

MONTPELIER MANSION ARCHIVAL PERMANENT COLLECTION
Shirley Baltz Research Collection on Breckinridge Long and Montpelier
Accession 2015.001.01

Montpelier Mansion
Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission
Laurel, MD

Douglas Boyd

2015

Shirley Baltz Research Collection on Breckinridge Long and Montpelier
Accession 2015.001.01
.33 Cubic Feet

Scope and Content Note:

Shirley Baltz, on behalf on Montpelier Mansion, gathered this information from the Library of Congress around 1978. The primary source for her research was the “Breckinridge Long Papers” held at the Library of Congress (see Related Materials) and many of the documents have box locations indicated as to where the item can be found in that collection. Breckinridge Long (1881-1958) and his wife, Christine owned Montpelier Mansion from 1928 to 1959. The collection consists of diary entries, letters, bills, newspaper and magazine articles, biographies, and book excerpts. This collection is useful for understanding Breckinridge and Christine Long’s life, in addition to their impact on Montpelier Mansion (1927-1959).

Processing Notes:

Shirley Baltz’s research was placed in three ring binders, and left unorganized and unused. In the summer of 2015, Douglas Boyd, a volunteer, organized the documents into subject folders, and wrote this finding aid. Karen Whitehair supervised and edited the project. The goal of this project is to make the documents in the collection more accessible to researchers through organization and description.

Everything in this collection is a copy. It is important to note here that several of the items are transcriptions supposedly executed by Mrs. Baltz based upon her findings within the Breckinridge Long Papers Collection found at the Library of Congress. We cannot guarantee the accuracy of the transcriptions so we recommend that researchers verify the information by viewing the original documents.

During processing, all staples were removed. To keep the materials together we used paper paperclips. Please honor these groupings and make sure that you return all items to the folder grouped as you found them originally.

Series Description: This collection is divided into three series. These series are described below:

Series I: PROFESSIONAL FILES - These documents relate to Breckinridge Long's professional life, especially his political activities. They do not directly relate to Montpelier Mansion, but are useful for understanding Breckinridge and Christine Long. It is organized by career posting and date.

Series II: MANSION FILES - These documents relate to Breckinridge and Christine Long at their residence at Montpelier Manor. This is the largest and most comprehensive series in the collection. It is organized by subject and date.

Series III: BRECKINRIDGE LONG PAPERS AND RESEARCHERS NOTES – These documents defy classification. The majority of Breckinridge Long’s diary entries, which cover multiple subjects in one page, are in this collection. They are organized by date range. Additionally, Shirley Baltz’s notes are located here.

Related Materials:

Breckinridge Long Papers at the Library of Congress.
URL: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms010322>

FOLDER LIST

Series 1: Professional Files

Box 1

- Fd. 1 Early Political Career (1919-April 20, 1933)
 - Long Hosts Belgian Royals, 1919 (three articles)
 - Appointment and Resignation, Special Asst. to Attorney General, 1933 (2 letters)
 - Diary Entry, Trip with President Roosevelt, 1932

- Fd. 2 Ambassador to Italy (April 20, 1933-1936) - Correspondences
 - Dinner Invitation from Franklin D. Roosevelt, May 2, 1933
 - Lunch Invitation from Randolph Harrison, May 11, 1933
 - Letter with Clipped Photo from L. S. Rowe, May 22, 1933
 - Letter from Billy Collins, May 31, 1933 (2 pages)
 - Letter to Franklin D. Roosevelt, June 1, 1933 (5 pages)
 - Letter from Ambassador to England, June 12, 1933
 - Franklin. D. Roosevelt to Breckinridge Long in Rome, June 16, 1933 (2 pages)
 - Szechenyi-Roberts Marriage Invitation, June 27, 1933
 - Long to Robert Bingham, June 30, 1933
 - Letter from Clarence N. Goodman, July 5, 1933

