



Waterhouse-Crofut family papers, 1853-1981 SCHS 421.00

Description: 6 linear ft.

Scope and content: The papers of these two related families of Beaufort (S.C.) consist of correspondence, ephemera, business and financial records, and miscellaneous items. The bulk of the correspondence dates from 1900 to 1946. Earlier correspondence includes a number of love letters between George Waterhouse (1879-1894) and his fiancée Elizabeth Crofut (1882-1968).

Much of the correspondence of 1945-1946 is that of Marguerite Waterhouse during her service in the Red Cross in India during World War II. The papers of George Waterhouse (1838-1894) include personal account books (1853-1866), and a proposal to build a school for colored children in the Oakatee area. Papers of his son George Waterhouse (1879-1920) include a private ledger and copies of business letters (1910-1919). Papers of Marguerite L. Waterhouse (Herendeen) include ephemera, clippings, and other material collected during her tour with the Red Cross while attached to U.S. Army units (relating to China-Burma-India operations). Papers of her husband Edward G. Herendeen are mostly military records relating to his service in the Navy Air Corps in France and Italy in World War I, including two diaries (1917-1919). Business records include a ledger (1879-1922) of George Waterhouse containing entries for cash accounts, store accounts, accounts for wharfage, cotton, etc., and accounts with various individuals and businesses including Capt. D.K. Smalls, Neptune Murray, the Sea Island Chemical Co., G.M. Pollitzer & Co., and the steamer Pilot Boy. Miscellaneous items include clippings and a scrapbook pertaining to Beaufort social life and history.

Papers of the Crofut family include business and financial records (1876-1920s), and papers of musicians Marguerite and Georgeia Crofut which feature programs for concerts and recitals, and sheet music for spirituals composed by Rita Crofut. Also of note in the Crofut family papers are two oversize ledgers (both?) kept by E.A. Crofut. The first, smaller volume lists the names of former members of the U.S. Colored Troops, detailing their date of enrollment and discharge, their regiment and officers, and place of residence; this volume also contains dated entries (1884-1885) noting individuals who applied for back pay, bounty, and disability pensions. The second, larger volume (1889-1902) lists hundreds of individuals, with notes on payment or denial of payment of back pay or bounty to former colored soldiers or their beneficiaries. Many entries list details such as dates of enlistment and discharge, age, and military unit. Other entries list disability pensions allowed to veterans or their beneficiaries, sometimes noting the cause of the disability and other details. Loose items removed from the larger ledger include a chart of U.S. pension rates; a letter (1901) to E.A. Crofut rejecting a pension; and a "Declaration for Invalid Pension" submitted by Cyrus Jenkins of Port Royal (S.C.).

Note: Some items restricted due to fragile condition. Photographs have been removed to the SCHS Visual Materials Collection.

Preferred citation: Waterhouse-Crofut family papers, 1853-1981. (421.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

Search terms:

Herendeen, Edward G., 1896-1979.
Herendeen, Marguerite Crofut.
Waterhouse, George, 1838-1894.
Waterhouse, George, 1879-1920.
Crofut family.
Waterhouse family.
American National Red Cross.
United States. Naval Aviation Corps.
United States. Colored Troops -- Veterans.
Music -- South Carolina -- 20th century.
Military pensions -- United States.
Spirituals (Songs)
Women musicians -- South Carolina.
World War, 1914-1918 -- Aerial operations, American.
World War, 1939-1945 -- War work -- Red Cross.
Beaufort (S.C.) -- Commerce.
Beaufort (S.C.) -- History.
Financial records.
Letters (correspondence)

Series overview:

421.01 Waterhouse-Crofut Family Papers
421.02 Waterhouse Family Papers
421.03 Crofut Family Papers

Container listing:

