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Finding aid for the Hilton Waits Collection

MUM01706

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Series IV. Oversize

SUMMARY INFORMATION

Repository University of Mississippi Libraries

Creator Waits, Dewey Hilton

Title Hilton Waits Collection

ID

MUM01706

Date [inclusive] 1923-1964 (bulk 1944-1964)

Extent

34.5 Linear feet 23 boxes (Annex H-1)

General Physical Description note 23 boxes (34.5 linear feet)

Location:

Library Annex H1-H3

Abstract:

The Hilton Waits Collection contains correspondence, documents, publications, photographs, ledgers, financial records, plantation records, law firm files, and personal correspondence. Waits served in the Mississippi House of Representatives from 1931-1960, 1964 and chaired its Ways & Means Committee from 1944 to 1960.

Prefered Citation

Hilton Waits Collection, Archives and Special Collections, J.D. Williams Library, The University of Mississippi

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Dewey Hilton Waits was born on 18 May 1898 in Mantachie, Mississippi. His father, John A. Waits, was an attorney in Leland, Mississippi, where the family moved in 1915. Hilton Waits earned a B.A., J.D., and M.A. in Political Science from the University of Mississippi. He wrote his 1932 M.A. thesis on tax law. After finishing his master's, he returned to Leland and took up the practice of law, representing among others the Washington County Board of Supervisors.

In 1928, Washington County elected Hobson Waits, Hilton's brother, to the Mississippi House of Representatives. When Hobson Waits passed away in 1931, Hilton Waits received an appointment to complete his brother's term in office. A few months later, voters elected him to that same office, which he held until 1960. Waits became the chair of the House Ways and Means Committee in 1944, giving him a great deal of influence, particularly over tax legislation. In 1960, Waits lost reelection race to Deloach Cope, but returned to the Mississippi House of Representatives in 1964. Waits died on 7 May 1964.

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BIBLIOGRAPHIC RESOURCES:

Dewey Hilton Waits. "Sales Taxes" *Tax Magazine* (October-November 1932).

"Hilton Waits' Passing is Mourned By Those Who Knew Him Best" Jackson *Clarion-Ledger* (12 May 1964).

"Veteran Legislator Dies in Mississippi" Memphis *Commercial Appeal* (8 May 1964).

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SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Hilton Waits collection is approximately 34.5 linear feet in size, and contains three short series: (1) Personal Files, which contain material related to the Waits family, including school records and correspondence; (2) Political Files, which holds items related to Waits' time in public office, including related correspondence, committee records, and material on tax law; and (3) Law Practice Files, which relate to Waits' law practice, such as correspondence, case files, and tax reports. Waits served as the attorney for Washington County, and the collection includes material related to the Washington County Board of Supervisors, various school districts, and other county matters.

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ARRANGEMENT

This collection is arranged in 4 series.

- 1. Series I. Personal
- 2. <u>Series II. Political</u>
- 3. Series III. Law Practice
- 4. Series IV. Oversize

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ADMINISTRATIVE **I**NFORMATION

Publication Information

University of Mississippi Libraries 2009

Access Restrictions

The Hilton Waits Collection is open for research. This collection is stored at an off-site facility. Researchers interested in using this collection must contact Archives and Special Collections at least two business days in advance of their planned visit.

Copyright Restrictions

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Under certain conditions specified in the law, libraries and archives are authorized to furnish a photocopy or other reproduction. One of these specified conditions is that the photocopy or reproduction is not to be "used for any purpose other than private study, scholarship or research." If a user makes a request for, or later uses, a photocopy or reproduction for purposes in excess of "fair use", that user may be liable for copyright infringement.

Additions

No further additions are expected to this collection.

Acquisition Information

John Waits donated his father's papers to the University of Mississippi in 2003.

Processing Information

Ellie Campbell processed the collection and completed a finding aid in May 2009. Jason Kovari converted the finding aid to EAD and posted it online. Preexisting folder labels were preserved.

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RELATED **M**ATERIALS

Resources at the University of Mississippi

Dewey Hilton Waits. "Sales Tax as a Source of Revenue." M.A. thesis, University of Mississippi, 1932. Call Number: LD 3411.82 .W1457 1932.

Caroll Gartin Collection. Gartin served as Mississippi's Lieutenant Governor from 1952-1960, corresponding with Waits' tenure in the state's House of Representatives. The finding aid is <u>available online</u>.

Separated Material

Photographs have been removed and are stored in the Collection Photographs.

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CONTROLLED ACCESS HEADINGS

Corporate Name(s)

• Mississippi. Legislature. House of Representatives

Format(s)

- clippings (information artifacts)
- correspondence
- documents
- financial records
- pamphlets
- state government records

Geographic Name(s)

Mississippi -- Politics and Government -- 20th Century

• Southern States -- Politics and Government

Personal Name(s)

• Waits, Dewey Hilton

Subject(s)

- Agriculture -- Mississippi
- Elections -- Mississippi
- Legislation -- Mississippi
- Legislators -- Mississippi
- Political Campaigns -- Mississippi
- Practice of law -- Mississippi
- Taxes -- Mississippi

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- 1.2 Copies of Waits Obituaries
- 1.3 Copy of article "Sales Taxes" by Hilton Waits
- 1.4 Personal Correspondence, 1926-1947

1.5 Condolence Letters and Telegrams on the Death of Mrs. Hilton Waits, May 1963

1.6 Ole Miss Graduation – Hilton and Hobson Waits, 1925

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