



Brandon, Mabel (Muffie): Files, 1981-1983

Finding Aid Type

White House Staff and Office File Collections

Subtitle/Office

Office of Social Affairs

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Record Type

Textual

Biography

Biography

Mabel "Muffie" Wentworth Brandon Cabot (nee Hobart) is an American heiress and socialite. She served as the first Social Secretary for First Lady Nancy Reagan (1981-1984).

A member of an American family descended from passengers on the *Mayflower*, Cabot grew up in Cambridge, Massachusetts, attended various boarding schools, and graduated from Smith College. Her father, Richard Hobart was an art collector and an investment banker with Loomis Sayles. Her mother, Janet Elliott Wulsin, was a former explorer who undertook several National Geographic Society-financed expeditions to Tibet and Mongolia.

Cabot's first husband was Eric Wentworth, a correspondent for *The Washington Post*. The couple divorced in 1964. After the divorce, Cabot remained in residence at the pair's Embassy Row home now known as Whitehaven. In 1970 she married British national Henry Brandon, a longtime Washington correspondent for *The Sunday Times*, once known as "the most powerful foreign correspondent in the USA." During this period the couple were known for hosting parties that were the highlight of the Washington social scene.

Despite being a lifelong Democrat and a personal friend of the Kennedy family, she was appointed Social Secretary to fellow Smith College alumna Nancy Reagan in 1981. She served the First Lady until 1985. She went on to serve on the board of trustees of the Phillips Collection and the Eureka Foundation, and served as president of the Washington office of the public relations firm Rogers & Cowan.

Cabot's husband, Henry Brandon, died in 1993. In 1997 she married Louis Wellington Cabot, chair of the America's Cup Foundation and the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, and a scion of the prominent Boston Cabot family.

In 2003, the Aperture Foundation published Muffie Cabot's *Vanished Kingdoms: A Woman Explorer in Tibet, China, and Mongolia, 1921-1925*, an account of her mother's travels in early 20th-century Asia. Her early work on the book was encouraged by long-time friend Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis who read a first draft prior to her death.

Cabot has four children, three from her first marriage and a daughter with Henry Brandon. Cabot's daughter, Ali Wentworth, is an actress, author and producer who appeared on *In Living Color*. She is married to ABC-TV news anchor George Stephanopoulos.

Scope and Content Note

The Library also has a donated personal paper collection for [Mabel "Muffie" Cabot](#).

Last Modified Date

2024-02-26

OA 7163

Status	Title
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CLOSED	Social Events B January 1981-02/25/1981
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OA 7164

Status	Title
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CLOSED	Social Events-02/26/1981-04/30/1981
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OA 7165

Status	Title
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CLOSED	Social Events-05/02/1981-06/24/1981
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OA 7166

Status	Title
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CLOSED	Social Events-06/30/1981-09/14/1981 (see OA 7181)
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OA 7167

Status	Title
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CLOSED	Social Events-09/15/1981-10/30/1981 (see OA 7181)
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OA 7168

Status	Title
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CLOSED	Social Events-11/02/1981-12/30/1981
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OA 7169

Status	Title
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OPEN	Children's Programs [Christmas]
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OPEN	Christmas 1981 (1)-(3)
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OPEN	Christmas at the White House 1982 (MHB) [Binder] (1)-(7)
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Status	Title
OPEN	Christmas Card List
OPEN	Christmas Decorations for the White House
OPEN	Christmas Gifts from Mrs. Reagan
OPEN	Christmas Party for President and Mrs. Reagan
OPEN	Christmas Present for Senior White House Staff and Cabinet
OPEN	Christmas Tree File
OPEN	Dollhouse [Christmas]
OPEN	Jamie Wyeth Christmas Card
OPEN	Revised Christmas Plans
OPEN	[Samples of Gift Wrapping Paper]
OPEN	Santa Claus
OPEN	White House and EOP Staff Tour December 13
OPEN	Presentation of Christmas Tree December 2
OPEN	Press Preview December 7
OPEN	Tour for Handicapped December 8
OPEN	Tour for Volunteers December 8
OPEN	Tour for Senior Citizens December 9
OPEN	Congressional Families Tour December 10
OPEN	Congressional Staff Tour December 11
OPEN	Military and Secret Service Tour December 12
OPEN	Diplomatic Children's Party December 14
OPEN	Press Christmas Party December 14
OPEN	Press Party December 15
OPEN	Party for Deaf Children December 15
OPEN	Congressional White House Open House December 16
OPEN	Pageant of Peace December 17
OPEN	White House Resident Staff Tour December 18
OPEN	Senior Staff Open House December 20
OPEN	Visit of Prince Fahd / Saudi Arabia 1982 (Cancelled)

