

Collection #
SC 1632

**HARRY E. WOOD
GREETING CARDS, CIRCA 1915–CIRCA 1926**

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Processed by

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	4 folders
COLLECTION DATES:	Circa 1915–circa 1926
PROVENANCE:	Jay Small, Indianapolis, IN, 29 May 1979
RESTRICTIONS:	None
COPYRIGHT:	

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: Harry E. Wood Collection (P 0380)

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1979.0523

NOTES: The items are stored in individual, archival quality plastic sleeves. Patrons are asked to view the cards without removing the items from the protective sleeve.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Harry E. (Emsley) Wood, Sr., was born 26 September 1879 near Lexington, Illinois, the third child of Emsley Harrison Wood, Jr., and Florence Robinson Wood. The family moved to Indianapolis shortly after Harry was born. Florence Robinson Wood died around 1882 and Emsley Wood married Sallie Bunger Lewis eleven months later. Emsley Harrison Wood worked in various jobs, including real estate sales and as a grocery clerk.

Harry E. Wood attended public schools in Indianapolis until about 1889 when he contracted Scrofulous, a strain of tuberculosis. The condition, coupled with his family's poverty, disrupted his formal education. He attended Manual Training High School in 1899 and worked as a cartoonist for the Indianapolis *Star* in 1900. Wood illustrated "Our Public Servants," a column of political satire written by Kin Hubbard.

Wood's affiliation with Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS) as an educator began in fall 1900 when he returned to Manual Training High School as an assistant art instructor under Otto Stark. He taught drawing and design at Manual until 1904 when he accepted a scholarship to the School of Industrial Art in Philadelphia. While in Philadelphia he met Bessie Houser, whom he would marry in 1907. The couple would raise four children: Harry Jr., Albert, Virginia, and Leora.

Wood attended art school for one semester and returned to Indianapolis in 1905 when his father fell ill. He taught jewelry making and manual training at Emmerich Manual Training High School and Shortridge High School from 1906 to 1910. In 1911 he was appointed director of Manual Training and Vocational Training for IPS. He was appointed director of Practical Arts in 1923, director of Fine and Practical Arts and Vocational Education in 1932, and director of Arts in 1936. Wood retired from IPS in 1950 and died 21 January 1951 in Indianapolis. He is buried in Crown Hill Cemetery. His wife, Bessie Houser Wood, died in 1956.

Sources:

Harry E. Wood Collection (P 0380)

The Ivian. Indianapolis: Emmerich Manual Training High School, 1957.

The Ivian. Indianapolis: Manual High School, 1960.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection contains twelve greeting cards, three birth announcements, and an invitation. Most items appear to have been made by Indianapolis artist and teacher Harry E. Wood.

Items that were likely made by Wood consist of a Christmas card signed "F. B. McElroy," and a print depicting trees.

Cards made by Harry E. Wood include hand-printed Christmas cards containing greetings from the Wood family. The greetings refer to the Wood children as “the splinters.” Three cards include greetings printed on a separate piece of paper. The paper is folded to resemble a gift. Other Christmas cards include items printed for 1916. These cards contain a sentiment regarding the passage of time. A 1922 Christmas card depicts Santa Claus, and images representing the Wood family. A card dated 1926 resembles a small pamphlet. The item is bound by a decorated cover, and is titled “Once a Year” by A. Wood Pile. Undated cards made after 1923 include a verse referring to “the splinters four” and “grown ups two.”

Other cards in the collection consist of a Valentine’s Day card containing a pull-up greeting. Harry Wood, Jr., may have made this item. Three cards announce the birth of Leora Doris Wood (1923). Other material consists of an invitation to a meeting of the Inter Nos Club.

CONTENTS

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
<i>Once a Year</i> , by A. Woodpile, 1926	Folder 1
Valentine, Christmas Cards, n.d.-1922	Folder 2
Birth Announcements, Invitation, 1923-24	Folder 3
Christmas Cards, n.d.-1917	Folder 4

CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog: <http://157.91.92.2/>
2. Click on the "Traditional Search" icon.
3. Click on the "Call Number" radio button.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, SC 1632).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.