Guide to the Marje and Phil Acker Collection

Richard Nixon Library and Museum

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Descriptive Summary

Title: The Marje and Phil Acker Collection

Creator: Marje and Phil Acker

Extent: 2.5 linear feet (10 document boxes), 9 oversize boxes, plus loose materials

Repository: Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum
18001 Yorba Linda Boulevard
Yorba Linda, California 92886

Abstract: This collection contains materials including campaign items and itineraries, Watergate related materials, photographs, scrapbooks, clippings, manuscripts, VHS tapes, books, and other three-dimensional objects ranging from Richard Nixon’s Senatorial Days to his Post-Presidency Period. Marje and Phil Acker are the creators of the collection. They both had enduring political service careers. Mrs. Acker served as an assistant secretary to Rose Mary Woods, the primary secretary to Richard Nixon. Mr. Acker was an advance man in several Nixon campaigns.
Administrative Information

Access: Open

Publication Rights: Copyright held by Richard Nixon Library and Birthplace Foundation

Preferred Citation: Folder title. Box #, The Marje and Phil Acker Collection. Richard Nixon Library and Birthplace Foundation, Yorba Linda, CA.

Acquisition Information: Gift of Marje and Phil Acker

Processing History: The collection had been partially processed by Susan Naulty, prior to September 2003. Processing was continued and completed by Richard Nixon Library and Birthplace archive staff on November 22, 2005.
Biography

Marjorie Peterson Acker, usually referred to as “Marje,” led an active political career both professionally and non-professionally. She was born and raised in Portland, Oregon. Her parents were Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Peterson. She attended Oregon State University, and she received a degree from a local business school.

While a secretary to the manager of a Portland wholesale drug firm, Marje took and passed the Foreign Service test. Her first assignment was a clerk typist in Washington D.C., for the State Department’s United Nations Economic and Social Council. In May 1951, Marje applied for and received the position of secretary to the administrative assistant to junior California Senator Richard M. Nixon.

In addition to working for Senator Richard Nixon from 1951 to 1953, Mrs. Acker was involved in his campaign for the Vice Presidency in 1952 and 1956; during his CA Gubernatorial Campaign in 1962; on the Presidential Campaign; and on the transition team in 1967 to 1968. From 1969 through 1974, Mrs. Acker worked in the White House as secretary to Rose Mary Woods, the secretary to Richard Nixon. Mrs. Acker continued to work for Richard Nixon in his post-Presidential years.

Mrs. Acker worked in other Republican political capacities. She worked for Henry Cabot Lodge during his Vice Presidential Campaign in 1960; as a secretary to Robert Finch when he was Lt. Governor of CA in 1967; and with the Young Republicans.

A widow, Mrs. Acker currently resides in San Diego, CA.

Philip L. Acker “Phil” was born and raised in San Diego. He attended the University of California at Los Angeles and was a Navy veteran of World War II and the Korean War. He served as San Diego City Clerk from 1957 to 1966. Mr. Acker was an advance man in several Nixon campaigns. Phil and Marje married in the mid-1950s and shared a mutual passion for Republican political activities.

--Information from the Marjorie and Philip Acker Collection
Scope and Content Summary: The Marje and Phil Acker Collection consists of political items and memorabilia relating to Richard Nixon’s political career. Three-dimensional items such as glassware and jewelry have been transferred to the Curatorial Department. The collection is arranged chronologically with the exception of Series IV where some items chronologically overlap due to the nature of the series and sub-series.

Series I: This series consists of materials relating to Richard Nixon’s Senate years and first Vice Presidential Campaign. The items included are campaign tour itineraries and memorabilia.

Series II: This series contains materials relating to Richard Nixon’s Vice Presidency which includes schedules, memos, and rosters for two campaigns and inaugurations. The series also includes items from the Henry Cabot Lodge Vice Presidential Campaign.

Series III: This series contains items relating to Richard Nixon’s Post-Vice Presidency to his 1968 Presidential Campaign. Items include campaign schedules and material, political cartoons, and Richard Nixon’s 1968 Law Office Directory.

Series IV: This series contains various items from his Presidency. Items include inaugural speeches, campaign items, a salute to Richard Nixon, autographed cards and recipes, and White House stationery.

Sub-Series A: This sub-series consists of tour memos, schedules, and historic travel information and memorabilia from Belgium and U.S.S.R. trip.

Sub-Series B: This sub-series contains documents, publications, and materials relating to Watergate.

Series V: This series consists of odes, letters, articles, etc., after Richard Nixon’s Presidency.

