The United States celebrated its 200th anniversary, its Bicentennial, on July 4, 1976. As part of the celebration, committees were set up at national, state, and municipal levels to plan Bicentennial celebration events across the country. The San Antonio Bicentennial Committee was incorporated in August 1974, when it held its first meeting and elected its Board of Directors, each of whom assumed chairmanship of subcommittees and offices. The Board included Vivian Hamlin, Chairman; Esther MacMillan, Chairman, Heritage ’76 Committee; Henry Guerra, Chairman, Festivals USA Committee; Floyd Schneider, Chairman, Horizons ’76 Committee; Pat Cassidy, Vice Chairman, Horizons ’76 Committee; Commissioner Frank Vaughan, Secretary; and David Bamberger, Treasurer.
Incorporation of the Committee made it a legal entity so that tax-free funds could be received from the granting organizations and additional sources for the financing of local Bicentennial projects.


**SCOPE AND CONTENT:**
The collection provides an overview of Bicentennial projects, activities and events in San Antonio primarily during 1975 and 1976, through correspondence, meeting notes, newsletters, memorabilia, newspaper articles and clippings, ephemera and photographs that document city participation. Included are materials such as: scrapbooks and memorabilia from San Antonio school district participation; playbills, brochures, photos, slides and audio from the outdoor, Bicentennial musical, “Winds of Freedom,” which took place at the San Jose Mission from July 2 – August 29, 1976 and included participation from local universities and colleges; photos, press releases and newspaper clippings about artist Alexander Calder’s “Flying Colors of the United States” 727-200 airplane project with Braniff Airlines and the plane’s arrival in San Antonio; documents related to the Bicentennial regarding the creation of the Texas State Historical Theater at San Jose Mission as well as the transformation of the Farmers Market into today’s Market Square/Mercado.

**ARRANGEMENT:**
I. Subject Files
II. Special Events and Activities
III. Subcommittees

**RESTRICTIONS:**
Unrestricted access.

**PREFERRED CITATION:**

**PROCESSING INFORMATION:**
This collection was processed with financial assistance from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.
INDEX TERMS:

Persons:
  Cockrell, Lila.
  Guerra, Henry.
  Hamlin, Vivian.
  MacMillan, Esther.

Organizations:
  Bicentennial Committee (San Antonio Tex.).

Subjects:
  American Revolution Bicentennial, 1976—San Antonio (Tex.).
  United States – Centennial celebrations, etc.
  United States – History – Revolution, 1775-1783.

Places:
  San Antonio (Tex.)
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