1886,
30 3/16 x 59 7/16.

Gift of the White House Endowment Fund. 995.1759.1

ELLEN AXSON WILSON (Mrs. Woodrow Wilson), 1860-1914.

Princeton Landscape; oil on canvas, c.1913, 12 x 16.

Gift of Eleanor Axson Sayre. 995.1758.1

White House Scenes

ALBERT BERGHAUS, ?-?.

X Miss Lanes Reception; pencil on paper, 1860, 6 7/8 x 10 1/8 in.
Southeast view of a Blue Room reception, February 22, 1860, with
President James Buchanan's niece/hostess Harriet Lane at center;
illustrator's notes front and reverse; used for wood engraving
in Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, March 10, 1860.
Gift of the White House Historical Association. 996.1763.1

after C. BUNNELL, dates unknown.

Washington, D.C. - The White House Kitchen - Preparing Dinner;
wood engraving, from Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper,
April 6, 1889, 6 9/16 x 8 7/8 (page - 15 13/16 x 11 5/16).
East view with four male chefs at island before wall ovens.
Gift of Ed Hotaling. 993.1731.1

X JULES GUERIN, 1866-1946.

White House, West Terrace; pencil and gouache on canvas mounted
on board, 1903, 28 7/8 x 20 1/4. View along the south side of
the West Terrace to the newly constructed West Wing office
building; executed as a 1903 Century Magazine illustration and
reproduced in the official government report of the THEODORE
ROOSEVELT Renovation of the White House, 1902-1903.
Gift of the Class of 1965, Maine East/Maine South High Schools,
Park Ridge, Illinois, in honor of Hillary Rodham Clinton.
993.1735.1

JOSEPH PENNELL, 1860-1926.

The Cabinet Room; ink on paper, 1881, 10 1/4 x 16.
Northeast view of the current Treaty Room with the Grant cabinet
table and chairs at center.
U.S. Government purchase. 996.1761.1

JOSEPH PENNELL, 1860-1926.

The White House, by Night; ink, wash, and gouache on paper
mounted on board, c.1881-1884, 16 x 20. North front;
used as illustration for "The White House" by E.V. Smalley,
The Century Magazine, April 1884.
Gift of the White House Historical Association. 993.1724.1

after THURE DE THULSTRUP, 1848-1930,
after W.M. ROUZEE, dates unknown.

A 'Powwow' at the White House; hand-colored wood engraving,
from Harper's Weekly, January 22, 1881, 11 x 9 1/8
(page - 15 7/8 x 11 1/16). Cover; President and Mrs. Hayes seated
in East Room before rows of seated Indians and onlooking crowd.
Gift of Gordon S. Freesman. 993.1729.1

White House Scenes (continued)

GUY C. WIGGINS, 1883-1962.

The White House in Spring; oil on canvas, c.1940,
24 1/2 x 29 1/2. South view.

U.S. Government purchase.

996.1762.1

after UNKNOWN ARTIST.

Miss Lane's Conservatory, at the White House, Washington;
hand-colored wood engraving, from Frank Leslie's Illustrated
Newspaper, March 27, 1858, 7 3/4 x 10 5/8. Two women standing
in the long wood-and-glass conservatory built in 1857 atop the
west terrace; plants banked at sides and under central column-
supported ridge-beam.

U.S. Government purchase.

998.1773.1

after UNKNOWN ARTIST.

A Presidential Reception at the White House, Washington.;
hand-colored wood engraving, from Harper's Weekly,
March 13, 1858, 9 3/8 x 13 5/8 (page - 15 5/8 x 10 1/2).
President Buchanan in the East Room. Signed "JRC" (?) in plate
lower left.

Gift of Gordon S. Freesman.

993.1728.1

MANUSCRIPTS

LETTER, written on personalized Executive Mansion note stationery
by FRANCES FOLSOM CLEVELAND, undated (1886-89 or 1893-97).

Requests aid of "a few young ladies to assist... at my Public
Reception... in the Blue Parlor".

Gift of James J. Cunningham and Family.

993.1725.2

DOCUMENTARY MATERIALS

DRAWING, watercolor on paper, 1927, New York, Tiffany Studios.
Design for 1927 Green Room rug; lower right quadrant with
Presidential Arms as oval center medallion, executed as
circular medallion on extant rug 927.1574.1; scrolls on green
field; tied laurel as medallion frame and border.

Gift of the White House Historical Association.

995.1755.1

DRAWING, watercolor on paper, 1927, New York, Tiffany Studios.
Design for 1927 Red Room rug; full image with Great Seal
as circular center medallion, executed as Presidential Arms
on extant rug 927.1576.1; scrolls on red field; tied laurel
as medallion frame and border.

Gift of the White House Historical Association and C.G. Sloan &
Co., Inc.

995.1756.1

DOCUMENTARY MATERIALS (continued)

MAP, published map with overlays, 1945, Washington.

☆ "Estimated German Situation 1 May 1945" - last World War II situation map prepared for President FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, April 3 in the Map Room of the White House; National Geographic Society map of Europe with red tape overlays on clear plastic casing showing territory remaining under German control.

Gift of George M. Elsey. 993.1734.1

MEMORABILIA AND EPHEMERA

BOOKENDS, pair, plaster and pine, c.1950, Washington, D.C. Materials removed during the Truman Renovation; scrolled acanthus-faced white-painted plaster modillion from the 1902 ceiling of the State Dining Room; base of unfinished old White House pine bearing official brass souvenir plaque.

Gift of William G. Allman, in memory of Milton B. Allman. 996.1760.1-2

CALLING CARD, partly printed, signed on reverse by ROSE ELIZABETH CLEVELAND, sister and hostess (1885-86) for President Grover Cleveland, January 18, 1886.

Gift of James J. Cunningham and Family. 993.1725.1

INVITATION, partly printed, to Senator John Ruggles of Maine for a Christmas Eve "Evening Party" at the White House, probably 1835 under President ANDREW JACKSON.

U.S. Government purchase. 993.1723.1

PROGRAM, printed paper, 1865, Washington.

"Order of the Procession" for the funeral of President ABRAHAM LINCOLN, April 19, 1865.

Gift of Gordon S. Freesman. 993.1733.1

PRINTED MATERIALS

NEWSPAPERS, The Court Journal, Washington, D.C., January 13-March 28, 1849. Vol.1, Nos. 1-9, modern collective binding; includes serialized "The Washington Court Etiquette".

Gift of Gordon S. Freesman. 994.1738.1

FURNITURE

Chairs

SIDE CHAIRS, pair, mahogany, c.1760-1789, Philadelphia.

* Flat pierced splat; fluted stiles; cabriole front legs on ball-and-claw feet; slip seat; believed used by Presidents GEORGE WASHINGTON and JOHN ADAMS in the presidential residences in New York and Philadelphia.

Gift of The Barra Foundation, Inc.

994.1736.1-2

SIDE CHAIR, mahogany, c.1800-1810, New York, attributed to the workshop of Duncan Phyfe.

Crest rail carved with bow-tied wheat; reeded stiles, double-cross splat, concave cross rail, bell seat, and turned tapered front legs; plain sabre rear legs; original upholstery structure. Transfer from Statue of Liberty National Monument. 994.1743.1

SIDE CHAIRS, two pairs, maple, c.1877, New York, probably made by R.J. Horner.

Imitation bamboo; from a suite used in the bedroom of President and Mrs. Rutherford B. Hayes.

Gift of the White House Historical Association.

995.1746.1-4

Tables

A+A CARD TABLE, mahogany, c.1815-1820, Boston or Salem.

* D-shaped swivel top; spread-winged eagle pedestal; abacus plinth on winged paw feet; mate to or from same shop as 972.898.1.

U.S. Government purchase.

996.1769.1

DINING TABLE, mahogany and maple, 1997, Berryville, Virginia, made by Mack S. Headley & Sons.

Seven pedestals - five rectangular and two rounded - with eleven leaves; satinwood-stained maple crossbanding; turned shaft carved with two rings of ribbon-tied rods; reeded cyma-curved legs with brass paw casters.

Gift of the White House Historical Association.

P97.H03825.1

PIER TABLE, mahogany, mirror glass, marble, c.1820, Philadelphia. Rectangular; gilt metal musical mounts on apron; gilt-mounted turned front columns and plain pilasters on shelf; gilded wooden feet - heavy front paws, rear balls; white marble top.

Transfer from Statue of Liberty National Monument. 994.1744.1

Clocks

TALL CASE CLOCK, cherry/brass weight-driven movement, c.1794, East Windsor, Connecticut, works by Daniel Burnap. Upswept pediment on arched bonnet; fluted finial blocks, colonettes, and quarter columns; engraved brass dial; six-tune musical chimes; serpentine top on waist door; bracket feet. Gift of Eleanor B. Lewis. 995.1757.1

LIGHTING FIXTURES

SINUMBRA LAMPS, pair, bronze, gilded bronze, and cut and frosted glass, c.1820, France. Shaft with reeded column and leaf cups separated by gilt leafy moldings; tripod of swag-draped paw-footed legs on triangular platform; frosted shade with clear leaf-cut and hatched reserves. Gift of the White House Historical Association. 998.1774.1-2

SINUMBRA LAMPS, pair, painted and gilded brass, iron, and cut and frosted glass, c.1825, France. Green reeded shaft between gilded urn capital and vasiform base; squat frosted shade with clear leaf-cut and hatched reserves. Gift of the White House Historical Association. 997.1772.1-2

CERAMICS

Presidential

DESSERT PLATES (one deep, one flat), porcelain, 1817, Paris, made by Pierre Louis Dagoty and Edouard D. Honore. From the JAMES MONROE state dessert service; amaranth band with decorative reserves of Agriculture, Commerce, Arts, Sciences, and Strength; American eagle emblem at center. Bequest of Jacqueline S. Davis. 993.1727.1-2

DESSERT PLATE, porcelain, 1846, Paris, France, by Edouard D. Honore. Apple green rim with raised scalloped edge; reserve with shield of the United States; white center painted with roses. From the state service of President JAMES K. POLK. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Walsh. 997.1771.1

DESSERT/FRUIT PLATE, porcelain, 1879-1880, Limoges, France, made by Haviland & Co., designed by Theodore R. Davis. From the RUTHERFORD B. HAYES State Service; leaf-shaped; "The Studio", New Jersey beach bathhouse used by Davis. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Milton B. Allman. 995.1750.1

CERAMICS (continued)

★ *Supplemental piece*
DINNER SERVICE, porcelain, 1995, Pomona, New Jersey, Lenox.
Reproductions of F.D. Roosevelt State Service made by Lenox in
1934; 2352 pieces of 13 select types (8 plates, 7 cups and
saucers) ordered to raise usable quantities to 220; gilt stars
on narrow cobalt blue edge; polychrome Presidential Arms on rim.
Gift of the White House Endowment Fund. 995.1765.1-13

★
SERVICE PLATES, porcelain, 1995-1996, Pomona, New Jersey, Lenox.
Reproductions of Woodrow Wilson State Service plates made by
Lenox in 1918; 139 ordered to raise usable quantities to 220;
cobalt blue rim; gilt Presidential Arms at center.
Gift of the White House Endowment Fund. 996.1766.1

TEA PLATE, porcelain, 1873, Limoges, France,
made by Haviland & Co.
From the Grant re-order of the ABRAHAM LINCOLN State Service;
solferino "royal purple" rim; eagle emblem at center.
Gift of William G. Allman. 995.1749.1

GLASSWARE

Presidential

ICE CREAM PLATE, cut glass, 1892-1906, made by C. Dorflinger &
Sons, White Plains, Pa., or T.G. Hawkes, Corning, New York.
From the BENJAMIN HARRISON State Service or re-orders; Russian
pattern; Presidential arms on rim.
Gift of William G. Allman. 995.1751.1

Other

GOBLET, engraved and cut ruby-stained glass, c.1840-1860,
Bohemia.
Engraved southwest view entitled "The President's House./
Washington.", after popular prints from H. Brown
drawing, c.1831; red-trimmed clear faceted bowl and foot.
Gift of the White House Historical Association. 993.1721.1

TANKARD, engraved ruby-stained glass, c.1840-1860, Bohemia.
Southwest view, entitled "The Presidents House Washington",
after popular prints from H. Brown drawing, c.1831.
Gift of the Gordon Freesman Family. 993.1722.1

GLASSWARE (continued)

VASE, engraved glass, c.1932-1939, Corning, New York, by Steuben Glass, designed by Frederick Carder (1864-1963). "Strawberry Mansion" pattern; engraved with festoons around rim and eagle atop circle-inscribed star; urn-shaped; square pedestal; matches 940.1170-1173 and 940.3548.1. Gift of John J. Riordan. 994.1739.1

METALWARE

FLATWARE, gilded silver and steel with pearl (knives) and gilded silver (forks and spoons), 1993-1994, Baltimore, made by Kirk Stieff Co. Supplements to selected types of existing flatware (fish knives; fish, dessert, salad, and oyster forks; soup, bouillon, and tea spoons) and two new types (salad knives and dessert spoons), to create gilded dinner service for 150 (684 pieces); ordered in 1992 to honor the 200th anniversary of the laying of the cornerstone of the White House. U.S. Government purchase. 994.1741.1-10

TIEBACKS, set of eight, gilded brass, c.1825-1850, American. Hollowcast oval plate; hook through shield framed by star-studded drapery; spread-winged eagle perched on drapery rod; oak leaves frame sun rays dependent from top screw hole. U.S. Government purchase. 995.1754.1-8

TRAYS, set of 12, silver, 1996, Baltimore, by Kirk Stieff. Simple oblong octagonal body; customized handles - spread-winged eagle perched on edge with classical oak and laurel at talons; face engraved "President's House". Gift of the White House Historical Association. P96.M03800.1-12

TEXTILES

Rugs

MODERN, wool, 1993, Grand Rapids, Michigan, by Scott Group, designed by Scalamandre, 30.3 x 23.2. Oval; dark blue field centering full-color Presidential Coat-of-Arms encircled by fifty white stars and gold rope band; green olive branches and gold laurel wreaths on border with rope banding; made for the Oval Office. Gift of an anonymous donor. 993.1732.1

TEXTILES (continued)

MODERN, wool, 1994, New York, made by Edward Fields, Inc., center - 23.4 x 30.7; ends - 15.10-16.0 x 23.4. Three pieces in Adamesque style, largely derived from the 1951 plasterwork of the East Room ceiling; colors derived from Robert Adam rug designs, 1769-1775.
Gift of the White House Endowment Fund P95.T03732.1-4

MODERN, wool, 1995, Hendersonville, North Carolina, made by Spinning Wheel Rugs for Stark Carpet Corporation, 23.7 x 33.1. Oval; adapted from English design c.1815; blue field covered with gold rosettes; large circular center medallion; bellflower bands; border with acanthus cups, anthemias, and scrolls matching the medallion center; made for the Blue Room.
Gift of the White House Endowment Fund. P95.T03733.1

MODERN, wool, 1997, New York, by Edward Fields. For Cross Hall and Grand Staircase, with receiving line carpet and runners for North Portico; red field; gold border with gold pinnate branches extending from leaf cups adjoining red-ringed gold star; design derived from the 1952 metal grill on the Grand Staircase and metal wall mounts in Napoleon's library (1810) at the Chateau de Compiègne; plain red rug for Usher's Office.
Gift of the White House Endowment Fund. P97.T03826.1-9

SAVONNERIE, wool, 1997, Hendersonville, North Carolina, made by Spinning Wheel Rugs, 23 x 15. Two enlarged reproductions of c.1815 French Savonnerie rug (961.154.1); classical botanical center medallion encircled by heavy band of roses and daisies; leaf-and-berry lines linking scrolls on beige field; red-boxed green rosettes on border; made for the Red Room.
Gift of the White House Endowment Fund. P97.T03804.1-2

Other

QUILT, silk, velvet, and other fabrics, c.1893-1904, Washington, D.C., made by A.E. Kennedy firm. Patterned patchwork face made of fragments from decorative work done for the White House by A.E. Kennedy, c.1893-1904; medallion-centered diamonds; border of strips.
Gift of the White House Historical Association. 995.1747.1

PILLOW CASE, silk, velvet, and other fabrics, c.1893-1904, Washington, D.C., made by A.E. Kennedy firm. Random patchwork face made of fragments from decorative work done for the White House by A.E. Kennedy, c.1893-1904.
Gift of the White House Historical Association. 995.1748.1

MISCELLANEOUS

WOODWORK, 1817 and 1902, American.

Original White House material including shutters, returns, chair rail, and paneling (1350 cubic feet) removed in 1949 during the Truman Renovation; from storage at Knipp & Co., Inc., Baltimore, the woodwork subcontractor.

Gift of the White House Historical Association. P96.B03803.1

Addendum to Discussion Document

Submitted by Kaki Hockersmith

January 8, 1998

Proposed Print Media Coverage Timetable

Summer 1998

House & Garden or House Beautiful

"At Home with the Clintons"

This major design-driven piece would feature a warm personal story about the President's family at home including:

Family Room with the President, First Lady and Chelsea
Solarium
Guest Bedrooms (2)
Music Room with the President
Family Dining Room with the First Lady

✓ **ARTnews**

"New Acquisitions at The White House"

This news story would focus on recent acquisitions and the reframing of paintings from The White House collection in period frames. Quotes from the First Lady, the Curator's office and members of the Committee for the Preservation of The White House could be included.

