

The original documents are located in Box 1, folder “8/13/74 - White House Tour” of the Sheila Weidenfeld Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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*of
1st pconf*

7

MRS. FORD

Leading into Mrs. Ford's press conf., Peterson of CBS noted it's custom that previous First Lady escort new thru Family Qtrs. But RN's sudden departure made that impossible. ...On all nets, Mrs. Ford called WH "very beautiful home" and said she's "thrilled" at thought of moving in. She found House in "excellent condition" and "can't imagine anyone more delighted than I." As to woman VP, she said she thinks it's time women stepped up and took their place. ...NBC's Nessen said First Lady toured to learn her way around and to see who gets which bedroom, noting they'll move from "modest" Va. home w/no dining room. Nessen further noted DC's women press are sometimes referred to as "harpies...witches." (Observer noted that audible on all nets were queries from press "who's that man -- who is he," in ref. to aide who escorted Mrs. Ford from conf).

AP leads: "1st lady BF looked over her family's new 132 room mansion and liked what she saw."

UPI leads: "BF was delighted w/new home and was especially pleased her husband can continue to make his own breakfast." She doesn't consider it her House. "I consider it home of the people of the US."

BF said she'll hold regular confs. as 1st Lady. Her husband hasn't told her who he's considering as VP, and she plans no major redecorating of Family Qtrs. But she ducked questions on how many years she'd like to live in WH saying "that's a leading question." (Nets noted this, also).



OTHER ADMIN

NBC/CBS w/film of "moving day" for GFs. NBC's Rowan said it's not every man who can schedule business trip out of town on same day he moves, but after GF (on film) saw all those boxes he said he was glad to be going. Both nets noted GFs plan to use same bed. Over film of Susan, Rowan said she packed some of her own things, like any other family on move, but that's where similarity ended, as film panned truck approaching WH. CBS, in briefer clip, noted Family will leave behind it's "most prized possession -- the pool." Concluding w/ film of Steve welcoming parents back from Chicago on South Lawn, Chancellor said "and they have our very best wishes."

"America's new First Family is refreshing," says NY Daily News' Wood in 1st of series. One must go back to TR to find family so close-knit, yet so charged w/ energy in doing own thing. While children thought they were ready for emergence onto world stage, "they hadn't seen anything yet" in terms of pursuit by media and public gawking. As for all 1st Families, 1st and foremost invasion of their cherished privacy is Secret Service. Director Knight assured them USSS was "not going to want to know what's going on inside," but outside. Jack assured others the protection was good, noting his belief he was followed more than once. Says Ms. Wood, "those who were turned off by Loud family...should have their faith restored by acquainting themselves w/ Ford Family."

WWD called BF's press conf a "disaster." Originally scheduled for Mon, postponed til Tues. morning, and "true to form," BF did not arrive til 1:26. "Serene and smiling," she "sauntered" out "wearing emerald-green linen" to greet newsmen who'd waited in sun for an hour. She gave them "exactly 6 minutes" and made no apologies tho she'd been told they'd been waiting. According to Helen Smith, BF was disturbed group was so large -- "she thought it was just going to be group of 5 or 6." Aides explained mix-up due to "lack of staff," Stroud notes.

WWD reports Fulbright thinks GF will be "a good President." He said "I don't know what he'll do w/economy," but GF has attractive personality and it's most encouraging he's taken great interest in Reedy's book, "Twilight of the Presidency" and recommended it to his staff.

Stan Scott told Amsterdam News GF is "quite sensitive" to problems of minorities. He urged blacks/other minorities to give GF an opportunity to demonstrate that concern, and not prematurely judge him because of conservative background. News noted GF as VP met w/ cross section of blacks and other



NEW FIRST LADY AFTER CHECKING LIVING QUARTERS AT THE WHITE HOUSE

Betty Ford Has Chance to Inspect Area Where Family will Move Next Monday

—UPI

Betty Ford 'Thrilled To Death'

Fords Pack For Moving Day

By JANET STAIHAR

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — This is packing day for the Fords of Great

change, Mrs. Ford hinted: "All he needs is a toaster."

