

Guide to the Frances A. Wood Papers, approximately 1870-1912

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Collection Summary

Repository:	Archives and Special Collections Library, Vassar College Libraries
Creator:	Wood, Frances A., 1840-1914
Title:	Frances A. Wood Papers
Dates:	approximately 1870-1912
Quantity:	1.3 cubic feet (3 boxes)
Abstract:	Two photograph albums and five scrapbooks. The photographs are of Vassar faculty and Wood's house, "Homewood."

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Biographical Note

Frances A. Wood (1840-1914) was an early member of the Vassar College faculty, arriving in 1866 as a music teacher. She later taught English as well, but it was her service as Librarian that had the most profound impact on the college. When Wood took the position in 1880, the Library consisted of a small collection of bound volumes, pamphlets and periodicals housed in close quarters in Main Building. During her 30 year tenure, the collection quadrupled in size, modern cataloging methods were employed, and in 1905 the operation found a new home in the Frederick Ferris Thompson Memorial Library. Wood described the new building as a fantasy fulfilled, a spacious building of "beauty and harmony of arrangement beyond any dream of the early years...."

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Scope and Content Note

Two photograph albums and five scrapbooks. One photograph album contains images of Vassar's early faculty. The other documents the construction and furnishing of "Homewood," Wood's home at 79 Raymond Avenue in Poughkeepsie. Also includes several loose photographs of Wood as well as plates for the "Here and There Fund" bookplate, which features an image of Homewood.

The scrapbooks contain newspaper clippings. Most of the clippings are biographical sketches of politicians and writers, but one volume is devoted to women and includes articles relating to Vassar College

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Related Material

- One album of autographs was disbound in 2019. The letters are not Wood's personal correspondence, they are letters to Vassar presidents and faculty members. The individual letters were added to the:
- [Autograph Collection](#)

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Subject Headings

Names:

- Wood, Frances A., 1840-1914

Organizations:

- Vassar College--Buildings
- Vassar College--Faculty

Places:

- Poughkeepsie (N.Y.)--Buildings, structures, etc

Document Types:

- Photographs
- Scrapbooks

VCL Categories

- Vassar College

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Encoding Information

Encoded by Laura Streett, April 2008.

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Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

Frances A. Wood Papers, Archives and Special Collections Library, Vassar College Libraries.

Processing Information

Processed by Laura Streett, April 2008.

Last updated in February 2019.

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Container List

There is no container list currently available for this collection.

▼ Details

Abstract

Two photograph albums and five scrapbooks. The photographs are of Vassar faculty and Wood's house, "Homewood."

Finding Aid Date

Dates: approximately 1870-1912