OA 7170

Status	Title
CLOSED	Social Events-01/05/1982-02/23/1982

OA 7171

Status	Title
CLOSED	Social Events-03/01/1982-03/25/1982

OA 7172

Status	Title
CLOSED	Social Events-03/28/1982-05/24/1982

OA 7173

Status	Title
CLOSED	Social Events-June 1982-July 1982 (see OA 7181)

OA 7174

Status	Title
CLOSED	Social Events-August 1982-10/06/1982

OA 7175

Status	Title
CLOSED	Social Events-10/07/1982-12/21/1982

OA 7176

Status	Title
OPEN	Choirs (1)(2)
OPEN	Christmas 1982 (All Info)
OPEN	Christmas at the White House 1982 [Binder] (1)-(3)
OPEN	Christmas Card Lists for 1982
OPEN	Christmas Cards (1)-(5)
OPEN	Christmas Decorations
OPEN / DIGITIZED	Christmas Ornaments
OPEN	Christmas Present for Mrs. Reagan from Staff 1982
OPEN	Christmas Schedule [1982]
OPEN	Memos [1982]
OPEN	[Memos re: Participation in a White House Staff Christmas Sing-a-Long]
OPEN	Presentation of Christmas Tree 12/9/1982
OPEN	The President Taping for NBC Special 12/10/1982 Library 1:30pm

Status	Title
OPEN	Mrs. Reagan Taping for NBC Special 12/10/1982 Blue Room 2:30 pm
OPEN	Polish Solidarity Ceremony 12/10/1982 9:30
OPEN	Christmas Decorating Begins 12/11/1982 12:00 [Empty]
OPEN	Decorating Proceeds 12/12/1982 [Empty]
OPEN	NBC Christmas Special 12/12/1982 (1)(2)
OPEN	Taping of Christmas in Washington 12/12/1982
OPEN	Press Preview of Christmas Tree 12/13/1982 11:30am
OPEN	Diplomatic Children's Party 12/13/1982 4:00pm
OPEN	Congressional Party 12/13/1982 8:00pm
OPEN	Press Christmas Open House 12/14/1982 8:00pm
OPEN	Tour for Handicapped 12/14/1982 2:00pm
OPEN	Lighting of Christmas Tree 12/16/1982 6:00pm
OPEN	Tour for Press & Families 12/16 1982 2-4pm
OPEN	Press Christmas Party II 12/16/1982 8:00pm
OPEN	Tour for Senior Citizens 12/17/1982 6:00-8:00pm
OPEN	Residence Staff Reception 12/17/1982 2:00-4:00pm
OPEN	Secret Service Party 12/18/1982 6:00pm
OPEN	Military Tour [12/18/1982]
OPEN	White House, EOB & Volunteer Open House 12/19/1982 1:00-5:00pm
OPEN	Mrs. Reagan's Christmas Party for Staff 12/20/1982
OPEN	Congressional Tour 12/20/1982 6:00
OPEN	White House Senior Staff Party 12/21/1982 8:00pm
OPEN	Awards Ceremony 10:30am 12/22/1982
OPEN	Candlelight Tours 12/27/1982 6:00-8:00 [Empty]
OPEN	Candlelight Tours 12/28/1982 6:00-8:00 [Empty]
OPEN	Candlelight Tours 12/29/1982 6:00-8:00 [Empty]

OA 7177

Status	Title
CLOSED	Miscellaneous Files
CLOSED	MHB Memos - January 1982-June 1982

Status	Title
CLOSED	MHB Memos - [October 1982-December 1982]
CLOSED	MHB Memos 1983

OA 7178

Status	Title
CLOSED	Miscellaneous Files
CLOSED	Queen's Visit to California 1983

OA 7179

Status	Title
CLOSED	Miscellaneous Files
CLOSED	MHB Travel
CLOSED	Administrative Matters
CLOSED	FBI Forms and Personnel Records
CLOSED	Mrs. Reagan's Past Blocks
CLOSED	President's Task Force on Arts and the Humanities (2 Folders)

