

C Weathers Family, Papers, 1868-1991
4014 3 linear feet, 1 audio cassette

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

INTRODUCTION

The Weathers Family Papers document the lives of Virginia “Kate” and Benton H. Weathers of Howard County, Missouri, and the lives of their children and grandchildren. In addition to genealogical materials on the Weathers, Duncan, and Grigsby families, the collection includes some materials on the Weathers Lumber and Hardware Store in Fayette, Missouri, and the Missouri Polled Hereford Association Records.

DONOR INFORMATION

On September 6, 2002, the administrator of the Weathers’ estate, Edris Wilhoit, donated the James Weathers Papers to the University of Missouri (Accession No. 5947). On April 30, 2007, Gene Weathers, Jr. donated the rest of the collection to the State Historical Society of Missouri (Accession No. 6130).

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

The Weathers family of Howard County, Missouri, is descended from James Weathers and Rachel Roberts, both of Madison County, Kentucky. The two moved to Howard County in 1819 and married in 1821. Many children were born to James and Rachel, including Columbus M. Weathers, a middle child. Columbus married and had only one son, Benton H. Weathers, who married Virginia Katherine Grigsby in 1898. Benton and Kate went on to have six sons, Louis, James, Benton, Eugene, Robert, and John.

Kate and Benton Weathers made their home in Howard County, Missouri, and tried their hand at farming in several different townships on rented farms. Between 1913 and 1915, the Weathers family lived in the Hickman House in New Franklin and farmed the surrounding land. Later in life, James Weathers donated \$100,000 to the University of Missouri to help restore the four-room brick structure, originally built in 1819, by Thomas Hickman. By 1920, the family retired from farming and bought a home in Franklin.

James married Viola Potter in 1924, and together they managed the La Crosse Lumber Company in Fayette. In 1946, James, with his brother Eugene, opened Weathers Lumber and Hardware, also in Fayette. In addition to the lumber business, James was instrumental in establishing the Missouri Polled Hereford Breeders Association in 1944, and maintained his own herd of cattle on his 95-acre Hillview Farm.

Eugene Weathers married Norabelle Duncan in 1931, and received his bachelor’s degree from the University of Missouri in that same year. They had two children, Eugene K. Weathers, Jr. and Benton Duncan Weathers. The family moved to Knoxville, Tennessee, where Eugene worked at the chemistry department in the Agricultural Experiment Station. Between 1942 and 1945, he worked for the Plate Mill Smelter in Alcoa, Tennessee. In 1946, the Weathers moved back to Fayette so Eugene could partner with his brother James in the lumber and hardware business and begin his own Polled Hereford cattle herd.

Eugene Weathers died January 3, 1988, and James Weathers died January 17, 2000, at the age of 91.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Weathers Family Papers primarily center on the lives of Eugene and James Weathers and their families. The papers contain genealogical materials on the Weathers, Duncan, and Grigsby families, including photographs, diaries, correspondence, financial ledgers, and scrapbooks. The collection also holds records pertaining to the Weathers Lumber and Hardware store in Fayette and the Missouri Polled Hereford Cattle Association. The papers are arranged chronologically into three series: **Genealogical Material**, **Weathers Lumber and Hardware Records**, and **Missouri Polled Hereford Breeders Association Records**.

The **Genealogical Material** series contains family correspondence, the diaries of Kate Weathers and scrapbooks she made for her children, as well as several files of family history sheets and vital statistics records. This series also contains financial information pertaining to the farming activities of the Weathers family in Howard County, including receipts, ledger books, and other farm records. There are several folders of photographs and negatives documenting family vacations and special events.

The **Weathers Lumber and Hardware Records** series includes ledger books that record cash sales and sale catalogs.

The **Missouri Polled Hereford Breeders Association Records** series documents the beginnings of that organization and includes its bylaws, correspondence, directories, sale records, Pulled Hereford publications, certificates of entry, and receipt books.

FOLDER LIST

Genealogical Materials Series

- f. 1 Correspondence, 1909-1922
- f. 2 Correspondence, 1936-1945
- f. 3 Correspondence, 1946-1963
- f. 4 Correspondence, 1988
- f. 5 Postcards, Greeting Cards, 1908-1961
- f. 6 Announcements, Invitations, 1929-1991
- f. 7 Benton Duncan Weathers, 1934-1956
- f. 8 Duncan Lee Weathers, Graduation, 1979
- f. 9 Duncan Family, 1913-1950
- f. 10 Weathers Family, 1938-1971 (oversized photo)
- f. 11 E.K. Weathers, 1937-1960
- f. 12 E.K. Weathers, Graduation, 1924
- f. 13 Norabelle Duncan Weathers, DAR Papers, 1991
- f. 14 Norabelle Duncan Weathers, 1986-1988
- f. 15-17 Weathers' Genealogy
- f. 18 Newspapers Clippings and one cassette tape with campaign ads, 9th District Congressional Race, Eugene K. Weathers, Jr., 1976
- f. 19 Newspaper Clippings, 1976-1981
- f. 20 Scrapbook, 1880-1890s
- f. 21 Scrapbook, 1938
- f. 22 Scrapbook, 1920s-1950s
- f. 23 Diary, Katherine Weathers, 1905-1906
- f. 24 Diary, Katherine Weathers, 1912-1915
- f. 25 Diary, Katherine Weathers, 1956-1957
- f. 26 Land Records, 1868-1907
- f. 27 Ledger Book, Household Expenses, 1922-1942
- f. 28 Order Book, Ladies Stockings, 1915-1917
- f. 29 Ledger Books, Household Expenses, 1908
- f. 30 Receipts, Household and Business Expenses, 1908-1948
- f. 31 Farm Records, 1909
- f. 32 Federal Crop Insurance Papers, 1980-1981
- f. 33 Polled Hereford Cattle, 1900-1910
- f. 34 Almanacs, 1907, 1941, n.d.
- f. 35 Photographs, Grigsby Family, 1927-1938
- f. 36 Photographs, 1940s
- f. 37 Photographs, 1956
- f. 38 Photographs, Vacation, Spanish Mission, 1958
- f. 39 Photographs, Vacation, Grand Canyon, Petrified Forest, Marineland of the Pacific, Disneyland, and Hoover Dam, 1959
- f. 40 Photographs, Vacation, Colorado, 1960
- f. 41 Photographs, 1960s
- f. 42 Photographs, 1960-1973