Related Collections: Family Collection
Campaign 1950
Campaign 1952
H.R. Haldeman Collection
Speech Files, 1929-1969
Evelyn Dorn Collection
Angeline Holte Collection
Herman L. and Hubert C. Perry Collection, 1917-1986
Allan Wallace Collection
# Container List

**The Marje And Phil Acker Collection**

**Series I: Senator**

- “U.S. Senate Restaurant Menu”. May 19, 1951. 1:1
- RN’s Speech, “The Challenge of 1952”. 1:2
- RN’s Campaign Tour for U.S. Vice Presidency. 1952. (2 folders) 1:4-5
- RN’s Campaign Itineraries. Sep. 1-Nov. 2, 1952 (2 folders) 1:6-7

**Series II: Vice Presidency**

- YR: Republican Central Committee. 1955-1961 2:3
- RN’s Campaign Tour. 1956 2:5
- RN’s Campaign Itineraries. Sep. 18-Nov. 3, 1956. (2 folders) 2:6-7
- RN’s Campaign Tour Maps. Sep. 18-Nov. 3, 1956. 2:8
- RN’s Campaign Tour Rosters. Sep. 18-Nov. 3, 1956. 2:9
- RN’s Inauguration. Jan. 21, 1957. 2:11
- Envelopes, First Day Issues, Ecuador, South America. May 10, 1958. 2:12
- RN’s “Russia As I Saw It”, National Geographic. Dec. 1959. 2:13
- Coat of Arms and Flag of the U.S. President, Executive Order No. 10860. Feb. 5, 1960. 2:14
- U.S. Senate Tribute to RMN. Jan. 17, 1961 3:8

**Series III: Post-Vice Presidency to 1968 Presidential Campaign**

- Republican Fund Raising Banquet Program & Menu. Oct. 26, 1961. 4:1
- RN’s CA Governor’s Campaign. 1962. 4:2
- Pat Brown’s Political Booklets & Political Cartoons Of Campaign 1962. 4:3
- Reagan-Finch CA Pre-Governor & Inauguration. 1966 & Jan. 4-5, 1967. (2 items) 4:5
- “Ode to the Frogmen”. By Bob Finch 4:6
- Political Memorabilia 4:7
- RN’s Yearbook Publication. 1968. (2 items) 4:9
- “Highlights of 1968 Presidential Campaign”. 4:10
Jan. 31-Nov. 5, 1968.
RN’s Speeches. Apr. 25-Oct. 29, 1968. 4:11
Publications. Apr. 29-Nov. 1968. (2 folders) 4:12-13
RN’s Campaign Schedules. Sep. 4-Nov. 5, 1968. (3 folders) 5:1-3
RN’s Letter of Appreciation to Mrs. Acker. Nov. 1, 1968. 5:4
Republican Summary Elections Report. (2 folders) 5:5-6

Series IV: Presidency
Inauguration. 1969. 6:1
Inaugural Address Miniature Book. 1969. 6:2
Autographed Cards, Recipes. 6:3
White House Stationery. 6:4
“The President Greets Young Americans”. 6:5
Campaign Brochures Re: Environment, Foreign Policy, Veterans, etc. 1972.
Inauguration. 1973. (2 folders) 6:15-16

(Folders are in order as trip occurred. Dates on the folders may not reflect chronological order.)
Luggage Trip Tags (8 items) 6:18
Brussels & Belgium Tour Pamphlets. (2 folders) 6:19-20
Brussels Trip Information & Postcards 7:1
“Welcome to Moscow”, American Embassy Package 7:7
Acker Business Cards. (5 items) 7:8
“Welcome to Oreanda”, Background Information. 7:9
U.S.S.R. State Sites of Interest 7:12
U.S.S.R. Tour Pamphlets. (2 folders) 7:13-14
U.S.S.R. Newspapers. (6 items) 7:15

Sub-Series B: Materials Related to Watergate.
“Rules of Procedure” Booklet. 1973. 8:1
Statements by the Vice President & President. Apr. 25-Aug. 15, 1973. 8:2
National Citizens Committee for Fairness to the President Newsletters; Ryskind Column. (3 items) 8:4
“Examination of President Nixon’s Tax Returns For 1969 Through 1972”. Apr. 3, 1974. 8:5
Binder—“Submission of Recorded Presidential Conversations to the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives by President Richard Nixon”. Apr. 30, 1974. 8:6
Book—“Submission of Recorded Presidential Conversations to the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives by President Richard Nixon”. Apr. 30, 1974. 8:7
“Brief on Behalf of the President of the United States Richard Nixon to the Committee on the Judiciary, Ninety-Third Congress, United States House of Representatives”. Jul. 19, 1974. 9:1
Statement by RN on Aug. 5, 1974 w/related Haldeman Transcripts of Jun, 23, 1972. 9:4
RN Quote. Aug. 9, 1974. 9:5
Brief for Appellee Rose Mary Woods of Consolidated Proceedings. Mar. 9, 1976. 9:8