OA 7180 Miscellaneous Files:)

Status	Title
CLOSED	Visitors' Office / Tour Office
CLOSED	Volunteers
CLOSED	White House Treasurer's Report - 1980 (Credit Union)
CLOSED	Vice President
CLOSED	Thank You Notes from MHB to White House Staff
CLOSED	Polish Events
CLOSED	President - Personal (Clothing, etc.)
CLOSED	President's Box - JFK Center
OPEN	Prayer Breakfast Material
CLOSED	Rental
CLOSED	Radio and TV Correspondence Association
CLOSED	Administrative Matters - White House
CLOSED	Bills
CLOSED	Budget (Entertainment)
CLOSED	Cabinet Roster

Status	Title
CLOSED	Consultants
CLOSED	Congressional Inquiries and Correspondence
CLOSED	Contributed Chocolates
CLOSED	Criticism of White House
CLOSED	Critiques of Events
CLOSED	Ellipse Performances
CLOSED	Alternate Official Dinners
CLOSED	Memos sent back to Muffie from Mike Deaver
CLOSED	Memos sent back to Muffie from Joe Canzeri
CLOSED	Mrs. Reagan's Notes
CLOSED	Grants for the Arts (Private Sector)
CLOSED	American Music Scholarship Association
CLOSED	Duke Ellington School for the Performing Arts
CLOSED	Young Artists in Performance at the White House
CLOSED	Letters to Promising Artists of the Future
OPEN	Wines and Vineyards
CLOSED	Recipes
CLOSED	Menus
CLOSED	Tex McCrary
CLOSED	Jubilee Housing
CLOSED	The Home and School Institute, Inc.
CLOSED	Photographs - Diane Brown Gallery
CLOSED	Photographs - General
CLOSED	Library of Congress Newsletters
CLOSED	News Clippings - President Reagan
CLOSED	Mrs. Reagan's Past Schedules - January 1982-November 1982
CLOSED	Guidelines for Use of Residence
CLOSED	Gifts (Correspondence)
CLOSED	Ted Graber Tea Table
CLOSED	Food (Organizations)
CLOSED	Florists

Status	Title
CLOSED	Easter 1982
CLOSED	Decorator - John Irelan
CLOSED	Flower Arrangements (Photos)
CLOSED	Family Theater - Past Months Schedules, December 1981-December 1982
CLOSED	Family Theater - Regulations Schedules - March 1981-November 1981
CLOSED	Federal Arts Funding (Memos and Correspondence)
CLOSED	Mrs. Reagan's Invitation Lists Broken Down by Categories (binder)

OA 7181 (Miscellaneous Files)

Status	Title
CLOSED	Social Events: January 1982-July 1982
CLOSED	Social Events: September 1981-October 1981
CLOSED	Mrs. Reagan's Past Schedules - March 1981-December 1981
CLOSED	Schedules for Office of Social Secretary (Calendar Blocks)
CLOSED	Mrs. Reagan's Guest Lists (See Also Invitation List in OA 7180)
CLOSED	Mrs. Reagan - Memos / Letters
CLOSED	Scenarios - Outdoors
CLOSED	Scenarios - Indoors
CLOSED	Matters of Policy for this Office
CLOSED	First Lady - Gift Ideas
CLOSED	Press
CLOSED	MHB Personal Guest List
CLOSED	Beginnings (TV Series for New Artists)
CLOSED	Hotel Confirmation Forms

OA 7182

Status	Title
CLOSED	Miscellaneous Files MHB Memos from White House Staff, June 1982-December 1982

OA 8612 (uninventoried)

Status	Title
CLOSED	Correspondence from Mrs. Mabel Brandon: A - G (1982)

OA 8613 (uninventoried)

Status	Title
CLOSED	Correspondence from Mrs. Mabel Brandon: H B Q (1982)

OA 8614 (Uninventoried)

Status	Title
CLOSED	Correspondence from Mrs. Mabel Brandon: R-Z (1982)
CLOSED	Correspondence from Mrs. Mabel Brandon: A-Z (1983)