*for fall
maybe July*

To further enhance this coverage and reach a larger target market, complementary stories should be developed for major top ten newspapers including *The New York Times*, *The Chicago Tribune* and other newspapers as well as wire services.

Fall 1998

✓ *Art & Antiques*

"White House Treasures"

A major feature on the art and antiques of The White House would include interviews with the First Lady and Kaki Hockersmith. The focus would be on the "co-mingling" of the permanent collection with the President and First Lady's personal collection, State gifts, new acquisitions, etc.

choice pieces
new art, antiques acquired
new things from stage, refurbishing

✓ *Winter 1998*

Town & Country or House & Garden or House Beautiful

"The White House Sculpture Garden"

This major feature would introduce readers to The White House Sculpture Garden and its uses including entertaining in the East and West Gardens.

Audio Visual Interiors

An insider's look at the music room and movie theater at The White House, with key design trade details including research, product selection, construction, etc.

Spring 1999

Ladies Home Journal

"Memories at The White House"

This major feature would focus on the personal/decorative treasures at The White House belonging to the President and First Lady. An interview with the First Lady would include her reflections on their personal collection of boxes, frogs, etc. as well as souvenirs and mementos from their travels around the world.

Summer 1999

Better Homes and Gardens

"Entertaining at The White House"

A detailed pictorial of how the Clintons entertain their guests. Rather than major events, personal entertaining both casually and formally would be the focus. To make the story accessible to readers, recipes and directions for floral arrangements would be included so that readers can replicate some of the menu and decorations at home. Quotes from the First Lady and Capricia Marshall would add to the impact of this piece. **This article will be timed to reinforce the book.**

Fall 1999

Architectural Digest

"The Clinton White House"

The story would unveil a definitive look at the completed Clinton White House for public record and would include the following locations:

- Blue Room
- Cross Hall
- State Dining Room with the President and First Lady
- Movie Theater
- Second Floor Center Hall
- Yellow Oval/Truman Balcony with the President and First Lady
- Lincoln Bedroom (if redone)
- Queen's Bedroom
- Guest Rooms on Third Floor (2)
- Master Bedroom
- Treaty Room with the President

To further enhance this coverage and to target a larger audience, complementary articles should be arranged in the home/style sections of *The Washington Post*, *The Los Angeles Times* and other top ten newspapers as well as with wire services. Story angles could include interviews with Kaki Hockersmith from the perspective of designing in a "living museum." These stories should be timed to coincide with the publication of the *Architectural Digest* feature and should reference them.

Need to meet with *Architectural Digest* about proposed article. Reach an agreement with them about general content and time frame. Make them aware that there are other articles planned related to the House. Our goal is for the *Architectural Digest* piece to be the final, comprehensive look at the most important design projects. We are positioning the best for last. The prestigious State Floor and residential refurbishment's will be reserved for *Architectural Digest*.

Proposed Print Media Coverage Timetable

Summer 1998

House & Garden or House Beautiful

At home with the Clintons.

ARTnews

Acquisitions/reframing of paintings.

Fall 1998

Art & Antiques

Tasteful display of decorative items from the permanent collection with personal collections, State gifts, new acquisitions, etc.

Spring 1998

Town & Country or House & Garden

Introduce the Sculpture Garden and entertaining in the Gardens.

Audio Visual Interiors

Look at the Music Room and Movie Theater

Spring 1999

Ladies Home Journal

Focus on personal/decorative treasures belonging to the President and First Lady.
ie: Personal collections-travel mementos and gifts

Entertaining Book

Southern Accents

Features special parties in each issue--could do something timed with our book

Summer 1999

Better Homes and Gardens

Focus on the Clintons entertaining.

Fall 1999

Architectural Digest

"The Clinton White House"

A more formal record of projects regarding state rooms and rooms within the residence which are more formal or of historic significance.

Spring 2000

Television Tour

Timed with 200th Anniversary of The White House

Sculpture Garden Book

KEY PUBLICATIONS

Architectural Digest

Total Audience: 2,761,000 (57% women, 43% men)

Media Age: 43.5

As the category's most distinguished publication, *Architectural Digest* is capable of providing lengthy and substantive feature coverage in a formal manner. It provides an excellent opportunity to show The White House renovations as a matter of public record. In the past, I have found them to be very concerned about the issue of exclusives.

House Beautiful

Total Audience: 3,573,000 (75.6% women, 24.4% men)

Median Age: 43.1

Perceived to have a younger demographic and published by Hearst Magazine group, this magazine is capable of producing the "glitziest" coverage. When the Guggenheim Museum reopened in New York City, they did an entire issue devoted to Frank Lloyd Wright. Publisher Lou Gropp loves the arts and culture and is committed to giving extensive coverage to the subject.

House & Garden

Total Audience: 2,100,000

Media Age: 43

This Conde Nast publication reopened with the September 1996 issue, after going out of publication in July, 1993. The new *House & Garden* is trying to present a high level of taste in a way that is more accessible and approachable than *Architectural Digest*.

Town & Country

Total Audience: 3,370,000

Media Age: 43

This Hearst publication consistently provides excellent, positive arts coverage. Executive Editor Philip Herrera provides substantial and lengthy articles on numerous art, design and cultural subjects.

Overview of Key Books

Designs on The White House

This coffee table book would chronicle, through numerous photographs and designer illustrations, the history of design in The White House during this century and up until the Clinton White House. The focus of the book would be on the professional designers who have contributed their expertise to The White House and their relationships with the first families of The White House.

For a historical perspective on design, the book will feature comparisons of each First Family's styles and different uses of the rooms. Highlights would include a magnificent selection of photography of the renovations, and many historical anecdotes about the inhabitants of The White House.

Brief anecdotes from the 19th century inhabitants such as Mary Todd Lincoln, James Monroe, and Dolley Madison would be included in the introduction. The last chapter would be a teaser of The Clinton Years.

White House Design: The Clinton Years

This pictorial coffee table book would take a personal approach to the design and renovation of a selection of rooms in The White House at the end of the century. The reader will become involved in the making of design decisions, with a blend of both the serious and humorous side of decorating this "living museum."

A major focus of the book will be the participation of the President and the First Lady in the design process. Anecdotes from the First Family including direct quotes from the President and First Lady will personalize the story. Special emphasis will be made on how design decisions respect the traditions of White House design yet emphasize the personal style of the Clintons.

Key chapters will focus on the details of the design process including: White House historical design research, the selection of materials and products, working with White House staff as well as the issues of funding and the role of politics. An overview of the taste and style of the First Family will feature an insider's look at life in The White House. The Clinton's style will be highlighted through photography and descriptions of their family rooms, entertaining ideas and art collection. (Kaki can we add something about Socks and Buddy?)

The White House Sculpture Garden

This coffee table book will feature the history of The White House Sculpture Garden, providing an overview of 20th century sculpture in the context of The White House Sculpture Garden exhibitions.

The book would begin with an introduction by the First lady, highlighting her interest in 20th century sculpture, her participation in the garden exhibitions and her reflections on meeting the sculptors and living with the sculpture. The book should include essays by several curators from major museums who have been active in curating the exhibitions. All of the artwork shown will be carefully documented through photography as well as biographies and photographs of the artists, titles, dates and materials used in each work.

A discussion of the many events that have been held in the sculpture garden will give readers further perspective on the uses of The White House Sculpture Garden. Anecdotes by the First Family and some of their guests expressing their appreciation of the sculpture garden will add a personal tone to the book.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 16, 1998

MEMORANDUM

TO: MARSHA BERRY

FROM: BETTY C. MONKMAN *BCM*

SUBJECT: Publications on residence

Enclosed is a list of all objects which have been acquired for the White House during the Clinton administration.

I spoke with the Gift Unit about the gifts from foreign heads of state on the second floor (Yellow Oval Room, Queen's Room, East Sitting Hall and the Second Floor Corridor). A list for inhouse use can be generated so the pieces can be identified. Many of them are arranged by type of object such as silver, icons, wood boxes, etc.

There are groups of personal objects which belong to President and Mrs. Clinton in the West Sitting Hall, their sitting room west of the Yellow Oval Room and in the President's Treaty Room office.

Among the historic items which were brought back to the house for use by President and Mrs. Clinton are:

The table used by President Clinton as a desk in the Treaty Room. This table was purchased in 1869 as the Cabinet table and was used as such until 1902. It has been used for several historic treaty signings.

Furnishings in the Lincoln Sitting Room including chairs with Lincoln association, a copy of the desk on which the Monroe doctrine was signed, and a table, sofa and chair used in the Green Room in the late 19th century.

Several paintings by Paul Cezanne which had not been on view were selected for the Second Floor Corridor and West Sitting Hall. Mrs. Clinton also borrowed two 20th century works - by de Kooning and Kandinsky - for the corridor and chose several American Impressionist paintings for the President's Dining Room and other spaces on the second floor.

To Marsha

Date _____ Time 4:40

WHILE YOU WERE OUT

M Isolde

of Life Magazine

Phone 212-522-5587 → 5587

Area Code Number Extension

TELEPHONED	PLEASE CALL	☒
CALLED TO SEE YOU	WILL CALL AGAIN	☐
WANTS TO SEE YOU	URGENT	☐

RETURNED YOUR CALL ☐

Message _____

Here until 6:30pm

stop Dinner?

NATC *APRIL* *June piece*

Operator



23-023 CARBONLESS
48 HOURS TOO??

*Julie covering
HOLD*

Memorandum to Marsha Berry and Ellen Lovell

From: Sharon Kennedy Gill
Date: October 22, 1998
Re: Requests from LIFE Magazine

Attached please find a request, forwarded to us by POTUS Press, from LIFE Magazine to do a behind the scenes at the White House. Capricia would like to discuss with you the possibility of LIFE photographing the behind the scenes for National Medal of Arts and National Humanities Medal ceremony on 11/5 and the Sculpture Garden reception on 11/6.

Please let us know what you think. Many thanks!



Isolde Motley
Managing Editor

Time Inc.

Life
Time & Life Building
Rockefeller Center
New York, NY 10020-1393

212-522-5587

To: Shanonnely-Gel
thanks!
Press Office

Mike McCurry
Press Secretary
The White House
Upper Press Office
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C.

28 September 1998

Dear Mr. McCurry:

Part of LIFE's mandate has always been to show that "life goes on." In that vein, we would like to do a story on the routine workings of the White House. We would be particularly interested in the background preparation for a state event, but we would be perfectly happy with a day in which nothing much out of the ordinary happens.

We request access for a 12-hour period for a photographer (Harry Benson, who has shot Mr. and Mrs. Clinton in the past), and a reporter (Claudia Dowling). We need no in-depth interview time, but we would ask those photographed to contribute a one-line description of their duties on the day in question.

We would like to schedule the story for our December issue; deadline for photography is October 15. Do call with any questions or concerns; it would be helpful if we could hear from you by October 2. I can be reached at 212.522.5587, by email at isolde_motley@lifedit.com, or through my assistant at 212.522.3845.

Yours sincerely



Isolde Motley

Memorandum to Marsha Berry and Ellen Lovell

From: Sharon Kennedy Gill
Date: October 22, 1998
Re: Requests from LIFE Magazine

Attached please find a request, forwarded to us by POTUS Press, from LIFE Magazine to do a behind the scenes at the White House. Capricia would like to discuss with you the possibility of LIFE photographing the behind the scenes for National Medal of Arts and National Humanities Medal ceremony on 11/5 and the Sculpture Garden reception on 11/6.

Please let us know what you think. Many thanks!

✓ cc: Capricia

Sharon - HS but
take to mom.

LIFE

Isolde Motley
Managing Editor

Time Inc.

Life
Time & Life Building
Rockefeller Center
New York, NY 10020-1393

212-522-5587

To: Sharon Kennedy-Gill

thanks!

Press Office

Mike McCurry
Press Secretary
The White House
Upper Press Office
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C.

28 September 1998

Dear Mr. McCurry:

Part of LIFE's mandate has always been to show that "life goes on." In that vein, we would like to do a story on the routine workings of the White House. We would be particularly interested in the background preparation for a state event, but we would be perfectly happy with a day in which nothing much out of the ordinary happens.

We request access for a 12-hour period for a photographer (Harry Benson, who has shot Mr. and Mrs. Clinton in the past), and a reporter (Claudia Dowling). We need no in-depth interview time, but we would ask those photographed to contribute a one-line description of their duties on the day in question.

We would like to schedule the story for our December issue; deadline for photography is October 15. Do call with any questions or concerns; it would be helpful if we could hear from you by October 2. I can be reached at 212.522.5587, by email at isolde_motley@lifeedit.com, or through my assistant at 212.522.3845.

Yours sincerely


Isolde Motley

THE WHITE HOUSE

Marsha -

Isn't it a little late to
be reviewing the book?

Will you double his
request to come on out?

Thanks

Alvin

Jules -
There might be
something we could
invite this guy to.
Your call!
M

artsindiana

THE MAGAZINE CONNECTING YOU TO THE
LITERARY, PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS

THE MAJESTIC BUILDING

47 SOUTH PENNSYLVANIA STREET SUITE 701

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204-3623

PHONE: 317.632.7894

FAX: 317.632.7966

Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

Charles W. Saunders

VICE PRESIDENT

Helen O'Guinn

SECRETARY

Nancy DiLauro

TREASURER

Janis E. Stoddard-Smith

Rodney Abscone

Kristin Pruehwald

John Harcourt

Matthias S. Hollingworth

Peter Jacobi

Brian Payne

Dorit Paul

Jan Rubin

Thomas A. Sargent

James W. Sharp

Robert J. Shula

Joyce Sommare

Richard Turner

Bret Waller

State Council

PRESIDENT

Lee Marks

Shelbyville

Jeanne Lee

Anderson

Sue Landske

Cedar Lake

Deborah Loughrey

Columbus

Thomas L. Neat

Elkhart

Joyce Rivers

Evansville

John H. Shoaff

Barbara Taylor

Fort Wayne

Charles E. Mitchell Rentschler

Hattsville

Bruce Leep

Highland

Randall T. Shepard

L. Gene Tenner

Gene Wilkins

Evans Woollen

Indianapolis

Peter Woodburn

Madison

James A. Chism

Mishawaka

David Surza

Muncie

Peter Lombardo Jr.

Notre Dame

Wayne Vincent

Richmond

Dennis Ichiyama

Kendall S. Smith II

Sharon Smith-Thobald

West Lafayette

National Council

Bill Blase

Robert Indiana

Peggy Lear

Angelo Pizzo

Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.

8 Jan. 1999

Office of First Lady

Via Telecopier 202-456-5199

I am writing to seek contact information to request a review copy from Touchstone Books, the publisher of *It Takes a Village: And Other Lessons Children Teach Us*, by Hillary Rodham Clinton. I am also seeking contact information to request a review copy from Vital Issues Press which published *The First Lady: A Comprehensive View of Hillary Rodham Clinton*, by Peter Flaherty and Timothy Flaherty.

Arts Indiana Magazine is also interested in researching an article about the literary, performing, and visual arts in the White House. Could you refer me to sources of information regarding visual art exhibited there and upcoming performances and if there would an opportunity for a reporter and photographer to cover an event. For literary arts in the White House, I am interested in knowing favorite picks or recommendations of the First Family, if that information is available and appropriate.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Mark L. Eutsler, Program Manager



ONE CNN CENTER, Box 105366, Atlanta, GA 30348-5366
(404) 827-1500

November 12, 1998

Hillary Rodham Clinton
First Lady of the United States
c/o Marsha Berry
Director of Communications for First Lady
Old Executive Office Building
Room 100
Washington, DC 20502

*Just -
this
the CNN
millennium
guy.*

VIA FAX (202) 456-78051

Dear Mrs. Clinton:

The dawn of a new millennium is upon us.

To mark the coming of the new century, CNN is launching a new series of provocative, enlightening and often surprising features that will provide fresh perspectives on the millennium from the voices of our time. Through the roads that led us from the Industrial Age and onto the Information Superhighway, to the ideas that have shaped our lifestyles and our lives, the "Voices of the Millennium" series will reflect the greatest events of the Twentieth Century. And they will feature the insights of the century's top one hundred newsmakers.

We would like you to be part of this unique series.

The two-minute feature segments will air six times each weekday starting January 1st, 1999 on CNN and CNN International, the world's only truly global news network. Combined, CNN and CNNI are seen in 210 countries and territories and 184 million households.

If you agree to the interview, we would need to schedule a 15-minute taping in the next two months. A television crew would be sent to a site to be determined by you. Alternatively, we could arrange a studio interview. Please call Beth Lewandowski at (404) 827-1861 with any questions. She will be in touch with your press office to arrange the details.

I hope you will choose to participate in this epic millennium program.

Sincerely Yours,

David W. Nuckolls
Executive Producer
CNN, Inc.

Ambrica Productions

225 Lafayette Street, Suite 1106

New York, NY 10012

212-925-5170

Fax: 212-941-1585

E-mail: ambrica@mindspring.com

FAX TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

Date: June 22, 1999

To: Ms. Julie Mason
First Lady's Press Office
White House

Fax: 202-456-7805

Re: ELEANOR ROOSEVELT documentary

Sender: Sue Williams

YOU SHOULD RECEIVE 1 PAGE(S), INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET. IF
YOU DO NOT RECEIVE ALL THE PAGES, PLEASE CALL 212-925-5170.

Dear Julie:

We just got our footage back from the shoot and it's beautiful. It's going to add a lot of life to our sequences on Eleanor Roosevelt's life during her White House years.