- Fd. 3 Ambassador to Italy (April 20, 1933-1936) - Newspaper and Magazine Coverage
 - “U.S. Ambassador Sees Italian King at Palace”, May 31, 1933
 - “Breckinridge Long Sails” & “Breckinridge Long to Ask Opera Stars Here for Golterman”, includes photo, May 18, 1933
 - “Personal Glimpses of Our New Ambassadors”, June 24, 1933
 - “Balbo Ends Flight at Rome’s Airport Amid Wild Acclaim, August 13, 1933
 - “Il Duce Surprised by U.S. Navy Yell” July, 17 1934-6
 - Three Newspaper Excerpts from Nov, Dec. 1934: Long Returns to the U.S. for Holidays

- Fd. 4 Post-1936 Asst. Secretary of State (Nov 26, 1939-1944)
 - “Thousands in War Zone Owe Escape to Breckinridge Long Diplomat, Entrusted with Vital Task of Herding Americans Home, ‘Brings ‘Em Back Alive’”, November 26, 1939 (2 pages)
 - “F. D. R. to Breckinridge Long”, May 20, 1940 (2 pages)
 - “F. D. R. to Breckinridge Long”, November, 19, 1942 (2 pages)
 - Unknown (“DA”) to David Acheson, December 17, 1942

[Box 1, Series 1 cont.]

Fd. 5 Political Biographies

- The War Diaries of Breckinridge Long*. Edited by Fred L. Israel. pp. xi-xxv. (16 pages)
- While Six Million Died: A Chronicle of American Apathy*. Arthur D. Morse. pp. 37-43, 390-391 (6 pages)
- Present at the Creation*. Dean Acheson. pp. 12-13, 18, 40-44 (10 pages)
- Unknown Title and Author, Biographical Entry in a Series

Series 2 Mansion Files

Box 1

Fd. 6 Purchasing Montpelier (1926-1928)

- First Sight of the Mansion, July 1, 1926
- Desire to Purchase, Diary, January 1927
- Visit, Diary, March 1927
- William Stanley (Lawyer) to Long, September 6-7, 1927
- More Legal Wrangling, Telegrams from Stanley to Long, September & October 1927
- Exchange between S. W. Labrot and Long, October 1927
- Letter to Frank A. Thompson, Success in Purchasing Montpelier, May 14, 1928

Fd. 7 Deeds and Land Records

- Shows the initial purchase as well as latter additions and reductions of the property (1928-1961).

Fd. 8 Improving-Maintaining Montpelier, 1928-1929 – Letters and Invoices

Topics:

- Cleaning
- Fencing
- Brass Locks from Ampthill
- Lightning Protection
- Plumbing in Cellar
- Slate for Roof
- Looking for Matching Bricks
- Installation of Frigidaire refrigeration system
- Hurdle Fencing
- Roadwork

Fd. 9 Improving-Maintaining Montpelier, 1928-1929 Boxwood

- Letter to William Middleton, Department of Agriculture, Diseased Boxwood, August 21, 1929
- Middleton to Long, August 23, 1929, Re: Diseased Boxwood (2 pages)

[Box 1, Fd. 9 cont.]

- Long to Middleton, August 30, 1929, Visit (2 pages)
- Middleton to Long, September 25, 1929, Report on Visit and Examination (2 pages)
- Long to Middleton, October 1, 1929 Re: Report and Examination (2 pages)

Fd. 10 Improving-Maintaining Montpelier, 1930 – Letters

- Topics:
- Bluebird Houses, and Butler Suits
 - Electricity to the Barn
 - Blankets and Wool Order
 - Rusticraft Fence
 - Heating the Garage, Electric
 - Road Work
 - Front Door Lock
 - Water Pressure, Bathrooms
 - Rail Post and Fences

Fd. 11 Improving-Maintaining Montpelier, 1931 – Letters

- Topics:
- Caps on Columns
 - Gate for Gateway
 - Dust Coming through Furnace
 - Lining/Sealing Cellar
 - Slate Roofing on Servant's Wing and Wood House in Rear
 - Pruning and Bracing Trees
 - Pump and Well
 - Electric Meter

Fd. 12 Improving-Maintaining Montpelier, 1931 – Water Contamination

- Breckinridge Long to Christine Long, September 15, 1931, Summary and Explanation of Water Contamination Issue (2 pages)
- J.S.S. to Long, September 15, 1931 – Resolving the Issue
- Kendall & Parlett to Long, September 22, 1931, Re-drilling a Well

Fd. 13 Improving-Maintaining Montpelier, 1932

- Topics:
- Pumping Equipment for Well.
 - Excavation of Cellar under the Library Wing, Dampness in Dining Room, Slate Roof, and Addition of Tanks in the Tank House
 - Fireplace in Cellar under Library
 - Installing and Painting Bookshelves in the Cellar under Library, Installation of Antique Pine Floors, and Plastering the Ceiling

[Box 1, Series 2 cont.]