Series V: Post-Presidency
Rose Mary Woods & Marje Acker Letters. Feb. 6-7, 1975. 10:2
Dept. of the Interior History Brochures. 1976 (5 items) 10:3
## Separations List

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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description (Amount)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Poster</td>
<td>Henry Cabot Lodge Family. Campaign, 1960 (1)</td>
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<td>Listing</td>
<td>Delegates and Alternate Delegates Elected To The Republican Nat'l Convention, July 25, 1960 (1)</td>
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<td>Campaign Publicity</td>
<td>Nixon Wilshire Staff. Campaign, 1962</td>
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<td>Map</td>
<td>Campaign Tour Map, 1968 (1)</td>
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<td>Campaign Publicity</td>
<td>Articles. Campaign, 1968 (2)</td>
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<td>Publicity Advance-ment</td>
<td>Nixon Hailed By 300,000. Campaign, 1968 (1)</td>
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<td>Photograph</td>
<td>White House Night. Dec. 1, 1970 (1)</td>
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<td>Periodical Articles</td>
<td>Concerns Richard M. Nixon Sept, 28, 1969; Sept. 24, 1972 (2)</td>
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<td>Photograph</td>
<td>White House Snow Scene Feb. 20, 1973 (1)</td>
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<td>Print</td>
<td>Salute To The President—Dinner Souvenir (1)</td>
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<td>Cards</td>
<td>Staff Christmas Prints From Ford Presidency. 1974-1975 (2)</td>
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<td>Scrapbooks</td>
<td>Pictures—1952-1971 (1)</td>
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<td>1969-1973 (1)</td>
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<td>6/20/72- 6/10/74 (1)</td>
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<td>8/7-9/1974 (1)</td>
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<td>Letters, 1’st Day Covers, Odes, Signed Cards, and Recipes (1952-1993) (1)</td>
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<td>Memorabilia, Certificates, Cards, Letters Invitations, Programs (1969-1974) (1)</td>
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Pictures and Clippings (8/74-2/75) (1)

Clippings
Various clippings from 1952 to 1982

Photographs
Jan. 20-Dec. 14, 1953 (4) 
Churchill Arrival, Jun. 1954 (5) 
Young Republican Convention, Denver, Feb. 15-17, 1957 (1) 
Campaign Trail w/Rose Mary Woods & Marje Acker, 1962 (4) 
Russia & Iran Trip, May 1972 (8)

45 RPM Records
Go Vote Nixon-Lodge/Elephant Stomp (1) 
Nixon’s the Only One/Nixon’s the Only One (1) 
The Americans/He Who Is Without Sin (1) 
Rally Round Reagan/Grand Old Party (1) 
Dear Mr. President/Courage to Try (1)

VHS Tapes
The Splendid Evening of Richard Nixon; Presented by John H. Taylor. 96 min., c.1995. (1)

President Richard Nixon: A Great Challenge for a Great People. 34 min., c.1995 (1)


Note: Some three-dimensional items have been transferred to the Curatorial Department.

BOOKS


Gardner, Gerald.  *I’m in Charge Here!*, c.1968.


Compiled under the direction of the Joint Committee on Printing. Glenard P. Lipscomb: Late A Representative From California, Memorial Addresses Delivered in Congress, c.1970.


Keogh, James. This is Nixon, c.1956.


Nixon, Richard M. A New Road to America, c.1972.


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<td>Nixon, Richard. RN The Memoirs of Richard Nixon, c.1978, (Signed by author and #50 of 2,500 and one not #’d but signed, 2 copies).</td>
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<td>Nixon, Richard M. Six Crises, c.1962, (Signed to “Herb and Ruby Peterson…”, Marje’s parents).</td>
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<td>Rust, Zad. Teddy Bare: The Last of the Kennedy Clan, c.1971.</td>
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<td>Taft, Robert A. A Foreign Policy For Americans, c.1951, (Signed by author)</td>
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<td>Walters, Vernon A. Silent Missions, c.1978.</td>
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