Finding Aid for the Woods Family Papers, ca. 1843-1959

Collection number: 1130

UCLA Library, Department of Special Collections
Manuscripts Division

Los Angeles, CA

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Descriptive Summary
Title: Woods Family Papers,
Date (inclusive): ca. 1843-1959
Collection number: 1130
Creator: Wood family
Extent: 3 boxes (1.5 linear ft.)
Repository: University of California, Los Angeles. Library. Department of Special Collections.
Los Angeles, California 90095-1575
Abstract: The Woods family was from Versailles, Missouri. Peter George Woods (1844-1919) was a doctor, druggist,
prominent Democrat and Mason, and was also one of the founders of the Bank of Versailles. His brothers were: S.R. Woods,
and Charles Carroll Woods, a minister and poet. The collection consists of business and personal correspondence, legal
documents, financial records, memorabilia, and ephemera related to Dr. Peter George Woods and family. The materials
reflect Woods' professional and social involvements as well as the family's diverse interests.
Physical location: Stored off-site at SRLF. Advance notice is required for access to the collection. Please contact the UCLA
Library, Department of Special Collections Reference Desk for paging information.
Language: English.

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Restrictions on Access
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Provenance/Source of Acquisition

Preferred Citation
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Research Library, University of California, Los Angeles.

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Biography
The Woods family was from Versailles, Missouri; Peter George Woods was born in 1844; he was a doctor, druggist,
prominent Democrat and Mason, and was also one of the founders of the Bank of Versailles; he died in 1919; his brothers
were: S.R. Woods, and Charles Carroll Woods, a minister and poet; he married Susan Parkes Woods (d. 1909) and Margaret

Biographical Narrative

The paper of this Versailles, Missouri family reflect, to a partial extent, the broad variety of their interests. The central figure is Peter George Woods (1844-1919), an M.D. and druggist, prominent Democrat and Mason, as well as one of the founders of the Bank of Versailles. His correspondence and memorabilia contain evidence of both professional and social involvements, as well as of matters pertaining to his brothers, Charles Carroll Woods, a minister and poet (Who Was Who in America, vol.1, 1897-1942, p.1378), S.R. Woods, and his father, Samuel Hairston Woods. Unidentified members of the Woods family represented in the papers include William M. Woods and Mary L. Woods.

Real estate interests in and around Chicago are indicated by the presence of a substantial number of examinations of title, dating from 1865 to 1918.

Issues of the Versailles Statesman and Versailles Leader carry biographical information about Dr. Woods on the occasion of his death.

Richard Harry Woods, apparently responsible for collecting the family papers, was the fourth of Dr. Woods' seven children. His entire life seems to have been spent in Versailles, where he practiced law. His own papers, dating 1919-1952, reflect this career and include notes and correspondence relating to local law suits involving real estate.

Herbert Spencer Woods (1881-1920), the sixth child in the Woods family, is represented by his obituary in the Versailles Statesman and Versailles Leader.

Weightstill Arno Woods, the youngest of Dr. Woods' children, is represented by a few miscellaneous items, spanning the years 1909-1959.

Edna Woods Banks (d. 1893), Eva Woods Peters, George Woods, and Nancy Mosel Woods Yarnell, the remaining children, are mentioned or represented in the letters or other effects of the persons described above, as are Dr. Woods' two wives, Susan Parkes Woods (d. 1909), and Margaret Osborne Woods.

Scope and Content

Collection consists of business and personal correspondence, legal documents, financial records, memorabilia, and ephemera related to Dr. Peter George Woods and family of Versailles, Missouri. Materials reflect Woods' professional and social involvements as well as the family's diverse interests.

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Woods, Peter George, 1844-1919--Archives.
Wood family--Archives.
Physicians--Missouri--Archival resources.
Family papers.

| Box 1, Folder 1 | Business correspondence, (1888-1916) [1888-1906]. |
| Box 1, Folder 2 | [1892]-1916. |
| Box 1, Folder 3 | Personal correspondence, 1893-1917. |
| Box 1, Folder 4 | Miscellaneous materials re medical profession. |
| Box 1, Folder 5 | Memorabilia and correspondence re the Democratic Party, ca. 1912-1916. |
| Box 1, Folder 6 | Papers re the Masonic Order. |

Scope and Content Note

Contains one copy book labeled “Private Letters.”

Contains order forms for opium; a pamphlet on the laws pertaining to opium (Washington, Government Printing Office, 1916); etc.

Contains a pamphlet, two partial notebooks, etc.
Box 1, Folder 7
Miscellaneous business and family papers, 1859-1913.
Memorabilia.

Scope and Content Note
Contains printed materials: “The God of My Childhood,” by Dr. Woods; “A Confederate Song,” by S.R. Woods; signs; etc.

Versailles
Boxes 1-2
Missouri Statesman, 1919-1920

Box 1, Folder 9
September 18, 1919.

Physical Description: (7 copies)

Box 2, Folder 1
January 8, 1920.

Physical Description: (1 copy)

Boxes 1-2
Missouri Leader, 1919-1920

Box 1, Folder 10
September 19, 1919.

Physical Description: (1 copy)

Box 2, Folder 2
January 16, 1920.

Physical Description: (2 copies)

Box 2
Richard H. Woods [Papers, 1919-1952]

Box 2, Folder 3

Box 2, Folder 4

Scope and Content Note
Contains legal papers and correspondence related to Mrs. Yarnell’s partition suit against Richard Woods and various other members of the family.

Box 2, Folder 5
Business papers, 1907-[1946].

Scope and Content Note
Contains correspondence, contracts, wills, a notebook, etc.

Box 2, Folder 6
Legal papers, 1926-1942.

Scope and Content Note
Contains contracts and other papers related to the Todhunter property.

Box 2, Folder 7

Box 2, Folder 8
Record of expenses, 1942-1952.

Box 2, Folder 9
Miscellaneous.

Scope and Content Note
Contains the University of Missouri Alumni Directory, 1843-1917; photographs; mementos, etc.

Box 2, Folder 10
Books.

Scope and Content Note
Contains: Charles Carroll Woods, The Passing Years (Nashville, 1911), and Flavel B. Tiffany, In the Alps as a Summer Vacation of 1903.

Box 2
Weightstill Arno Woods [Papers, 1909-1959]

Creator/Collector:
Box 2, Folder 11  
**Miscellaneous.**

Scope and Content Note  
Contains the *Confederate Handbook* (Robert C. Wood, New Orleans, 1900) and correspondence.

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Box 3, Folder 1  
**Abstracts of Title. Chicago, Illinois, 1865-1918.**

Examinations of Title, [1872-1913]

Box 3, Folders 2-3  
**Chicago, Illinois, 1872-1892 and 1893-1913.**

Box 3, Folder 4  
**Lake County, Illinois, 1892-1901.**

Box 3, Folder 5  
**Abstract of Title. Newaygo County, Michigan, 1910.**

Box 3, Folder 6  
**Inventory of Estate of George C. Whipple. Cook County, Illinois, 1910.**

Box 3, Folder 7  
**Miscellaneous Blue Prints.**