

Dr. Carl M. Peterson Collection (AC29)

Introduction

The Dr. Carl M. Peterson Collection contains documents and photographs relating to the life and career of Dr. Carl M. Peterson and the founding and business activities of The Doctors Clinic, a private medical practice in Kansas City, Missouri.

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Dr. Carl M. Peterson
Title: Dr. Carl M. Peterson Collection
Dates: 1930-1990
Size: 1.67 linear feet, 6 boxes
Collection Number: AC29

Donor Information

Found in collection.

Citation Note

Dr. Carl M. Peterson Collection (AC29), Black Archives of Mid-America, Kansas City, Missouri.

Administrative Information

Reproduction Restrictions: Unrestricted.

Access Restrictions: Due to preservation concerns, researchers are asked to use the photocopies of the scrapbook found in folders 2-3.

Additional Forms Available: The scrapbook has been digitized and is available in the reading room.

Biographical Sketch

Dr. Carl M. Peterson was born June 5, 1914, in Opelika, Alabama, to Lewis and Carrie Bell Peterson. He attended high school at Tuskegee Institute, graduated from Morehouse College in 1937, and earned his Doctor of Medicine degree from Meharry Medical College in 1941. Dr. Peterson served in the Army Medical Corps in the South Pacific during World War II.

Dr. Peterson, along with Drs. William R. Peterson, John F. Ramos, and Samuel U. Rodgers, opened The Doctors Clinic at 1203 Paseo Boulevard in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1949. It was the first African American multispecialty physicians group practice west of the Mississippi River. The practice moved to a larger facility at 2701 E. 31st Street in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1961.

Dr. Peterson served as President of the medical staff at Truman Medical Center when the two city hospitals were merged. He ended his career as Chief of Surgery at Research Medical Center in Kansas City, Missouri. Dr. Peterson died December 17, 2007.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains materials relating to the life and career of Dr. Carl M. Peterson. Series 1-8 consist of personal papers. Series 9-10 consist of materials related to business activities of The Doctors Clinic.

Series 1: Scrapbook, 1930-1977

Series 1 consists of a scrapbook. The series is arranged numerically by page number. A digital copy of the scrapbook is available for viewing in the reading room.

Series 2: Correspondence, 1954-1990

Series 2 consists of correspondence concerning Wheatley-Provident Hospital's decision not to renew Dr. Peterson's staff appointment in 1954, congratulatory notes regarding Dr. Peterson's election to Chairman of the Citizens Association in 1968, and letters from friends. The series is arranged chronologically.

Series 3: School Records, 1934-1937

Series 3 consists of school records, including Dr. Peterson's diploma from Tuskegee Institute and commencement programs from Tuskegee Institute and Morehouse College. The series is arranged chronologically.

Series 4: Military Records and Artifacts, 1942-1951

Series 4 consists of military correspondence and memorandums, military service documents, and a commemorative booklet for the 1887 Engineer Aviation Battalion. The series also includes Peterson's dog tags, military service ribbons, and insignia pins. The series is arranged by item type. Oversize items have been withdrawn to Oversize Box 1. Artifacts have been withdrawn to Box 5.

Series 5: Conference Papers and Publications, 1950-1978

Series 5 consists of conference papers and publications by Peterson. The series is arranged chronologically. The photographic negative has been withdrawn to Box 6.

Series 6: Programs and Souvenir Booklet, 1965-1991

Series 6 consists of funeral programs, a souvenir booklet commemorating the centennial of Thompson Chapel A.M.E. Zion Church in Opelika, Alabama, and programs for a "Tribute to Brother Dr. Cleveland W. Eneas" and the 1991 Missouri State Medical Association Presidential Inaugural. The series is arranged by item type.

Series 7: Clippings and Newsletters, 1949-1988

Series 7 consists of newspaper clippings concerning Dr. Peterson, The Doctors Clinic, and Opelika, Alabama. The series also includes Research Medical Center staff newsletters with articles concerning Dr. Peterson. The series is arranged by item type.

Series 8: Artwork, 1977

Series 8 consists of a color print of a painting of General Hospital #2 presented to Dr. Peterson by the Truman Medical Center Board of Directors. The print has been withdrawn to Oversize Box 1.

Series 9: The Doctors Clinic Record Book, 1949-1951

Series 9 consists of a record book for The Doctors Clinic. The volume includes articles of incorporation, by-laws, and board of directors meeting minutes.

