5-19-2016

Cedar Bluff Female College - Woodburn, Kentucky (MSS 580)

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Organizational History

Cedar Bluff Female College had its origins in 1864 when William F. Whitesides, a Simpson County, Kentucky farmer, determined to educate his two daughters in a “select school in his own home.” He soon assembled other pupils to study with them and in 1867 obtained a state charter for the school.

Cedar Bluff Female College was housed in a large, two-story frame building on a high point of ground three miles southeast of Woodburn, Kentucky. All students—usually between 50 and 80, from eight or nine states—were required to board at the college with the faculty, and were forbidden to leave the ten-acre campus unless chaperoned. Whitesides’ dairy and large farm supplied their dining table.

On 21 January 1892, a fire destroyed the college. The displaced students and faculty were transferred to Logan Female College in Russellville.

Collection Note

This collection consists of two account books, and a few loose papers found therein, relating to Cedar Bluff Female College and its proprietor, William F. Whitesides. An inventory is in Box 1, Folder 1. The first account book (Folder 2) covers 1874-1875 and records students’ names, together with charges for transportation, books and other supplies. Other general school expenses are also recorded. The second account book (Folder 3) includes some student accounts for 1886 and 1888, but also includes what appear to be general accounts of the Whitesides family farm, mostly from the late 1890s after the college no longer existed. Loose material from the account books (Folder 4) consists mostly of receipts and accounts; an undated letter, perhaps from one of Whitesides’ daughters, offers Christmas gifts to “Papa” and expresses gratitude for “the priceless treasure of a father’s love.”
### SHELF LIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOX 1</th>
<th>Cedar Bluff Female College</th>
<th>1873-1897</th>
<th>19 items</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Folder 1</td>
<td>Inventory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 2</td>
<td>Account book</td>
<td>1874-1875</td>
<td>1 item</td>
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<tr>
<td>Folder 3</td>
<td>Account book</td>
<td>1886-1898</td>
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<td>Folder 4</td>
<td>Loose items from account books</td>
<td>1873-1897</td>
<td>16 items</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD

**MSS 580 CEDAR Bluff Female College – 1873-1897 Woodburn, Kentucky**

Two account books of Cedar Bluff Female College, Woodburn, Kentucky showing charges to students for books and supplies. One book includes general farm accounts of the college’s proprietor, William F. Whitesides of Simpson County.

½ box. 4 folders. 19 items. Originals.

1992.132.40

### SUBJECT ANALYTICS

Account books
Schools – Warren County
Whitesides, William Franklin, 1827-1895

Niedermeier/Jeffrey 05/19/2016