Descriptive Summary

Title: Dorothy P’Pool Ware Collection

Dates: 1800-2011

Creator: P’Pool, Ware, Howell Families

Size: 1 box, 8 series, 16 folders, .25 cubic feet

Abstract: The collection consists of materials donated by Caroline Ware Howell in 2011. The assortment of materials found in this collection emphasizes the lives of Kate Seaver Downs P’Pool, Dorothy P’Pool Ware, and Pasty Howell. These women represent three generations of Mississippi Woman’s College/William Carey College teachers and alumni; their archives contain information about the University through this perspective.

Collection Number: A2011-004, M001

Language of Material: English

Storage Note: For preservation purposes, newspaper articles within this collection were replaced with acid-free photocopies. The actual originals can be found in the last three folders: 14, 15, and 16. Dorothy P’Pool Ware’s diary has been placed in an acid-free opaque envelope because it is becoming unbound, please handle with care.

Biographical/Historical Note

Dorothy P’Pool Ware was one of three daughters of the first female teacher at Mississippi Women’s College; her other sisters were Theta and Willard (see Box1, Folder 12). Dorothy attended and graduated from Mississippi Women’s College in 1919. She married Curtis Ware in 1927. The collection was acquired by William Carey University in 2011 by Barbara Hamilton. The accumulation of Mississippi College/Mississippi Women’s College/William Carey College materials from three generations of women was originally collected by Dorothy P’Pool Ware.
Dorothy’s mother, Kate Seaver Downs P’Pool taught “elocution” and theatre at the Mississippi College in 1896 (see photo in Box 1, Folder 8). Along with being the first only female instructor at the college; Kate P’Pool is also credited with creating the Department of Theatre and Communication at MWC in 1915. Information on Kate P’Pool’s creation of the Department of Theatre and Communication can be found in the *Echoes of Excellence* program for Professor Obra L. Quave’s tribute ceremony in the actual (Box 1, Folder 8). She is present in many *Pine Burr* and Catalog/Bulletins as a teacher of expression.

Kate married Reverend E.S. P’Pool in 1898. The P’Pool last name is originally “Pettypool” which was shortened over the years, from generation to generation. Rev. P’Pool was the son of Dr. Elbert Stephen P’Pool of Learned, MS. which is located south of Jackson. He attended the Rochester Baptist Seminary in Rochester, New York. Rev. P’Pool was the pastor and interim of various churches (See church bulletin from Calvary Baptist Church, Meridian Box 1, Folder 8).

Patsy Howell was active in Theatre and in the arts. Her accomplishments from attending the University were represented in the form of newspaper clippings that were most likely collected by her grandmother Dorothy Ware. She can be found in the 1973-74 issues of the *Pine Burr*. During her attendance of WCU, Patsy was awarded for her outstanding achievement in theatre and the Carey Citizenship Award. She also acted in many theatrical performances: *Sacramento 50 Miles, The Chalk Garden, Miss Vicksburg Pageant, and Blithe Spirit* (see Box 1, Folders 3-4).

**Sources Consulted:**

Many of the newspaper articles, programs, photographs, and correspondence provided by the collection were consulted in order to determine the history and relationship of the three women to the university. Various digitized issues of the *Pine Burr* were useful in determining when these women attended Mississippi Woman’s College and what types of organizations they were involved in. Other resources used are the online catalogs and bulletins of WCU.

**Arrangement:**

The collection is arranged alphabetically by six subjects. Each subject is organized by type of material found for the individual subject name. Within these subject classifications, document types were used as categories in which a chronological order was used.

**Series I:**

Miscellaneous Undated Items

**Series II:**

Ken Chen-
Photographs

**Series III:**
Patsy Howell-
    Articles
    Photographs

Series IV:
    Mississippi Woman’s College-
        Undated Items
        Programs

Series V:
    J. Ralph Noonkester, Ph. D.

Series VI:
    Kate Seaver Downs P’Pool

Series VII:
    Dorothy P’Pool Ware-
        Articles
        Correspondence
        Diary
        Photographs
        Programs

Series VIII:
    Actual News Articles (newsprint)
        Patsy Howell
        Dorothy P’Pool Ware
        MWC/WCU/ Kate P’Pool

Scope and Content:

Box 1:

    Folder 1: Miscellaneous                     Undated
    Folder 2: Ken Chen Photographs              May 20, 1978-August 1992
    Folder 3: Patsy Howell Articles             1973-1994
    Folder 4: Patsy Howell                      Undated
    Folder 5: MWC/WCU                           Undated
    Folder 6: MWC/WCU-Programs                  May 25, 1956-October 21, 2011
    Folder 7: J.R. Noonkester, Ph.D             September 1, 1987-June 8, 1989
    Folder 8: Kate Seaver Downs P’Pool          c.1800’s-2001
    Folder 9: Dorothy Ware-Articles             April 4, 1927-1995
    Folder 10: Dorothy Ware-Correspondence       November 11, 1988-Feb. 3, 1989
    Folder 11: Dorothy Ware-Diary               c. 1919
    Folder 12: Dorothy Ware-Photographs          c. 1900’s-1995
    Folder 13: Dorothy Ware-Programs             February 4, 1995
Folder 14: News Articles-Patsy Howell  1975-1994
Folder 16: News Articles-Dorothy P. Ware  1927-1995

Related Collections: The Ross Collection contains correspondence to and from individuals who were present at MWC during either Kate P’Pools career as an instructor or Dorothy P’Pool Ware’s attendance as a student. The Johnson Papers may contain documents that either mention or were written during the times of these two women.

Subject Headings:
Kate Seaver Downs P’Pool
Dorothy P’Pool Ware
Patsy Howell
Ken Chen
Dr. Noonkester
Mississippi Woman’s College
Rev. E.S. P’Pool
The Department of Theatre and Communication at Mississippi Woman’s College

Preferred Citation: Item, Date (if known), Title of Collection, Collection Number, Box and Folder number, University Archives, William Carey University Library.

Calvary Baptist Church Bulletin found in Ware Collection Box 1, Folder 8.

Newspaper articles found in Ware Collection about Kate Seavers Downs P’Pool, Dorothy P’Pool Ware, and Patsy Howell.


Administrative Information:

Access Restrictions:

The collection is open for research. Arrangements for viewing the collection must be made in advance by contacting the office of the Director of Libraries at William Carey University.

Restrictions on use and Copy Right

Materials in this collection may be protected from unauthorized copying by the Copy Right Law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code). Researchers are responsible for
determining any questions of copyright. Photocopying may be limited if William Carey University does not own the original item.

Permission to publish material from the collection must be requested from the Director of Libraries at William Caret University. Ownership of a photocopy does not imply the permission to publish.

**Provenance:** Collection donated by Caroline Ware Howell via Barbara Hamilton (WCU Library staff), in October of 2011.

**Processing Information:** Processing completed by Bernadette Birzer, USM student intern, on June 27, 2012. Reprocessed with new classification of M001 by Reese Powell, WCU Director of Libraries, on July 1, 2015.