Guide to the Evlyn Dorn Collection
(1952-1986)

Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum

Contact Information
Richard Nixon Library and Birthplace
ATTN: Archives
18001 Yorba Linda Boulevard
Yorba Linda, California 92886
Phone: (714) 983-9120
Fax: (714) 983-9111
E-mail: Nixon@nara.gov

Processed by: Richard Nixon Library and Birthplace archive staff
Date Completed: March 22, 2005
Table Of Contents

Descriptive Summary 3
Administrative Information 4
Biography 5
Scope and Content Summary 6
Related Collections 6
Container List 7
**Descriptive Summary**

**Title:** Evlyn Dorn Collection

**Creator:** Evlyn Dorn

**Extent:** 3.81 linear feet (15 boxes, 3 envelopes)

**Repository:** Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum  
18001 Yorba Linda Boulevard  
Yorba Linda, California 92886

**Abstract:** The Evlyn Dorn Collection contains correspondence and other documents, articles, audio tapes, and photographs, many from Nixon’s early life and career. Most of the collection is made up of correspondence to, from, or about various members of the Nixon family, in particular Hannah Milhous Nixon. Campaign and inaugural memorabilia, and documents created by authors and local historians for Nixon-related projects are also in the collection.
Administrative Information

**Access:** Open

**Publication Rights:** Copyright held by Richard Nixon Library and Birthplace Foundation

**Preferred Citation:** Folder title. Box #: Evlyn Dorn Collection. Richard Nixon Library and Birthplace Foundation, Yorba Linda, CA.

**Acquisition Information:** Gift of Roberta Dorn

**Processing History:** The collection had been partially processed by Susan Naulty prior to September, 2003. The collection was arranged and described, and fully processed with preservation work by Richard Nixon Library and Birthplace archive staff.
Biography

Evlyn Dorn was born in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. There she attended King George High School. She came to the United States in 1916 to pursue a career in secretarial work. She attended Woodbury Business College in Los Angeles, California.

After finishing school, Dorn worked as a secretary for the Bartlett Music Company in Los Angeles. She then moved to Seattle, Washington, where she worked for the City Directory and later for the Keaton Tire & Rubber Company. Dorn moved back to Los Angeles and worked for attorney Ernest Noon, where she received on-the-job training as a legal secretary. During this time, she married Lawrence “Larry” Dorn.

Evlyn Dorn’s long association with Richard Nixon began in 1937. She was a legal secretary at the firm of Wingert and Bewley when Nixon, fresh out of Duke University Law School, came in to seek a job. The Dorn’s became friends with Richard Nixon and Pat Ryan (who in a couple years’ time would be known as Pat Nixon) and would often meet with them socially.

Dorn became Nixon’s first legal secretary in 1939. She was acquainted with Richard Nixon’s family and would visit the store in East Whittier that his parents owned and where his brother Don worked as a butcher.

When Nixon ran for the Senate in 1950 Dorn worked as his personal secretary. In 1960 when Nixon ran for President, she helped his parents read and answer the stacks of letters they received. She became especially close with Richard Nixon’s mother, Hannah Milhous Nixon. Evlyn Dorn often took care of Hannah Nixon’s appointments and phone calls, and they attended social affairs together.

Dorn also worked as a secretary for businessman F. Donald “Don” Nixon, Richard’s brother, who was in the restaurant business.

Later, Dorn served as a research consultant for Whittier College’s Richard M. Nixon Oral History Project. She interviewed people and took care of the paperwork with National Archives and Records Services (now National Archives and Records Administration).

Evlyn Dorn was a prolific note-taker. She took notes about and made copies of correspondence. She wrote biographical sketches of Hannah Nixon and Pat Nixon. She wrote extensive notes concerning Richard Nixon; these included biographical sketches and notes on his character.
Scope and Content Summary:
The materials in the Evlyn Dorn Collection were collected in the course of her long association with Richard Nixon and his family. They range in date from the early 1940s to the early 1990s, much of which is from the 1950s and the year 1960. Most of the collection is correspondence, articles, and political publications; there are also audio tapes and photographs.

The collection is arranged into six series: General Materials and Correspondence, Oral History Projects, Author Files, Newspaper Clippings, Audio Tapes, and Photographs.

Series I: General Materials and Correspondence: Correspondence by, for, or about Richard Nixon, Pat Nixon, Frank and Hannah Nixon, and other members of the family. The bulk of these are the result of Evlyn Dorn assisting Hannah Nixon field the letters, postcards, requests, and invitations she received. Included in this series are correspondence and other documents pertaining to Richard Nixon’s career, especially the pre-Presidential years. Also included are campaign itineraries and other souvenirs; along with inaugural memorabilia. There are also newspapers and magazine articles and political publications interspersed within the series.

Series II: Oral History Projects: Documents related to various oral history projects, chiefly the Richard M. Nixon project conducted by Whittier College.

Series III: Author Files: Correspondence, articles, and other documents by authors who wrote about Nixon.

Series IV: Newspaper Clippings: Articles either sent to or collected by Evlyn Dorn. They span Nixon’s political career; some of them are quite lengthy.

Series V: Audio Tapes: Audio tapes by or about Nixon.

Series VI: Photographs: Nixon photographs, including many from the early years.

