

The Eisenhower Center

The Dwight D. Eisenhower Library is set in a complex of five buildings known as the Eisenhower Center. The Center includes, in addition to the Library building, the Visitors Center, Family Home (on its original site), the Museum, and the Place of Meditation. A motion picture, shown in the auditorium of the Visitors Center reviews the life and work of Dwight D. Eisenhower. An exhibit in the Library explains the functions not open to the general public. The Visitors Center also contains a sales desk and public restrooms.

The Eisenhower Family Home

A simple frame structure, typical of family homes in Kansas in the late nineteenth century, the Eisenhower Home was occupied by members of the family from 1898 until 1946. Following the death of Mrs. Ida Elizabeth Stover Eisenhower, in 1946, her sons gave the home to the Eisenhower Foundation. The interior, with the family furniture and mementos arranged as they were at the time of Ida Eisenhower's death, is shown to visitors by trained guides.

The Museum

To the east of the Family Home is the Museum. Built by the Eisenhower Foundation with funds raised through public gifts, it is constructed of Kansas limestone, and was dedicated on Veterans' Day, 1954. The Museum and the Family Home, including their contents, were given to the United States by the Eisenhower Foundation in November 1966. In 1971,

an addition was completed which doubled the exhibit space of the original building.

In the lobby of the Museum are murals depicting General Eisenhower's life and career from his early childhood through his service as President of the United States. A gift from the Edwin Austin Abbey Memorial Trust, the murals were painted by Louis Bouche and Ross Moffett.

Exhibits in five major galleries contain items associated with President Eisenhower, his wife, Mamie Doud Eisenhower, and other members of the Eisenhower family. These exhibits range from presidential gifts received from heads of state around the world, to the simple artifacts of everyday life. The materials are arranged in both a chronological order as well as thematically, and the displays are designed to be self-guided.



PLACE OF MEDITATION