- Fd. 14 Improving-Maintaining Montpelier, From Italy 1933-1936 -
Correspondences between Long and his Caretaker, William Crawford
Topics:
-Storm Damage
-Shingling the Barn
-Window, Down Spout, and Barn Roof Repair
-Plowing the Fields, Feeding Cattle
-Painting Several Rooms
- Fd. 15 Agriculture at Montpelier
-Long to Samuel Ross, March 19, 1929, 50 Bushels of Bluegrass Seed
-Long to William F. Hitt, June 17, 1929, Purchase of 20 Sheep
-Long to Southern Maryland Agriculture Association, March 27, 1931
-Long, to Gobel-Leffler, Inc., October 21, 1931, Slaughter of Hogs
-Robert W. Daniel to Long, November 16, 1932, Milk Cow
-John Turner, Veterinarian, to Long, April 2, 1933, Milk Situation
-Diary Entry, September 24, 1939, Inspection of the Farm
- Fd. 16 Finances and Other Purchases (1928-1933) Letters and Telegrams
-Class Benevolent Fund, March 23, 1928
-Citizens National Bank, August 1929
-E. J. MacMillian, November 12, 1929, the Market
-Pierce Arrow Agency, December 31, 1929, Pierce Arrow Limousine
-Citizens National Bank, April 22, 1930, Check for Note Payable
-Union Trust Co. of Maryland, May 3, 1930, Canceled Note
-G. Walter Tovell, August 9, 1930, Fire Insurance for Garage and
Servant's Quarters
-Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, December 4, 1930, Automobile
License
-Security Storage Company, December 10, 1930, Insurance and Removal
of Paintings
-Laurel Plumbing and Heating Co., December, 10, 1930, Payment on
Account
-Eutaw Savings Bank, January 7, 1932, Recent Improvement on Property,
including 7 Car Brick Garage (2 pages)
-Eutaw Savings Bank, April 28, 1932, Receipt of Check
-Eutaw Savings Bank, April 3, 1933, Mortgage Loan Paid Off
-Long to William Crawford, Caretaker, December 17, 1933, "Bakers
Instantaneous Silver Polish"
- Fd. 17 Life at Montpelier, Daily Life
-Avondale County School, January 24, 1929, Interest in a Meeting
-Diary Entries, March 7th – December 18, 1929, Daily Life

[Box 1, Fd. 17 cont.]

- Long to Frank Thompson, October, 14, 1929, Moving to Montpelier
- Long to Frank Thompson, January 20, 1930, Description of Montpelier Mansion
- Sidney's Orchestras, Inc., May 26, 1930, Music Arrangements
- Directions to Montpelier, May 26 1930
- Atwater Kent to Long, May 13, 1931, Recent Visit
- Long to Bulkley, February 3, 1932, Lunch
- Laurel Welfare Association to Long, March 22, 1933, Assistance
- Laurel Welfare Association, E. E. Hatch, to Long, March 31, 1933, Thank You for Assistance
- List of Acceptances to a Luncheon at Montpelier Manor, April 20, 1933
- Diary Entries, January 23, 1937 – December 12, 1937
- Diary Entries, January 10, 1938 – March 17, 1938

Fd. 18 Life at Montpelier Mansion, Wedding of Christine Long and Arnold Wilcox, Newspaper Articles

- Photo of Christine Long on Wedding Day, April 19, 1938, Article on Back [photo stapled to paper]
- “Miss Christine Long Bride of Mr. Arnold Wilcox [sic] Wedding Takes Place at Montpelier”, April 19, 1938
- “By the Way”, April 19, 1938, Review of Montpelier [2 pages]

