

# Anniversaries and Commemorations Collections A.ANV

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1981-2000

## Title Statement

Anniversaries and Commemorations Collections A.ANV

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## Profile Description

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**Language Usage:** Description is written in: English, Latin script.

**Descriptive Rules:** Describing Archives: A Content Standard

## Descriptive Summary

### Unit ID

A.ANV

### Unit ID

/repositories/2/resources/92

### Unit Date

1981-2000

### Language

English .

### Extent

3.5 Linear Feet 5 Hollinger boxes, 1 custom box, 1 oversize box

### Repository

Archives of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association

## Administrative Information

### Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research during scheduled appointments. Researchers must complete the Washington Library's Special Collections and Archives Registration Form before access is provided. The library reserves the right to restrict access to certain items for preservation purposes.

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### Preferred Citation

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# Biographical / Historical

The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union was founded in 1853 by Ann Pamela Cunningham. The purpose of the Association was to purchase Mount Vernon, the home of George Washington, in order to restore the property and open the grounds to visitors and admirers who desired to see Washington's house and tomb. Ann Pamela Cunningham became interested in the preservation of Mount Vernon when her mother, traveling down the Potomac River in 1853, saw the house in its neglected and dilapidated state and wrote to her daughter of its condition. Both women thought it shameful to allow the first President's home to fall into ruin. A determined Ann Pamela Cunningham assembled twenty-two women of like mind together to raise money to purchase the property, pay off all debt, and return the gardens and grounds to the condition in which they were left by Washington himself. John Augustine Washington III, George Washington's great-grandnephew and the owner of Mount Vernon at the time, delayed several years in selling the home to the Ladies' Association. He preferred a sale to the State of Virginia or the federal government, both of which declined purchase. In 1858 he finally agreed to sell Mount Vernon to Ann Pamela Cunningham and the MVLA for \$200,000. The MVLA is the owner and executive board of Mount Vernon. Membership is made up of one Regent and 20-30 Vice Regents, each from a different state. All MVLA members assemble twice a year in April and October for Council, where they hear motions and reports concerning projects or issues at the estate. The Vice Regents also divide into committees focused on different functions and operations, and rotate members every few years. Today the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association is remembered as the first organization dedicated to historic preservation in the United States, and as innovators in the field of preservation. The Association remains loyal to its original goals, the restoration and care of Mount Vernon, and educating people all over the world about George Washington's life and legacy. Mount Vernon is open to visitors 365 days a year. The estate now consists of not only the Mansion and tomb of Washington, but restored gardens, outbuildings, Pioneer Farm, Gristmill, Distillery, museum and orientation center, the National Library for the Study of George Washington, gift shops, food pavilion, and the Mount Vernon Inn restaurant.

## Scope and Contents

As an organization devoted to historic preservation and the legacy of George Washington, the MVLA participates in many major national anniversaries and commemorations, especially those celebrating the founding of the United States, the American Revolution, or Washington himself. This artificial collection combines the papers and files documenting the Association's involvement in several of these anniversaries. The first commemoration represented is the 250th anniversary of Washington's birth in 1982 and it goes through the Bicentennial of his death in 1999, although additions can be made at a later date that cover subsequent events. Types of records include correspondence, research files, print or promotional material, reports, and event ephemera. An addendum of photographs, an object, oversize and media formats is described at the end of the contents list. The MVLA's contributions to anniversaries and commemorations outside this collection's date range, such as the bicentennial of Washington's birth in 1932, can be found in other archival collections.

## Related Materials

Papers of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association Papers of the Superintendent and Resident Director Papers of James Rees Publications and Print Material of the MVLA

## Arrangement

The collection is separated into 4 series representing each anniversary in chronological order. The folders within each series are arranged alphabetically by folder title.

## Description of Subordinate Components

### **Series 1. 250th Anniversary of George Washington's Birth**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38667

**Unit Date** 1981-1982

#### **Calendar**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38668

**Unit Date** 1982

**Text** 1 (box)

### **Correspondence**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38669

**Unit Date** 1982

**Text** 1 (box)

### **Events programs**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38670

**Unit Date** 1982

**Text** 1 (box)

### **Exhibit - Mount Vernon manuscripts at the Alderman Library**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38671

**Unit Date** 1981-1982

**Text** 1 (box)

### **News clippings**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38672

**Unit Date** 1982

**Text** 1 (box)

### **Photographs**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38673

**Unit Date** 1982

**Graphic Materials** 1 (box)

## **Series 2. Two Hundredth Anniversary of George Washington's Inauguration**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38674

**Unit Date** 1989

### **Events, Mount Vernon Ladies' Association**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38675

**Unit Date** 1989

**Text** 1 (box)

### **Events, national**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38676

**Unit Date** 1989

**Text** 1 (box)

### **New York City Commission on the Bicentennial of the Constitution (1 of 2)**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38677

**Unit Date** 1989

**Text** 1 (box)

### **New York City Commission on the Bicentennial of the Constitution (2 of 2)**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38678