Bronched about her views that

from becoming priests in the Episcopal church. The Fords are parishioners of the Episcopal Immanuel



Chm ~~FF~~ tour of WH

Boston Herald Amer. 8/14/74

Betty Tours White House, But Jerry Is Still in Kitchen



AFTER THE TOUR . . . Mrs. Betty Ford waves goodbye.
AP Photo

By JANET STAIHAR

WASHINGTON (AP) — After giving it a thorough going over, First Lady Betty Ford said she liked 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, but her husband may still be fixing his own breakfast there.

"I'm thrilled to death," Mrs. Ford said after getting a private guided tour of the White House yesterday. "It's very beautiful and in excellent condition."

The First Lady said she's looking forward to moving into the executive mansion next Monday. Her husband plans to be out of town that day addressing the national convention of the

Veterans of Foreign Wars in Chicago.

Mrs. Ford said she will start packing today for the move from 514 Crown View drive in Alexandria, Va., where the Ford family has lived since 1955.

The First Lady's first mass news conference, with about 150 reporters, was held in the blistering sun behind the White House.

Reporters noted that the President liked to prepare his own breakfast and the First Lady said that might not change.

"All he needs is a toaster," she said.

(Continued on Page Seven)



Dallas Times Herald
First Lady 8/14/74

Betty shows spunk

By MARGARET MAYER
Times Herald Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON—The new First Lady
has spunk.



MEETING REPORTERS after an inspection tour of the White House, which she and her family will occupy for at least the next two years and four months, Betty Ford did not hedge at answering questions.

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Ford Tours the White House and Likes It as It Is



The New York Times

Betty Ford after she and her daughter, Susan, toured the White House yesterday

AUG 14 1974
By Reuters

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13—As any new homeowner will, Betty Ford carefully checked the closet space, the color schemes and, after nearly two hours, said: "I'm thrilled at the thought of moving in. It is in excellent condition."

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Mrs. Ford Tours White House And Finds It in Excellent Shape

AUG 14 1974

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Continued on Page 16, Column 4



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President's Wife 'Thrilled to Death'

By JANET STAIHAR
Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTON (AP) — After giving it a thorough going over. First Lady

FOR EXAMPLE, daughter Susan might suggest some redecoration to fit her 17-year-old tastes



—Associated Press Wirephoto.

First Lady Betty Ford waves to photographers on the South Lawn of the White House after touring her new 132-room mansion. The Fords will start packing Wednesday to move to the White House from their 7-room home in Alexandria, Va., according to Mrs. Ford's secretary.



NYT 8/14/74 4001.4
Mrs. Ford Tours the White House and Likes It as It Is



By Reuters

WASHINGTON, Aug. 13—As any new homeowner will, Betty Ford carefully checked the closet space, the color schemes and, after nearly two hours, said: "I'm thrilled at the thought of moving in. It is in excellent condition."

In short, the wife of the President liked what she saw about the house at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W. today.

The nation's new First Lady emerged from her first full-fledged tour of the White House and told reporters that she saw no reason to redeco-

Mrs. Ford Tours White House And Finds It in Excellent Shape

Continued From Page 1, Col. 6

old. She has asked that a portion of her third-floor bedroom and is resuming seminary studies this fall.

The Presidential family hopes to move in by Monday. Meanwhile, Mrs. Ford is preparing

The New First Lady Prepares to Move In

Betty Ford said Tuesday she was delighted with her new home — the White House — and was especially pleased that her husband can continue to make his own breakfast.