Thank you very much for making it possible for us to film at the White House last week. It was a wonderful experience, and we really appreciate all the time and assistance you gave us. Please also pass on our thanks to your colleagues.

Best wishes,



Sue Williams
Producer/Director

DAY

- DRIVEWAY AT HOUSE
- ROSE GARDEN
- SW UP TO HOUSE
- BLUE ROOM OUT

NIGHT

1. SW UP TO HOUSE (830-9PM ONLY)
2. ROSE NORTH PORTICO

*deadline
end of
June*

Ambrica Productions

225 Lafayette Street, Suite 1106
New York, NY 10012
212-925-5170
Fax: 212-941-1585
E-mail: ambrica2@mindspring.com

FAX TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

Date: June 1, 1999
To: Julie Mason
White House Press Office
Fax: 202-456-7805
Re: Shot list for Eleanor Roosevelt Documentary
Sender: Sue Williams

YOU SHOULD RECEIVE 2 PAGE(S), INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET. IF
YOU DO NOT RECEIVE ALL THE PAGES, PLEASE CALL 212-925-5170.

Dear Robin: *See*

After Toby showed me around last week, she suggested I fax you the details of the locations we'd like to shoot at the White House for our documentary on Eleanor Roosevelt. Please find attached a list of the different day and night shots we hope to film. If at all possible, we really need to do the shoot in June. If we arrived at 3:00pm, we could be finished by 10:00pm.

Please call or fax me if you need additional information or have any questions. You can also contact my associate producer, Hilary Klotz. She will be coordinating the shoot and can be reached at the same phone and fax numbers. Her e-mail is: ambrica2@mindspring.com. Many thanks for all your assistance, and please also thank Toby for showing me around the White House last week.

Sincerely,

Sue Williams

Sue Williams
Producer

- o basic video camera (beta)
- o no lights most of time
(except car mounted)

☒ written contract ☐
Can't use

AMERICA

productions ► 225 lafayette st., new york, n.y. 10012 tel 212-925-5170
fax 212-941-1585 email america@mindspring.com

James Hill

x71374

Shot List for PBS Eleanor Roosevelt Documentary

1 Day. Exterior shot. Camera positioned in a car in the driveway on the south side of the White House, shooting a view of the White House from the car as the car drives up the driveway towards the entrance at the South Portico.

last day - 2. Day. Exterior shot. Scenics of the Rose Garden.

3. Day. Exterior shot. Camera positioned in front of the southwest side of the White House, shooting a view of a window on the second floor. (Eleanor's bedroom)

4. Day. Interior Shot. Camera positioned in room on first floor on south side of White House, shooting a view through a window, looking south, of the grounds and gardens outside. Blue Room

5. Night. Exterior shot. Same shot as #3 listed above: Camera positioned in front of the southwest side of the White House, shooting a view of a window on the second floor.

1/2 hours 6. Night. Exterior shot. Camera positioned in the driveway, shooting the North Portico lit up at night from 4 different positions on the driveway.

PEDC
Lt Benty
Jay Mung

[8:30-9:00]

3:30 arrive

8 landings

2 helos

6:30-8:30

2 helo

9-10:30

16 landings
of aircraft.

TOMORROW CAN'T WORK

Have electrician on duty
clear car in.

1 camera

Sue

AP

camera

assistant

5 people

move vehicle to North
Portico

20
April

71-1116
71-5-2
413

Betty Monkman
x 66820

Ambrica Productions

225 Lafayette Street, Suite 1106

New York, NY 10012

212-925-5170

Fax: 212-941-1585

E-mail: ambrica2@mindspring.com

FAX TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

Date: June 11, 1999

To: Ms. Julie Mason
First Lady's Press Office
White House

Fax: 202-456-7805

Re: Crew information for 6/16/99 shoot for ELEANOR ROOSEVELT
documentary

Sender: Hilary Klotz

YOU SHOULD RECEIVE 2 PAGE(S), INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET. IF
YOU DO NOT RECEIVE ALL THE PAGES, PLEASE CALL 212-925-5170.

Dear Julie:

Please find attached a list of the information on our crew members that you requested, including their full names, birth dates and social security numbers.

Thank you very much for all your assistance with our shoot, and please call or fax if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,



Hilary Klotz
Associate producer

Withdrawal/Redaction Marker

Clinton Library

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
001. fax	Hilary Klotz to Julie Mason re: crew information [Personally Identifiable Information] [partial] (1 page)	06/11/1999	b(6)

COLLECTION:

Clinton Presidential Records
First Lady's Office
Lissa Muscatine
OA/Box Number: 21402

FOLDER TITLE:

Pending Requests

2015-0275-S
rc1984

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
P5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

RR. Document will be reviewed upon request.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
b(3) Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

AMBRICA

productions ► 225 lafayette st., new york, n.y. 10012 tel 212-925-5170
fax 212-941-1585 email ambrica@mindspring.com

**ELEANOR ROOSEVELT PROJECT:
CREW INFORMATION FOR WHITE HOUSE SHOOT**

Ambrica crew member name	Date of Birth	Social Security #
Murdoch Campbell	(b)(6)	
Arthur Bestor Cram		
Hilary B. Klotz		
Troy Dean Thompson		
Susan M. Williams		

[001]

Truck License NY 97E 499

AMBRICA

productions ► 225 lafayette st., new york, n.y. 10012 tel 212-925-5170
fax 212-941-1585 email ambrica@mindspring.com

may 5-8

→ *SW*

Ms Marsha Berry
The White House
Washington D.C. 20500

March 10, 1999

FAX NO: 202- 456- 7805

Dear Marsha,

I was delighted to talk with you this morning and to know that Mrs Clinton is now aware of the film we are making about Eleanor Roosevelt. As I mentioned to you, the film will be two hours long and will air on the PBS series *The American Experience* early next year.

We would like to film "atmospheric" footage at the White House to cut with our interviews and archive film. Specifically we want to shoot several exteriors of the building, including the visitors' entrance on Pennsylvania Avenue at night to use with the description by Mrs Roosevelt's niece of their saying good bye. We would also like to film several shots looking out from the White House at night and down into the gardens, as well as two or three tracking shots in ground floor corridors.

As I have never been to the White House it is difficult for me to visualize exactly which corridors and windows would work best. As a first step, would it be possible for me to have a very informal walk through parts of the White House that are not family areas? I could then be very specific about our needs.

Long term, the NEH and PBS, as well as Ambrica, are most anxious to have a far-reaching publicity campaign for Eleanor Roosevelt and I wondered if the First Lady would consider hosting a special screening or reception to launch it.

Could we talk next week to see how we can best proceed? Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

Sue Williams

Sue Williams
Producer/Director

cc. Tim Fry

Ambrica Productions

*225 Lafayette Street
New York, NY 10012
Telephone: 212-925 5170
Fax: 212-941 1585
Email: ambrica@mindspring.com*

FAX COVER SHEET

*Date: March 10, 1999
To: Marsha Berry
Fax: 202 456 7805
Re: Eleanor Roosevelt project
Sender Sue Williams*

*YOU SHOULD RECEIVE 2 PAGE(S), INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET. IF YOU DO NOT RECEIVE
ALL THE PAGES, PLEASE CALL 212-925 5170*

AMBRICA

productions ► 225 lafayette st., new york, n.y. 10012 tel 212-925-5170
fax 212-941-1585 email ambrica@mindspring.com

? timing + place

Ms Marsha Berry
The White House
Washington D.C. 20500

March 10, 1999

FAX NO: 202- 456- 7805

Dear Marsha,

I was delighted to talk with you this morning and to know that Mrs Clinton is now aware of the film we are making about Eleanor Roosevelt. As I mentioned to you, the film will be two hours long and will air on the PBS series *The American Experience* early next year.

We would like to film "atmospheric" footage at the White House to cut with our interviews and archive film. Specifically we want to shoot several exteriors of the building, including the visitors' entrance on Pennsylvania Avenue at night to use with the description by Mrs Roosevelt's niece of their saying good bye. We would also like to film several shots looking out from the White House at night and down into the gardens, as well as two or three tracking shots in ground floor corridors.

As I have never been to the White House it is difficult for me to visualize exactly which corridors and windows would work best. As a first step, would it be possible for me to have a very informal walk through parts of the White House that are not family areas? I could then be very specific about our needs.

Long term, the NEH and PBS, as well as Ambrica, are most anxious to have a far-reaching publicity campaign for Eleanor Roosevelt and I wondered if the First Lady would consider hosting a special screening or reception to launch it.

Could we talk next week to see how we can best proceed? Thank you so much.

Sincerely,


Sue Williams
Producer/Director

cc. Tim Fry

- 2) Request from **Sue Williams**, who is producing a film as part of PBS series, "The American Experience," to be broadcast in 2000. She encloses treatment for "Eleanor Roosevelt" written as proposal to the National Endowment for the Humanities. She'd be interested in your comments or reflections and would like to film footage at the WH to cut with their interviews and archive film.

✓ See
To _____ for review/response

Send cc to Marsha Baum w/
note asking her to discuss w/me
Per HRC

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT
Treatment

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

The following is a treatment for a two-hour documentary special called ELEANOR ROOSEVELT. It outlines the historical events to be covered in the film, dividing the material into six chapters: Early Years, Eleanor and Franklin, The Road to the White House, First Lady, The War, and On Her Own. At the end of each chapter we have included short sections called "Additional Perspectives," which contain reflections on humanities themes that will inform the film's narrative.

We have included several photographs and one cartoon to provide a visual sense of Eleanor Roosevelt at different times in her life. The photograph below was taken when she was sixteen years old and a student at Allenswood, a private school near London. She always remembered this as one of the happiest times of her life.



ELEANOR ROOSEVELT
Treatment

1. EARLY YEARS

1956, the Democratic Convention. The delegates are standing, cheering wildly, not for the presidential candidate, Adlai Stevenson, but for the popular Democratic Party veteran -- Eleanor Roosevelt. The most powerful woman in U.S. politics this century, the seventy-two year old former First Lady smiles and waves, acknowledging the long ovation.

She addresses the delegates without a prepared text. *"Could we have the vision of doing away with poverty in this great country? It would be a marvelous achievement, and I think it might be done if you and I, each of us as individuals, would really pledge ourselves and our party to think imaginatively of what can be done."*

To the people at the convention and to millions more around the world, Eleanor Roosevelt represented moral courage, compassion, and an unswerving sense of justice. But behind this dignified public personality was a private person whom few at the convention knew. Her commitment to the poor grew out of years of her own pain and suffering, out of deep emotional scars and extraordinary self-discipline, out of a single-minded determination that often cost those around her dearly. Few people knew of the real nature of her marriage to President Franklin Roosevelt or of the many deep friendships she shared with other men and women. Complex and sometimes contradictory, the public and private life of Eleanor Roosevelt took her far from her beginnings, on a long journey that was intimately entwined with more than fifty years of America's history.

Title: ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

A few months before her death in 1962 Mrs. Roosevelt gave an interview to network television. Surrounded by photographs of her family and friends in the living room of her home at Val-Kill, New York, she said, *"I think it is a great thing to be able to give a young person what is called 'joie de vivre.' And you must do it while they are young, because if their sense of duty and obligation becomes too great, they never acquire in later life a certain kind of irresponsible joy in being alive."* Those who knew the former First Lady well must have felt the poignancy of this remark, for irresponsible joy was something Eleanor Roosevelt had probably never felt in her life.

On October 11, 1884, Anna Eleanor Roosevelt was born into one of the most aristocratic families in America. Her granddaughter Nina Gibson remembers, *"My grandmother's family was one of of privilege and wealth, with strict codes of behavior. Life was dictated, how she was dressed, schooled, how she related to her family. Rites of passage were well defined."*

Her friend Trude Lash observes, *"It was a time when children were brought up by nurses and they visited their parents for tea and for set moments. Mothers and children did not spend much time together. Her mother was a society lady and couldn't be bothered too much with her."*

Eleanor's mother, Anna Hall Roosevelt, was a famous beauty in New York society. Always polished and correct, she believed that good manners were more important than feelings and that beauty was the most important attribute of all. Eleanor Roosevelt recalls, voice-over pictures of her and her mother, *"My mother was troubled by my lack of beauty and I knew it as a child senses these things. She tried hard to bring me up well so that my manners would compensate for my looks, but her efforts only made me more keenly conscious of my shortcomings."*

Nina Gibson: *"I remember the way she looked when she talked about her mother. She always said her mother was very beautiful, but I'd infer that she wasn't too close to her, more like a distant relative."*

Franklin D. Roosevelt III, Eleanor Roosevelt's grandson, says, *"Her mother was simply cruel to her. I could never understand how she could treat her the way she did, humiliating her and calling her "Granny" because she was so serious when she was little. She made her feel unloved and ugly."*

Anna Roosevelt's often cruel and dismissive treatment of her daughter may have been due to her unhappiness in her marriage to Elliott Roosevelt, the younger brother of Theodore Roosevelt. Elliott partied and raced with the fastest New York sets, but he was unable to set himself limits. Anna loved him deeply and watched in agony as he went on drunken binges and became increasingly erratic. For years she pretended in public that nothing was wrong, but in private she was irritable and distraught, suffering blinding headaches and taking to her bed for days at a time. One of Eleanor's few happy memories of her mother was of stroking Anna's head, trying to ease her suffering. Elliott, too, wanted desperately to please Anna, but he was unable to stop drinking. Over the years, his brother Theodore forced him into one rehabilitation clinic after another.

The young Eleanor sensed the turbulence at home, but she could not understand it. She loved her father with a child's total, unconditional love and recalls, *"With my father I was perfectly happy. He would take me into his dressing room in the morning and let me watch each thing he did."*

Franklin D. Roosevelt III continues, *"Her father, Elliott, adored her. To her, he was charming and fun and he would throw her up in the air and hug her. She always tried to live up to his expectations to be good -- not good in a silly way, but to be a really good person."*

Her father was the first to teach her the Roosevelt tradition of service to the poor. Intercut with pictures of the poor youngsters fed by Children's Aid Society, Nina Gibson recalls, *"When she was very little, five or six, he took her to help serve Thanksgiving dinner at the Children's Aid Society. Eleanor was tremendously interested in all those poor ragged little boys. Elliott explained to her that many of them had no homes and they slept wherever they could find a little warmth. The contrast with her own life of wealth really made a lasting impression on her."*

Elliott also fired Eleanor's imagination with stories of his travels to exotic lands. She loved to listen to his adventures in India and all her life she remembered his promise to take her to see the Taj Mahal one day.

While her father doted on her, her childhood timidity seemed to annoy him. One day she was riding a donkey in the mountains of Italy with her father. As they were about to descend a steep rocky slope she turned pale with fear. All her life she would remember "the tone of disapproval in his voice." "You may go back if you wish," he said, "but I did not know you were a coward." Elliott raced off down the hill, leaving Eleanor alone with the guide. As she went back to the hotel, miserable and ashamed, the young Eleanor could only see that if she was to have his love she must master her fears.

When she was eight years old, her mother died suddenly of diphtheria. Franklin D. Roosevelt III: *"Her father came home and sat her on his knee and told her the news. He told her that one day they would have a home together. She believed him and she loved him so much that it seemed her mother's death didn't matter. All that mattered was that she and her father would be together. Which of course they were not."*

Trude Lash: *"Her father was the great love of her life, but he created great expectations in her which he never kept. He would say, 'In just a while you and I will keep house together,' and then never do anything about it."*

As her father's life continued its downward spiral into illness, alcohol and drugs, Eleanor and her younger brother Hall went to live with their maternal grandmother, Mary Ludlow Hall. Grandmother Hall was in her early fifties, but to Eleanor she seemed ancient. She spent most of every day in her New York home, sitting alone in a darkened room. She had mandatory prayers for the entire household at the beginning and end of every day. She had raised her own children leniently and they had grown up to be self-indulgent and wild; now she determined to raise Eleanor and her brother far more strictly.

Eleanor Roosevelt remembered, *"My grandmother had the theory that you were preparing to join society and you had an obligation of things you had to do. Never let people know you feel ill. I had a German nurse who made me get up early in the morning and close the windows and light the stove in the dark and cold."*

To her grandmother and those around her Eleanor often seemed moody and withdrawn. In secret she rebelled in small ways against the discipline which governed her life -- by stealing sweets from the kitchen, by putting a little warm water in the cold bath she had to take every day and by reading in secret on Sundays.

Grandmother Hall rarely allowed Eleanor to see her father in the last year of his life when he was often so drunk he was a danger to himself and to others. Eleanor spent much of her time dreaming about him and living for his infrequent visits. They wrote each other loving letters in which he encouraged her studies and advised her to be unselfish, generous, and bold. In her replies she tried to live up to his expectations, and she signed them with his pet name for her -- "Little Nell."

In 1894, Elliott died from the ravages of alcohol and drugs. Eleanor later wrote, "I simply refused to believe it and while I wept long and went to bed still weeping, I finally went to sleep and began the next day living in my dream world as usual. From that time on I knew in my mind that my father was dead and yet I lived with him more closely, probably, than I had when he was alive."

