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## Virginia Historical Sites Featured in *National Treasure: Book of Secrets*

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**RICHMOND, Va:** *National Treasure: Book of Secrets*, the sequel to the successful action-adventure film *National Treasure* again uses history as the centerpiece of an action-filled quest to unlock the secrets hidden in iconic historic places. Virginia's Mount Vernon, home of George and Martha Washington, is one of the sites highlighted in the film. In addition to Mount Vernon, the film also shot at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. Both are located in Alexandria, Virginia.

The film was directed by Jon Turteltaub and produced by Jerry Bruckheimer for Walt Disney Pictures and stars Nicholas Cage, Justin Bartha, Diane Kruger, Jon Voight, Helen Mirren and Ed Harris. It is the story of treasure hunter Benjamin Gates who sets out to solve the mystery surrounding the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, while at the same time clearing his family's name of scandal. The film opens nationwide on December 21, 2007

Mount Vernon is one of the most frequently visited and best loved of Virginia's historical sites. Located 16 miles from Washington DC, the site is open year round and, in addition to Washington's home, features historic outbuildings, a working farm, hiking trails, a museum and multi-media and video presentations. Nearly 80 million visitors have toured Mount Vernon since it was opened to the public in 1860. It has been called the most popular historic estate in America

The George Washington Masonic National Memorial was established in 1910 as a memorial to George Washington, one of America's most famous Masons. Today the Memorial is comprised of a museum, research center and library, performing arts center, and meeting venue. It is open to the public with guided tours available throughout the day.

Virginia Film Office Director Rita McClenny stated: "Virginia has some of the finest well-known historic sites in the nation and we are honored that the producers of *National Treasure: Book of Secrets* chose to showcase two of them in the film. We hope that people will take the opportunity to enjoy the movie and will then visit these exceptional Virginia sites."

Related websites

Virginia Film Office: [www.film.virginia.org](http://www.film.virginia.org)

Virginia Tourism Corporation: [www.virginia.org](http://www.virginia.org)

Mount Vernon: [www.mountvernon.org](http://www.mountvernon.org)

George Washington Masonic National Memorial [www.gwmemorial.org](http://www.gwmemorial.org).

National Treasure: <http://disney.go.com/disneypictures/nationaltreasure/>