The new first lady took a two-hour tour of the executive mansion Tuesday with chief usher **Rex Scouten** as her guide. New first ladies are usually conducted through the White House by the departing presidential wife, but because of former President **Richard Nixon's** departure, that custom

chronos-tour
of WH



Wash Post 8/14/75 p C1

It Looks Nice To Betty Ford

By Dorothy McCardle

After keeping the press and had admired all "the



She said she had looked over bedroom arrangements, See CONFERENCE, C3, Col. 1



By Frank Johnston—The Washington Post

First Lady Betty Ford at her first White House press conference.



Scene

"I don't consider it my house. It belongs to all the people of the United States."

He Can Continue To Cook

CONFERENCE, From C1

The sitting room walls will be repainted "a sunny yellow" before the Fords move "probably by next Monday."



By Frank Johnston—The Washington Post

Betty Ford talks to reporters at the White House.

- People
- Amusements
- The Arts
- TV: Page C-12

No. 1 Housewife Checks It All Out

By Isabelle Shelton
Star-News Staff Writer

First Lady Betty Ford, who comes to the White House with a reputation for keeping her husband waiting, gave the White House a demonstration yesterday.

"I'm thrilled to death at the thought of moving in. It is in excellent condition, and I can't imagine anyone being more delighted than I am."

Mrs. Ford was guided through the house by Chief Usher Rex Stouten and White House Curator Clement Conner.



United States. I think it is a very beautiful house, a very beautiful mansion, and

See BETTY, E-3

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See BETTY, E-3



—Star-News Photographer Joseph Silverman



The new mistress of the White House chatted happily after inspecting the facilities yesterday. She took her time on the tour and was almost two hours later than expected when she emerged, above. During the tour, her group paused on the Truman balcony (left). That's White House Curator Clement Conger next to Mrs. Ford.

New residence 'thrills' Mrs. Ford

Washington (Reuter)—As any prospective resident will, the woman carefully checked the closet space, the color schemes and after nearly two hours, said: "I'm thrilled at the thought of moving in. It is in excellent condition."

In short, Betty Ford, wife



Betty Ford, the new First Lady, waves to photographers on the south lawn of the White House, following a tour of her new 132-room residence.

Meanwhile, Mr. Ford is

Joanne Woodward; Jane

pected to spend much time hopes to move in by Monday.

Griffis injured in fire



nt Bids Meany o Halt Inflation

By JAMES WIEGHART

13 (News Bureau) — President Ford met with George Meany today to enlist the cooperation of the AFL-CIO federation in his anti-inflation fight. The President's days of meetings with state and local government leaders to gain support for his efforts to rebuild the Republican administration shattered by Watergate.

The meeting with Meany, held at Ford's invitation, was to lay the groundwork for organized labor's participation in the domestic summit meeting that Ford said he would call soon to plan a coordinated attack on inflation by government, business labor and agriculture leaders.

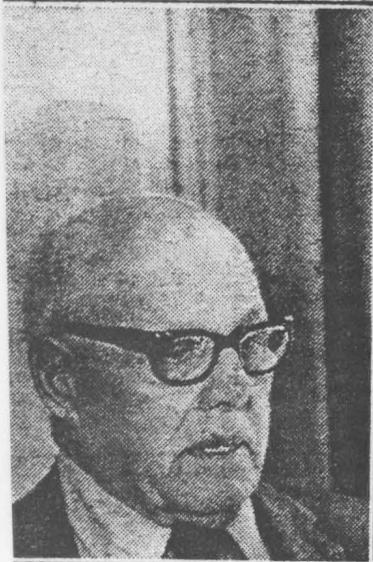
After the 1972 campaign, Meany broke with former President Nixon over the administration's economic policies, then called for his impeachment following Watergate scandal disclosures. Meany left the 45-minute meeting with Ford without comment.

But presidential Press Secretary Jerald F. terHorst quoted Ford as saying "it was a very friendly and very constructive discussion." TerHorst said that Ford called Meany "a great labor leader" and indicated that Meany had left the President detailed, written proposals for dealing with inflation.

TerHorst said that Meany also discussed special problems confronting the depressed construction industry, particularly in home building, which has been hard hit by record high interest rates.