Fd. 19 Correspondences Relating to the History of Montpelier Manor

- Atreus Von Schrader to Long, January 21, 1930, Letter on the Origin of Montpelier
- Long to Von Schrader, January 27, 1930 Re: Letter on the Origin of Montpelier
- Basil Snowden, Western National Bank, to Long, May 8, 1931, Adjacent Land
- Dr. Henry Thomas Jr. to Long, April 17, 1933, Family and “Fairland”
- Long to Thomas Jr., April 21, 1933, Re: Family and “Fairland”
- Donald Davis, to Long, September, 1933, Photograph of Montpelier
- Long to Davis, October 6, 1933, Re: Photograph of Montpelier
- Ogle Marbury to Long, May 13, 1932, Oil Portrait of Thomas C. Jenkins, by Peale
- Long to Marbury, May 18, 1932, Re: Oil Portrait of Thomas C. Jenkins, by Peale

Fd. 20 Long's Horse Breeding and Racing (1927-1943)

- Diary Entries, and Telegrams, Letters, Newspaper Articles, Magazines
- This folder includes comprehensive coverage of his horse racing, including results, winnings, injuries, purchase and selling of horses and supplies, traveling, and breeding.

[Box 1, Fd. 20 cont.]

-The addressees of Long's horse racing correspondences are family, friends, trainers, breeders, stables, contractors, bankers.

Fd. 21 Newspaper and Magazine Coverage of Montpelier

- “These Charming People”, Times Herald, May 16, 1939
- “An Eighteenth Century American Home”, Town & Country Magazine, March 15, 1931 (9 pages) [Folded]
- “Restorations by G. Walter Tovell”, Baltimore Municipal Journal, c. 1929

Fd. 22 Long's Death and Montpelier's Future

- “Mrs. Long Dies in Palm Beach”, Baltimore Sun, February 25, 1959
- “Long's Rites Set for Monday”; “Rites Monday for Ex-Envoy Long, 77”; “Plate is Sold for \$2,900”
- “This Week at Montpelier Manor ‘Private Museum’ Goes on the Block”, September, 17, 1959
- “It was ‘Going, Going, Gone; at Montpelier Manor Last Week” October 15, 1959

Fd. 23 Book Excerpts: Family and Estate (Montpelier) History

- Architecture of the Old South*. Ernest Desamark, 1926 (11 pages)
- Colonial Mansions of Maryland and Delaware*. John M. Hammond (8 pages)
- “Montpelier” James C. Wilfong Jr. from Prince George's Past, November 14, 1968
- Tidewater Maryland*. p. 300-303 (2 pages)
- Across the Years in Prince George' County*. “Montpelier” p. 1
- “Nation's Finest visit at Montpelier Mansion” by Sally Bucklee
- Maryland Mill, Taverns, Forges, Etc. of 1795”, *Maryland History*, May-June 1936, pp. 31, 167
- Historic Graves of Maryland and the District of Columbia*. Helen Ridgley. pp. 88-91(2 pages)

Series Three: Breckinridge Long Papers and Researchers Notes

Box 1

Fd. 24 Breckinridge Long Papers - Diary Entries. Arranged chronologically.

- Sheet 1, Literary Rights
- Sheet 2 January 25 1928 – October 27, 1928
- Sheet 3 October 28, 1928 – December 29, 1928
- Sheet 4 April 2, 1936- January 23, 1937
- Sheet 5 March 17, 1938 – April 18, 1938

[Box 1, Fd. 24 cont.]

- Sheet 6 April 30, 1938
- Sheet 7 January 2, 1939 – March 17, 1939
- Sheet 8 December 29, 1938 – April 26, 1939
- Sheet 9 April 3, 1939
- Sheet 10 April 26, 1939 - May 26, 1939
- Sheet 11 January 15, 1940 – June 2, 1940
- Sheet 12 August 24, 1941
- Sheet 13 Membership Listings from 1930

Fd. 25 Researcher Notes

- “Notes from Black Binder” (4 pages)
- Notes of a Talk by David Buswell, Caretaker of Montpelier in the 1960’s,
October 24, 1978. (2 pages)