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**ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

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**MS 1422**  
**Arizona Bicentennial Commission**  
**1965 - 1977**

**DESCRIPTION**

This collection consists of planning, reports, correspondence, and photographs associated with events and activities of the American Bicentennial Celebration. National materials include reports to the Congress and President on planning, event & calendars of events across the nation, as well as specific national programs initiated. A master listing of communities with planned events is included as well as various resource planning aids for state and local levels. In addition to national planning a portion of the collection entails planning of events and activities coordinated in Arizona through the state Bicentennial Commission. A printout of planned activities in Arizona as well as a calendar of local events is present. Various community town meeting notes have been collected highlighting planning at the community levels of the state. Correspondence associated with the state Bicentennial Committee and the coordinator are present from 1972 – 1976. Seven large oversized scrapbooks contain newspaper clipping from newspapers across the state featuring plans and events from 1972 to 1977.

17 Boxes, 12 linear ft.

**HISTORICAL NOTE**

The United States Bicentennial was a series of celebrations and observances during the mid-1970s that paid tribute to the historical events leading up to the creation of the United States as an independent republic. The Bicentennial culminated on Sunday, July 4, 1976, with the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. In Arizona Bicentennial events were coordinated by a Bicentennial Committee under the direction of Maurice S. Giss. Events included local parades, re-enactments from significant events associated with Arizona history, school and community musical & dramatic productions, historical education programs, and restoration projects.

**ACQUISITION** - Unknown

**ACCESS**

There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

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Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be addressed to the Arizona Historical Society, Tucson, Archives Department.

**PROCESSING**

The collection was processed by Dave Tackenberg in November 2010.

## Box and Folder Listing

### Box 1

#### Series 1: National Plans and Events, 1965 - 1976

Folder 1	“A Mighty Celebration”	1976
f.2	Report to the President	1970
f.3	“America’s 200 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary” Report of the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission	1970
f.4	The First Two Hundred Years	
f.5	Call for Achievement	
f.6	A Bicentennial Idea Book	
f.7	First Report to The Congress	
f.8	Report to The Congress	1972
f.9	Final Report to the Congress	1973
f.10	Report of Racial, Ethnic, Native American Grant Projects	1976
f.11	Bicentennial Ethnic Racial Report	1976
f.12	1974 Bicentennial Yearbook	1974

### Box 2

f.13	Comprehensive Calendar of Bicentennial Events	June 1975
f.14	Comprehensive Calendar of Bicentennial Events	Oct. 1965
f.15	Comprehensive Calendar of Bicentennial Events	Oct. 1976
f.16	National Events Lists	1975
f.17	Community Activities Directory (Vol. I)	1976

### Box 3

f.18	Community Activities Directory (Vol. II)	1976
f.19	Comprehensive Calendar of Bicentennial Events – East	Feb. 1976
f.20	Comprehensive Calendar of Bicentennial Events – East	June 1976
f.21	Comprehensive Calendar of Bicentennial Events – West	Feb. 1976

### Box 4

f.22	Comprehensive Calendar of Bicentennial Events – West	June 1976
f.23	Index of Bicentennial Activities	1976
f.24	Master Register of Bicentennial Projects	1976
f.25	State & Territorial Committee/Contacts	1973 – 1974
f.26	Bicentennial Community Contact List	1975
f.27	Master List of Bicentennial Communities	1975

### Box 5

f.28	Master List of Bicentennial Communities	1976
f.29	Project 1976: Manual for the Bicentennial	1973
f.30	Bicentennial Source Book	1974
f.31	Community Resource Center Notebook	

**Box 6**

f.32	State Planning Notebook	
f.33	Publicity & Print Manual	1973
f.34	Official Graphics Standards Manual	
f.35	Bicentennial Float Plans & Specifications	
f.36	Bicentennial Transportation Study for Washington D.C.	1973
f.37	Master Calendar of Historic Events (Historical)	
f.38	Master Calendar of Historic Events (Supplement & Corrections)	
f.39	Important Events of the American Revolution	
f.40	American Documents of Freedom	
f.41	Bicentennial Brochures	

**Box 7**

f.42	Trust for Historical Preservation	
f.43	Discovery & Rediscovery	1973
f.44	Challenge & Response Program	
f.45	Festival U.S.A.	1972/1973
f.46	Mayor's Handbook – "Lasting Reminders"	1976
f.47	Horizons on Display	
f.48	Above Ground Archaeology	
f.49	Source Book for American Issues Forum	
f.50	Labor and the Bicentennial	
f.51	American Issues Forum (Leadership Packet)	1973
f.52	American Issues Forum (What Is America?)	1973

**Box 8**

f.53	American Issues Forum	1975
f.54	Community Re-Discovery '76	
f.55	Bicentennial Parks Feasibility Study (Phase 1 Vol. 1)	1972
f.56	Bicentennial Parks Feasibility Study (Phase 1 Vol. 2)	1972

**Box 9**

f.57	Bicentennial Parks Feasibility Study (Phase 2 Vol. 1)	1973
f.58	Bicentennial Parks Feasibility Study (Phase 2 Vol. 2)	1973

**Series 2: Bicentennial Activities and Plans in Arizona, 1972 - 1977**

f.59	Program Criteria & Contacts	
f.60	Calendar of Events	1976
f.61	Activities in Arizona	1977
f.62	American Issues Forum – Arizona State University Program	1976
f.63	Climate of the Southwestern Region	1976
f.64	Arizona Educational Directory	1976