Genealogical Materials Series (con'd)

- f. 43 Photographs, 1970s-1980s
- f. 44 Photographs, Duncan Lee Weathers Graduation, 1979-1980s
- f. 45 Photographs, Barbara Jo Light Wedding Announcement, 1959
- f. 46 Negatives, 1950-1960
- f. 47 Negatives, 1959
- f. 48 Negatives, 1980s

Weathers Lumber and Hardware Records Series

- f. 49 Cash Sales, 1946-1948
- f. 50 Ledger Books, Cash Sales, 1947
- f. 51 Ledger Books, Cash Sales, 1948
- f. 52 Parts Catalogs, 1960-1965

Missouri Polled Hereford Breeders Association Records Series

- f. 53 Bylaws, Incorporation Papers, Certificate of Membership, 1944, 1947
- f. 54 Membership Directories, 1940-1976
- f. 55 Breed Show and Sale Records, 1945-1957
- f. 56 Sale Records, 1951-1977
- f. 57 *Polled Hereford World Magazine*, 1949-1958
- f. 58 *Polled Hereford World Magazine*, 1978-1980
- f. 59 Sale Catalogs, 1930-1956
- f. 60 Sale Catalogs, 1957-1975
- f. 61 Dispersion Sales, 1973-1977
- f. 62 American Polled Hereford Association Publications, 1940-1979
- f. 63 Newspaper Clippings, 1940s-1950s
- f. 64 Correspondence, 1944-1975
- f. 65 Certificates of Entry, 1953-1969
- f. 66 Receipt Books, 1944-1948
- f. 67 Receipt Books, 1952-1953
- f. 68 Receipt Books, 1955-1958
- f. 69 Gammon's All-In-One Private Herd Record, 1957-1966
- f. 70 Miscellaneous
- f. 71 Posters

INDEX TERMS

Subject	Folders	Other	Image
Agriculture--Economic aspects	31, 32		
Almanacs--Dream books	34		
American Polled Hereford Association	54, 65		
The Bank Almanac, 1907	34		

Subject	Folders	Other	Image
Birth records	17		
Bloom, Judith Elaine Digges	16		
Budgets, Household	29, 30		
Catalogs--Repair parts--Automatic livestock waterers and feeders	52		
Catalogs--Sales--Polled Herefords	59-61		
Cattle--Pedigrees	33		
Cattle--Polled Hereford	33, 53-71		
Cobb, Thomas M.	9		
Coldwater, Mary Ann	6, 10, 11		
Commencements--Colleges and universities	10		
Commencements--Lanphier High School, Springfield, Illinois	8, 10, 12		
Cotton Belt Railroad	1		
Death records	17		
Diaries--Farm life	23-25		
Digges family--Genealogy	16		
Directories--Polled Herefords Breeders Association	54		
Douglass family--Genealogy	16		
Duncan, Jesse J. (1870-1944)	9		
Duncan, Joseph	9		
Duncan, Marion J.	9		
Elections--Missouri, 9th Congressional District, 1976	18, 19	a.c. 1	
Fayette, Missouri--Sesquicentennial	19		
Grigsby family	35		y
Grigsby family--Genealogy	15		
Grigsby, J.M., Jr.	1		
Land records	26		
Ledgers	27, 28, 49-51		
Livestock--Polled Hereford	54-71, 62		
Livestock--Prices	55, 56, 59-61		
Marriage records	17		
Missouri Polled Hereford Breeders Association	53-71		
O'Brien, J.J.	1		
The P.E.O. Record	14		
Politics--Missouri, 1976	18, 19		
Polled Hereford World	57, 58		
Publications--Polled Herefords	62		
Receipts	66-69		
Robinson, J. B.	3		

Subject	Folders	Other	Image
Rogers, Mrs. A. E.	3		
Sales--Accounting	66-69		
Scrapbooks	19-22		
Shuey, G. A.	3		
Smith, S. Ed.	9		
Swamp-Root Almanac, 1941	34		
University of Tennessee, Agricultural Experiment Station	3		
Vital statistics	17		
Weathers family	36-48		y
Weathers family--Genealogy	13-17		
Weathers Lumber and Hardware, Fayette, Missouri	49-52		
Weathers, Barbara Jo Light	3, 10		
Weathers, Benton Duncan (1934-1978)	2, 7, 10		
Weathers, Benton Hutch (1860-1929)	6		
Weathers, Duncan Lee	8		
Weathers, Eugene K., Jr. (1936-2008)	6, 10		
Weathers, Eugene Kenneth (1906-1988)	2, 3, 11-13		
Weathers, James (1901-2000)	53, 56, 63-64		
Weathers, Katherine Rea (1970-)	16, 17		
Weathers, Norabelle Duncan (1908-1991)	9, 10, 13, 14		
Weathers, Virginia Katherine Grigsby (1871-1959)	10, 23-25		
Williams, U.M.	1		
Willson, Charles A. (1879-1936)	11		
Women--Societies	13, 14, 16, 17		