Franklin D. Roosevelt III, *"She just refused to believe it. It was too awful. The only person who had ever really loved her was gone. So she tried to live with him in her imagination. And to her death she carried his letters to her in her handbag."*

At just ten years old, Eleanor had lost both parents. Her mother's death left her with a deep need to win love and approval, her father's with the dread that those she really loved would one day let her down. As an adult she would speak and write again and again about the wounds of her childhood, as if by continually retelling her story she could exorcise the pain of her early years. We hear Eleanor Roosevelt, voice-over pictures of her as a child: *"I was a shy, solemn child." "I was not a very happy little girl. I was alone a great deal." "I had an inordinate desire for affection and praise, perhaps brought on by the fact that I was conscious of my plain looks and lack of manners."*

Life with her grandmother was often grim and lonely, but for the first time in her life, she had some stability and routine. She enjoyed her studies and was good at them. She spent her summers at Grandmother Hall's home at Tivoli, north of New York City. We see the rolling fields and woods she loved, where she could wander peacefully and daydream for hours. Eleanor Roosevelt, voice-over shots of Tivoli: *"I remember retiring to an attic room and reading a book called Misunderstood, which nobody nowadays reads, and sitting on the floor of the attic room in Tivoli just crying a whole rainy afternoon. But I don't think I probably cried very much. It was too strict a discipline. You couldn't do that and be what you were expected to be."*

On several occasions she visited her energetic, exuberant uncle, Theodore Roosevelt, and his family. The contrast with her own restrained life was enormous. She was a favorite of her uncle, perhaps because he felt guilty about his brother's unhappy life. His enthusiastic greetings were almost frightening to Eleanor. Once he hugged her so hard that "he tore all the gathers out of her frock and both buttonholes out of her petticoat," her aunt Edith, Theodore's wife, remembered.

As boisterous as the children, Uncle Theodore led them on obstacle races and up and down dunes, with Eleanor doing her best to keep up. On another visit, when her cousins were swimming, her uncle threw her in the water. She did not know how to swim and sank right to the bottom. When her uncle fished her out she tried hard not to let anyone know how terrified she was.

In 1899, at fifteen years old, Eleanor escaped from her lonely existence with her grandmother and began one of the happiest periods of her life. She was sent to attend Allenswood, a private girls school in England.

Allenswood was run by a French headmistress, Marie Souvestre, a strong-minded, free thinking, eloquent educator. At Allenswood, intellect, loyalty and friendship were valued more than rigid social convention, and here Eleanor shone. Nina Gibson, Eleanor's granddaughter, remembers, *"She'd always say to me, 'When I was at boarding school...' She read books like The Education of Henry Adams and often talked about how much the teachers demanded of her intellectually -- and she loved it. She found she could pull events together, think them through, solve problems, and make her own case."*

She became very popular with the other girls, who thought she was more intelligent and mature than they were. On the weekends, they were allowed out shopping and they would buy bunches of violets and little tokens for girls they had "crushes" on. On Sundays, Eleanor's room was always filled with flowers and gifts. Eleanor, who was so hungry for affection, was the center of loving attention. Over shots of the school, we hear Eleanor's voice as she later recalled, *"For the first time in my life, all my fears left me."*

Most important of all, Eleanor became a favorite of Mlle. Souvestre, whose presence completely dominated the school. Souvestre, who was seventy, became mentor, mother and friend to Eleanor. In a series of pictures from the time we see how Eleanor blossomed with her attention. She looks confident and attractive in her first fashionable clothes, which Souvestre encouraged her to buy. The older woman invited her for poetry readings in her study, drew her into discussions about international affairs and public duty, sat next to her at dinner and took her to Europe on the school vacations.

Trude Lash comments, *"Allenswood was a totally happy time. She became a star. She was intelligent and reasonable, she was kind and caring, she wanted so much to learn. Mlle. Souvestre saw her qualities and the sort of person she really was."*

Eleanor was heartbroken to leave Allenswood at the end of three years. But on her return to New York in 1902, a new Eleanor Roosevelt -- the one who would become familiar to the public -- began to emerge. Like many girls of her class, the eighteen year old Eleanor felt that "noblesse oblige" required her to do part-time social work and she possessed a strong sense of social responsibility which her father had first instilled in her. She began work with the New York Consumers' League, and saw first-hand the harsh conditions endured by women at garment factories and department stores.

Intercut with pictures of New York's sweat shops, Eleanor Roosevelt describes her experience, *"We asked how many people were employed and where the restroom facilities were, and they were always awful. I didn't know how much space a person should have in working with machinery, so I was educated there. I went to their homes and saw them making artificial flowers and feathers. I saw little children making them for hours on end until they fell off the bench asleep. This was all completely new to me."*

Eleanor also worked as a volunteer at the Rivington Street Settlement House in New York's Lower East Side, which helped poor, young immigrant girls adapt to life in America. She taught the children dance and calisthenics and loved it.

The real reason for Eleanor's return to New York, however, was not to do social work, but to make her formal debut into society. Because she was the President's niece, her coming-out was closely followed in the press. The attention was agonizing for Eleanor, who was still shy and haunted by her mother's disappointment in her looks. We see a montage of engravings of the season's balls and parties as Eleanor recalls, voice-over, *"You have to remember a woman was brought up to be a success in society. You learned languages, and if you could play the piano, that was very pleasant. Everything you did was to grace society. To be a beautiful woman was an enormous asset and all of my mother's family were beautiful. So it was a shock to my family that I was just a very ordinary looking girl. So you tried to make up for it by being well educated and having very good manners. Whenever you were expected to do something in the social world, you did it. You didn't say, 'I have a headache and can't go to this party.' You went, and if you were ugly, you tried to make up for it by being agreeable."*

Images from this time belie Eleanor's her own words: we see her at nineteen, a slender, graceful young woman with beautiful eyes and luxurious hair. When the social season brought her into contact with her distant cousin, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, he was immediately attracted to her. Eleanor and Franklin shared a family background, but their childhoods were very different. While Eleanor's was one of pain and tragedy, Franklin was the adored center of his parents' life. His extraordinary self-confidence was the polar opposite of Eleanor's painful insecurity, but few people found it surprising that Franklin fell in love with her grace, sincerity, and intelligence.

Curtis Roosevelt, Eleanor's oldest grandson: *"They were both very idealistic. She saw he was a sensitive person who was responsive to what was going on in her mind. And he was not looking for a flirt; he saw in her a companion he could respect."*

Franklin D. Roosevelt III: *"In some ways, Franklin was like Eleanor's father Elliott. He was charming and gregarious. He courted her with great persistence. He called her 'my angel' and told her he wanted to make something of himself with her help. She fell in love with him and even signed her letters to him 'Little Nell,' as she had signed her letters to her father."*

On occasion Franklin would pick her up after her classes at the Rivington Street Settlement. One day a girl was sick and they took her to her home in a nearby tenement. Franklin had never seen such poverty before and it made a deep impression. He kept repeating that he "simply could not believe human beings lived that way."

Nina Gibson: *"Franklin would have been fascinated by someone like Eleanor who was not caught up in the gaiety of life. By taking him there my grandmother was saying to him, 'Open up your eyes, don't you see?' And he responded."*

In informal pictures of the young couple, Eleanor looks radiant. They married in 1905. In the ceremony, they were completely upstaged by the President. *"Uncle Ted gave me away because he was my godfather. We were married on St. Patrick's Day because it was the day he could come to New York,"* Eleanor recalled later. *"Of course, it was very funny because people were much more interested in seeing the President than they were in seeing the bride and groom. When Uncle Ted left the room, so did everyone else. Suddenly we were left all alone, so we went and joined the others and listened to the President telling stories."*

Additional Perspectives

We are fortunate that Eleanor Roosevelt was so prominent in the media for nearly four decades. As the years went on she gave many interviews and spoke frequently about her own life. This has provided us with a huge mass of material to work with and allows us to use her own voice to an extent rare in a historical film. Eleanor becomes both the subject and a participant in the film, infusing it with an intimacy and real presence.

However, using her voice is not a simple task, as other people working with oral histories know. It requires cross-checking and analysis. As filmmakers we have to remain aware both of what is revealed and hidden in her testimony. She was an extremely guarded person who, for example, never spoke in her books or interviews about her beloved father's alcoholism, Franklin's later infidelity, or her children's divorces. Balance to her words is provided by the interviews and narration.

Eleanor's background gives an interesting perspective on the upper classes at the end of the 19th century; she is the daughter of a privileged elite, but her emotional impoverishment almost destroys her. What emerges in her early years is an iron will and drive which would dominate her life. Through duty to others she would negate her own fears and desires and find self-fulfillment.

Eleanor came of age in a time when there was a growing activism among women for the vote and for a variety of social causes. At twenty-one Eleanor was still strongly bound by her class and upbringing. She appears to have given no thought to suffrage, and while she did apply herself to social causes, her activities remained within socially acceptable limits.

II. ELEANOR AND FRANKLIN

Along with marriage came new challenges for Eleanor. Chief among them was Franklin's mother, Sara, a stern, formidable widow whose considerable energies were focused entirely on her son. She was determined not to lose her dominant place in his life. The young bride did her best to win her mother-in-law's affection. Even on their honeymoon Eleanor wrote Sara almost daily, "Thank you

so much, dear, for everything you did for us. You are always just the sweetest, dearest Mama to your children, and I shall look forward to our next long evening together, when I shall want to be kissed by you all the time!"

Curtis Roosevelt: *"The gushing letters reveal her enormous desire to be loved and approved. She hoped that Sara would give her the approval she gave Franklin, which of course she never did."*

Sara planned to run the young couple's life as she had run Franklin's. Without asking, she bought them a house in New York (with a connecting one for herself) and designed and furnished it. She also helped Franklin with all his major expenses. Eleanor's newly-found confidence crumbled in front of her autocratic mother-in-law, as we see in a photograph of the two women where a stern Sara firmly addresses a distinctly meek-looking Eleanor.

Under pressure from Sara, who said she might bring diseases home to her children, Eleanor gave up the social work she enjoyed. In the first five years of their marriage, Eleanor and Franklin had four children: Anna, James, Elliott and the first Franklin Jr., who died in infancy. Women of Eleanor's class did not appear in public when they were pregnant and her life completely revolved around her family, trying to manage a large household of children, nurses and servants.

But having never really had a mother, Eleanor had no idea how to raise children, in either their practical or emotional needs. She later explained, "I never had any interest in dolls or in children, and knew absolutely nothing about handling or feeding a baby." She made some dramatic early mistakes: when she read that babies should have lots of fresh air she hung her first child, Anna, out the window in a wire box. She stopped this practice only after a neighbor threatened to call the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

After this incident she deferred even more to Sara, who did not hesitate to undermine Eleanor. Over the years Sara would tell her grandchildren that they were her children: "Your mother only bore you."

*A family portrait taken in June 1918.
Seated, left to right: Franklin, Jr., FDR,
Eleanor, John and Elliott; standing:
Anna and James.*



Curtis Roosevelt: *"Sara ran over her like a train, and Eleanor wouldn't stand up for herself. Sara would plunge right in and pick up one of the babies and knew just what to do. Eleanor handled her children like pieces of rare Egyptian pottery and didn't have a clue. If she minded Sara taking over, she didn't say so. Sara assumed she would say something if she wanted it and would interpret her as weak when she didn't."*

Henry Morgenthau III, a family friend: *"Eleanor was, in a sense, driven from her own home. Her mother-in-law controlled the family with the purse-strings, and she completely corrupted the children. They would go to Sara because Sara would give them a pony or whatever they wanted. Sara always undermined Eleanor."*

Franklin, who could not bear personal conflict, refused to intervene in disagreements between his wife and mother, or his wife and children. As Eleanor recalled, *"Franklin hated to be unpleasant to anyone he cared about. He couldn't bear to tell anyone he disliked what they'd done."*

In the early years of their marriage, FDR worked for a law firm in New York, but it was politics that really interested him. After a term representing Dutchess County in the state senate, FDR was thrilled when he was appointed Assistant Secretary of the Navy in 1913. *"It never occurred to me to question where we were to go or what we were to do. I simply knew that what we had to do we did and that my job was to make it easy,"* Eleanor later recalled.

As Franklin took up his new job, Eleanor moved the family to Washington, D.C., determined to be a good politician's wife. The demands were mostly social. Eleanor spent every afternoon either receiving or calling on the wives of dozens of government officials; in the evenings she went with Franklin to an endless stream of parties, dances and dinners.

Beneath the couple's apparent success the strains on their marriage began to show. Franklin at thirty-five was handsome and energetic; woman flocked around him and he thrived on the social life. While she tried her best to do her duty for her husband's job, the non-stop parties made Eleanor feel uncomfortable and bored.

Having seen the devastating effects of alcohol on her father, she did not enjoy drinking or seeing her husband indulge. She retreated into sulky silences which infuriated Franklin. Eleanor Wotkyns, her niece, recalls, *"What excluded her from these times were, one, the cocktails, and two, the fact that she didn't think she was attractive. That just got in her way. FDR just loved parties and he liked to flirt with good-looking women and to tell wonderful stories, all of which had nothing to do with his ability and intelligence. I think my Aunt Eleanor was unable to understand that or to just bend enough to flirt. And this did get in the way of their private relationship because they were so different."*

Every summer Eleanor took their five children (two more children, another Franklin, Jr. and John, were born in Washington) to Campobello, the Roosevelt's summer home off the coast of Maine. In the summers of 1916 and 1917, as America became more deeply involved in World War I, Franklin

remained working in Washington. Eleanor began to worry about his long absences and about his relationship with the attractive and charming Lucy Mercer. Eleanor had hired Lucy as her social secretary, and she seemed to fit right into the Roosevelt household: she was warm, reliable and wonderful with the children.

Trude Lash: *"Eleanor was worn down by big houses, having lots of children, and she was very serious. Lucy, on the other hand, made FDR feel young and gay. Eleanor was away, and you can imagine the two of them having a friendly dinner and one thing leads to another. Loneliness does things to you."*

In September 1918, Franklin returned from visiting American troops in Europe. He was sick and exhausted, and so Eleanor unpacked his bags. There she found letters to Franklin from Lucy, proving that the two were indeed having an affair. Nina Gibson: *"It was devastating for her. The one thing she wanted was a family and to be loved. And she had lost that."*

Eleanor offered Franklin a divorce, but Sara threatened to cut off his money if he left Eleanor and the children. It was clear to all that divorce would end his political career. But still it took him weeks before he decided to stay and his indecision added to Eleanor's pain. Finally he pledged never to see Lucy Mercer again. The couple agreed to maintain public appearances, but the affair ended the intimacies of their marriage.

The emotional security Eleanor thought she had found in her marriage was shattered. Her confidence evaporated. Family photographs show Eleanor drawn and depressed, her eyes averted from the camera, the joyful glow of her early marriage completely gone. This was a watershed moment in Eleanor's life and it would be a long time before she recovered. For over fifteen years she had tried to be the perfect wife and daughter-in-law, and it seemed to have been for nothing.

Henry Morgenthau III: *"I think that Eleanor's relationship with Franklin always echoed her relationship with her father -- she was in love with him and he completely disappointed her. After this, she always expected to be disappointed by men."*

Eleanor Wotkins: *"She was a little like an adolescent in a way. She couldn't see any balance in the most vital relationships of her life. If she really loved somebody, she just gave her whole love to them and she would really be hurt if it wasn't returned in that same way. She didn't have a mother or anybody around who could temper the story that the man you marry you are supposed to live with happily ever after. It just doesn't work like that. But nothing had taught her to expect anything different."*

Never in her life, in all her writings, memoirs, letters and interviews, would Eleanor ever refer to Franklin's betrayal.

Lonely and depressed, now thirty-four years old, Eleanor began a long and painful process of remaking herself, of building an identity independent of her husband. She decided to return to the

social work she had enjoyed before her marriage and during World War I, when she had found tremendous satisfaction running a canteen for troops on their way to fight in Europe. When the Roosevelts moved back to New York in 1920, she joined the League of Women Voters and the Women's City Club of New York. She spent all her free time campaigning for housing for the poor and for protective legislation for working women.

Curtis Roosevelt reflects, *"The Lucy Mercer affair shot her right out of the family. Franklin had broken his wedding vows and so she felt she was no longer constrained by them to fulfill her traditional role."*

Franklin D. Roosevelt III: *"After her childhood of emotional deprivation and the Lucy Mercer affair, the only way she could reconstruct herself was to be a public person -- and this new identity took her away from her family."*

But just as she was beginning to find her equilibrium, her life was rocked by another crisis. In 1921 as the family was vacationing at Campobello, Franklin contracted polio. It was an agonizing and terrifying ordeal, not only for Franklin but also for Eleanor. While trying to hide her fear that he would die, for three weeks she nursed him around the clock, lifting him, feeding him, cleaning and catheterizing him.

Nina Gibson: *"It must have been absolutely exhausting and demanded every bit of discipline she had. Campobello was very remote and she would have to be thinking of how to get doctors and supplies, as well as taking care of the children and meals."*

The strain of dealing with her deathly sick and paralysed husband, confused and terrified children and manipulative mother-in-law was enormous. One night after the initial crisis had passed, as Eleanor was reading to her sons, she broke down, crying hysterically. For hours she could not stop. She later said it was "the only time I remember in my entire life having gone to pieces."

Eleanor emerged from the crisis with the realization that she had to be the mainstay of the family -- for her husband, for her children and for herself -- in a way she had never been before. For the first time, Eleanor found the strength to fiercely oppose his mother. Sara wanted Franklin to retire to Hyde Park and live as a semi-invalid. Eleanor was convinced that his vivacious spirit and all his political aspirations would die if he did. In the months after his illness, the two women waged a battle over FDR's future and Eleanor refused to back down.

