

# Guide to the Frederic Goudy Papers, 1903-1966

## Biographical Note

Frederic William Goudy was one of the foremost American typographers and printers of the twentieth century. Over the course of his long career, he designed dozens of typefaces—including Lanston, Kennerley, and Goudy Old Style—many of which are still used today. Goudy is also known for his work with the Village Press, which he founded in 1903 with an associate, William Ransom. After buying out Ransom, Goudy moved the press to a number of locations, eventually establishing it in 1920 at Deepdene, his home in Marlboro, New York. At Deepdene, Goudy and his wife, Bertha Sprinks Goudy (1869–1935), who worked as compositor, produced a wide range of books, pamphlets, broadsides, and ephemera. In 1924 the Goudys purchased the Albion printing press that had belonged to William Morris, founder of the Kelmscott Press. Goudy continued to use this press until 1939, when a fire destroyed his Deepdene workshop, forcing him to close the Village Press permanently. In addition to operating the Village Press, Goudy served as artistic director of the Lanston Monotype Machine Company, for which he designed many notable typefaces. He also lectured at several educational institutions, including Vassar College. Born on March 18, 1865, in Bloomington, Illinois, Frederic Goudy died on May 11, 1947, at his Deepdene home.

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## Scope and Content Note

Correspondence, articles by and about Goudy, type specimens, type and other printing hardware, memorabilia, and other materials relating to Frederic Goudy and his type designs.

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## Administrative Information

### Preferred Citation

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### Processing Information

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