



**Marin History Museum**

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**Finding Aid for**

**Collection of William M. Vanderbilt**

**ARC-001**

**Collection Overview**

**Creator**

Vanderbilt, William M., 1914-1998

**Extent**

7 files in 1 document case

**Call Number & Location**

ARC-001 ; Archive shelves, The Boyd Gate House

**Collection Summary**

This collection contains ephemera related to the interests of William Vanderbilt in the local chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star, horticulture, the Marin County Historical Society, local civil defense, and his son Newell's involvement with the 30th Infantry in the Spanish-American War.

**Language(s)**

Collection materials are in English.

**Processing Archivists**

- Lori Deibel, February 2023
- Madison Huckabay, April 2023

## **Collection Details**

### **Acquisition Information**

Donated by Bill Vanderbilt on January 5, 1990.

### **Biographical / Historical Note**

William Murray Vanderbilt was born in San Rafael on February 12, 1914 at the family home on Fifth Avenue, across the street from the Mount Tamalpais Military Academy where his father, Major Newell F. Vanderbilt, was the Commandant. His paternal grandfather was William P. Vanderbilt, a Tomales pioneer and former assessor of Marin County, and his maternal grandfather was Adam Murray, an early San Rafael builder and lumber dealer who built the Boyd Gate House in 1879.

William Vanderbilt attended the Mount Tamalpais Military Academy where his father served. After business college, he spent 43 years with the California Packing Corp., which became Del Monte. During World War II he served overseas in the Signal Corps and U.S. Air Force.

In 1945, he married Helen Clara Milner and raised his family in San Anselmo. He was active in the Marin Council Boy Scouts of America, the Marin County Historical Society, the San Anselmo Historical Commission, and as a member of the first Board of Deacons of the First Presbyterian Church in San Rafael.

William M. Vanderbilt died on July 17, 1998, and was buried at Mount Tamalpais Cemetery in San Rafael.

### **Related Materials**

1999.1716 - State "Angling License">//State of California/issued to William Vanderbilt/Expires December 31, 1936//Issued by the Fish and Game Commission/

1999.6875 - Parchment-colored paper envelope with City of San Rafael's black centennial seal, an illustration of San Rafael's mission with the dates 1874 and 1974. Hand-addressed in pencil to Wm. Vanderbilt of San Anselmo

MISC-MIL-007 - Correspondence (letters and bulletins) from Earl R. McAlester, Chief Air Raid Warden in the San Rafael District Office to William Vanderbilt, 1942

MISC-MIL-008 - Instructional materials for civil defense during World War II

### **Subject Headings**

- Vanderbilt, William M., 1914-1998
- Vanderbilt, Newell F., 1874-1945
- Order of the Eastern Star. San Rafael Chapter no. 215 (San Rafael, Calif.)--Collectibles.
- World War, 1914-1918--California--Marin County.
- Civil defense--California--Marin County.

## **Using the Collection**

### **Access Statement**

Collection is open and available for research use.

### **Rights Statement**

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### **Preferred Citation**

[ITEM DESCRIPTION], Collection of William M. Vanderbilt, Marin History Museum, San Rafael, Calif.

### **Collection Inventory**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Membership list for San Rafael Chapter no. 215, Order of the Eastern Star	1903-1978	1	1
Brochure for the Diamond Jubilee, 75th Birthday of the San Rafael Chapter no.215, Order of the Eastern Star	1903-1978	1	1
First Premium Floriculture Award Ribbon (Indigo Blue) for the Second Annual Marin County Fair, name: W. M Vanderbilt	August 20-22, 1926	1	2
Fourth Annual Marin County Fair Exhibitor's Credential, used by Vanderbilt Hybrids (VH)	1928	1	2
First Annual Camellia Show, First National Bank San Rafael, Exhibitor Ribbon (Pale Blue, 2 copies)	March 18 1944	1	2
"Marin Horticulturists are Honored; A. Arbin Propagates New Chrysanthemum" Article reprint from the Marin Journal, San Rafael, CA	January 27, 1938	1	2

Letter notice to Marin County Camellia Growers regarding the First Annual Marin Camellia Show	March 10, 1944	1	2
(Pamphlet) Bulletin no. 1 series 1928 for the American Delphinium Society containing the secretary's summarized account of proceedings	April 20, 1928	1	2
Photograph of the Burns New Hybrid Delphinium, Black and White	(Not listed)	1	2
California Delphinium Seed Packet, empty, excerpt from Vanderbilt Hybrids on species and germination	(Not Listed)	1	2
Colored Photograph of the Burns New Hybrid Delphinium, excerpt describing plant on back	(Not Listed)	1	2
Template Page for the Dahlia Society of California, meeting dates at the top and executive board listed at the bottom	(Not Listed)	1	2
Message to the Director State Historical Museum in Monterey California regarding stock for the Mission San Rafael, sent by Newell F. Vanderbilt	June 18,1935	1	3
Bulletin no. 1 of the Marin County Historical Society, contains meeting summary and membership list	June 7, 1935	1	3
Bulletin no. 2 of the Marin County Historical Society Inc., contains board and membership list	February 1939	1	3
Marin County Historical Museum, "Panoramas of the Past" by Florence Donnelly (Brochure, 2 copies)	(Not listed)	1	3
Message to Mrs. Donnelly regarding the publication of the membership roster and dates for City Hall meetings, sent by Newell F. Vanderbilt	(Year not listed)	1	3
Proceedings of the Marin County Historical Society to June 6, draft of Bulletin no. 1, (Pages 1-2)	June 6, 1935	1	3
Proceedings of the Marin County Historical Society to June 7, draft of Bulletin no. 1, (pages 1-3)	June 7, 1935	1	3
Letter to Mrs. Donnelly regarding the inclusion of honorary members in the Charter Roll, vouches for man named Ladislao Martinez,requests a finance report at the closure of the Charter, sent by Newell F. Vanderbilt	(Date not listed)	1	3