**Unit Date** 1989

**Text** 2 (box)

**News clippings**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38679

**Unit Date** 1989

**Text** 2 (box)

**Promotional material, Mount Vernon Ladies' Association**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38680

**Unit Date** 1989

**Text** 2 (box)

**Research, first inauguration**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38681

**Text** 2 (box)

**Series 3. Bicentennial of the French Revolution**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38682

**Unit Date** 1989

**Loan of the Bastille key (1 of 2)**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38683

**Unit Date** 1989

**Text** 2 (box)

**Loan of the Bastille key (2 of 2)**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38684

**Unit Date** 1989

**Text** 2 (box)

**Series 4. George Washington Bicentennial 1999**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38685

**Unit Date** 1994-2000

**Bicentennial Community Program Support Center - List**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38686

**Unit Date** 2000

**Text** 2 (box)

**Bicentennial events planning (1 of 2)**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38687

**Unit Date** 1994-2000

**Text** 2 (box)

**Bicentennial events planning (2 of 2)**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38688

**Unit Date** 1994-2000

**Text** 2 (box)

**Bicentennial information notebook**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38689

**Unit Date** 1999

**Text** 2 (box)

**Community events (1 of 6)**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38690

**Unit Date** 1999

**Text** 2 (box)

**Community events (2 of 6)**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38691

**Unit Date** 1999

**Text** 3 (box)

**Community events (3 of 6)**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38692

**Unit Date** 1999

**Text** 3 (box)

**Community events (4 of 6)**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38693

**Unit Date** 1999

**Text** 3 (box)

**Community events (5 of 6)**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38694

**Unit Date** 1999

**Text** 3 (box)

**Community events (6 of 6)**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38695

**Unit Date** 1999

**Text** 3 (box)

**Conferences and symposia**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38696

**Unit Date** 1999

**Text** 3 (box)

**Funeral - Planning and preparations (1 of 2)**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38697

**Unit Date** 1994-1999

**Text** 3 (box)

**Funeral - Planning and preparations (2 of 2)**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38698

**Unit Date** 1994-1999

**Text** 4 (box)

**Manuscripts and collections related to Washington's death**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38699

**Text** 4 (box)

**Music, "A Crown, a Mansion, and a Throne," for soprano and piano by Luigi Zaninelli**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38700

**Unit Date** 1999

**Music** 4 (box)

**Press and clippings**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38701

**Unit Date** 1998-2000

**Text** 4 (box)

**Print material - Invitations, programs**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38702

**Unit Date** 1999

**Text** 4 (box)

**Program Summaries and Projected Costs and Incomes**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38703

**Unit Date** October 19, 1997

**Text** 4 (box)

**Research - Eulogies, condolences (1 of 2)**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38704

**Text** 4 (box)

**Research - Eulogies, condolences (1 of 2)**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38705

**Text** 4 (box)

**Washington memorial prints**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38706

**Text** 4 (box)

**Addenda**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38707

**Unit Date** 1982-2000

**Photo album, Bicentennial community events**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38708

**Unit Date** 1999

**Graphic Materials** 5 (box)

**Set of photo slides and color prints, George Washington in Wilmington, Delaware**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38709

**Unit Date** 1989

**Graphic Materials** 5 (box)

**Audio cassette tape, "Salute to George Washington" by J. William Middendorf, performed by Borger High School Band, Hutchinson, TX**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38710

**Unit Date** February 8, 2000

**Audio** 5 (box)

**VHS cassette tape, "The Mock Funeral of George Washington," Cub Scouts, Northville, Michigan**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38711

**Unit Date** December 14, 1999

**Moving Images** 5 (box)

**VHS cassette tape, "The Battle of Brandywine," Good-Land Chapter DAR, JCWR**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38712

**Unit Date** 1999

**Moving Images** 5 (box)

**VHS cassette tape, "Arizona DAR, Highlights of George Washington Bicentennial 1999"**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38713

**Unit Date** 1999

**Moving Images** 5 (box)

**T-shirt, George Washington's Mount Vernon Classic race shirt**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38714

**Unit Date** 1982

**Realia** 6 (box)

**Official State Proclamations**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38715

**Unit Date** 1999

**Text** 7 OVERSIZE (box)

**A Proclamation, The 250th Anniversary of the Birth of George Washington, by the President of the United States**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38716

**Unit Date** 1982

**Text** 7 OVERSIZE (box)

**A Proclamation, Bicentennial of George Washington's inauguration by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, with printing of the first inaugural address**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38717

**Unit Date** April 30, 1989

**Text** 7 OVERSIZE (box)

**A Proclamation, Bicentennial Celebration of the Inauguration of George Washington, by the President of the United States**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38718

**Unit Date** 1989

**Text** 7 OVERSIZE (box)

**Certificate of Recognition, George Washington Inauguration Memorial Day, Commonwealth of Virginia**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38719

**Unit Date** April 30. 1989

**Text** 7 OVERSIZE (box)

**Bumper sticker, "George Washington was a Northern Virginian"**

**Unit ID** /repositories/2/archival\_objects/38720

**Unit Date** undated

**Text** 7 OVERSIZE (box)