Edna Gureswitsch, a close friend, observes, *"She had to learn to be strong. She willed it. And she had an extraordinary range of inner resources. She was utterly realistic. People who are as sensitive and tender as she was either give up and are demolished, or they decide to survive. She survived. She said to me, 'Obstacles are given us in life to grow strong on.' And I said, 'Well, not everybody grows strong. Some people fall down.' 'You are not allowed to fall,' she said firmly, 'You keep going.'"*

She found support in Louis Howe, FDR's closest adviser and confidante who had worked for Franklin for nearly a decade. Howe was a grubby, rumpled, sardonic man who wheezed asthmatically through a thick haze of cigarette smoke. At first Eleanor disliked him because of his incessant smoking and unkempt appearance, but over the years she would come to appreciate his astute mind, and his loyalty and faith in her husband. Howe firmly believed FDR would be president one day.

Nina Gibson: *"I think that Louis was the extra backbone Grandmère needed and that without him she would have buckled. He would have been unacceptable to women of my grandmother's ilk, but she'd developed to a point where she could accept him and not be distracted by his awful clothes, the smoke, the yellow teeth. Grandmère could see beyond that."*

FDR kept up his spirits by refusing to believe his paralysis was permanent. He began to spend much of his time away from home, aboard a boat off the Florida coast and, later, in Warm Springs, Georgia. As he struggled to regain the use of his legs, he was accompanied by his secretary, Missy LeHand, who looked after most of his needs. Eleanor remained in New York. She did not share Franklin's belief that he would one day walk again, but she did not try to make him come home. While they spent little time together, just a few weeks a year, they wrote loving letters, letters which reveal that even in the aftermath of Franklin's affair they were still bound by ties of real affection. He tells her how he misses her and she signs her letters with phrases like "much, much love."

Nina Gibson: *"They both wrote in the language of the times, which was more effusive. But he also did miss her, and she missed him. This idea that you can only have one love at a time is a little constraining. I don't for a minute think either of them ever stopped loving the other. Their partnership was forged in values and that bond was never broken. Their relationship was based on many things besides an exclusive romantic love."*

To keep the Roosevelt name visible in politics, Louis Howe remained in New York and encouraged Eleanor to expand her activities. She joined the New York Women's Democratic Party Committee and the National Consumers' League. Fundamentally shy, her transition to public life was agonizing. *"Howe would go and listen and make fun of me. It was very painful but useful. I took lessons in speech. They taught me how to breathe, for I had a horrible voice that would go all squeaky,"* she remembered years later in a television interview. Through sheer determination not to let anyone see her terror she persisted and became a sought-after public speaker.

The early 1920's were a contradictory time for American women. The major battle for suffrage had been won, but the victory did not bring equality. Women were still not allowed to serve on juries; few had important public positions; women were not welcome in the inner sanctums of party political decision-making; they had no say in choosing the state delegation which went to the national convention.

Eleanor was good at organizing people and raising money for the political causes. She enjoyed

working hard and quickly rose to prominence in the New York State Democratic Party, but she was incensed at the subordinate role that women played in it. In 1924 she addressed the state convention with confidence and conviction. "I have been wondering whether it occurs to women that, if they expect to gain the ends for which they fought, it is not going to be enough to simply cast a ballot. They must gain for themselves a place of real equality and the respect of men. It is disagreeable to take stands. It is always easier to let things go. We will be enormously strengthened if we can show that we are willing to fight to the very last ditch for what we believe in."

We see her speech on the front page of the New York Times. While the paper claimed that she "made the only inharmonious demands of the gathering," her efforts were an integral part of the long ongoing battle to get women political power and influence within the parties.

Eleanor Roosevelt was doing more than keep Franklin's name alive; by the mid 1920's she enjoyed a reputation in her own right in New York state politics. Through her work she met smart, strong, politically sophisticated women who became her closest friends, women like Nancy Cook and Marion Dickerman. Nancy Cook was a talented, energetic person who, Eleanor said, could do anything with her hands -- make jewelry, furniture or pottery. She lived in Greenwich Village with her partner Marion Dickerman, tall and more serious, a teacher and the first woman to run for the New York State legislature.

When Marion Dickerman took over the ownership of the private Todhunter School in New York, Eleanor joined her there as co-owner and teacher of literature, drama and American history. She liked having a real job and earning money. And she loved teaching, trying to give the girls more than just academic learning. Helen Offenhauser, a lively woman now in her mid eighties, was one of her pupils. *"Once you got used to her rather high 'swoopy' intonations, she was an absolutely fascinating teacher, so much so that I refused to drop her course in order to spend more time on math. We were pretty narrow then, and focussed on social things like dates and boys, and she worked to broaden us."*

Her schedule and Franklin's did not allow their own children to see them much. The two youngest, Franklin Jr. and John, lived at home in New York; James and Elliott in their teens were away at a boarding school they did not like. Anna was eighteen and old enough to be a formal debutante. In spite of the fact that Eleanor had hated her own "coming out" and that Anna had said she would rather die, she insisted that her daughter observe the same social convention.

Although FDR was often away he supported Eleanor's new interests and liked her new friends. He built a small stone house, Val-Kill, for Eleanor, Cook and Dickerman near his Hyde Park estate. Home movies shot by Nancy Cook record the three women's lives together. It was an unusual arrangement. When occasion demanded, Eleanor would entertain at the "big house" at Hyde Park and sleep overnight; the rest of the time she lived at Val-Kill where FDR sometimes joined her and her friends for meals and picnics. Val-Kill represented a tangible symbol of Eleanor's independence, of the emotional distance she created from Franklin in the aftermath of his affair. It was the only real home Eleanor had in her life.

Additional Perspectives

The field of women's studies has made clear the need to expand the autobiographical voice -- that to understand Eleanor Roosevelt's emerging political life we must understand her personal one. In this section we see how Eleanor sank into despair and then used the iron self-discipline she had developed as a survival technique in her childhood to pull herself out of it. The friendships she formed in this time with Marion Dickerman, Nancy Cook, and Louis Howe gave her the confidence and moral support she needed to realize her own political potential.

For many years, there was a widespread view that Eleanor's commitment to political and social causes came about as a result of the Lucy Mercer affair -- that, rejected by her husband, she devoted herself to the world instead. While the affair was a catalytic event in Eleanor's life, as was Franklin's polio, recent scholarship has made clear that Eleanor was far more pro-active than generally portrayed. Her social work before her marriage and in Washington during World War I gave her real satisfaction, and the historical evidence now paints a much longer trajectory in the emergence of Eleanor Roosevelt as a political figure.

Again we see the limitations of her autobiographical testimony, for it is clear that Eleanor had an arena of political interest independent of Franklin's from the outset. The reality was that she enjoyed the work and was good at it. Yet all her life she maintained the fiction that her work in this period was solely to serve FDR's purpose. She presents herself as rather passively acquiescing to his needs. This was not entirely disingenuous on her part, for it was highly unlikely that America at that time would have accepted a woman seeking and exercising political power in her own right.

III. THE ROAD TO THE WHITE HOUSE

In 1928 FDR was recuperating in Warm Springs. Eleanor remained in New York, co-directing the National Women's Committee of the Democratic Party and helping Democratic candidate Al Smith in his presidential campaign. When Smith decided that FDR should follow him as the next Governor of New York, he asked Eleanor for help in convincing him to run.

As we see footage and stills of the Roosevelts campaigning, Franklin with his jaunty smile, Eleanor in her long coat waving at the crowds, we hear Eleanor Roosevelt, voice-over: *"I went around the state with Franklin, and we were to get the first taste of what campaigning with him meant. He would sit perfectly calmly in the morning, reading the paper, and then suddenly he would call for the man to come and put his braces on, and before we could get our coats and hats, he was in the car. So we learned to be on the jump once he said, 'We're off!' As the result of the vigorous campaign which Franklin ran, and which dispelled the idea that he was a sick man and could not run for office, he won the state of New York."*

Eleanor Roosevelt was now newsworthy both as wife of the Governor and in her own right. When newsreel reporters travelled to Albany to cover her she chose to speak about helping the younger generation cope with an increasingly complex world. *"The mothers and fathers of my generation must listen to the younger generation as they are about to set out on their own lives. We must not give them the same old shibboleths and shams. We must not try to make the younger generation do things the way we did. We must try to give them an ideal, an idea of the sort of spirit needed to get on in life."* Part way through she flubs a word and at the end she smiles disarmingly to the cameramen, saying, *"I made a mistake, shall I do it again?"* This is a confident Eleanor Roosevelt who has come very far from the hunched and anxious woman she was just a few years earlier.

Her position as wife of the Governor offered her an insider's opportunity to promote her concerns about women and child welfare, and to influence state politics. Eleanor quietly lobbied FDR to appoint women to public office, and she acted as an unofficial conduit to him for people who otherwise would not have access.

In public, while FDR hid his inability to walk unaided, she became his most valued observer and source of information. Eleanor Roosevelt describes their early work together, *"While Franklin was Governor, he, of course, had some limitations to what he could do. But he decided that he wanted to know about every institution in the state -- whether it was a state hospital for the insane, or whether it was a school for children, or whatever. He would drive around the grounds of the institution with the superintendent, be shown all the new building and go over all the new plans, their needs and so forth. But he couldn't go inside very well. So he started training me as an observer. And he sent me in the first time. Afterwards, as we were driving away, he began to ask me questions. The first question was, 'Are they overcrowded?' I said, 'Well, I didn't see anything that looked like overcrowding.' He said, 'Did you look in the closets and see if they had beds put away?' And I said, 'No.' He said, 'Well, you should have. They might have taken the beds out at night and put them along the halls.' And then he said, 'What was the food like?' I said, 'Oh, I looked at the menus and they seemed very adequate.' He said, 'I didn't ask you about the menus. I asked you what the food was like. You should have looked in the pots on the stove.' After that I was very much better as an inspector."*

During this period the Roosevelts' marriage developed into an effective political alliance. Eleanor later recalled, *"Franklin and I had a desire to see improvements for people. I knew about social conditions, perhaps more than he did, especially in cities. But he knew about government and how you could use government to improve certain things. And I think we began to get an understanding of teamwork."*

Eleanor did not give up her own independent activities and interests. In addition to her work with Franklin and taking care of her children's needs, she spent two or three days a week teaching at Todhunter in New York. She continued working with the Women's Committee of the Democratic Party. And she found a new element of personal happiness with Earl Miller, whom FDR assigned to be her bodyguard.

Handsome and charming, Miller was twelve years younger than the forty-four-year-old Eleanor, and he had a reputation as a lady's man. The two soon became close. They were rumored to be lovers, although Miller always denied it. They would remain fast friends for the rest of their lives. For four years at the governor's mansion, Miller was Mrs. Roosevelt's confidante, devoted defender and light-hearted companion. He taught her to swim and to drive. With Earl, Eleanor could have fun. When she had to pose for photographers he would clown behind them to make her laugh and look relaxed. In one home movie we see him dressed up as a pirate, complete with bandanna and eye patch, kidnapping and carrying off a giggling and blind-folded Eleanor, dressed only in a bathing suit.

As Governor of New York state, FDR was in a prime position to become the Democratic candidate for president in 1932. In a series of stills we see Eleanor campaigning for him, coordinating the Women's Division of the Democratic National Committee and speaking at meetings across the country. But she was ambivalent about the prospect of his winning.

Trude Lash: *"She did not want to be First Lady. She had worked out a life for herself. She had her women friends and her political interests, and she did not want to be the wife of the President 24 hours a day. And wife of a handicapped President on top of it. She knew how much presidents depend on other people, and he would have to depend on people even more."*

Henry Morgenthau, III: *"She was a reluctant First Lady. She thought she would have to give up the career she had forged for herself. And she was increasingly feeling she would not be essential anymore. The White House was no novelty for her because of her Uncle Ted. She knew what was expected in the White House and she didn't want that role."*

We see crowds cheering FDR's victory, a night of triumph and celebration for Democrats around the country. But it was not for Eleanor Roosevelt. She later remembered, *"I knew what traditionally would lie before me and I cannot say I was pleased with the prospect. The turmoil in my heart and mind was rather great that night."*

Additional Perspectives

It is clear that Eleanor and Franklin had distinct but complementary political interests and talents which they learned to combine early on -- her interest in social conditions, his in using government. This alone would probably have led to an effective political partnership, but it was his real need for her help, for her eyes and ears, that pushed their partnership to a new level.

This becomes clear in their mastery of public perceptions. While politicians have always used the different media of their time, for FDR, polio made this even more crucial. He had to overcome his own disability enough to be able to maneuver in public and then to convince cameras and the public that the little they saw of his

disability was of no consequence. As this chapter shows, Eleanor was central to this "splendid deception."

One aspect of our theme of the changing role of women is seen in Eleanor's determination to maintain her own life during this period. It resulted in an incredibly busy schedule, juggling a kaleidoscope of personal and professional demands. And while few people had Eleanor's legendary stamina or the same number of obligations, it was a schedule which would become common for many women as they seized new employment and political opportunities in the coming decades.

IV. FIRST LADY

Eleanor Roosevelt in front of the plane that brought her to Washington in March 1933. She was the first wife of a President in office to travel by airplane.



The inauguration of Franklin Roosevelt came at the depth of the Great Depression, at a time when many saw the world as a frightening place of complex economic forces far beyond their control. The old order seemed to have collapsed. Over images of people's faces in the crowd at the inaugural parade, Eleanor describes the people she saw, *"I find them all in the same shape of fear, fear driving them into a state of collapse, cracking nerves, and an overpowering terror of the future."*

Eleanor understood, for she had struggled all her life to overcome her own fears and unhappiness. Now the crisis of the Depression and the suffering of others pushed her to overcome her reluctance at being First Lady and galvanized her to action.

She was helped by a new friend, the journalist Lorena Hickok. "Hick," as Eleanor called her, had suffered a childhood as unhappy as Eleanor's. She hated her father who had killed her dog and regularly had beaten her black and blue. After her mother died, she ran away from home, and by thirteen she was earning her living as a domestic servant while she tried to get an education. A talented writer, she became a reporter for the Associated Press in New York. She held her own in the tough, competitive world of journalism, chasing down stories, and drinking and playing poker with her male colleagues. During Franklin's campaign for the presidency, Hick was assigned to cover Mrs. Roosevelt, and she had fallen passionately in love with her.

Trude Lash: *"Hick understood her better than anyone else and Eleanor needed someone to understand her. She gave Eleanor a feeling of closeness and helped her at a time when she needed it. Hick was a lesbian and so the story arose that Eleanor was one too. She was very demonstrative, had very, very strong feelings, but she was not lesbian."*

Mrs. Roosevelt loved Hick deeply in return; she loved her strength and her warm and contagious laugh; most of all perhaps she loved her loyalty and devotion. As with Earl Miller, whether or not the two women's relationship was ever sexual can never be known for sure. What the relationship does show is that, over the years, Eleanor Roosevelt in her search for emotional intimacy formed intense friendships with both men and women.

Hickok moved into the White House and abandoned her career as a journalist. With Hick's help, Eleanor Roosevelt continued her journey from private citizen to national figure. Hick taught her how to deal with journalists, how to field tough questions, to have more self-confidence and to use the power of her position. She suggested that Mrs. Roosevelt hold women-only press conferences to encourage newspapers to hire more women reporters. The mere idea of a First Lady holding regular meetings with journalists was major news in itself.

Just two days after FDR's inauguration, twenty-five women reporters trooped into the Red Room at the White House for the first conference. Mrs. Roosevelt later recalled, *"I only hope they did not know how terrified I was."* The conferences became part of a carefully orchestrated effort by the administration to cultivate the press. Mrs. Roosevelt used them to discuss details of state and private occasions at the White House, and to promote FDR's New Deal programs.

One of the first of many journeys FDR asked her to make was to Puerto Rico to examine labor conditions and to show people he was interested in conditions there. In remarkable 8mm film made by some of the women journalists who accompanied Eleanor, we see her walking through the streets of San Juan and talking to local people and the Governor. She stands outside ramshackle buildings with poorly clothed children. This intimate footage shows an Eleanor Roosevelt rarely seen on film -- genuinely relaxed and happy, clowning with Hick in the airplane, swimming and picnicking.

On the return journey, FDR and newsreel cameras awaited her arrival at the station in Washington. It was the couple's 19th wedding anniversary. Mrs. Roosevelt, looking radiant, banters with the

reporters as they ask her to wave.

As First Lady, Eleanor Roosevelt's schedule became even busier. She quickly earned the reputation as completely driven and inexhaustible. Newsreels, government films and home movies provide a wealth of images showing her activities: she makes lecture tours, visits schools, factories and hospitals. She opens fairs and talks with miners. She meets a wide cross-section of Americans, talks with ordinary people and brings their problems back to the President.

While the Depression devastated entire families, in many ways its impact was greatest on young people. Both the President and Mrs. Roosevelt feared losing an entire generation to unemployment, disillusion, and radical left wing movements. One of the administration's first actions was to set up the Civilian Conservation Corps to employ young men. Mrs. Roosevelt had reservations about both its military style and the fact it only helped men. Two years later the National Youth Administration (NYA) was established to help both young men and women stay in school and help train them for jobs.