OA 11456

Status	Title
CLOSED	01/03/1983 Dinner - Congressional Leadership -
CLOSED	01/04/1983 Breakfast GOP Congressional Leaders
OPEN	01/05/1983 Luncheon President Navon of Israel
CLOSED	01/06/1983 Bill Signing Surface Transportation Assistance Act / Dinner, New Elected Members of Congress
OPEN	01/07/1983 Tea, Mrs. Navon of Israel
CLOSED	01/07/1983 Bill Signing, Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982
CLOSED	01/15/1983 Reception Martin Luther King Day
CLOSED	01/17/1983 Reception, Republican Leadership
CLOSED	01/18/1983 Tea, Mrs. Nakasone of Japan
CLOSED	01/18/1983 Luncheon, Prime Minister Nakasone of Japan
CLOSED	01/19/1983 Breakfast, Prime Minister Nakasone of Japan
CLOSED	01/19/1983 Private Dinner
CLOSED	01/20/1983 International Youth Exchange
OPEN	01/24/1983 Dinner / Vatican Treasures (New York)
CLOSED	01/27/1983 Tea, Mrs. Mubarak of Egypt / Luncheon, President Mubarak of Egypt
CLOSED	01/28/1983 Budget Briefing, Republican Members of Congress / Reception, National Conference of Mayors
CLOSED	01/31/1983 Budget Briefing, Congressional Leadership
CLOSED	02/02/1983 Meeting, World Jewish Conference, Private Dinner

Status	Title
CLOSED	02/03/1983 Luncheon, Chancellor Kreisky of Austria
CLOSED	02/04/1983 Senate Youth Program
CLOSED	02/07/1983 Breakfast, Freshman Republican Representatives
CLOSED	02/07/1983 Signing Ceremony, Air and Space Bicentennial
CLOSED	02/08/1983 Ceremony, African Development Bank
CLOSED	02/09/1983 Luncheon, Regional Editors
CLOSED	02/09/1983 State Dinner, President of Portugal Canceled
CLOSED	02/17/1983 State and Local Officials
CLOSED	02/18/1983 Luncheon, Prime Minister Willoch of Norway
CLOSED	02/22/1983 Medal Presentation, Prime Minister Seaga, Jamaica
CLOSED	02/22/1983 Reception, Conservative Groups
CLOSED	02/23/1983 Breakfast, Godfrey Sperling
CLOSED	02/23/1983 Luncheon, Medal of Freedom
CLOSED	02/24/1983 Briefing, State and Local Officials
CLOSED	02/24/1983 Reception, American Legion Auxiliary
CLOSED	02/27/1983 Dinner, State Governors
CLOSED	02/28/1983 Meeting, National Governors Association
CLOSED	03/10/1983 Reception, National Newspaper Association
CLOSED	03/11/1983 Breakfast, Sophomore Class of Republican Representatives
CLOSED	03/11/1983 Reception, National Conference of State Legislators
CLOSED	03/14/1983 Briefing, State and Local Officials
OPEN	03/15/1983 Luncheon with Prime Minister Lubbers of the Netherlands
CLOSED	03/15/1983 Reception, Country Music Association
CLOSED	03/18/1983 Signing Ceremony, Small Business Report
CLOSED	03/21/1983 Reception, Republican Congressional Leadership Council
CLOSED	03/21/1983 Dinner, The Chemical People

Status	Title
CLOSED	03/23/1983 Luncheon, Key Supporters
CLOSED	03/23/1983 Dinner, Cabinet and Joint Chiefs of Staff
OPEN	03/25/1983 American Cancer Society Event
CLOSED	03/28/1983 Carnival of the Animals
CLOSED	03/30/1983 Luncheon, President Kaunda of Zambia
OPEN	03/30/1983 Presidential Statement Regarding Meeting with NATO Ambassadors
OPEN	04/06/1983 - PBS Taping "In Performance" (1)(2)
CLOSED	04/07/1983 Breakfast, Senate Class of 1980
CLOSED	04/07/1983 Briefing, State and Local Officials
CLOSED	04/07/1983 Reception, Brady Foundation
CLOSED	04/08/1983 Tea, Mrs. Hurtado of Ecuador 04/08/1983 Luncheon, President Hurtado of Ecuador
CLOSED	04/08/1983 Baatan, Corregidor WWII Women POWs, MIAs
CLOSED	04/08/1983 Briefing, Republican National Committee