

Description

Exhibit label for the Buffalo Mantel at the Harry S. Truman Library and Museum.

Date(s)

August 28, 1957

THIS MANTEL, KNOWN AS THE "BUFFALO MANTEL" FROM THE TWO BUFFALO HEADS CARVED ON THE LINTEL, WAS INSTALLED IN THE STATE DINING ROOM OF THE WHITE HOUSE IN 1902. THE INSCRIPTION BELOW THE MANTEL SHELF WAS TAKEN FROM A LETTER WRITTEN IN 1800 BY JOHN ADAMS, THE FIRST PRESIDENT TO OCCUPY THE WHITE HOUSE, TO HIS WIFE. THE MANTEL, PICTURED TO THE LEFT AS IT APPEARED IN ITS ORIGINAL SETTING, IS ONE OF TWENTY REMOVED FROM THE WHITE HOUSE AT THE TIME OF ITS RENOVATION IN 1950 AND PRESENTED TO MUSEUMS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE COUNTRY.

THE PICTURE NOW ABOVE THE MANTEL, WHICH HUNG IN THE PRESIDENT'S PRIVATE STUDY ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE WHITE HOUSE, IS BY THE NINETEENTH CENTURY DUTCH PAINTER HENDRIK WILLEM MESDAG. IT SHOWS THE NORTH SEA AS SEEN FROM A BEACH NEAR SCHEVENINGEN, HOLLAND AND WAS GIVEN TO MR. TRUMAN IN 1946 BY THE NETHERLANDS AMERICA INSTITUTE OF AMSTERDAM.

Accession Number 58-306

4x5 inches (10x13 cm) Black & White

Keywords Presidential libraries Exhibitions

HST Keywords Buffalo Mantel - Caption; Truman Library - Museum caption/signs

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