

A Guide to the John M. Sherwood Collection, circa 1860-2011

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A Collection in The Fairfax County Public Library MSS 07-15

Title Statement

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Collection: MSS 07-15

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Record Group Number

MSS 07-15

Language

English

Abstract

This collection contains correspondence, legal documents, blueprints, plats photographs and artifacts from the personal and professional lives of the Sherwood and Myers families in Fairfax County, Virginia. The materials date from circa 1860 to 2011.

Creator

John M. Sherwood

Extent

Approx. 14 linear ft.; 22 boxes, 5 map drawers

Repository

Fairfax County Public Library

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

None

Use Restrictions

Consult repository for information.

Acquisition Information

Gift of John M. Sherwood in 2008 and 2009.

Processing Information

Ross Landis, Leah Donnelly and Greta Kuriger Suiter, 2009-2011. Finding compiled by Ross Landis and Greta Kuriger Suiter.

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Adjunct Descriptive Data

Separated Material

None

Historical and Biographical Information

Albert Reuben Sherwood was born on January 8, 1879, near Hope Park in Fairfax County. With no formal schooling, he taught himself reading, penmanship, and architectural drawing. Sherwood initially made his living purchasing property, removing timber for sale, and reselling the property for a profit.

While operating a sawmill at Tyson's Crossroads, he met his wife, Annie Belle Myers. The couple moved to the Town of Fairfax, where Mrs. Sherwood ran Sherwood's Tourist Home and Kamp Washington tourist court. Albert Sherwood went on to found a successful construction company, taking commercial and private contracts throughout northern Virginia.

Albert served for 40 years on the Fairfax Town Council, just before its transition from a town to a city. He sat on the board of directors of The National Bank of Fairfax until his death in 1963. Albert and Annie had four children: Ruth Janet (1914-2000), Albert Maurice (1916-1943), John Myers (1919-2010), and Stacy Charles (1922-2002).

John Myers Sherwood was born in the Town of Fairfax on August 21, 1919. He attended Fairfax High School, where he was a member of the first graduating class in 1936. He went on to study at the University of Virginia and graduated from the McIntire School of Commerce in 1940.

After college, John Myers Sherwood was drafted into military service. He spent the duration of World War II in England as an ordnance officer with the Eighth Air Force. Upon returning home, he began his professional career in the office of the Fairfax County Commissioner of the Revenue. His public service continued for 15 years on the Fairfax Board of Zoning Appeals. He vacated his seat in 1967, upon moving from Fairfax City to Fairfax County.

John Myers Sherwood's banking career began at The Vienna Trust Company in 1949. He became president of The First National Bank of Quantico in 1968 and went on to The Citizens National Bank of Herndon, where he remained until 1977. He founded The George Mason Bank in 1978 and served as the president and CEO until his retirement in 1991. John was also instrumental in the formation of EZ Communications, the ultimate development of Fairfax's original WEEL radio. He served on the board at EZ Communications until the company was sold in 1996.

A founding member of the The Country Club of Fairfax, John Sherwood served on its board for many years. He remained a member until his death in 2010. He married Nan Edna Wolfe in 1949, and their union lasted until her death in 1998. The couple had two daughters: Valerie Sherwood Ford and Nadine Sherwood Stow.

Scope and Content

Series 1: Papers, 1861-2011

Subseries 1-1: Albert Reuben Sherwood, 1911-1968

This subseries includes documents from Albert Sherwood's time on the Fairfax Town Council, real estate loan and sales documents, ephemera and related items from the National Bank of Fairfax, along with numerous invoices, receipts and miscellaneous papers from the early to mid 1900s.

Subseries 1-2: John Myers Sherwood, 1928-1999

This subseries is highlighted by correspondence from his years at The University of Virginia and during his service in Europe during World War II.

Subseries 1-3: Ruth Janet Sherwood, 1921-1945

This subseries contains personal papers from Albert and Annie Sherwood's daughter, Ruth.

Subseries 1-4: Stacy Charles Sherwood, 1930-2011

This subseries contains personal papers from Albert and Annie Sherwood's son, Stacy.

Subseries 1-5: Albert Maurice Sherwood, 1923-1943

This subseries contains personal papers from Albert and Annie Sherwood's son, Maurice.

Subseries 1-6: Sherwood Family, 1910-1998

This subseries features general miscellaneous items from the Sherwood family, including social invitations and correspondence.

Subseries 1-7: Myers Family, 1861-1972

This subseries contains items from the Myers family of Maryland and later Tyson's Corner, Virginia. The series is contained in ten boxes.

Series 2: Photographs, 1860-1989

Subseries 2-1: Sherwood, 1910-1989

This subseries contains numerous snapshots of daily life around the Sherwood home on Main Street in Fairfax during the early 1900s. Also included are photographs of properties owned by Albert and John Sherwood, along with personal photographs.

Subseries 2-2: Myers, 1860-1969

This subseries is comprised personal photographs and portraits of the Myers family, along with images of their property in Tyson's Corner, Virginia from the beginning to the middle of the twentieth century. The series is contained in four boxes.

Series 3: Oversize, 1920-1983

This series features plats and architectural drawings related to projects executed by Albert Sherwood's construction company, along with plans for The George Mason Bank and other projects that John Sherwood was involved in. The items are contained in four map case drawers, with a few very large items stored under the table in the rare book room's processing area. Five framed items sit on the rear shelves in the manuscript storage area of the rare book room.

Series 4: Realia, 1868-1980

This series includes ephemeral advertising items from locally owned Fairfax businesses, items from the Myers store in Tyson's corner and a metal road sign from the Kamp Washington tourist court in Fairfax. It is contained in nine boxes and one map drawer.

Index Terms

Sherwood, Albert Reuben

Sherwood, Annie Myers

Sherwood, John Myers

Sherwood, Ruth Janet

Sherwood, Stacy Charles

Sherwood, Albert Maurice

Farr, Wilson Mahone

Patram, William "Wild Bill"

Wood, John Clinton

City of Fairfax, Virginia

Town of Fairfax, Virginia

Fairfax County, Virginia

Kamp Washington

Tyson's Corner

Arrangement

Papers are arranged by person and chronologically. Photographs are arranged by family and chronologically. Oversize items and realia are organized chronologically.

Container List

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Box 1 Folder 2: Miscellaneous deeds, 1913-1947

Box 1 Folder 3: Construction log book, 1914-1925

Box 1 Folder 4: Town of Fairfax and Fairfax County tax bills, 1917-1955

Box 1 Folder 5: Promissory notes and loan documents, 1918-1956

Box 1 Folder 6: National Bank of Fairfax, miscellaneous items, ephemera (1 of 2), 1918-1956

Box 1 Folder 7: National Bank of Fairfax, annual reports, statements of condition (2 of 2), 1919-1975

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Box 2 Folder 6: Sherwood's Tourist Home, miscellaneous, 1932-1956

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