

A Guide to the Records of the Arlington Committee on Jamestown 2007, 2001-2008

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Title Statement

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Descriptive Summary

Collection number

RG 174

Language

English

Creator

Arlington Committee on Jamestown 2007

Extent

7 boxes.

Repository

Arlington Public Library, Center for Local History

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

Gift of Joan McDermott, Chair of the Committee, in February 2009.

Preferred Citation

Records of the Arlington Committee on Jamestown 2007, Collection # RG 174, Arlington Public Library, Center for Local History

Historical Information

According to the final report to the Arlington County Board, the Board appointed an 18-member committee in October 2005, charged with planning events and legacy projects to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown in 1607. The chair was Joan McDermott. The first meeting was in November 2005, followed by monthly meetings. The committee planned and sponsored 40 events, activities, and projects during the period from May 1, 2006 and December 31, 2007. This was one of 181 programs in Virginia for this commemoration. The goals were to increase tourism, expand economic development, renew awareness of Virginia history, highlight local historical and cultural interests, and to involve local people in planned events.

Scope and Content

Record Group 174 measures approximately four linear feet of records dating from 2001 to 2008. Materials consist of minutes, correspondence, alphabetical files chiefly concerning activities and projects for the celebration, reports about the economic impact of the celebration on Arlington and the final report to the county board, grant proposals, promotional materials, magazine articles, clippings, and photographs, the majority from 2001 and from 2006 and 2007. They deal chiefly with the Jamestown 2007 celebration in Arlington, Virginia. Among the 40 events and activities described in detail are: staffing a booth at the Arlington County Fair, showing documentary films, sponsoring a play about Jamestown, holding author lectures, participating in two Jamestown Oak tree plantings, holding a book fair, and taking part in the Smithsonian Folklife Festival. There were three legacy projects: a heritage calendar, oral histories from 37 Arlington residents of different heritages and ages, and small grants to groups for projects such as the Lustron House Documentation Project, the Potomac Overlook Park Heritage Program, the Taylor Rain Garden, and a Colonial Faire.

Also included is a photograph album showing the Arlington Bicentennial celebration in July, August, and October 2001. This album shows local and state dignitaries at the celebrations (e.g. Jay Fissette, John Millikin, James Moran) well as actors in a play portraying Arlington history, filling of a time capsule chest and a celebration at the Arlington County Fair. Close to half of the record group consists of alphabetical files concerning planning for and execution of events for the celebration.

Index Terms

Subjects:

Jamestown Settlement -- Anniversaries, etc.
Jamestown Settlement -- Centennial celebrations, etc.
Jamestown (Va.)
Arlington (Va.)
Arlington County (Va.)

Arrangement

The record group is arranged into seven series by type of material. *Series 1* contains minutes of the Arlington Committee on Jamestown 2007 with a small amount of related correspondence in chronological order. This series was constructed by the processor. *Series 2* consists of 131 alphabetical files with titles retained from the folders as they arrived at the library. The folders arrived in rough alphabetical order in sections of two boxes but appeared to be part of one group with similar handwritten titles so were placed in the same series.

Series 3 consists of grant proposals to the committee for the celebration, most of which were funded and are noted in the Scope and Content section, and promotional materials such as the official commemorative publication and guides for local communities with suggestions for activities. *Series 4* contains reports of the economic impact of the celebration and the Committee's final report. *Series 5* contains magazine articles about the celebration in Virginia and the importance of the settlement for the country. *Series 6* contains photocopies of clippings about the celebration.

Series 7 contains one photo of the Committee and one folder showing period-costumed Arlingtonians, as well as nine folders of Arlington Bicentennial photographs from the original 2001 album: July 26, August 16,

September 21, and October 28. The album was disassembled and put in folders by date and photographic roll number as indicated in the album.