## Box 10

f.65	Indians and 1976	
f.66	Horizons '76 at McCormick Ranch	1975
f.67	Arizona Town Meetings (General)	1973
f.68	Scottsdale Town Meeting	1975
f.69	Coolidge Town Meeting	1975
f.70	Tucson Town Meeting	1976
f.71	Tempe Town Meeting	1976
f.72	Central City Phoenix Town Meeting	1976
f.73	South Phoenix Town Meeting	1976
f.74	Nogales Town Meeting	1976
f.75	Prescott Youth Town Meeting	1976
f.76	Yuma Town Meeting	1976
f.77	Mohave County Bicentennial Commission "Spotlight"	
f.78	Clippings	1977
f.79-85	Correspondence	1972 – 1973

## Box 11

f.86-99	Correspondence	1973 – 1974
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## Box 12

f.100-111	Correspondence	1975 – 1976
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## Box 13

f.112-118	Correspondence	1976
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## Series 3: MISC Items, Scrapbooks, and Photographs, 1972 - 1977

f.119	Newspaper – "Bicentennial Times"	1975
f.120	Newspaper – "Black Dispatch"	June 1976
f.121	Catalog - Books for the Bicentennial	
f.122	Historical, Biographical Book of Birthdays	1976
f.123	Forum: "Religious Faith Speaks to American Issues"	1975

## Photographs

f.124	Used in Bicentennial Press Releases	
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## Box 14

f.125	Graphic Work for Programs	
f.126	Bicentennial Musical Celebration	1975
	Dr. Richard Franko Goodman	
	Dr. Leonard de Paur	
f.127	Tucson Rodeo Covered Wagon	
	Covered Wagon Images for Parade	

- f.128 Navajo Cultural Center
  - Dedication Ceremony
  - Navajo Rug
  - Painting
- f.129 Salute to the States
  - Participants in Washington D.C.
- f.130 De Anza Re-Enactment Trek
  - Exhibit Trailer
  - Group Photos on Horseback
- f.131 Dominguez-Escalante Trail Trek
  - Crossing of Colorado River
- f.132 Centennial Dedication Ceremony
- f.133 American Freedom Train
  - Train Traveling on Track
  - Exhibits
- f.134 Arizona Traveling Exhibit
  - Exterior View of Trailer
- f.135 Phoenix Boy's Club Bicentennial Congress
  - Young People in Activities
- f.136 The Littlest Americans
  - Stage Production with Singing and Dance
- f.137 Bicentennial Signs and Advertising
- f.138 Parades
  - Floats and Old Cars
  - Horses in Street Scenes
- f.139 Bicentennial Presentations and Awards (Most Unlabeled)
- f.140 MISC Events and Activities
- f.141 MISC Individuals and Groups (Mostly Unlabeled)

## **Box 15**

### **Oversized Photos**

- Musical Performance for Spirit of America/Spirit of Youth
- Aviation Training Scene
- School Classroom Scenes

### **Oversized Scrapbooks (Newspaper Clippings)**

#### **Scrapbook #1**

**Oct. 1972 - 1973**

- Initial Organization of Bicentennial Commission for Arizona
- Commission Director Appointed – Nov. 1972
- 20-Man Committee Created
- Commission Opens Office in Phoenix
- National and Local Planning Begins
- Plans for Commemorative Stamps to be Issued
- Clippings from Many Arizona Newspapers

#### **Scrapbook #2**

**Jan. – Aug. 1974**

- Bicentennial Coins to be Issued
- Communities Making Bicentennial Quilts
- Juan Bautista De Anza Trek Planning Begins

Martha Summerhayes Trek Planning Begins

**Scrapbook #3**

**Aug. 1974 – May 1975**

Freedom Train Departs Boston, MA  
Restorations of Old Homes in Phoenix  
Living History Museum Features  
Ed McMahon Comes to Education Fair '74  
Old Pueblo in Tucson Celebrates 200 Years  
Celebrations of First Historic Battles of American Revolution

**Scrapbook #4**

**May – Nov. 1975**

Bicentennial School Programs Planned  
Community Clean-up Campaigns Started  
Bicentennial Posters and Signs Crated  
Commemorative Stamps Issued  
USS Arizona Anchor to State Capital Grounds  
Bicentennial Token Issued  
Tucson Bicentennial Events and Celebration for 200 Years  
De Anza Trek Commences  
Arcosanti Arts Festival – Nov. 1975

**Scrapbook #5**

**Nov. 1975 – Mar. 1976**

De Anza Trek Commentary Notes  
Bicentennial School Programs  
American Freedom Train Travels  
Cross-Country Wagon Train in Arizona  
Community Bicentennial Parades

**Scrapbook #6**

**Mar. 1976 – July 1976**

De Anza Trek Reaches San Francisco  
Tucson Festival of Events Planned  
Arizonians Tour Washington D.C.  
July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebrations in both Arizona and Nation

**Scrapbook #7**

**July 1976 – Jan. 1977**

Historical Markers/Sites Restorations  
Commentaries of Bicentennial Events and Evaluations

**Box 16**

Audio Recordings

Johnny Horizon '76 with 4 Audio Tapes (reel-to-reel) of Public Service Messages  
Audio Record (33 1/3) of Public Service Message  
Audio Tape (reel-to-reel) "Ballad of the Superstitions"  
Three Audio Tapes (reel-to-reel) of "Arizona Memories"  
Musical Record (45 RPM) of Main Floor Singers  
Musical Record of Bing Crosby and The "Bugs" Bower Orchestra  
Musical Record (45 RPM) of God Bless You: The United States of America

## Box 17

### Audio Recordings

Nine Tapes (reel-to-reel) of "Arizona Memories"

Four Small Tapes (reel-to-reel) of public Service Spots

Audio Record (331/3) of Public Service Messages

1 Audio Tape (reel-to-reel) of NORAD Public Information Spots

1 Audio Tape (reel-to-reel) of "Hail, America!"

1 Audio Tape (reel-to-reel) of Ed McMahon at Education Fair '74