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EISENHOWER, BARBARA

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Daughter-in-law of Dwight D. Eisenhower.

DESCRIPTION – Interview #1: First meeting with Dwight D. and Mamie Eisenhower; general impressions of them; contact with her in-laws; photographs; impact of Secret Service presence on her family life; life as daughter-in-law of the President; meeting world leaders; Nikita Khrushchev; family visits to Camp David; renovation of the Gettysburg farm; accompanying her husband to the Geneva Summit meeting in 1955; decoration of the farm at that time; activities for the children at the farm; holidays during the White House years; holidays in the 1960s; birthday celebrations; Ike and Mamie's fiftieth wedding anniversary; dining at Gettysburg and favorite foods; moving her family to Gettysburg; living in Gettysburg; the children's school and other activities; family barbecues; her in-laws' favorite activities and hobbies; the Secret Service; Christmas china; other dinnerware and serving pieces; the show barn; traveling to Gettysburg by car and by helicopter; Camp David; DDE's and MDE's cars.

Interview #2: DDE's first heart attack; changes in family life after the White House years; music, singing and piano playing; skits and plays; schools the children attended while living at Gettysburg; summer jobs; Christmas at Gettysburg; Halloween and other holidays; golf; DDE's cooking; the show barn; the move to Phoenixville; winters in California following the White House years; MDE's life after the death of her husband; golf carts; annual trips west; the skeet range at the farm; the guest house; anecdotes told by DDE; DDE's respect for his mother; cooking duties in the Eisenhower household; MDE's enjoyment of shopping.

[Eisenhower Historic Site, National Park Service, by Carol Hegeman and Lawrence Eckert, August 20 and September 12, 1983]