Contents List

Series 1: Minutes and Correspondence of the Committee

File 1: September-December 2005

Box 1

File 2: January-March 2006

Box 1

File 3: April-September 2006

Box 1

File 4: Regional Meeting Minutes, September 28, 2006

Box 1

File 5: October 2006-January 2007

Box 1

File 6: February-May 2007

Box 1

File 7: June-October 2007

Box 1

File 8: Regional Meeting Minutes, October 23, 2007

Box 1

File 9: November 2007-January 2008

Box 1

Series 2: Alphabetical Files

File 1: All Arlington Reads, 2006

Box 1

File 2: America's Anniversary Garden, 2005-2007

Box 1

File 3: Amy Ritchie Emails, 2006

Box 1

File 4: Amy Ritchie Memos, 2007-2008

Box 2

File 5: Appropriations for Jamestown 2007, April 27, 2006

Box 2

File 6: Arlington Brown Bag Roundtable, 2006

Box 2

File 7: Arlington County Fair. 2006

File 7: Arlington County Fair, 2007

Box 2

File 8: Arlington County Fair, 2007

Box 2

File 9: Arlington Historical Society Article, 2006-2007

Box 2

File 10: Arlington Historical Society Article by Nancy Hall, 2007

Box 2

File 11: Arlington Historical Society Article re: 350th Anniversary by George Schnabel, 1957

Box 2

File 12: Arlingtones, 2006-2007

Box 2

File 13: Author Programs, 2007

Box 2

File 14: Barnes and Noble Fundraiser, 2006-2007

Box 2

File 15: Bluemont Junction Caboose, 2007

Box 2

File 16: Books on Jamestown, 2006

Box 2

File 17: Budget Hearing, County Board, March, May, 2006

Box 2

File 18: Cachet Contest, 2006

Box 2

File 19: Captain John Smith 1608 Event, 2007

Box 2

File 20: Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Water Trail, 2006, 2007

Box 2

File 21: Charlie Clark Article - Capt. John Smith for AHS Magazine, [2007]

Box 2

File 22: Children's Authors Programs, March 31, 2007

Box 2

File 23: Colonial Faire (Hesperus), 2007

Box 2

File 24: Commemorative Coin Program, 2006

Box 2

File 25: Commemorative Programs Jamestown 2007, 2007

Box 2

File 26: Committee - Jamestown 2006, 2006-2007

Box 2

File 27: Community Program Report, 2006

Box 2

File 28: Costumes, Jamestown 2007, 2006

Box 2

File 29: Costumes Policy, 2007

Box 2

File 30: County Board, April 26, 2006 (Joan McDermott)

