

NOBLE E. CUNNINGHAM, JR.

Noble E. Cunningham, Jr., a leading scholar on Thomas Jefferson, died on March 30, 2007, in Columbia, Missouri. He was born in Evans Landing, Indiana, and served with the United States Army from 1944 to 1946, after which he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Louisville in 1948. A year later he received his master's degree in history and in 1952 his doctorate from the University of North Carolina. He taught at Wake Forest College and the University of Richmond before joining the history faculty at the University of Missouri at Columbia in 1964. He held several prestigious chairs there, including Byler Distinguished Professor, Frederick A. Middlebush Professor, and Curators' Professor of History (1988-1997). Upon retirement, he became the Curators' Professor of History Emeritus. He received the Thomas Jefferson Award from the University of Missouri, as well as the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation Medal in recognition of his scholarship.

He was recognized far beyond academic precincts. A member of Phi Beta Kappa, he received fellowships from the American Philosophical Society, the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, the National Historical Publications Commission, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. He was an advisor to the Library of Congress in the preparation of 'Thomas Jefferson,' its major Bicentennial exhibition. His election to AAS occurred in April 1979. His first book on Jefferson, *The Jeffersonian Republicans: the Formation of Party Organization, 1789-1801*, was published in 1957 by the Institute of Early American History and Culture. Other works centered on Jefferson followed: *The Jeffersonian Republicans in Power: Party Operations, 1801-1809* (1963) and *The Process of Government under Jefferson* (1978). In 1981 the University of Virginia Press published *The Image of Thomas Jefferson in the Public Eye: Portraits for the People 1800-1809*. Cunningham was among the first historians to publish such a visually centered study. This book—of

obvious interest to the AAS curator of graphic arts—focused on life portraits of Jefferson dating between 1800 and 1809 and their derivations, including portrait engravings and pictorial caricatures, many of which are held by AAS.

A later book reflected his broader interests in the graphic arts. *Popular Images of the Presidency from Washington to Lincoln* appeared in 1991. Cunningham focused on the ways in which visual representations reflected and shaped popular ideas about the presidency in American culture. He explored many different types of objects for this study including medicine bottles, portrait paintings, silk badges worn in parades, and prints and book illustrations. With his wife, who assisted him in his research, Cunningham visited AAS in the preparation of both *The Image of Thomas Jefferson* and *Popular Images of the Presidency*

Although Noble Cunningham did not attend meetings of the Society, he was a faithful donor to the Annual Fund and made special gifts to the capital campaigns. He is survived by his wife, Dana Gully Cunningham, to whom the Society sends its condolences.

Georgia Brady Barnhill

HENRY RICHARD DIETRICH, JR.

The passionate and philanthropic collector of American fine and decorative arts Henry Richard Dietrich, Jr., died at sixty-nine years of age at his home in Chester Springs, Pennsylvania, on September 12, 2007. The cause of death was melanoma.

He was long a major force as a collector of objects from the colonial period, including furniture, decorative arts—such as silver and porcelain—as well as prints and paintings. Manuscripts and books relating to early settlements, Pennsylvania German fraktur and historical documents were also lifelong interests. His collecting began with early books purchased from Mabel Zahn at Sessler's Book Shop in Philadelphia and export porcelain, such as

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