Series 10: The Doctors Clinic Files, 1949-1989

Series 10 consists of The Doctors Clinic business files. The files include news releases and public relations materials, photographs, and materials concerning construction of The Doctors Clinic facility at 2701 E. 31st Street, the business partnership, and other legal and financial matters. The series is arranged alphabetically by folder title.

Collection Inventory**Series 1: Scrapbook, 1930-1977**

- f. 1 Scrapbook, 1930-1977
- f. 2 Scrapbook, 1930-1977, pp. 1-62 (photocopies)
- f. 3 Scrapbook, 1930-1977, pp. 63-103 (photocopies)
- f. 4 Loose materials removed from scrapbook, 1930-1977, pp. 1-30
- f. 5 Loose materials removed from scrapbook, 1930-1977, pp. 31-40
- f. 6 Loose materials removed from scrapbook, 1930-1977, pp. 41-60
- f. 7 Loose materials removed from scrapbook, 1930-1977, pp. 61-70
- f. 8 Loose materials removed from scrapbook, 1930-1977, pp. 71-90
- f. 9 Loose materials removed from scrapbook, 1930-1977, pp. 91-103

Series 2: Correspondence, 1954-1990

- f. 10 Correspondence, 1954-06/21/1968
- f. 11 Correspondence, 06/22/1968-07/17/1968
- f. 12 Correspondence, 07/18/1968-1990

Series 3: School Records, 1934-1937

- f. 13 High School diploma, 05/24/1934
- f. 14 High School diploma cover, 05/24/1934
- f. 15 Commencement programs, 1934, 1937

Series 4: Military Records and Artifacts, 1942-1951

- f. 16 Military correspondence and memos, 1942-1943
- f. 17 Military correspondence and memos, 1944-1946, 1952
- f. 18 Military documents, 1942-1943
- f. 19 Military documents, 1944-1946, 1951 (OS)
- f. 20 1887 Engineer Aviation Battalion booklet, 1945
- f. 21 Artifacts, ca. 1940s (withdrawn to Box 5)

Series 5: Conference Papers and Publications, 1950-1978

- f. 22 Conference papers and publications, 1950, 1962, 1965-1966, 1978

Series 6: Programs and Souvenir Booklet, 1965-1991

- f. 23 Funeral programs, 1965, 1979, 1986
- f. 24 Thompson Chapel souvenir journal, 1979
- f. 25 Event programs, 1990-1991

Series 7: Clippings and Newsletters, 1949-1988

- f. 26 Clippings, 1949-1960, 1977-1979
- f. 27 Newsletters, 01/1978, 09/1988

Series 8: Artwork , 1977

- f. 28 Truman Medical Center art print, 1977 (OS)

Series 9: The Doctors Clinic Record Book, 1949-1951

- f. 29 The Doctors Clinic record book, 1949-1950
- f. 30 The Doctors Clinic record book, 1949-1951

Series 10: The Doctors Clinic Files, 1949-1989

- f. 31 Attorney Paul Van Osdol, 1956-1960
- f. 32 Building, 1959-1960
- f. 33 Building, 1961, 1985, n.d.
- f. 34 Building specifications, 1959
- f. 35 Building specifications cover, 1959
- f. 36 Correspondence, 1951-1969, n.d.
- f. 37 The Doctors Clinic photographs, 1949
- f. 38 The Doctors Clinic photographs, 1949
- f. 39 The Doctors Clinic photographs, ca. 1961
- f. 40 Employment contracts, 06/1957
- f. 41 Financial and legal documents, 1952, 1964-1966
- f. 42 Financial and legal documents, 1967, 1977-1978, n.d.
- f. 43 M. DeVonne French, 08/1978

- f. 44 Miscellaneous file, 1966, 1969, n.d.
- f. 45 News releases and public relations materials, 1961, n.d.
- f. 46 News releases and public relations materials, 1961-1962, 1967
- f. 47 News releases and public relations materials, 1949, 1960-1961, 1989
- f. 48 P. W. and R. Land Company, 1960-1966, n.d.
- f. 49 P. W. and R. Land Company warranty deeds, 1957-1960
- f. 50 Partnership documents, 10/1955
- f. 51 Partnership documents, 1958-1959
- f. 52 Partnership documents, 1960-1963, 1978
- f. 53 Robbins and Robbins Construction, 1959-1961
- f. 54 Robbins and Robbins Construction, 1962
- f. 55 Separation of Curtis Franklin, 1959-1966, n.d.
- f. 56 Small Business Administration Loan, 1961-1964
- f. 57 Small Business Administration Loan, 1961-1964
- f. 58 Williams, Stark J., 1954-1955

Processed by Michael Sweeney, Collection Librarian, October 2014.