Box 2

File 31: Creative Projects - Encore Stage "The Jamestown Adventure", 2006

Box 2

File 32: Economic Impact Report, 2007

Box 2

File 33: Email List, 2007

Box 2

File 34: Emails from Joan McDermott, August 29, 2006

Box 2

File 35: English Commemoration, 2006

Box 2

File 36: Entertainment Jamestown 2007, 2006

Box 2

File 37: Environmental Initiative, 2006

Box 2

File 38: Fair Display, 2006-2008

Box 2

File 39: Final Report - Drafts and Notes, 2008

Box 2

File 40: Final Report to County Board, 2008 January-February

Box 3

File 41: Final Report - State, 2007-2008

Box 3

File 42: Finance, 2007-2008

Box 3

File 43: Finance - Trust and Agency Account, 2007-2008

Box 3

File 44: Folklife Festival, 2007 June-July

Box 3

File 45: FOIA Request, March-May 2007

Box 3

File 46: Funding Requests, January 2007

Box 3

File 47: Funding Requests - Detail

Box 3

File 48: Godspeed Festival, March-June 2006

Box 3

File 49: Godspeed Festival - Alexandria, March-May 2006

Box 3

File 50: HB Woodlawn Volunteer Fair, November 13, 2007

Box 3

File 51: Heritage Calendar - 2007, 2006-2007

Box 3

File 52: History Club - YHS, 2006

Box 3

File 53: Indian Tribes - Federal Recognition of Virginia Tribes, April 2007

Box 3

File 54: Industry in Jamestown, 1607-1609, Workshop, June 13, 2007

Box 3

File 55: Jamestown 2007 Annual Report, 2007

Box 3

File 56: Jamestown ARticle in New Yorker, April 7, 2007

Box 3

File 57: Jamestown in APS Curriculum, 2002-2007

Box 3

File 58: Jamestown Inventory, 2007

Box 3

File 59: Jamestown Live! October 2006

Box 3

File 60: Jamestown 2007 Open House, 2006

Box 3

File 61: Jamestown Oak Planting, 2007

Box 3

File 62: JYF Programs, April 2, April 23, 2007

Box 3

File 63: JYF Outreach in Schools, 2007

Box 3

File 64: Jenny Dean Park/Talmadge Williams, May 2007

Box 3

File 65: Legacy Project, 2006

Box 3

File 66: Legislative Priorities - 2008 General Assembly

Box 3

File 67: Letter to the Editor - Jamestown Elementary School, May 14, 2007

Box 3

File 68: Letterhead, Jamestown 2007

Box 3

File 69: Library Reservations, 2006

Box 3

File 70: Lustron Documentation Project, 2006

Box 3

File 71: Lustron Showcase, December 10, 2007

Box 3

File 72: LWV Annual Meeting, May 5, 2007

Box 3

File 73: Maps [ca. 2007]

Box 3

File 74: March to Victory - W3R (Yorktown) September 23, 2006

Box 3

File 75: May 1 Event, March-May, 2007

Box 3

File 76: Meeting Place Memo, J2007, December 19, 2006

Box 3

File 77: Merchandise, 2006

Box 3

File 78: Miscellaneous, 2006-2007

Box 3

File 79: Musical Program, Jamestown 2007 2006

Box 3

File 80: Nauck Community Heritage Project, 2007

Box 3

File 81: Neighborhood Day Parade, 2006 May

Box 4

File 82: The New World, January 28, 2007

Box 4

File 83: North Tract - Tom Dickinson

Box 4

File 84: November 19, 2006 Film

Box 4

File 85: Panels for Library - March-April 2007

Box 4

File 86: Stephen Patrick, August-November 2007

Box 4

File 87: Oral History - American Indian Interviews, 2008

Box 4

File 88: Oral History Project, 2006-2008

Box 4

File 89: Oral History Project Manager - Nancy Hall, 2006

Box 4

File 90: Potomac Overlook Heritage Program, 1989, 2007

Box 4

File 91: Potomac Overlook Regional Park - REsearch - Mary Schockley

Box 4

File 92: David Price Lecture, February 26, 2007

Box 4

File 93: Proclamation, May 13, 2007

Box 4

File 94: Programs, November 8, 21, 2007

Box 4

File 95: Programs (Possible), 2006

Box 4

File 96: Project Acorn, 2007

Box 4

File 97: Project Acorn - Jamestown Oaks, 2007

Box 4

File 98: Project Proposal Guidelines and Comments, 2006-2007

Box 4

File 99: Promotion Plan, 2007

Box 4

File 100: Publicity, 2006

Box 4

File 101: Quiz - Jamestown 2007, 2007

Box 4

File 102: Rain Garden - Tayler E.S., May 2007

Box 4

File 103: Regional Meeting - NVA, September 2006

Box 4

File 104: Remarks, 2007

Box 4

File 105: Report to County Board, January 30, 2007

Box 4

File 106: Request for Funding: Art Installation and Play, Bluemont Junction Display, April 2006

Box 4

File 107: Saegmuller School Marker, 2007

Box 4

File 108: SCAN Donation, October 2006

Box 4

File 109: Schedule of Events, 2007

Box 4

File 110: School Board Presentation, September 2006

Box 4

File 111: Shallop, 2007

Box 5

File 112: Small Ships Event

Box 5

File 113: Paul D. Snodgrass Information, May 2007

Box 5

File 114: Speaker List Jamestown 2007, 200

Box 5

File 115: St. Agnes Assembly, May 2007

Box 5

File 116: Stamps - Jamestown Cachets, May 2007

Box 5

File 117: Thank You Letter and Certificate, February 2008

Box 5

File 118: Time Capsule Dedication Ceremony and Thank You Reception, March 6, 2008

