

Guest Books and Visitor Registers, 1850-present

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Title Statement

Guest Books and Visitor Registers, 1850-presentGuest Books and Visitor RegistersA.GB

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Rules: Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

A.GB

Unit ID

/repositories/2/resources/25

Unit Date

1850-present

Language

English .

Extent

33 Volumes

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.

Preferred Citation

[Name and date of item], Guest Books and Visitor Registers, Archives of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association, Fred W. Smith National Library for the Study of George Washington [hereafter Washington Library], Mount Vernon, Virginia

See the Chicago Manual of Style for additional examples.

Biographical / Historical

The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association has kept a record of visitors since at least 1869. One visitor register, dated 1850-1852 and kept by John Augustine Washington III, was signed by visitors who arrived to Mount Vernon by steamboat. In the earliest days of MVLA ownership, all visitors to Mount Vernon could sign the large ledgers left in the mansion or elsewhere on the property. When the amount of visitors grew too numerous to record them all, the practice changed and only VIP or special guests signed the registers. This policy continues to the present day. The guest books chronicle an interesting history of visitors to Mount Vernon, from the everyday visitor to celebrities and even royalty. The current guest book continues to be signed when special guests visit the estate.

Scope and Contents

This is a collection of large ledgers or books with the signatures and autographs of Mount Vernon visitors and special guests. The books date from 1850 to the present day and some registers overlap in date.

Arrangement

The collection is listed here in chronological order.

Description of Subordinate Components

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2871

Unit Date 1850-1852

General

Record of visitors arriving by steamboat. John A. Washington is written in ink on one side of the outside cover.

Visitor Register, Subscription Book

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/27460

Unit Date May 1860 - June 1865

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2872

Unit Date July 7, 1869 to April 20, 1871

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2873

Unit Date April 23, 1871 to September 3, 1874

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2874

Unit Date September 3, 1874 to July 10, 1876

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2875

Unit Date July 1876 to June 5, 1878

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2876

Unit Date June 5, 1878 to December 5, 1879

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2877

Unit Date December 8, 1879 to June 2, 1881

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2878

Unit Date June 3, 1881 to March 7, 1883

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2879

Unit Date November 2, 1882 to November 24, 1884

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2880

Unit Date November 24, 1884 to August 29, 1885

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2881

Unit Date August 31, 1885 to November 30, 1886

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2882

Unit Date December 1, 1886 to October 14, 1887

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2883

Unit Date October 24, 1887 to June 5, 1888

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2884

Unit Date June 5, 1888 to February 12, 1889

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2885

Unit Date February 12, 1889 to August 20, 1889

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2886

Unit Date August 20, 1889 to April 9, 1890

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2887

Unit Date April 9, 1890 to September 19, 1890

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2888

Unit Date September 20, 1890 to April 22, 1891

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2889

Unit Date April 21, 1891 to September 22, 1891

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2890

Unit Date September 22, 1891 to April 18, 1892

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2891

Unit Date April 19, 1892 to August 27, 1892

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2892

Unit Date August 28, 1892 to October 13, 1892

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2893

Unit Date October 13, 1892 to March 22, 1893

Mount Vernon Visitors guest book 1

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2894

Unit Date November 15, 1893 to June 22, 1919

Mount Vernon Visitors guest book 2

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2895

Unit Date 1919-1953

Visitor Register for Ye Little Hatchet Tavern at Mount Vernon

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2896

Unit Date 1933-1934

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2897

Unit Date September 10, 1936 to May 4, 1937

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2898

Unit Date May 5, 1937 to October 3, 1937

Visitor Register

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2899

Unit Date October 4, 1937 to June 8, 1938

Mount Vernon Visitors guest book 3

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2900

Unit Date 1953-1963

Unit Date 1969

Mount Vernon Visitors guest book 4

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2901

Unit Date 1963-1973

Mount Vernon Visitors guest book 5

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2902

Unit Date 1973-1988

Mount Vernon Visitors guest book 6

Unit ID /repositories/2/archival_objects/2903

Unit Date 1988-2012