Letter to the Director of the Carnegie Foundation on the creation of the Marin County Historical Society and the request for a historical relics museum to be funded and built, sent by Newell F. Vanderbilt	June 12, 1935	1	3
Memo to the Secty Society California Pioneers regarding further questions about the society, sent by Newell F. Vanderbilt	June 14, 1935	1	3
Letter to Mr. Knock regarding printing for the Historical Society, sent by Newell F. Vanderbilt	(date not listed)	1	3
Letter to Miss Belle Brown regarding the printing costs for the Bulletin forms for the Society, sent by Newell F. Vanderbilt	June 17, 1935	1	3
Marin County Historical Society By Laws, (pages 1-2)	September 2, 1935	1	3
"The 30th Infantry Editorial" on the relationship between the public and the army (2 copies)	June 4, 1934 (Unclear, fact check)	1	4
"The 30th Infantry Arrives" regarding the behavior of American Military men (2 copies)	June 2, 1934	1	4
Letter to Mr. Harry Lutgens regarding the article on American military men, sent by Newell F. Vanderbilt	June 5 1934	1	4
Letter from the San Rafael Independent Journal, Harry Lutgens regarding Vanderbilt's previous letter on the editorial, sent to Newell F. Vanderbilt	June 7, 1934	1	4
Letter to Mr. Harry Lutgens regarding the retraction of the 30th Infantry Articles, sent by Newell F. Vanderbilt	June 7, 1934	1	4
Letter to Newell F. Vanderbilt sending thanks from the Headquarters 13th Infantry In Camp at Petaluma, CA, sent by Carter Collins, Captain of the 30th Infantry	June 9, 1934	1	4
Letter to William Murray regarding claims made about Captain Hearfield's opinion on the 30th Infantry Editorial, sent by Newell F. Vanderbilt	June 12, 1934	1	4
John. H Harris Camp no. 18, United Spanish War Veterans in Regula Meeting's resolution to the San	(Date not listed)	1	4

Rafael Independent editorial of June 2, 1934, request for the censoring of said article in press circles			
Memo between Captain Nickerson, Vanderbilt, Comrades Dillon and Commander Boone on the outline of a Thursday meeting regarding a newspaper article to be discussed	June 11-12, 1934	1	4
John H Harris Camp No. 18, United Spanish War Veterans in Regula Meeting's resolution to the San Rafael Independent editorial of June 2, 1934, Request for unmistakable censorship of article	(Date not listed)	1	4
Sergeant William Hart, Headquarters Department of California, Circular, No. 10, Brochure containing a report of the Military Tournament and Athletic Contest of the Department of California held at the Presidio of San Francisco	April 19-22, 1897	1	5
Souvenir Program: Military Athletics Presentation of Colors and Grand Ball, by the First Regiment Infantry, N. G. C. In commemoration of the Muster out of the Regiment from United States Volunteer Service; contains history of the regiment, a roster, rules for the program, details of the program event, prize winners and various advertisements	September 21, 1905	1	5
Handwritten Application Roster for T Camp	(date not listed)	1	6
Yellow paper with a math equation	(date not listed)	1	6
Handwritten roster of people sent to Camp and rejected	(Date not listed)	1	6
Handwritten roster of people sent to camp and J.S and rejected at Segnring and Armistice	1917	1	6
Roster of individuals, their branch of service and enlistment dates in San Rafael, Mill Valley, Sausalito, Novato, Ross, San Anselmo, Larkspur, Kentfield, Corte Madera, Belvedere, Tiburon, Marshall, San Quentin, Nicasib, Ignacio Inverness, Fairfax, Fallon, Point Reyes, Forest Knolls, Tomales, Lagunitas, (13 pages)	1917-1918	1	6
Letter to Mr. H.T Powell regarding the minutes of a meeting in the matter of a Home Defense	February 1918	1	7

Organization for Marin County, as well as listing the current committees in place in Marin, sent by Newell F. Vanderbilt			
Letter to Newell F. Vanderbilt from the War Department Adjunct general's office regarding a previous letter on October 27, 1915	December 9, 1915	1	7
Letter to Newell F. Vanderbilt from the the Chairman of the Liberty Loan Committee for the 12th Federal Reserve District at the Federal Reserve Bank regarding the distribution of bonds and the income of individuals that will be devoted to war expenses	June 13, 1917	1	7
Memo from Marin County Council of Defense claiming that the plan for the instruction of drafted men in the use of arms was approved, sent to Newell F. Vanderbilt	September 6, 1917	1	7
Letter to the Chamber of Commerce in San Rafael, CA regarding Newell F. Vanderbilt's appointment as the Commandant of the training school for men, and request to draft a letter to the 143 drafted men throughout the country, sent by NF Vanderbilt	September 3, 1917	1	7