Related Collections:
The Nixon Family Collection
## Container List

### Evlyn Dorn Collection

**Series I: General Materials and Correspondence**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Box:Folder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bewley, Thomas W.</td>
<td>1:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chotiner, Murray</td>
<td>1:2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorn, Evlyn (2 folders)</td>
<td>1:3–1:4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eisenhower, Dwight D.</td>
<td>1:5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eisenhower, Julie Nixon</td>
<td>1:6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nesbitt, John R.</td>
<td>1:7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Don</td>
<td>1:8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Frank A. I</td>
<td>1:9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Frank A. II</td>
<td>1:10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Frank A. 1952–1953</td>
<td>1:11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Frank and Hannah 1952</td>
<td>2:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Frank and Hannah 1953</td>
<td>2:2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Frank and Hannah 1954–1955, Undated</td>
<td>2:3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Hannah M. I</td>
<td>2:4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Hannah M. II</td>
<td>2:5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Hannah M. 1952–1953</td>
<td>2:6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Hannah M. 1960 (10 folders)</td>
<td>3:1–4:6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Hannah M. III</td>
<td>4:7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Patricia Ryan</td>
<td>4:8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Richard M. Pre–1946</td>
<td>5:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Richard M. 1948</td>
<td>5:2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Richard M. Congressional Years</td>
<td>5:3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Richard M. 1952 (3 folders)</td>
<td>5:8–5:10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Richard M. 1953 Inauguration</td>
<td>6:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Richard M. 1957 Inauguration (2 folders)</td>
<td>6:2–6:3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Richard M. Vice Presidential Years (3 folders)</td>
<td>6:4–6:6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Richard M. 1954 Campaign (2 folders)</td>
<td>6:7–6:8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Richard M. 1956</td>
<td>6:9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Richard M. 1960 (2 folders)</td>
<td>7:1–7:2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Richard M. 1968 (3 folders)</td>
<td>7:4–7:6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Richard M. 1969</td>
<td>7:7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Richard M. 1969 Inauguration (3 folders)</td>
<td>7:8–7:10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Richard M. 1973 Inauguration</td>
<td>7:11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Richard M. Christmas Cards</td>
<td>7:13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Richard M. Crank File (2 folders)</td>
<td>8:1–8:2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nixon, Richard M. Empty Envelopes</td>
<td>8:3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Nixon, Richard M. 1950s Publications 8:4
Nixon, Richard M. 1960s Publications (2 folders) 8:5–8:6
Nixon, Richard M. 1970s Publications 8:7
Nixon, Richard M. Articles 8:8
Nixon, Richard M. Speeches 9:1
Nixon, Richard M. Ancestry 9:2
Smith, Paul 9:3

**Series II: Oral History Projects**
California State University, Fullerton 9:4
FDR Library 9:5
Articles 9:6
Whittier College Acquisition Suggestions 10:1
Whittier College Correspondence 10:2
Whittier College Transfer Documents 10:3
Whittier College Gift Forms 10:4
Whittier College Interview List 10:5
Whittier College Prospective Interviewees 10:6
Whittier College Photograph List 10:7
Whittier College Relatives List 10:8
Whittier College Reports 10:9
Whittier College Bewley, Thomas W. 10:10
Whittier College Dorn, Evlyn 10:11
Whittier College Eisenhower, Julie Nixon 10:12
Whittier College Fauts, Mrs. Roy 10:13
Whittier College Marshburn, Austin R. 10:14
Whittier College Nixon, Edward C. 10:15
Whittier College Stone, W. Clement 10:16
Whittier College Timberlake, Edith Milhous 10:17
Whittier College West, Jessamyn 10:18

**Series III: Author Files**
Kornitzer, Bela (4 folders) 11:1–11:4
Marten, Kay 11:5
Mazo, Earl 11:6
Phillips, Don 11:7
Schreiber, Flora Rheta 11:8
Stewart, M. Jean 11:9

**Series IV: Newspaper Clippings**
1953 12:1
1954 12:2
1960s 12:4
1969 12:5
1970–1975 13:1
1974 13:2
1976–1979 13:3
1980–1986 13:4

**Series V: Audio Tapes**

Notes 14:1
1972, Nov. 16. “Friends” Quakers 14
1972, Nov. 17. Jerome Dyeo 14
1973, May 1. Watergate: RN’s speech re: integrity of White House
1973, Jun. 29. Whittier Oral History Project wrap-up session (2 tapes) 14
1974, Aug. 9. RN’s farewell to his staff; Ford’s acceptance speech 14
1976, Jul. Carter’s acceptance speech; N.Y. Democratic Convention 14
1976. Fawn Brodie interview with Evlyn Dorn 14
1977, Mar. 25. Pat Nixon fountain dedication 14
1977, May 12. Nixon–Frost interviews, first two sessions 14
Cathcart, Dr. Robert interview 14
Davis, Lester interview 14
Fouts, Mrs. Roy interview (2 tapes) 14
Nixon, Edward and Don identifying family pictures (2 tapes) 14
Nixon, Frank information (2 tapes) 14
Eisenhower, Julie Nixon interview 14
Nixon, Lawrene interview 14
Watergate, NBC News with John Chancellor; Nixon & Dean; John Mitchell (2 tapes) 14
Dorn, Evlyn summarizes RN’s involvement in Citrifrost Head cleaner cassette 14
Blank tapes (6) 14

**Series VI: Photographs**

Snapshots 15:1
Early Years 15:2
1946, 1950s 15:3
1960 15:4
1968–1969 15:5
Portraits 15:6
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description (Amount)</th>
<th>Department</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carpet</td>
<td>Inaugural carpet pieces (2)</td>
<td>Curatorial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photographs</td>
<td>Nixon Oversize (4 photos)</td>
<td>Photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photographs</td>
<td>1971, Tricia’s Wedding (5 photos)</td>
<td>Photographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paperweight</td>
<td>Lucite paperweight</td>
<td>Curatorial</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>