EVANS, LETTIE PATE WHITEHEAD, 1872-1953
Lettie Pate Whitehead Evans family papers, 1881-1982

Emory University
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Evans, Lettie Pate Whitehead, 1872-1953
Title: Lettie Pate Whitehead Evans family papers, 1881-1982
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 78
Extent: 31 linear feet (63 boxes), 1 oversized papers box (OP), 17 bound volumes (BV), and 3 oversized bound volumes (OBV)
Abstract: Papers of Lettie Pate Whitehead Evans, businesswoman and philanthropist from Atlanta, Georgia, and her family, including business records, correspondence, financial records, legal records, photographs, printed material, and subject files.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access
Collection stored off-site. Researchers must contact the Rose Library in advance to access this collection.
Special restrictions apply: Series 2 and 3: Selected files are restricted until January 1, 2035.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction
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Source
Gift, 2010.

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Biographical Note
Lettie Pate Whitehead Evans (1872-1953), businesswoman and philanthropist, was born in Bedford, Virginia on February 21, 1872. She married Joseph Brown Whitehead, a lawyer practicing Chattanooga, Tennessee, in 1894. They had two sons, Joseph B. Whitehead, Jr. (1895-1935) and Conkey Pate Whitehead (1898-1940).

Joseph B. Whitehead, Sr. and a partner acquired the rights to bottle Coca-Cola across the United States from Asa Candler, the president of The Coca-Cola Company, in 1899. Before this agreement with Candler, the soft drink was only available at soda fountains. Four years later, Joseph, Lettie and their two sons moved to Atlanta, because one of the provisions of the deal required Whitehead to open a bottling plant in Coca-Cola's hometown. After working tirelessly to sell bottling franchises across the South, Joseph B. Whitehead, Sr. died unexpectedly in 1906.

Lettie Pate Whitehead oversaw the Whitehead Coca-Cola bottling interests after her husband's death. She served as chairman of the Whitehead Holding Company and president of the Whitehead Realty Company. In 1913 she married Arthur Kelly Evans, a retired officer in the Canadian Army. She became one of the first female directors of a large American corporation when she joined the board of The Coca-Cola Company in 1934.

In addition to her business interests, Evans was a generous philanthropist. She established the Lettie Pate Evans Foundation, Inc. in 1945. She gave significant gifts to Emory University, including establishing the Conkey Pate Whitehead Surgical Pavilion at Emory University Hospital, Agnes Scott College and Georgia Baptist Orphans Home.

She died in her home at Hot Springs, Virginia on November 14, 1953.

Scope and Content Note
The collection consists of the papers of Lettie Pate Whitehead Evans and her family from 1881-1982 (bulk 1920-1953). It includes the papers of her two sons, Joseph B. Whitehead, Jr. and Conkey Pate Whitehead, as well as the records of the Whitehead Holding Company, the Whitehead Realty Company, the Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation, and the Lettie Pate Evans foundations. The papers include business records, correspondence, financial records, legal records, photographs, printed material and subject files. The collection documents the business and charitable activities of Lettie Pate Evans, Conkey Pate Whitehead, and Joseph B. Whitehead, Jr.

Series 1 consists of the Lettie Pate Evans papers, including correspondence, financial records, printed material and subject files comprise this series. Series 2 contains correspondence,
financial records, legal files, personal papers, photographs, printed material and subject files related to Evans' youngest son, Conkey Pate Whitehead, his personal holding company, COPACO, Inc., and his third wife, Emma G. Whitehead. Series 3 includes correspondence, financial records, legal files, personal papers, photographs and subject files associated with Evans' oldest son, Joseph B. Whitehead, Jr.

Series 4 consists of the business records - correspondence, financial records and subject files - of the Whitehead Holding Company and the Whitehead Realty Company. Evans, Conkey Pate Whitehead and Joseph B. Whitehead, Jr. were the only stockholders in these companies.

Series 5 contains the records of the Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation, the Lettie Pate Evans Foundation, Inc. and the Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation.

**Arrangement Note**
Arranged into five series: (1) Lettie Pate Evans papers, (2) Conkey Pate Whitehead family papers, (3) Joseph B. Whitehead, Jr. papers, (4) Business records, and (5) Foundation records.
Description of Series

Series 1: Lettie Pate Evans papers, 1906-1954
Series 2: Conkey Pate Whitehead family papers, 1903-1970
  Subseries 2.1: Conkey Pate Whitehead papers, 1917-1970
  Subseries 2.2: COPACO, Inc. business records, 1936-1946
  Subseries 2.3: Emma G. Whitehead papers, 1903-1972
Series 3: Joseph B. Whitehead, Jr. papers, 1919-1942
Series 4: Business records, 1881-1982
  Subseries 4.1: Whitehead Holding Company records, 1903-1973
  Subseries 4.2: Whitehead Realty Company records, 1881-1982
Series 5: Foundation records, 1935-1975
  Subseries 5.1: Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation records, 1935-1972
  Subseries 5.2: Lettie Pate Evans Foundation records, 1966-1972
**Series 1**  
*Lettie Pate Evans papers, 1906-1954*  
*Boxes 1 - 5 and OP 1*

**Scope and Content Note**  
The series consists of the papers of Lettie Pate Evans from 1906-1954. It includes correspondence, financial records and subject files. The correspondence consists of letters discussing Evans' business interests and investments, including business related to the Whitehead Coca-Cola bottling interests. Correspondents include Evans' friends and Whitehead Realty Company employee, Florence S. Cannon, Samuel L. Jones, the Secretary of the Whitehead Holding Company and the Whitehead Realty Company, and Evans' attorney, Hughes S. Spalding. The series also includes papers related to the estate of Joseph B. Whitehead, Sr.'s half-sister, M. Helen Conkey, a resident of Clearwater, Florida. Evans was named administratrix of M. Helen Conkey's estate. The bulk of this series, however, addresses Evans' state and federal taxes.