Ford told 300 presidential appointees at a White House meet-

(Continued on page 64, col. 1)



UPI-Telephoto

President Meany yesterday.

Bush Top List

(Special)—Former Gov. Nelson Rockefeller, Republican National Chairman, is one of the two top contenders for the White House. Rockefeller, 66, and Bush, 50, were "by and by" mentioned by prominent Republicans, whose opinions have been sought. Rockefeller is expected to study them by the end of this week.

Revs Up Cost Council

By JEROME CAHILL

(News Bureau) — Responding to President Ford's appeal for raising the Cost of Living Council, leaders of Congress laid out their plan for the legislation.

Banking Committee, to have his panel take up the measure tomorrow. In the Senate, majority leader Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.) planned to make a similar appeal to Sen. John J. Sparkman (D-Ala.), chairman of the Senate Banking Committee.

In his address to a joint session of Congress last night, Ford said the council should "monitor" prices and wages to "expose abuses" but should not be given powers to control them.

However, at today's press briefing, White House Press Secretary Jerald terHorst said no decision had been reached as to the extent of the powers the council

(Continued on page 16, col. 5)



UPI Telephoto

Betty Ford outside her new home after tour.

Betty 'Thrilled'

Tours the White House

By ANN WOOD

Washington, Aug. 13 (News Bureau) — First lady Betty Ford likes the White House so much she doesn't plan to change it, but daughter Susan, 17, apparently wants to make it homier.

They toured their new home today and Mrs. Ford judged the mansion to be beautiful and in excellent condition.

"I'm thrilled to death at the thought of moving in," she said.

Susan said nothing in front of reporters.

Later the President took a tour of the quarters. He strolled briefly on the Truman Balcony, which offers a spectacular view across the South Lawn and the Tidal Basin to the Jefferson Memorial.

"It's a great place," he said. He dodged most questions about his new home. "I'm not going to make any comment until I talk to my wife," he said.

7 Reporters Wait

The Fords, who have resisted being overwhelmed by what has happened to them, have an eye to duplicate the comforts of their old home after they move into the White House Monday. But all they have decided so far is that the President can continue cooking his own breakfast in the second-floor family kitchen.

"All he needs is a toaster," said Mrs. Ford, laughing.

"A few minor changes" upstairs might be made for Susan, Mrs. Ford said, but she would not reveal them, or the room assignments, before checking with her husband. But indications are that Susan, who prefers a style of living less ornate than the White House now provides, will settle on the third floor. There are eight bedrooms, more than enough for the four Ford children, and a large solarium which Luci and Lynda Bird Johnson reserved for their entertaining. The President and Mrs. Ford would share a second-floor bedroom.

Susan stayed in the background as her mother told reporters that her husband had not told her his list of vice presidential possibilities; that her interest in volunteer projects center on the arts and retarded children; and that she favored equal rights and pay for women and ordination of women in the Episcopal Church, to which the Fords belong. And maybe even a woman vice president. Mrs. Ford said she will also hold regular press conferences.

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Comics

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Berry's World	73	Moore Mullins	39
Dondi	60	Orphan Annie	57

TEMPERATURES IN NEW YORK

Max. 86 at 1:35 p.m.; Min. 65 at 6:05 a.m.

Highest this date, 96 in 1944
Lowest this date, 35 in 1920

1 a.m.	70	9 a.m.	70	5 p.m.	83
2 a.m.	69	10 a.m.	75	6 p.m.	86
3 a.m.	68	11 a.m.	80	7 p.m.	81
4 a.m.	68	Noon	80	8 p.m.	78
5 a.m.	67	1 p.m.	82	9 p.m.	75
6 a.m.	66	2 p.m.	84	10 p.m.	76
7 a.m.	67	3 p.m.	86	11 p.m.	74
8 a.m.	69	4 p.m.	86	Midnight	74

Readings up to 10 p.m., Aug. 13

Mean temperature, 76; normal, 75; average below normal since Aug. 1, .5 degree.

