

Stewart Bell Jr. Archives
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P.O. Box 58, Winchester, Virginia 22604
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Winchester, Virginia, Bicentennial Commission Collection
Collection Number: 767 WFCHS

CONDITIONS GOVERNING ACCESS: Collection is open to all researchers.

CONDITIONS GOVERNING REPRODUCTION AND USE: Restrictions may apply concerning the use, photoduplication, or publication of items in this collection. Consult a member of the archives staff for information concerning these restrictions. The user assumes all responsibility for identifying and satisfying any claimants of copyright. Some materials may require special handling.

PROCESSING INFORMATION: Initial processing undertaken in 1987. Last updated by Buffy Knappenberger in October 2024.

EXTENT: 0.21 linear feet

CREATOR: Winchester, Virginia, Bicentennial Commission

DATE: 1952

EXISTENCE AND LOCATION OF COPIES: Photographs in this collection have been digitized and are available to view online through the Past Perfect online database: <http://handley.pastperfectonline.com/>

FamilySearch (then operating as the Genealogical Society of Utah) digitized this collection in 2007. The collection is available online through FamilySearch.org. Use the catalog to search for Image Group Number (DGS) [4175267] to find “Genealogical collections, Winchester Virginia Bicentennial C. collection, 1600-2005.”

SCOPE AND CONTENT: The collection contains materials produced for the 1752 bicentennial celebration of Winchester held in 1952. It includes programs, brochures, names of participants, and names of people who had been residents of the Winchester area for 50-70 years.

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL: Colonel James Wood laid out the original plan for the City of Winchester in 1744 and the House of Burgesses officially chartered the town in 1752.

IMMEDIATE SOURCE OF ACQUISITION: Gift of multiple donors.

CONTAINER LIST:

BOX 1

Brochures, programs, tickets, 6 items, printed

Commemorative plate, folder contains the following:

Plate, 1952, 1 item, ceramic

The Winchester Virginia Bicentennial Official Plate (description), 1952, 4 pages, printed

Correspondence and insignia, 2 leaves; 2 envelopes, printed; 4 leaves, typescript (photocopy); 1 leaf, typescript

Fifty Years Club, folder includes the following:

List of members, 2 leaves, typescript/manuscript

Sample certificates, 3 leaves, printed/manuscript

Notes and correspondence from members

4 postcards, 2 pages, 1 leaf, manuscript

Marshall, George C. – speech, 9 leaves, typescript (photocopy)

News Articles – unnumbered, printed (photocopy)

Publicity and Souvenirs, 6 items, printed

Seventy Year Club, 1 leaf, typescript/manuscript

Stationery and envelopes, 11 leaves, 14 envelopes, printed

Winchester Bicentennial Commission – members and suggested activities, 19 leaves, typescript (photocopy), (4 with manuscript additions); 1 envelope, typescript

Winchester Bicentennial Commission Poster 31x22 – color – 1952 – features city seal, flag, 15 historic sites and yearlong events

Physical Location: Oversize, Box 27

PHOTOGRAPHS

- [767-001] Winchester Bicentennial. Three-member fife and drum reenactor unit in Colonial Militia uniforms. Cited in *Winchester Star* on Saturday, February 23, 1952 as following the courier who brought the Winchester charter to the city from the House of Burgesses. Names given, left to right, as Bruce McFadden, Dick Michael, and Donald Stotler, February 22, 1952.
- [767-002] Winchester Bicentennial. Ben Belchic as Gabriel Jones, Dr. William P. McGuire and J.A. Massie, Esq., in colonial costume, studying replica of the original Winchester charter, February 22, 1952.
- [767-003] Winchester Bicentennial. Joseph A. Massie, Esq., in colonial costume, receives replica of the original Winchester charter from buckskin-clad courier J. Victor Arthur (Sr.), February 22, 1952.