Although Mrs. Roosevelt had no official role at the NYA, her interest in it was intense and hands-on. Mary Bain worked for the agency in Chicago. *"One day the phone rang and it was Malvina Thomson saying, 'This is Mrs. Roosevelt's secretary and she would like to talk with you.' I said, 'Oh yes, and I'm the Queen of Sheba.' But it was really her. She came to Chicago and I took her to the South Side. She was very comfortable with everyone. She was very charismatic, but after ten minutes with her I was as comfortable as an old shoe."*

We see footage of the NYA activities in Chicago as Mary Bain continues, voice-over, *"I took her to see young women sewing, doing stenographer jobs, young boys in machine shops, on construction sites. In libraries we had both girls and boys working. After this I'd go to D.C. or she'd come to meetings in Chicago. She would talk to us, but instead of saying, 'Well done, good job,' she would always challenge us. She would say, 'We've got to get more people to work; we've got to do more.' She pushed us all the time. She was such an inspiration, such a role model for women my age."*

But Mrs. Roosevelt's involvement did not always guarantee a program's success. The mining community of Scotts Run, West Virginia was home to some of the most heart-wrenching poverty in the nation.

Joe Roscoe grew up there. *"My dad was a miner in Scotts Run. We lived along the creek. I hauled coal from the train cars for the family. I hauled water in copper pans and I hauled wagons. Coal dust was flying all around and got on the clothes on the line. The air was so bad. We lived along the creek and it was full of sulphur. We didn't have a bathroom, we had an outhouse. I used to wear patched clothes when I went to school and anywhere you went you had to walk. The roads weren't paved and if it rained and you slipped in a puddle -- oh boy!"*

Glenna Jones also grew up in Scotts Run. *"You were never secure about anything. I remember*

every time the siren came from the mine, mother would run down the street to see who was in the ambulance. If it had been Dad, what would have happened? My dad always used to say, 'An honest day's work for an honest day's pay.' We were brought up with strict work ethic, but often things were beyond your control. You couldn't always get a job."

Lorena Hickok had visited Scotts Run and persuaded Eleanor to visit as well. We see images of the poverty: the rotting shacks in which families lived, the haunting empty eyes of malnourished children, the looks of resigned despair on the faces of the adults -- images which left Mrs. Roosevelt shaken. She returned to Washington determined to do something. Poverty like this inspired the formation of the Subsistence Homesteads Program, an idealistic vision shared by FDR, Eleanor, Louis Howe and others in the administration. They believed that the problems of places like Scotts Run could be solved by building planned communities where people would farm small plots and work in factories nearby. These communities would provide economic security as well as modern health care and progressive schools.

With Mrs. Roosevelt monitoring the situation, a new planned community called Arthurdale sprang up. Dozens of clean modern homes with electricity and plumbing were built, each with a garden large enough to grow vegetables. The administrators and builders of the community felt so much pressure because of her intense interest that expensive and often needless mistakes were made during construction. But in 1934, on schedule, the first families from Scotts Run moved into their new homes in Arthurdale.

It became the showcase for the Homesteads Program. Fletcher Collins was a teacher in the school. *"There were 1,200 homesteaders and Mrs Roosevelt came once a month. Everyone would crowd around and say, 'Hello, Mrs. Roosevelt, do you remember me?' Once this happened and she said, 'Yes, Mrs Perkins and your son had measles last time I was here.' It was astonishing. I used to tease her, saying she must have some sort of dictionary or something to remember everyone like that."*

Footage from the time shows her visiting the families in their new homes and joining in community events. As we see her square-dancing in a large hall, Fletcher Collins recalls, *"Mrs. Roosevelt had a big time there. She was very graceful, she danced in a smooth cool way, which of course is the only way to do that sort of dance."*

Controversy, however, quickly engulfed the community. Some criticized the project management, while others called it a communist plot, and Congress refused to make appropriations. Industries refused to move there and the inhabitants could not find regular work. But Mrs. Roosevelt persisted. Her empathy with the suffering of others seemed to prevent her from looking objectively at the community, as a financial investment on the part of the government. Eventually, though, even she became disappointed with some of the residents' dependency on federal aid. The story goes that when the community's bus broke down, they sent it from West Virginia to the White House garage to be repaired. In the late 1930's the Homesteads Program closed and federal aid to Arthurdale ended.

By 1936, New Deal programs like Arthurdale had made both FDR and Eleanor immensely unpopular with many Americans. Shirley Anderson, who lived in Detroit remembers, *"When politics came up there would be apoplexy at the dinner table. I remember hearing the parents of my friends at the country club saying FDR had sold out his class. The New Deal smacked of socialism. And when they had finished with FDR they would jump on Mrs. Roosevelt. They were vicious about her appearance and how she was a nosy parker running around doing all these totally inappropriate things. There was a really visceral hatred of them."*

When FDR ran for a second term Eleanor Roosevelt's active involvement as First Lady became a campaign issue. The Republican Party promised that its candidate's wife, Mrs. Alfred Landon, would be a more traditional First Lady and "would spend her time in the White House." Newsreels show Mrs. Roosevelt at Arlington Cemetery, visiting hospitals and inspecting a mine, while Mrs. Landon is posed sitting with her children and playing the harp.

The controversies about Mrs. Roosevelt fueled the invective of the campaign, but did not stop FDR from winning a landslide victory. Franklin encouraged Eleanor's activities and did not stop her from voicing her opinions honestly. He understood her need to be needed and saw that she provided a useful sounding board, even when it caused him political trouble.

By the late 1930's concerns about communism as well as the rise of fascism in Germany created growing suspicion in Washington of foreign influence on domestic political groups. The Dies Committee was set up to investigate "subversives" at home. One group which was immediately targeted was the American Youth Congress, an umbrella group of sixty organizations that was connected to the Young Communist League.

Despite warnings from aides that these young people should not be trusted because they followed orders from Moscow, Mrs. Roosevelt believed that many of them were simply idealistic and concerned about conditions at home. She defended their right to free speech and she stood by them when they were called to appear before the Dies Committee in November 1939. In newsreel footage we see Mrs. Roosevelt come into the hearing room. The committee invites her to sit at the committee table, but she politely declines. As the questioning becomes tough she moves to the press table and begins to take notes. The committee softens its tone. One young man called to testify is a Youth Congress leader, Joseph Lash. We see Mrs. Roosevelt listen closely to his reflective and sober words. The hearing marked the beginning of Mrs. Roosevelt's close friendship with Lash.

Later that same week, Mrs. Roosevelt claimed she could find no evidence of outside control of the Youth Congress. But in the coming months, as Europe spiralled into war and many AYC students insisted on following the Soviet line that America remain neutral, she became convinced they were indeed putting the interests of the Soviet Union before America's. She withdrew her financial and moral support. But she never regretted her defense of the students' right to voice their opinions publicly, and to act, within the law, according to their conscience.

Trude Lash: *"People close to her worried that she would be very hurt by the way the AYC used her. But she was not. She learned from their communist tactics and she used those lessons well in the years to come."*

By now Eleanor Roosevelt was the most widely admired woman in the country. Featured on the cover of TIME, the magazine acclaimed her as "the world's foremost female political force," and attributed her power not to her husband's influence but to her own personality and activities. She had become a role model for millions of women. To her critics, Mrs. Roosevelt was polite but unrepentant. "Everyone must live their own life in their own way and not according to anybody else's ideas," she said. Six years in the White House had not only transformed the role of First Lady, but they had dramatically changed Eleanor Roosevelt herself.



Additional Perspectives

"For gosh sakes, here comes Mrs. Roosevelt!"

Controversy has raged in recent years about the nature of Mrs Roosevelt's and Lorena Hickok's relationship. The possibility that it was sexual is largely based on the nature of their correspondence and Eleanor's close friendships with other lesbians. But this evidence is contradicted by other psychological and circumstantial evidence. As we have indicated, Eleanor also wrote extremely affectionate letters to her husband, to her mother-in-law and to other male and female friends. Most people whom we have interviewed feel that while Eleanor was a woman of great passion, she was not a very sexual person. In spite of the fact that we cannot find concrete historical evidence to prove the exact nature of Eleanor's private relationships, they remain worth exploring for what they tell us about her interior life and to further our understanding of the influences which shaped her public persona.

This chapter reveals the successes and limitations of the role of First Lady and that of outside influence on the President. While Eleanor Roosevelt's only official job within

the administration was, for a brief period in World War II, at the Office of Civilian Defense, she had tremendous influence on FDR and on officials whom she would contact about one issue or another. Some claim that she was the backbone of the New Deal, that her liberalism pushed FDR further than he would ever have gone without her. Whether that is true or not, what is apparent is that she voiced a more liberal position than he could. But it was a position that he often wanted included in the public debate. He is famous for saying, "That's my Missus" or "My Missus says," as though he had no control over her actions.

Arthur Daley was a product of the drive and idealism that fueled FDR's first term and brings to the fore the profound difficulty of government involvement in social planning. While Mrs. Roosevelt had the power to influence programs, her personal feelings for the families seemed to blinker her to the needs of the program as a whole; indeed she rarely visited other communities in the program. Some of the failures in vision, planning and execution were exacerbated by her very determination to see the program succeed.

V. THE WAR

Newsreel footage shows the 1940 Democratic convention in Chicago in an uproar. The delegates have just nominated FDR to an unprecedented third term, but when Henry Wallace is proposed as his vice presidential running mate, boos and hisses echo around the hall. Wallace is personally unpopular and the delegates view him as too liberal and indecisive. As opposition to Wallace quickly mounts, the entire convention is thrown into confusion.

FDR remains at the White House, refusing to address the convention and accept the nomination unless Wallace is approved. Tension mounts as the delegates hold firm and FDR speaks privately of declining the nomination.

Trude Lash recalls, *"I was at Hyde Park with Eleanor during the convention. She didn't want to go, but everyone kept calling her, saying, 'You've got to come. The convention is falling apart.' Eleanor said she didn't know what she could do. She called the President who said, 'Maybe you could help.' So she got on the plane to Chicago and went straight to the convention."*

Cameras film the proceedings as Mrs. Roosevelt arrives at the airport and jostles through the crowds into the convention center. She describes the scene, *"Pandemonium had broken loose in the hall. You couldn't hear yourself think, both on the floor and in the galleries. The noise was something terrible, and Frank Walker came over to me and said, 'I think that you will have to speak.' I had no prepared speech, and no idea that I was going to have to speak, but I went forward and stood very quietly. To my surprise, and everybody else's I imagine, there was silence in a very short time."*

In the newsreel coverage, we see that her authority is enough to quiet the confusion. She is the first First Lady to hold center stage at a national convention, and the significance of the moment is not lost on the delegates. As she begins to speak in clear, ringing tones, her mastery of the situation is almost tangible. *"This is no ordinary time, no time for weighing anything except what we can best do for the country as a whole. No man who is a candidate or who is President can carry this situation alone. This responsibility is carried by a united people who love their country."* When she finishes the crowd erupts with loud and lengthy applause.



Without mentioning Wallace, Eleanor Roosevelt had persuaded them to endorse his nomination as vice president. Eleanor returned to Hyde Park and FDR accepted his party's nomination for president. Everyone knew she had saved the convention. One headline the next day proclaimed, "Mrs. Roosevelt Stills the Tumult of 50,000." FDR was heard to repeat proudly, "Her speech was just right."

Elected to a third term, FDR was immediately absorbed in helping Britain struggle against the German onslaught and in preparing for America's likely participation in the war. He had less and less time to deal with domestic reforms with Eleanor. Now FDR often spent his evenings discussing the war with his close aides, discussions from which she was excluded. People close to her noticed how unhappy she seemed.

Eleanor Wotkyns: *"I have a picture of her in the White House -- the strongest visual image -- I was leaving when she came to the door and she stood out under the portico and just stood there while we drove down the driveway, waving goodbye. And I just had the most terrible feeling of this lonely person."*

Trude Lash: *"She was definitely subject to moods, her 'Griselda' moods she called them. She had good reason to have them, but she never felt she had a right to have them."*

Her depression is in marked contrast to her self-assured public image, and reveals how insecure she remained at a personal level. Edna Gureswitch recalls, *"Mrs. Roosevelt worked because she had to. It fulfilled her. She coped with loneliness by devoting herself to others."*

Every day Eleanor wrote a syndicated column called *My Day*. While some journalists and readers were disappointed with the column's somewhat bland or simplistic content, it became immensely popular, providing a window into White House life and the activities of the Roosevelt children. Anna, the eldest, who was now divorced, lived at the White House with her two children. The four Roosevelt sons also had troubled lives and struggled with feelings of jealousy and insecurity, with numerous failed marriages and financial difficulties.

But in over 3,000 *My Day* columns from the White House she never once revealed the deep strains in her own family life. The children had grown up in a household filled with adult tension and without either parent's consistent attention. Throughout the White House years, they got even less, as Mrs. Roosevelt remembered. *"It was a shock for the boys to discover that in the White House, if they wanted to really talk to their father beyond a casual conversation with other people around, they had to ask for an appointment. Even when they got the appointment, sometimes affairs of state would be so important that they didn't get the full attention of their father. He was still the President. And this is a very difficult thing for them to accept."*

Eleanor Wotkyns: *"Her children were very resentful of both their parents, that they did not spend enough time with them. She was very busy and did not easily approach young children. So they in turn grew up feeling she was unapproachable. I think her children really did make her very unhappy. It was partly her own inability to show them she loved them in a very simple way."*

Trude Lash: *"Her children were very jealous of all the people around her. I was always very aware of that. The White House spoils people and the children relied on being there. Everyone makes you offers -- for positions, money, easy jobs."*

The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor and the entry of America into the war inevitably involved Eleanor Roosevelt at many levels. All four of her sons went into the military. James, the eldest, was in the Marines, Elliott served in the Army Air Corps. John and FDR, Jr. were in the Navy. Trude Lash: *"I remember one morning she called and she was very sad, very low. She felt it was unreasonable to expect that all four of her boys would come home from the war. She was so depressed. But then, you know, she snapped out of it and got busy."*

As Mrs. Roosevelt had grown independent and comfortable in her role as First Lady, she no longer depended on Lorena Hickok for emotional support. Although the two women always remained friends, Hick eventually returned to New York. Now in the difficult times after Pearl Harbor she turned to Joe Lash. Trude Lash: *"She sort of adopted Joe. They were both very much alone. He was attractive and she trusted him. She loved him - part of it was motherly, part of it was more than that. She saw him in terrible state, in real conflict, wrestling with his relations with the student movements and the war. She loved people in need. And he adored her. He couldn't believe she had come into his life. It was what I call a dynamic mixture."*

Her friendship with this man, young enough to be her son, was again one that raised eyebrows. Now it came to the attention of the FBI. With America's entry into the war, surveillance of "subversive" activities was stepped up. In January 1942 the FBI raided the offices of the American Youth Congress and photocopied Mrs. Roosevelt's correspondence with the organization and with Joe Lash.

Soon afterwards Lash was assigned to a weather-forecasting school at an air base in Illinois. Here the army's Counter-Intelligence Corps monitored his activities. When Lash and Mrs. Roosevelt spent the weekend in adjoining rooms in a Chicago hotel, her room was bugged by the Corps.

Trude Lash, who would soon marry Joe, recalls, *"Mrs. Roosevelt and Joe were in her hotel room. Joe was very tired and she told him to have a nap. He lay down and they talked, and then she sat in the room with him while he slept. It really didn't occur to her that it was inappropriate for a First Lady to be in a hotel room with a man other than her husband. She was so innocent because she was so sure of how things were between them. But the FBI was listening, and said they were having affair. Edgar Hoover knew all the bedroom secrets of the world, and if he didn't know them he invented them."*

Mrs. Roosevelt learned what had happened from a hotel desk clerk and she complained to Harry Hopkins, one of FDR's closest aides. When FDR heard that army agents had put his wife under surveillance, he was furious and ordered the Counter-Intelligence Corps disbanded. Joe Lash, with the other weather forecasters, was sent overseas. As the Corps was being dismantled, its agents offered their inaccurate, but potentially explosive file to the FBI. Director J. Edgar Hoover kept it in his personal office for years.

This was not the FBI's first report on the First Lady -- they had begun a file on her in the 1920's -- but it marked the start of an increased documentation of her activities. For the next two decades the FBI ran down rumors about her and monitored her speeches, radio broadcasts and newspaper columns. We see the FBI file on Mrs. Roosevelt. More than 3,000 pages long, it is unique, for no other First Lady is known to have been investigated. Hoover's personal antagonism to her is seen on the edge of many documents in his handwritten comments like "SHUT HER UP!"

The file provides vivid flavor of the political climate and is testimony to the strength and viciousness of some public opinion against her. Mrs. Roosevelt's politics continued to earn her deep conservative enmity. Small crowds often picketed and protested her public appearances, and the FBI file is scattered with letters from people asking if she is a communist and accusing her of "stirring up trouble."

It was her stand on African American civil rights that enraged her critics more than anything else. Deeply shocked by a series of lynchings in the 1930's, she had lobbied for anti-lynching laws and became the primary advocate for civil rights legislation in the White House. Trude Lash: *"She tried to set an example by living an absence of discrimination wherever she went. She invited African American leaders to the White House to consult with the President. She took on cases of individuals and would intercede with different government agencies on their behalf."*

In 1939, James Farmer, a young student, moved to Washington from Texas. *"It felt good to have a friend in the White House. It was the first time we ever had a friend in the White House."*

One of Mrs. Roosevelt's most public displays of support for civil rights came the same year. The Daughters of the American Revolution denied the contralto Marian Anderson permission to perform at Constitution Hall; Mrs. Roosevelt resigned from the group and helped arrange the singer's historic performance at the Lincoln Memorial.