PRECIPITATION
Yesterday none; total since Jan. 1, 25.09 inches. Total this date, 1973, 38.26 inches. Total since Aug. 1, 1.30 inches.

TEMP. HUMIDITY INDEX
74 at 1 p.m.; 77 at 5 p.m.
7% of us are affected when index hits 70; half at 75; all at 80.

UMIDITY: 63% at 8 a.m.; 64% at 10 p.m.

DAILY POLLEN COUNT
(By Long Island Jewish Hospital)
(25 is considered excessive)

1974: 9
1973: 18
For 6 hours ended at 3 p.m.

DAILY ALMANAC

TODAY'S FORECAST

NEW YORK: 69-86
CLOUDY
SHADOWS
RAIN

Other cities: Burlington, Albany, Boston, Buffalo, Detroit, Cleveland, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Washington, Norfolk, etc.

HOW CITIES FARED YESTERDAY

City	Temperatures		Inches of Rain	Today's Weather
	High	Low		
Albany	82	58	—	P. Cloudy
Anchorage	61	55	—	Cloudy
Atlanta	82	66	—	Showers
Boston	80	61	—	Clear
Buffalo	79	62	.20	Clear
Chicago	84	74	—	P. Cloudy
Cincinnati	88	66	—	Showers
Cleveland	81	62	.08	Showers
Denver	88	55	.01	P. Cloudy
Detroit	86	67	—	P. Cloudy
Fort Worth	95	72	—	Clear
Houston	95	78	—	P. Cloudy
Los Angeles	74	66	—	P. Cloudy
Miami Beach	86	66	—	Showers
Minneapolis	78	56	—	P. Cloudy
New Orleans	89	70	.76	Showers
Orlando	88	72	.08	Showers
Philadelphia	82	63	—	P. Cloudy
Phoenix	104	76	—	Clear
Pittsburgh	83	63	—	Cloudy
Salt Lake City	89	67	—	Clear
San Francisco	64	57	—	P. Cloudy
San Juan, P.R.	88	76	—	P. Cloudy
Seattle	68	55	—	P. Cloudy
St. Louis	91	72	—	P. Cloudy
Washington	83	71	—	P. Cloudy

AUGUST 1974

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

AIRDEX®
Yesterday: Air quality was rated unsatisfactory for 24 hours ended 3 a.m.
Today: Air quality is expected to be acceptable. —Air Resources Dept.

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People in the news

AUG 14 1974

New residence 'thrills' Mrs. Ford

Washington (Reuter)—As any prospective resident will, the woman carefully checked the closet space, the color schemes and after nearly two hours, said: "I'm thrilled at the thought of moving in. It is in excellent condition."

In short, Betty Ford, wife of the President, liked what she saw about the floors of the house at 1600 Pennsyl-



Meanwhile, Mr. Ford is commuting from their residence in suburban Alexandria, Va.

In reply to reporters' questions, Mrs. Ford said as First Lady she plans to pursue volunteer work in the arts, her specialty, and with retarded children.

Hitchcock turns 75

Dallas Times Herald
First Lady 8/14/74

Betty shows spunk

By MARGARET MAYER
Times Herald Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON—The new First Lady has spunk.

She couldn't have enjoyed walking out of the White House into the lenses of a dozen television cameras and no-

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MEETING REPORTERS after an inspection tour of the White House, which she and her family will occupy for at least the next two years and four months, Betty Ford did not hedge at answering questions.

NYT 8/14/74 4001.4
Mrs. Ford Tours the White House and Likes It as It Is

By Reuters

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The nation's new First Lady emerged from her first full-fledged tour of the White House and told reporters that she saw no reason to redeco-



14, 1974



UPI Telephoto

Betty Ford outside her new home after tour.

