

Katherine Sparks Collection

1845-c.1979

Collection Summary:

Title: Katherine Sparks Collection

Summary: Assorted materials largely relating to the life and career of Jesse W. Sparks, business and personal matters of the Sparks and Satterwhite families, and legal matters.

Physical Description: 9 linear feet.

Stack Location: MSS-5-2, MSS-5-3, MSS-5-4, MSS-5-5

Repository: Metropolitan Government Archives of Nashville & Davidson County, 615 Church Street, Nashville, TN 37219

Scope and Content: This collection contains roughly 18,000 items pertaining to both personal and business matters of the Sparks and Satterwhite families. Items include personal and business correspondence, photographs and negatives, legal case files belonging to Jesse W. Sparks, Jr., books, newspapers, and assorted ephemera. Much of the collection is related to Sparks/Satterwhite history, property and tax information, business matters, and legal matters.

The Katherine Sparks Collection is divided into 10 main categories: business materials, correspondence, financial materials, Jesse W. Sparks case files, Jesse W. Sparks correspondence, legal materials, memorabilia, personal materials, photographs and negatives, and printed materials. Books and oversize materials also make up a small portion of this collection.

Correspondence includes personal correspondence between the Sparks/Satterwhite families, friends, and acquaintances.

Business materials include books of correspondence from the firm of Sparks & Sparks, assorted business correspondence from the Satterwhite family regarding banking and railways, as well as contract information for upkeep and maintenance of the Satterwhite Camp property in Ashland City, Tennessee. Other business materials include call records and correspondence books for the firm of Sparks & Sparks, an estate claims ledger from around the 1860s, and invoices.

Financial materials include invoices, receipts, bank account records, assets and liabilities information for Katie V.S. Leiper, and various financial records for Jesse W. Sparks, Sr., Jesse W. Sparks, Jr., and Lucile Sparks.

A large portion of this collection contains the business correspondence for Jesse W. Sparks, Jr. between 1896 and 1950 during his time as an attorney in Nashville, as well as a number of his case files dating between 1904 and 1950.

Legal materials include property tax information and disputes for the Sparks/Satterwhite/Leiper families, maintenance information, information on auto accidents, legal agreements, zoning regulations, and legal matters dealing with the will of Katie V.S. Leiper. Also included are documents and notes relating to Katherine J. Sparks's legal dispute with the Metro Development and Housing Association over repairs on her home between 1980 and 1988.

Memorabilia includes restaurant menus, ticket stubs for concerts and transportation, pamphlets from various local and non-local businesses, and church programs from West End United Methodist Church.

Personal materials include insurance information, automobile registration, greeting cards, medical records, war rations, and religious materials.

Photographs and negatives are largely Sparks family photos with some unidentified subjects.

Printed materials include pamphlets, brochures, business cards, booklets, cartoons, advertisements, and news clippings.

Biographical/Historical Note: Katherine Josephine Sparks was born in Nashville, Tennessee in 1910 to attorney Jesse W. Sparks, Jr. (1867-1953) and Lucile Satterwhite Sparks (1883-1972).

Restrictions:

Restrictions on Access: In-library use only. Access is available by appointment during the Metro Government Archives open hours, which can be found at http://www.library.nashville.org/locations/loc_all.asp. Please inquire in advance of visiting Metro Government Archives as items are in closed stacks. Some materials in this collection, such as legal case files, are closed to the public.

Restrictions on Use and Reproduction: This material may be protected by copyright (Title 17 U.S. Code).

Administrative Information:

Copyright: Metro Government Archives of Nashville & Davidson County retains intellectual property rights to this collection. Some restrictions may apply.

Provenance: Created by Katherine J. Sparks (1910 - ?)

Processing Information: Processed and arranged in 2013 by Kelley Sirko, Archives Assistant.