James Farmer, later a major civil rights leader, recalls, *"The crowd was huge. When Marian Anderson sang she went,"* here he starts to sing, *"Sweet land of LIBERTY" and she put all the emphasis on the word liberty. It was a magical moment.*" Newsreel cameras filmed the outdoor concert; as Anderson's powerful and pure voice soars from the Memorial, the crowd of 75,000 listens entranced.

But Mrs. Roosevelt was often helpless to prevent terrible violations of civil rights. After Pearl Harbor, as America entered World War II, a major crisis unfolded for Japanese Americans. In archive film we see how citizens of Japanese descent become the targets of vicious attacks. Government officials close Japanese-American banks, businesses and newspapers; their shops are vandalized with broken windows; and people's houses are searched illegally for evidence of loyalty to Japan.

Again and again in her newspaper column, Mrs. Roosevelt called for tolerance for Japanese Americans: *"We know there are German and Italian agents, Japanese as well, who are here to be helpful to their own nations. But the great mass of people stemming from these various nationalities must not feel they have suddenly ceased to be Americans."*

The LA Times responded, *"When she starts bemoaning the plight of the treacherous snakes we call Japanese, with apologies to all snakes, she has reached the point where she should be forced to retire from public life."*

The military and the California political establishment put enormous pressure on the President to intern Japanese Americans. In February 1942, FDR, convinced that it was a military necessity, ordered the removal of all people of Japanese descent from any area designated a military zone -- California, and large parts of Washington, Oregon, Alaska and Nevada. More than a hundred thousand citizens and aliens of Japanese descent were forced to leave their homes and businesses, and were herded into relocation centers.

Eleanor became uncharacteristically quiet.

Frank Roosevelt, *"I think she felt trapped. I think FDR told her it was a closed subject and she felt she could not challenge the President, especially in the emergency of war. But that doesn't mean she was not completely against internment."*

In April 1943, after riots broke out in several camps, FDR was concerned enough to ask her to visit the Gila River camp in Arizona. In photographs we see Mrs. Roosevelt talking with young internees. In an unusually bland article, she described her visit and the camp in her *My Day* column. Instead of bringing up any of the moral issues of internment or the painful dislocation of the families forced to live there, she praised the efforts of the camp residents to "beautify" the barren desert landscape.

For Eleanor, Japanese internment was a brutal lesson in the limits of her influence. She was deeply

troubled and depressed by the situation. A few weeks after her visit to the camp, she wrote in her *My Day* article of June 20th, "The domestic scene is anything but encouraging, and one would not like to think about it, because it gives one the feeling that, as a whole, we are not ready for democracy."

That same day race riots exploded in Detroit. Existing racial tensions had been exacerbated by the city's phenomenal growth during the war, as hundreds of thousands of whites and blacks moved there seeking jobs in the local war industries. The city was overwhelmed by a housing emergency, and thousands of workers slept anywhere they could, in tents, sheds, churches and jails. In archive footage we see rioters, black and white, roaming the streets, smashing windows and fighting in street scuffles. The riots continued through the night and order was not restored until late the next day. Nearly one thousand people were injured. Twenty five blacks and nine whites were dead.

As people around the nation tried to understand how this had happened, many blamed Eleanor Roosevelt. Southern newspapers like the *Alabama Sun* and the *Jackson Daily News* declared her "morally responsible." The *Jackson Daily News* maintained "It is blood on your hands. You have been personally proclaiming and practicing social equality at the White House and wherever you go. What followed is now history."

Lou Harris, a young friend of Mrs Roosevelt's, recalls, *"I said to her: 'You've certainly made yourself controversial -- is it deliberate or is it simply the consequence of what you do?' And she raised her finger to me and said, 'I want you to know that I would feel totally remiss if I did not, as the wife of the President and the First Lady, do all that I think is right and decent. I have access to power and it is critical that I use it for what is right.'"*

While she continued to push for civil rights at home, the war expanded her concerns onto the international stage. She had asked FDR several times if she could visit American troops abroad and each time he had refused. Now after the riots, the White House was concerned that press coverage of Eleanor Roosevelt was so negative it was hurting the president. Eleanor got permission to make a lengthy good will tour abroad.

In August 1943, she set off for the South Pacific to raise the morale of troops stationed throughout the area. The trip was greeted with skepticism by many of the senior officers in the region, but they were completely won over by Mrs. Roosevelt's genuine concern and interest, and by her stamina. Newsreels show her tirelessly inspecting kitchens, barracks and recreation facilities. On the advice of her sons, she gets up extra early to have breakfast with the regular soldiers. In army hospitals we see men's faces light up as she stops at every bed in every ward, sharing with them a friendly, personal word.

We see her on film, smiling broadly, as she tells a joke to a group of Marines: *"I want to tell you a story which is a favorite of my husband's. It runs this way: Just as the Marines were ordered to leave Guadalcanal, an officer saw a young Marine looking very depressed. He said, 'What's the matter with you?' And the Marine said, 'I haven't shot a Jap yet.' So the officer says, 'Listen, I tell*

you what. Go up that ridge over there and jump up all of a sudden and shout, 'To hell with Hirohito!' and they'll jump up all over and you'll shoot a Jap.' So he goes off and a little while later the officer sees him again and he's still very gloomy and he says, 'Did you do what I told you to do?' He says, 'Yes sir, I did just what you said. I said, 'To hell with Hirohito!' and they all jumped up just as you said they would and they shouted, 'To hell with Roosevelt!' But I just couldn't shoot a fellow Republican!' "

For Eleanor Roosevelt it was a grueling trip, physically as well as emotionally. At fifty-nine years old, she traveled 23,000 miles, visited 17 islands and saw over 400,000 men in camps and hospitals. The terrible human suffering of the war, of the thousands of young men, wounded, ill and maimed, haunted her. As she said in a newsreel interview afterwards, it *"left a mark from which I think I shall never be free."* She continues, *"Though the war had to be fought to preserve our freedom, their full reward for their suffering is not yet in sight. If we do not achieve the real ends for which they sacrificed -- a peaceful world in which there exists freedom from both fear and want -- we have failed."*

The war had taken its toll on FDR, too. By 1944 he was ill, frail, and always tired. While he wanted to hear about her journeys, she always brought them up in his few moments of relaxation, usually at cocktail hour. Eleanor was unable to stop herself, even when she saw how badly her husband needed time away from the monumental pressures of office.

Curtis Roosevelt: *"One evening at cocktail hour Eleanor came in with a sheaf of papers and said, 'Franklin, I really think you must look at these things this evening; it's essential you understand...' and she handed him the papers and he just threw them at Anna, my mother, and said, 'You take care of this.' This was very rare, very rare, but he was really fed up, he was weak and under tremendous strain from the war. Physically he was folding. My grandmother got up and walked out. Dinner was announced but before he went in, he went and apologized to her. Their relationship was based on decency and a deep respect for each other and that never disappeared. So they came into dinner together. And he retrieved the papers from my mother and dealt with them himself."*

Eleanor Wotkyns: *"His kind of cocktail hour and his fun -- I think she felt left out. She did not know how to be part of it and yet she was so close to being part of it. I mean it wasn't as if he was doing anything more than having a cocktail and a half, and yet even at that she felt left out. She knew these people had a good time and she just did not know how to do it. She'd always been the one that was taking care of somebody and being responsible. And it bothered her. It got in the way of the relationship with Franklin. He found this an inadequacy. And when you are the President and his wife you don't have an awful lot of time to figure out your relationship with each other or with your children, unfortunately. So those were the shipwrecks along the way."*

Nina Gibson: *"As she aged she probably understood more fully his need for entertainment and her inability to provide that entertainment. It made her sad, but she went on to create her own life and projects. Once she began to figure out who she was and her duty in life to be a social conscience, I*

don't think she could have given it up. It was more important to her than entertaining her husband. She knew she had the ability to make a difference, and she liked what she did."

FDR came to depend more and more on their daughter Anna. Unlike her mother, Anna sheltered Franklin from unnecessary demands. She looked after details for him and carefully watched his health. She was tactful and cheerful and did not pressure him about anything. He also looked to his cousins Margaret (Daisy) Suckley and Laura Delano for diversion and companionship. With Anna's help, he began to see Lucy Mercer Rutherford again in 1943, breaking the promise he had made to Eleanor twenty-five years earlier.

At the end of March 1945, FDR went to Warm Springs for an extended working holiday. Eleanor did not try to accompany him. She knew that Laura Delano and Margaret Suckley were with him, and, as we see her admit in a later interview, *"I knew they would not bother him as I should have by discussing questions of state."* What Eleanor did not know was that Lucy Mercer Rutherford would also join Franklin in Georgia.

Henry Morgenthau III: *"My father had dinner with FDR that last night in Warm Springs. He noticed that when FDR mixed the cocktails his hand was shaking and he thought that he was very ill but I don't think he thought he was dying. FDR had some women friends with him: Laura, Margaret, and Lucy. He was a very tired old man and to sit around with these women who could care less about what was going on in the world and to just talk about Hyde Park and horses and dogs -- it was a huge relief for him."*

The next day, in the afternoon of April 12, 1945, FDR collapsed and never regained consciousness. In Washington, Mrs. Roosevelt was at an engagement when she was called to return to the White House. She knew immediately that FDR was dead. She sent telegrams to her sons and summoned Vice President Harry Truman to tell him he was president. Then she flew to Warm Springs.

There, Laura Delano is said to have told her that Lucy Mercer had been with her husband the afternoon of his death, and that the two, with Anna's knowledge, had seen each other regularly over the last year. It was a devastating blow to Eleanor, this final betrayal by her husband, with the help of her daughter. With supreme self-control she showed little reaction to the news, and she later described the day simply as "long and heartbreaking."

Newsreels show that for the next few days of official ceremonies -- in front of the crowds that line the railway tracks as FDR's body is taken to Washington, through the funeral service in the White House, to the burial at Hyde Park -- Mrs. Roosevelt, dressed in black, her face hidden under a veil, carries herself with unfailing, somber dignity.

Eleanor Wotkyns: *"After the burial at the big house, my aunt stood in the doorway all by herself while all the heads of state came by and she said, 'What can I do for you?' I thought it was just amazing."*

Mrs. Roosevelt later said, *"At a time like that you don't really feel your own feelings. When you are in a position of being caught in a pageant, you become part of a world outside yourself and you act almost like an automaton. You recede as a person. You build a facade for everyone to see and you live separately inside the facade. Something comes to protect you."*

Eleanor Wotkyns: *"After the funeral we went back and had dinner and I stayed with her. She said to me, 'Now I can just sit here near my family and knit.' She honestly believed she had no future."*

A few days after FDR's funeral in Hyde Park, a newspaperwoman intercepted Eleanor Roosevelt at the doorway of her apartment in New York City and asked her for a statement. "The story is over," she said quietly and hurried on.

Additional Perspectives

By the start of FDR's third term, the Roosevelt marriage had become one of the most successful political partnerships in American history. Eleanor's performance at the 1940 Democratic Convention was the culmination of the Roosevelts' political partnership and a powerful expression of her own authority.

And yet we quickly see that while she had on one level reinvented herself as a public person, privately she was still torn by the insecurity of her childhood. This continued to fuel tensions at a personal level with FDR. After nearly forty years of marriage, she was no more able to relax or make light-hearted social conversation with her husband than she had been when they were a young couple in Washington. The woman who personified warmth and caring for millions could not bring these qualities home into her family life.

Our theme of internationalism begins in this section. FDR's wartime leadership made him a hero to millions around the globe, and America appeared to be the champion of the free world. As FDR's wife, and through her own travels, Eleanor came to symbolize all that was best about the country. By the time of his death, the stage was set for the US role as post-war superpower. What exactly that role should be would be a subject for fierce debate in the years to come.

As the years have passed and scholars have examined America's role in the war, new perspectives on FDR's administration have emerged. America's response to the Holocaust (or lack of it) and Japanese internment are now subjects of great debate and often perceived as terrible blunders. While Eleanor Roosevelt appealed for tolerance, her legacy is tarnished by these failures as well, although to a much lesser degree than the President's.

VI. ON HER OWN



Eleanor Roosevelt listens to a fellow UN delegate at a meeting of the General Assembly in 1947. She called the UN "our best hope for peace."

Just one month after Franklin's death, Germany surrendered to the Allies. The long war in Europe was finally over. Wearing a black dress and hat, looking drawn and strained, we see Mrs. Roosevelt speak to the nation. On behalf of her husband, she thanks the soldiers, defense workers and millions of civilians who made victory possible. World conditions do not allow one to indulge one's personal sorrow, she says, and she puts FDR's death in the context of a world devastated by destruction, fallen soldiers and mourning families.

In the sorrow and confusion of her feelings, it seemed to Eleanor Roosevelt that her public life was over. Now sixty-one years old, she had been married to FDR for four decades and she had been America's First Lady for twelve years. She wrote to Joe Lash, "I want to cling to those I love because I find that mentally I counted so much on Franklin, I feel a bit bereft." As we see her walk through the woods at Val-Kill with Franklin's dog, Fala, we hear her voice-over, "*My husband and I had come through the years with an acceptance of each other's faults and foibles, a deep understanding, warm affection and agreement on essential values. We depended on each other. I had to face the future as countless other women have faced it, without their husbands. No more children would be living at home. The readjustments to being alone, without someone else as a center of life and with no children about, would be difficult.*" She admitted that it would leave "a big vacuum which nothing, not even the passage of years, would fill."

Eleanor was uncertain about how best to use her time and energy. She willingly assumed her duty as the widow and guardian of FDR's legacy, but she knew that alone would not satisfy her. President Truman, recognizing that she would be a valuable asset to his administration, asked her to serve as a delegate to the first United Nations General Assembly in London. She quickly agreed.

Nina Gibson: *"The United Nations was tremendously important to her. For someone whose childhood was as bad as hers, she always saw threats in a very personal way. And she had lived through the First and Second World Wars, and was absolutely driven by the idea that it doesn't take very much to throw the balance, to lose the freedoms we have."*

At the end of December 1945, just nine months after Franklin's death, she boarded the ocean liner Queen Elizabeth to sail to England. The journey marked the beginning of a new chapter in Eleanor Roosevelt's life. Characteristically, she immediately felt the responsibility not only of being one of the first delegates to the UN, but also the first woman to represent the United States. *"I knew that as the only woman I had to be better than anyone,"* she said in an interview. *"State Department papers are dull and I nearly went to sleep reading them. But I read them all. I knew I could not fail, otherwise there would be no other women appointed."*

At the United Nations, Mrs. Roosevelt was assigned to Committee Three, which dealt with humanitarian, educational and cultural matters. Curtis Roosevelt recalls, *"The men on the UN delegation were very condescending to Eleanor. That's why she was given soft issues like human rights. But she was such a politico, she had the skills to get things through. She was brighter and much more political than the men. She was glad to be on the committee because she knew that she would have more latitude with social issues than if she was dealing with economics or politics, because in those areas policy is set by Washington."*

Many of the Committee's sessions were filmed, and in the debates about the repatriation of war refugees we see Eleanor proving herself a skilled debater against the delegate of the Soviet Union, Andrei Vishinsky. Molly Bruce was a young English secretary on the Human Rights Committee. *"I was very struck by how she was always so pleasant but very tough with the Soviets at the same time."*

Eleanor recalled later in a CBS interview, *"After one session where we had had disagreements about sending back refugees, Senator Vandenberg and Mr. Dulles were kind enough to follow me and say goodbye. They said that although they had opposed me and begged the President not to appoint me they were glad to have me on our delegation. And that pleased me more than anything that could have happened."*

In 1946 she was appointed head of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights with a mandate to draft a Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The job of designing a document that would be acceptable to all religions, ideologies and cultures was a monumental challenge. For three years, she debated and compromised with delegates of other countries and with the US government.

Curtis Roosevelt: *"Often she would persuade delegates about a point and they would check with their government and would have to come back to her, embarrassed and say they couldn't vote the way they had agreed. So she would try to get the State Department to help, but just as often she would find herself in disagreement with them."*

She wanted a broader definition of human rights than many in Congress. Molly Bruce remembers, *"One of the debates was that the US wanted the declaration only to involve political rights, but many Third World countries wanted it to include economic and social rights. And that was her real strength: she persuaded the US government to expand its definition."*

Over footage of the debates we hear Molly Bruce, voice-over: *"She was quite a hard taskmaster in terms of the work she put in, and, while she was always considerate, she expected people really to do their job. It was tough."*

She had to resolve detail after detail. The wording "all men" was changed to "all people" at the insistence of women from countries who feared the words would be taken literally; people were "born," not "created" equal, in deference to the non-religious.

Curtis Roosevelt: *"She grew in confidence. She had to become a political operative. In the White House she maneuvered, nudged and cajoled, but at the UN she took active leadership, she had to get the votes."*

Lou Harris recalls, *"I sensed she grew after FDR's death. She felt she had to do things on her own. You could tell by her demeanour. She no longer had to defer to him."*

Curtis Roosevelt: *"She did not make intellectual arguments but she was totally heartfelt. She always spoke in terms of where people hurt -- if they couldn't get a job or choose where they lived. She persuaded the delegates because her passion was as pure as any passion could be. It was totally on her sleeve and they responded."*

Finally, on December 10, 1948, largely as a result of her leadership, we see the delegates of the General Assembly raise their hands in support of the Declaration of Human Rights document. Delegates give a standing ovation to the woman who, more than anyone else, had come to symbolize the cause of human rights throughout the world.