BOX 1

421.00 Notes on the collection
421.01 (C) 01 Correspondence, 1873-1906

BOX 2

421.01 (C) 01 Correspondence, 1907-1929

BOX 3

421.01 (C) 01 Correspondence, 1930-1935

BOX 4

421.01 (C) 01 Correspondence, 1936-1941

BOX 5

421.01 (C) 01 Correspondence, 1942-Sept. 1945

BOX 6

421.01 (C) 01 Correspondence, Oct. 1945-1981; and undated letters

BOX 7

421.01 (G) 01 Genealogical and biographical material

421.01 (M) 01 Miscellaneous Papers

421.01 (M) 01.01 Misc: address books

421.01 (M) 01.02 Misc: clippings, including clippings about the 1893 hurricane

421.01 (M) 01.03 Misc: ephemera

421.01 (M) 01.04 Misc: notebooks

421.01 (M) 01.05 Misc: scrapbook, 1899-1905, of Harriett P. Waterhouse

421.01 (M) 01.06 Misc: sermon (19th century) of Anson Hall Parmelee; and a memorial concerning him

421.01 (M) 01.07 Miscellaneous writings

421.01 (M) 01.08 Miscellaneous items

421.02 *Waterhouse Family Papers*

421.02 (B) 01 Business, financial, and property records, 1872-1929

BOX 8

421.02 (B) 01 (1879-) OVERSIZE business ledger, 1879-1922, of George Waterhouse (wrapped volume next to Box 11)

421.02 (B) 01 Business, financial, and property records, 1900-1950s

421.02 (B) 01.01 George Waterhouse Company records, 1911-1920s

421.02 (B) 01.02 Waterhouse Corporation records, 1931-1943

421.02 (B) 02 W.P Waterhouse business records, 1879-1890

BOX 9

421.02 (E) 01 Estate records of George Waterhouse 1915-1938

421.02.00 Papers of individual Waterhouse family members

421.02 .01 Papers of George Waterhouse (1838-1894), including personal account books (1853-1866); a proposal to establish a school for colored children in the [Oakatee] area (1882); and eulogies

421.02.02 Papers of Elizabeth Crofut Waterhouse (1882-1968) including recital programs and household expense account books (1920s)

421.02.03 Papers of George Waterhouse (1879-1920) including a private ledger (1908-1910); a volume of copies of business letters (1910-1919); a private account book (1895-1905)

421.02.04 Papers of George Waterhouse (1909-1964), mostly records, 1940s, pertaining to his work at the Sunflower Ordnance Works in Lawrence, Kansas

BOX 10

- 421.02.05 Papers of Marguerite L. Waterhouse (Herendeen), including ephemera, clippings, and other material relating to her service in India in the Red Cross during World War II, 1945-1946
- 421.02.06 Papers of Edward G. Herendeen, mostly military records pertaining to his service in the [Navy air corps] in Europe in World War I. These include two diaries, 1917, and 1917-1919.

BOX 11

- 421.03 Crofut Family Papers*
- 421.03 (B) 01 Business and financial records, 1876-1920s
- 421.03 (M) 01 Miscellaneous items
- 421.03 (M) 01.01 OVERSIZE ledger no. 1 containing pension records for U.S. Colored Troops, includes dated entries 1884-1885 (NOTE: Access Restricted – see archivist) This item is wrapped and located separately next to Box 11.
- 421.03 (M) 01.02 OVERSIZE ledger no. 2, 1889-1902, containing pension records for U.S. Colored Troops (NOTE: Access Restricted) This item is wrapped and located separately next to Box 11.
- 421.03 (M) 01.02 Loose items removed from ledger no. 2
- 421.03.01 Papers of Georgeia Crofut, mostly programs for concerts and recitals
- 421.03.02 Papers of Marguerite (“Rita”) Crofut, including programs for concerts; and sheet music for spirituals “Study War No ‘Mo” and “Sometimes Muh Trubble Mek Me Trimble”
- 421.03.03 Essay or memoir attributed to Elizabeth O. Crofut
- 421.03.04 George A. Crofut log book of an ocean going ship (Note: Access restricted; this item is extremely fragile and is damaged by handling)
- 421.03.05 Papers of John H. Greenwood, a relative of the Crofut family. These are mostly records pertaining to his service in WWI.