Betty 'Thrilled'

Tours the White House

By ANN WOOD

Washington, Aug. 13 (News Bureau) — First lady Betty Ford likes the White House so much she doesn't plan to change it, but daughter Susan, 17, apparently wants to make it homier.

It Looks Nice To Betty Ford

By Dorothy McCardle

After keeping the press waiting two hours, Mrs. Gerald Ford held a four-minute press conference in the hot sun of the South Lawn of the White House yesterday

and had admired all "the very big closets." Then she added, "Fortunately in this house Jerry will be able to cook his own breakfast."



Scene

"I don't consider it my house. It belongs to all the people of the United States."

He Can Continue To Cook

CONFERENCE, *From C1*

The sitting room walls will be repainted "a sunny yellow" before the Fords move "probably by next Monday."

Mrs. Ford hesitated when



White House 'Thrills' First Lady

By MARGUERITE SULLIVAN
Copley News Service

WASHINGTON — Betty Ford had her first official look at her new home — the White House — yesterday and said it looked "pretty nice to me."

What particularly pleased the new First Lady was that her

The Times-Picayune, New Orleans, La.

3/14/74



FIRST LADY BETTY FORD waves to photographers on the South Lawn of the White House Tuesday after she toured her new 132-room home. According to Mrs. Ford's secretary, the Fords will start packing

—AP Wirephoto.
Wednesday to move into the White House from the seven-room Alexandria, Va., brick and clapboard home where they have lived since 1955.

chron 1st PC

4 A The Dallas Morning News
New Home Toured

Wednesday, August 14, 1974 ***

President's Wife 'Thrilled to Death'

By JANET STAIHAR

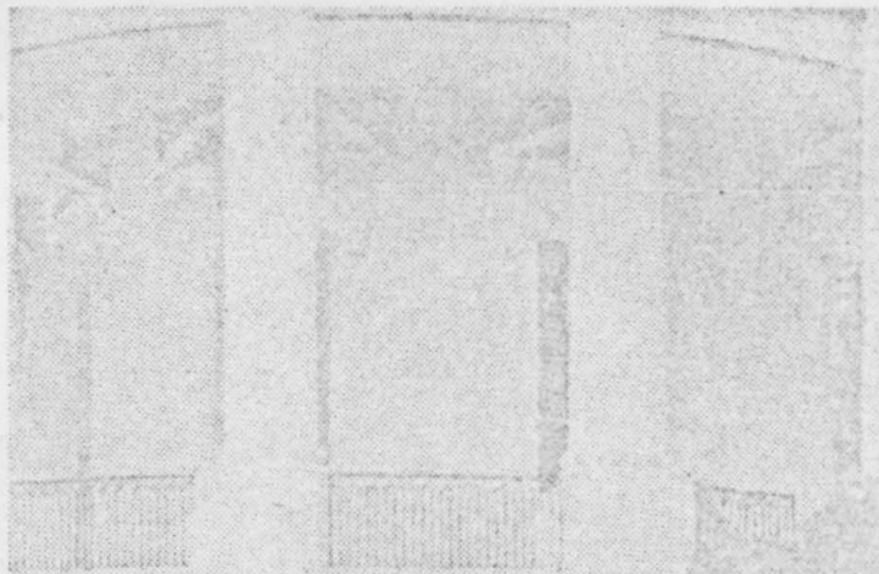
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) —

After giving it a thorough going over, First Lady Betty Ford said she liked

FOR EXAMPLE, daughter Susan might suggest some redecoration to fit her 17-year-old tastes.