Trude Lash: *"Everyone had worked really hard, but no one worked harder than she did. When it was finally voted and finished, it was very early in the morning. When she left the Assembly, she skipped along the hall she was so relieved."*

Lou Harris: *"What she did at the UN was the consummation of her career. And she stuck it to me a little about the UN because she knew I had been skeptical. When the Declaration was finished she said to me, 'Now this is something that the UN can do. Just think of all the people all over the world whose rights are being trampled on and violated -- this is a clarion call to them. Through*

the years I hope it will be beacon for them.' "

Over the next years, Eleanor Roosevelt devoted more attention to her children. After Franklin's death, the Roosevelt children continued to struggle to keep marriages together and build real careers. Eleanor offered advice, traveled to their sides in crisis, and gave whatever material and emotional assistance she could. She forgave Anna for helping FDR see Lucy Mercer and the two became close again. Although it was painful, Eleanor now could admit her failures as a mother and a wife. "None of you children experienced security," she told Elliott. "Where was the guidance you should have had from Father and equally from me? Nobody was willing to devote the time to provide you with a proper upbringing."

Curtis Roosevelt: *"There was a lot of anger among her children that she had always had so much time for the rest of the world and not for them. And in some ways there was a lot of resentment that she was still in the limelight."*

Some of her children wanted their turn in politics and she did her best to help them. She stumped for her eldest son James when he ran for Governor of California in 1950. In the campaign coverage we see them together addressing reporters. Mrs. Roosevelt says, *"I think I probably expect more of my children because I want them so much to live up to the standards that their father set."*

These high expectations were extremely hard on her children. Franklin D. Roosevelt III: *"The only thing I remember my father, Franklin Jr., ever saying about Grandmère was that he wished his mother would get out of the way so he could get into New York politics. My grandmother was very public person and everyone knew her and she was just a real presence everywhere."*

Lou Harris: *"Frank, Jr. was a good man with a lot of good qualities. In 1954, after he lost his bid for governorship he ran for Attorney General. And he lost that to Jacob Javitts. That night we were in our hotel suite and I heard him sobbing in the bathroom. And when he came out he said, 'You probably heard me?' And I was really moved and I said, 'Yes, I did. You have reason to cry.' And he still he had tears on his face and he said, 'It is too hard. I can't do it. It is too much to have FDR for a father and Eleanor Roosevelt for a mother.' It was one of the saddest things I've ever seen."*

In the 1950's, Eleanor Roosevelt had a presence in American life unlike that of any other woman. She was listed regularly in Gallup Polls of the Most Admired Women in America. A survey in the *Woman's Home Companion* placed her at the top of a list of national leaders. She still wrote her *My Day* column, and her official activities continued to be covered by the press and newsreels.

In part to help Elliott and Anna financially, she began a career in television, working with both of them on *Today with Mrs. Roosevelt*, a Sunday afternoon talk show for NBC Television. The program was a lively precursor to today's talk shows, with Mrs. Roosevelt guiding informal conversations with famous guests.

But when she agreed to appear in a commercial for Good Luck margarine, she outraged her family. Eleanor Wotkyns: *"We had quite a family discussion about the commercial. Her children were very opposed to it. But she said, 'I have to keep my name in the public eye.' The kids may have opposed it, but they certainly benefited financially."*

Nina Gibson: *"I remember her sitting at the breakfast table, and someone was going on and on about how awful it was that she was doing this commercial. She just smiled and thought it was funny. I think that showed her humor. Others thought it devalued her dignity. But for her, her dignity was not tied to these actions."*

The commercial is vintage Mrs. Roosevelt; she even manages to weave in her social concerns. She sits behind a low table and says in her most patrician tones, *"I wonder if you realize that more than two-thirds of the people of the world are underfed. I certainly wish we could find more ways to use the tremendous capacity of our American farmers to produce vast quantities of food. I am sure America could lead the way in helping feed the starving people of the world. I hope ways can be found to send them good nutritious food like Good Luck margarine."* Mrs. Roosevelt seems to be enjoying herself. She pauses and laughs, then continues, *"Years ago most people never dreamed of eating margarine, but times have changed! Nowadays you can get margarine like this new Good Luck margarine that really tastes delicious. That's what I've spread on my toast. Good Luck!"*

After Eisenhower's presidential victory in 1952, Eleanor Roosevelt, like all appointed officials, submitted her resignation from the United Nations. For the first time in nearly twenty-five years, she rejoiced, she was a private citizen. She traveled extensively to Israel, Egypt, the Soviet Union, and Japan. She was often accompanied by her close friend Dr. David Gurewitsch, whom she had met in 1947. Gurewitsch was the son of Russian emigres, a worldly, cultivated man and a caring medical physician.

Mrs. Edna Gurewitsch: *"It is not unusual for a vigorous older woman to be attracted to a younger handsome man. It made her feel lively, womanly. She could love David because he could be trusted to keep within the bounds of an idealized love. It was idealistic on both sides."*

Russ Hemenway, a Democratic Party activist who worked with Mrs. Roosevelt: *"I never really understood it. They were together so much and it was more than a friendship and yet I'm sure it was not sexual. It was very close and it was clear he loved her and I think she loved him. And I admired David because he was always very discreet."*

Edna Gurewitsch: *"She once said that although she never forgot the difference in their ages, she would like David to call her by her first name. He could not, and always spoke and referred to her as 'Mrs. Roosevelt.'"*

In 1952, Mrs. Roosevelt and David went to India together. Everywhere she went cameras followed her. We see her engulfed in massive, enthusiastic crowds, far bigger than any she had ever seen. The streets are packed with people kneeling to her, putting garlands around her neck and shouting,

"Long Live Eleanor Roosevelt." She goes to endless dinners and receptions. She addresses the Indian Parliament in New Delhi, and talks with Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru.

The sentimental highlight of the trip is a visit to the Taj Mahal. In a poignant still photograph taken by Gurewitsch we see her, more than half a century after her father's death, a solitary figure sitting on a bench near the monument. We hear her, voice-over, *"At last I know why my father felt it was the one unforgettable thing he had seen in India. He always said it was the one thing he wanted us to see together."*

Her travels at the height of the Cold War gave her an international perspective on American politics which she did not hesitate to share with her readers and listeners. She spoke out about America's role in the world, the need for American leadership and some of the contradictions inherent in that role. She thought America would compete more effectively against the Soviet Union in Third World countries if it sent economic assistance to fill empty stomachs rather than military aid. She believed that Americans should defend their values with as much conviction as the Kremlin did.

Politics ran through Mrs. Roosevelt's blood. Now without a formal position, she was free to act as she chose and to use her considerable influence to further her own agenda. In the spring of 1956, at seventy-two years old, she immersed herself again in domestic politics, campaigning for Adlai Stevenson in his second bid for the Democratic nomination for president.

Russ Hemenway: *"Mrs. Roosevelt loved his language, the way he expressed himself. She thought he would be a statesman-like world leader. She respected his strength in foreign affairs. She felt we were on the road to isolationism and that we needed a world class leader."*

She worked around the clock for him, making speeches, traveling with him and offering him advice. Stevenson was a cautious, thoughtful man who often appeared aloof. Giving him the benefit of lessons she had learned so painfully decades before, she told him not to agonize over every word of every speech, and to speak to a crowd as if he was addressing just one person.

Russ Hemenway: *"Most people would not work primaries, but she would. I had a Chevrolet convertible and I'd ask her to get in back and wave. I'd say, 'Do you think you could perch up on the back of the car and wave so people can see you?' and she would do it. She was a joy to work with and a better politician than almost anyone I've ever known."*

There is extensive television coverage of her appearance at the Democratic National Convention. Sixteen years earlier she had saved a convention in disarray for FDR. Now she does the same for Stevenson. In a powerful speech, we see her declare that it is time for new beginnings. History did not come to an end with the New Deal; it is time now to move beyond the New Deal, and to launch a campaign to end poverty in America. *"Our party must live as a young party and it must have young leadership. They must not lean on their tradition. They must be proud of it. They must take into account the advice of the elders, but they must have the courage to look ahead, to face new problems with new solutions."* Party custom forbids her from declaring which candidate she favors,

she says with a smile. Of course, she does not need to name him, for on her dress is a large ADLAI button.

Her appearance unified the delegates as no one else could and the crowd gave her a wild fifteen-minute standing ovation. The force of her speech and her personal authority had a huge impact on the delegates and Stevenson won the nomination.

But her efforts were in vain. She was bitterly disappointed when Stevenson lost the election to General Dwight Eisenhower. Nothing, she wrote Stevenson afterwards, could curb "the love affair between Eisenhower and the American people."

She told friends that she hoped there would never again be a candidate she wanted so much to win that she would campaign day and night. For now more than ever, she enjoyed the time she could spend at her house in Val-Kill. It was always swarming with people -- grandchildren, close friends like David and Edna Gurewitsch, former New Dealers, visiting dignitaries and neighbors.

Eleanor Wotkyns: *"It was the first house she'd ever had that was her own. She used to talk about that. It was hers. She loved it. Of course Val-Kill cottage, which had nine bathrooms, was made of elastic, so many people could come. Those were extraordinary summers. She would get up early and fix flowers before breakfast and put them in everybody's bedroom. She loved having all the kids. I think that she loved thinking that she was the matriarch and these were her grandchildren."*

Nina Gibson: *"Val-Kill reflected exactly who my grandmother was. She would entertain heads of state in exactly the same way that she would care for people who lived and worked there. Once the electricity went out while a United Nations delegation was there, and she marched everyone out to the pool and taught them how to brush their teeth in water that looked as murky as iced tea."*

Eleanor Wotkyns: *"At one point John thought she should do her own marketing. 'Mummy, you're wasting money. You should go the A & P.' So she would make out this giant list and we'd go off together. And of course people would recognize her. She'd get all mixed up and wouldn't remember where the carrots were or how many she should get, but she dutifully thought she should be saving money by going to the A & P. It was really a treat, because people would recognize her and take a second look, quite surprised that Eleanor Roosevelt was pushing her cart around."*

At seventy-five, she still lectured, wrote her column and taught at Brandeis University. *"When you cease to make a contribution you begin to die,"* she said. *"Therefore I think it is a necessity to be doing something which you feel is helpful in order to grow old gracefully and contentedly."*

As the 1960 election approached, she could not remain uninvolved. The Democratic frontrunner for the nomination was John Kennedy. Eleanor could not excuse him for failing to condemn Senator Joseph McCarthy's witch hunt of supposed communists a few years earlier. Russ Hemenway: *"Mrs. Roosevelt was convinced Kennedy could not be elected because he was Catholic. She had other*

objections because Kennedy did not vote to censure McCarthy -- he was away when the vote was taken. Of course, Massachusetts was strong McCarthy territory and that was a difficult situation for him. But she felt, 'Of course it was a difficult situation but sometimes you have to make difficult decisions.' "

Lawrence Fuchs, who was both a friend of Mrs. Roosevelt and an advisor to Kennedy: *"She made it clear that Kennedy was her second choice for President. The problem was, Stevenson had not indicated that he wanted to try again. Typical of him, he held back, letting others speak for him. She really had a dilemma."*

She tried to push an indecisive Adlai Stevenson into making another bid for the presidential nomination. When the Democratic Convention convened in July 1960, to the immense frustration of Mrs. Roosevelt and his other supporters, Stevenson still had not declared himself a candidate.

Hemenway is very animated as he remembers, *"Mrs. Roosevelt was going to second Adlai's nomination. I said to her, 'Maybe we can change this thing around if you stay out on the floor and when you get up to talk you walk all around through the hall. Everyone will go wild.' I mean we were just clutching at straws. But everyone tried to persuade her to wait backstage. Her son, James, came up and said, 'Mother, you can't stay here - you'll get hurt in the crush. Come on back, I insist!' And she just smiled and said, 'No James, I'd like to stay here and listen to the speeches.' And then Franklin, who was very rough with her, came and said, 'Goddam it, Mother, what the hell do you think you are doing?' and she just said, 'I think I'll just stay and listen to the speeches.' Finally Police Chief Park of L.A., a big, tough cop, came over and ordered her backstage and she still said sweetly, 'No, thank you, Officer. I'll just stay and listen to the speeches.' So these big burly cops formed a line around her and we walked through the hall and everyone went wild. We must have held up the proceeding 50 minutes with everyone cheering."*

Lou Harris worked on the Kennedy campaign. *"All of a sudden the convention was abuzz, then it exploded and Mrs. Roosevelt walked onto the stage with Adlai Stevenson and that stopped everything."*

But after Mrs. Roosevelt spoke, to her disappointment, Stevenson withdrew his name. Kennedy won the nomination.

Lou Harris: *"After the convention Kennedy said to me, 'We'd better put things straight with Mrs. R.' He was scared to death of her, scared as a cat. But he knew he had to see her."*

Mutual friends arranged a meeting for the two in August 1960. Lawrence Fuchs: *"Kennedy was convinced he needed to win her over. And by now the facts were there and she did not dispute them. Kennedy was the Democratic candidate and he had dozens of strong liberals in his corner. Nixon, whom she thought of as particularly small-minded, manipulative and untrustworthy, was the opposition. She went completely over to Kennedy. She wanted him to know that he was welcome at her house. He had expected her to demand Stevenson's appointment as Secretary of State in*

exchange for her support. But not at all. She told him he should choose his cabinet without making any promises or commitments to anyone in advance."

In the news footage of Kennedy's inauguration, we see shots of Mrs. Roosevelt. Lawrence Fuchs, voice-over: *"Kennedy wanted her in the Presidential box at the inauguration, where she would be warm and comfortable. But she preferred to sit in the stands below in the 20 degree cold, wrapped in an army blanket. She could stand that. It would not be as cold as those icy baths her grandmother used to make her take as a child. With her exquisite sense of the fitness of things she knew she did not belong in the box. She had not been an early supporter, nor had she been central in the campaign. Besides, it was time for the young man to have as much of the limelight as possible for himself."*

Soon afterwards Mrs. Roosevelt's health began to deteriorate. She was always exhausted and suffered from raging temperatures and severe pain throughout her body. She was diagnosed with a rare form of bone marrow tuberculosis. She tried to keep on as she always had, but soon it took her more than an hour to get dressed in the morning, she was short of breath, and often it hurt too much to move.

In July 1962, she was hospitalized. Trude Lash kept a diary of her last months and recalls, *"There was only suffering from the day in July when she was taken to the hospital for the first time. There was no moment of serenity. There was only anger at the doctors and nurses and the world who tried to keep her alive. She said bitterly, 'They can do with me what they want, not what I want.' "*

Maureen Corr, her secretary, remembers, *"When Dr. Gurewitsch told her there were more treatments she could have, she said, 'David, I want to die, I want to die.' She said it three times. She did not want to live unless it was in the full energetic way she always had."*

She begged Gurewitsch not to let her linger in a slow, agonizing death. But medical treatment continued. Trude Lash: *"She was so weary and so infinitely exhausted. But it seemed she had to suffer every human indignity, every weakness she had resisted and conquered during her whole life, as though she were being punished for being too strong and powerful and disciplined."*

Finally on November 7, 1962, at the age of seventy-eight, Eleanor Roosevelt died at home.

Edna Gurewitsch, *"It was dark when the hearse arrived. David was to ride with her for the last time. I heard the hearse door slam as it slowly pulled away from the house. I watched them from an upstairs window. The long black car stopped at the corner for a red light. I remember thinking how strange it was that the traffic lights were still functioning."*

We see the American flag flown at half mast at government installations. At the United Nations General Assembly, delegates stand for a moment of silence. Political figures from around the world pay her tribute. At her funeral we see Presidents Truman, Eisenhower and Kennedy, as well as the future President, Lyndon Johnson. Eleanor Roosevelt is buried next to Franklin in the rose garden

at Hyde Park.

Millions of average Americans felt lost at her passing. Over the footage of the ceremony we hear Adlai Stevenson's eulogy: *"Like so many others, I have lost more than a friend. I have lost an inspiration. She would rather light candles than curse the darkness and her glow warmed the world."*



Additional Perspectives

With FDR's death, Eleanor left twelve years of life in the White House at the center of world politics, but she did not move to the sideline of events. Although she obviously no longer had the same influence on domestic policies she had with her husband, she did not hesitate to send memos and advice to President Truman. The international stage and the United Nations provided her with an arena in which her concerns about peace, social justice and human rights could find a valuable new forum.

It is hard today for people who were born after the war to imagine the deep scars that two world wars made on people of Mrs. Roosevelt's generation. The scale and scope of the suffering and destruction were devastating and became a driving force behind the United Nations. Like many, Mrs. Roosevelt passionately believed that war simply must never be allowed to happen again. And yet within months of the end of World War II, the Cold War threatened international security again. Mrs. Roosevelt strode into the international arena of the UN, the widow of FDR, with tremendous prestige. Her ability to make people feel she understood and empathized with them reassured delegates. And her lifetime of experience in politics gave her the skills to achieve what perhaps no other delegate could have -- the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Her work there allowed her to keep up the demanding pace which she personally needed to maintain. But the tensions between her public and private personnas did not ease. She mourned Franklin deeply and yet over the years his death did seem to liberate her. She no longer had to consider her positions in relation to his career. With her children her feelings of uselessness and inadequacy would bother her to the end of her life.

Throughout the 1950's, Eleanor Roosevelt was the respected veteran of the Democratic Party and she possessed tremendous authority. Yet she refused to allow the Party to stay frozen in the thinking of FDR and her White House years. She understood and celebrated the dynamism of politics, continually urging her colleagues to look for new leaders and to forge new solutions to America's problems.