

Wilmington Historical Society
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Finding Aid for the
Woods Mortuary and Ambulance Service Appointment Books,
1927-1936

Collection Overview

Title: Woods Mortuary and Ambulance Service Appointment Books
Dates: 1927-1936
ID: WAM
Primary Creator: Woods Mortuary and Ambulance Service, 1913-1940
Extent: .42 linear feet
Arrangement: Bound materials arranged chronologically.
Forms of Material: Documents
Language of materials: English

Abstract

The Woods Mortuary and Ambulance Service Appointment Books document mortuary transport and ambulance service provided by the company to the residents of the City of Wilmington and surrounding communities between 1927 and 1936. Each entry includes names of patients and amount received for the service. Some entries include additional information regarding the purpose of transport.

Biographical/Administrative History

David J. Woods was born in New Brighton, Beaver County, Pennsylvania on September 28, 1887, to parents David R. and Selena G. Woods (née Elverson). In 1894, the family relocated to Los Angeles, where his father was employed as Commissioner of the Los Angeles City Park Department. The family moved to Wilmington, California in 1900 and opened a florist's shop.

In November 1913, David J. Wood partnered with Gurnsey Jagggers, an experienced undertaker, to purchase S. M. Bise Undertaking, established at 7th and Fries Streets, Wilmington, California in May 1912. When Jagggers passed away in 1917, Woods took on another partner, and the business moved to 1018 East Anaheim Street. In 1923, he became sole proprietor and bought a

lot at 702 Broad Avenue, where a new building was constructed. Construction was completed in 1924, and included a chapel, downstairs offices, and living accommodations upstairs. Shortly after reopening, Wood's Mortuary also began to offer ambulance services. David J. Woods passed away February 19, 1940 and is buried at the Inglewood Park Cemetery in Inglewood, Los Angeles County, California.

Scope and Contents

The Woods Mortuary and Ambulance Service Appointment Books document ambulance service provided by the company to the City of Wilmington and surrounding communities for years: 1927, 1929, 1932, 1933, and 1936. Each bound appointment book lists names of patients and amount received for the service. In some cases, there is additional information for patients regarding the nature of the illness or disease, symptoms observed, or purpose of transport.

Subjects/Access Terms

Creator

Personal Name:

Woods, David J., 1887-1940

Organization Names:

Woods Mortuary and Ambulance Service

Subject Headings

Topical Term(s):

Mortuaries

Ambulance service

Geographic Name(s):

Los Angeles County (Calif.)

Wilmington (Los Angeles, Calif.)

Documentary Forms:

Documents

Administrative Information

Processing Information: Holli Teltoe, 2022

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Conditions Governing Access: The collection is open for research use.

Preferred Citation: Woods Mortuary and Ambulance Service Appointment Books. Wilmington Historical Society.

Acquisition: The source and date of acquisition is unknown.

Collection Contents

Box 1

Item 1: Woods Mortuary and Ambulance Service Appointment Book, 1927

Item 2: Woods Mortuary and Ambulance Service Appointment Book, 1929

Item 3 : Woods Mortuary and Ambulance Service Appointment Book, 1932

Item 4: Woods Mortuary and Ambulance Service Appointment Book, 1933

Item 5: Woods Mortuary and Ambulance Service Appointment Book, 1936

[end of box list]