Asked if the White House



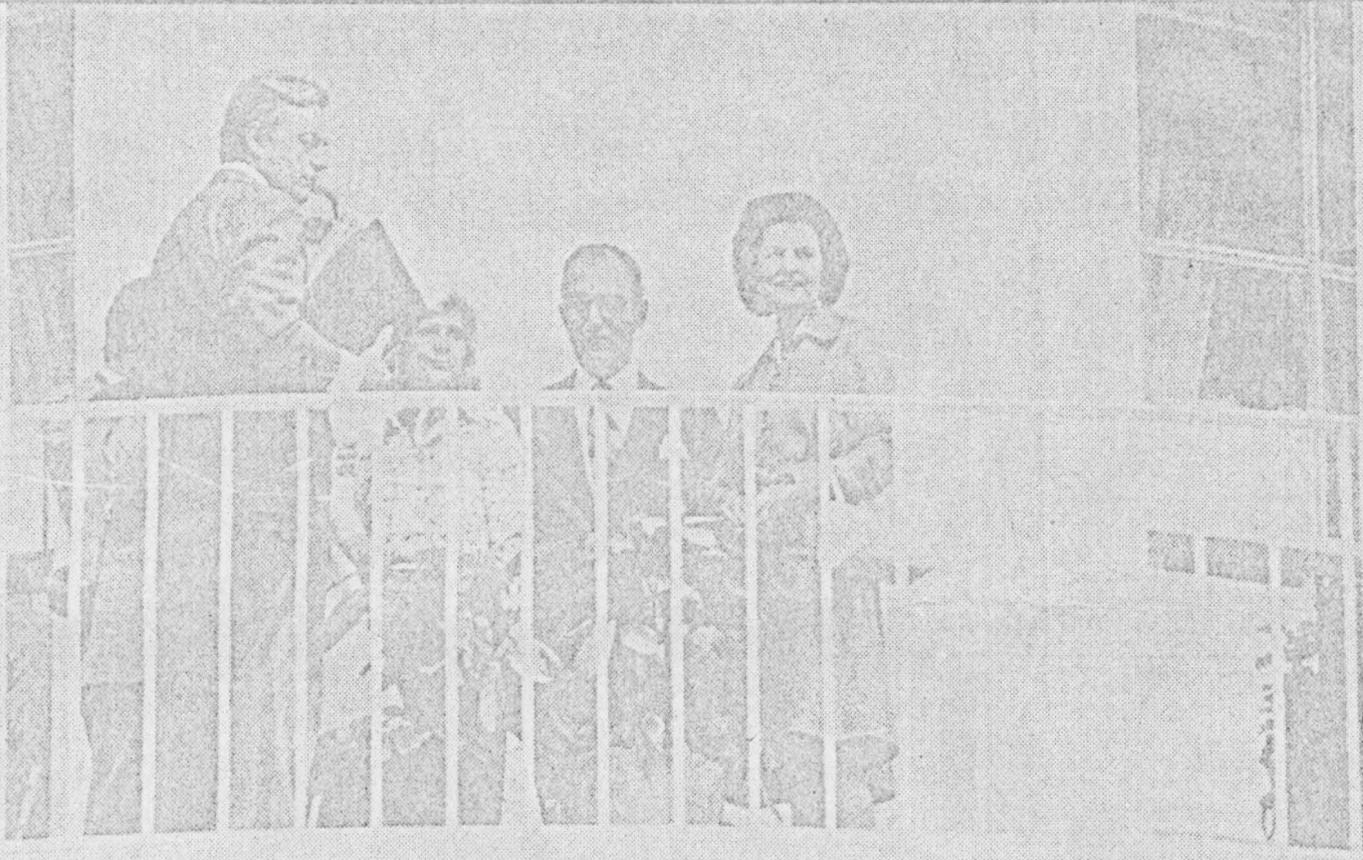
No. 1 Housewife Checks It All Out

By Isabelle Shelton
Star-News Staff Writer

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I'm thrilled to death at the thought of moving in. It is in excellent condition, and I can't imagine anyone being more delighted than I am."

LIBRARY



—Star-News Photographer Joseph Silverman

The new mistress of the White House chatted happily after inspecting the facilities yesterday. She took her time on the tour and was almost two hours later than expected when she emerged, above. During the tour, her group paused on the Truman balcony (left). That's White House Curator Clement Conger next to Mrs. Ford.