Box 5

File 119: Tom Dickinson Legacy Project, 2007

Box 5

File 120: Travel, 2006

Box 5

File 121: Trees - Notable Trees Nomination Form

Box 5

File 122: Trip to Jamestown, November 3, 2007

Box 5

File 123: Virginia Diversity Garden, 2007

Box 5

File 124: Virginia Indian Heritage Program - Suggested Resources

Box 5

File 125: Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Exhibit - Jamestown and Beyond

Box 5

File 126: Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Traveling Exhibits, 2006-2007

Box 5

File 127: Volunteers, 2006-2007

Box 5

File 128: Walk, April 28, 2007 - Kevin Vincent

Box 5

File 129: Website, 2006-2007

Box 5

File 130: Whole Foods Donation, 2007

Box 5

File 131: Karenne Wood, December 3, 2007 Program, 2007

Box 5

Series 3: Grant Proposals and Promotional Materials

File 1: Grant Proposals, 2007

Box 5

File 2: Official Commemorative Publication, 2007

Box 5

File 3: Virgia 2007 Community Program/Media Sponsorship Guide, 2007

Box 5

File 4: Jamestown Celebration Promotional Portfolios, 2007

Box 5

File 5: Jamestown Celebration Brochures and Flyers, 2007 (1)

Box 5

File 6: Jamestown Celebration Brochures and Flyers, 2007 (2)

Box 6

File 7: Maps, Calendars, Bookmarks, Decals, 2007

Box 6

File 8: Posters and Bookplates, 2007

Box 6

Series 4: Reports, including Final Report

File 1: Economic Impact Analysis, 2008

Box 6

**File 2: Final Report of the Arlington Committee on Jamestown 2007
Community Program**

Box 6

Series 5: Magazine Articles

File 1: Arlington Connection, 2006

Box 6

File 2: Arlington Historical Magazine, 2006-2007

Box 6

File 3: Heritage Travel, 2007

Box 6

File 4: Preservation, 2007

Box 6

File 5: Rosslyn, 2007

Box 6

File 6: Save the Bay, 2007

Box 6

File 7: Shipmates, 2006-2007

Box 6

File 8: Smithsonian

Box 6

File 9: Time, 2007

Box 6

File 10: Virginia Secrets, 2005

Box 6

File 11: VEA News

Box 6

File 12: National Parks, 2007

Box 6

File 13: VFH News, 2007

Box 6

Series 6: Clippings

File 1: Clippings (1)

Box 7

File 2: Clippings (2)

Box 7

Series 7: Photographs from Arlington Bicentennial Album and Jamestown 2007 Celebration

File 1: Arlington Committee on Jamestown 2007 Photograph

Box 7

File 2: Arlington Bicentennial Photograph Album Roll 1, July 26, 2001

Box 7

File 3: Arlington Bicentennial Photograph Album Roll 2, July 26, 2001

Box 7

File 4: Arlington Bicentennial Photograph Album Roll 3, July 26, 2001

Box 7

File 5: Arlington Bicentennial Photograph Album Roll 4, July 26, 2001

Box 7

File 6: Arlington Bicentennial Photograph Album Roll 1, September 21, 2001

Box 7

File 7: Arlington Bicentennial Photograph Album Roll 1, August 16, 2001

Box 7

File 8: Arlington Bicentennial Photograph Album Roll 2, August 16, 2001

Box 7

File 9: Arlington Bicentennial Photograph Album Roll 1, October 28, 2001

Box 7

File 10: Arlington Bicentennial Photograph Album Roll 2, October 28, 2001

Box 7

File 11: Copies of Photographs of Jamestown 2007 Celebration, 2007

Box 7

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