**Arrangement Note**  
Arranged by record type.

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Taxes, 1945
Taxes, 1946
Taxes, 1947
Taxes, 1948
Taxes, 1949
Taxes, 1950
Taxes, 1951
Taxes, 1952
Taxes, 1953

Printed material
OP1  1  Portrait [reproduction], undated
5  5  Printed material, 1950

Subject files
5  8  Sliwa, Juliette, 1948-1952
5  9  Whitehead, Conkey Pate, 1919-1934
Series 2
Conkey Pate Whitehead family papers, 1903-1970
Boxes 6 - 28

Biographical Note
Conkey Pate Whitehead (1889-1940), businessman, was the youngest son of Joseph B. Whitehead, Sr. and Lettie Pate Whitehead. After studying at a Yale University, Whitehead served as an officer in the Whitehead Holding Company and the Whitehead Realty Company. He spent much of his adult life living in Europe. He was married three times. He died November 2, 1940. His will provided for the creation of the Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation, Inc. to honor his mother. A year after his death, Lettie Pate Evans gave Emory University a large gift to create the Conkey Pate Whitehead Surgical Pavilion at Emory University Hospital in memory of her son.

Scope and Content Note
This series consists of materials relating to Conkey Pate Whitehead, his personal holding company, COPACO, Inc., and his third wife, Emma G. Whitehead. The series documents Conkey Pate Whitehead's business activities and his frequent travels around the United States and Europe. It consists of correspondence, financial records, legal files, personal papers, photographs, printed material, and subject files. The series also contains the records of COPACO, Inc., Conkey Pate Whitehead's personal holding company. It was incorporated on February 14, 1936 in Atlanta, Georgia. COPACO, Inc. invested in stocks and paid dividends to Whitehead. Lastly, the series contains the papers of Emma Garn Whitehead. Emma Garn was born December 1, 1908 in Petershain, Germany. She met Conkey Pate Whitehead in New York. They were married in London, England in February 7, 1934. She married Robert O. Bacon, Jr. in 1942. She died April 11, 1970. This subseries includes correspondence, financial records and personal papers. The correspondence consists of letters discussing Emma Whitehead's business matters as well as Conkey Pate Whitehead's estate.

Arrangement Note
Arranged into three subseries: (2.1) Conkey Pate Whitehead papers, (2.2) COPACO, Inc. business records, and (2.3) Emma G. Whitehead papers.

Restrictions on Access
Special restrictions apply: Selected files in Series 2 are restricted until January 1, 2035.
Subseries 2.1
Conkey Pate Whitehead papers, 1917-1970
Boxes 6 - 24

Scope and Content Note
The subseries consists of the papers of Conkey Pate Whitehead from 1917-1970. The papers document his business activities and his frequent travels around the United States and Europe. This subseries consists of correspondence, financial records, legal files, personal papers, photographs, printed material, and subject files. The correspondence includes material about business matters, including material related to the Whitehead Coca-Cola bottling interests. Correspondents including his mother, Lettie Pate Evans, Samuel L. Jones, and his wives, Julia Murphy, Marion Hughes and Emma Garn. The financial records address city, state and federal taxes. The subject files contain materials about real estate Whitehead owned in Cuba, Florida, Germany, and Maryland as well as his yacht, the Malvern, named for his mother's house in Virginia. This subseries also contains a number of photographs of Whitehead and his last wife, Emma Garn Whitehead.

Arrangement Note
Arranged by record type.

Restrictions on Access
Special restrictions apply: Selected files in Subseries 2.1 are restricted until January 1, 2035.

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**Photographs and negatives**

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Subseries 2.2
COPACO, Inc. business records, 1936-1946
Box 25

Scope and Content Note
This subseries consists of the records of COPACO, Inc. It includes correspondence and financial records that document the founding and the investment activities of COPACO, Inc., Conkey Pate Whitehead's personal holding company.

Arrangement Note
Arranged by record type.

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Subseries 2.3  
Emma G. Whitehead papers, 1903-1972  
Boxes 26 - 28

Scope and Content Note
The subseries consists of the papers of Emma G. Whitehead (Conkey Pate Whitehead's third wife) from 1903-1972. The papers include correspondence, financial records and personal papers. The correspondence consists of letters discussing Emma Whitehead's business matters, Conkey Pate Whitehead's estate as well as personal correspondence with Samuel L. Jones, the secretary of the Whitehead Holding Company and the Whitehead Realty Company. The financial records contain material related to tax matters.

Arrangement Note
Arranged by record type.

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28  6  Taxes, 1948 [2 of 2]
28  7  Taxes, 1949
28  8  Taxes, 1950
28  9  Taxes, 1951
28 10  Taxes, 1952
28 11  Taxes, 1953
28 12  Taxes, 1962
28 13  Taxes, 1963
28 14  Taxes, 1964
28 15  Taxes, 1965-1969

**Personal papers**
28  16  Identification card, France, 1930
Series 3
Joseph B. Whitehead, Jr. papers, 1919-1942
Boxes 29 - 34

Biographical Note
Joseph B. Whitehead, Jr. (1895-1935), businessman, was the eldest son of Joseph B. Whitehead and Lettie Pate Whitehead. He was educated at Yale University. After graduating from Yale, Whitehead served as an officer in the Whitehead Holding Company and Whitehead Realty Company. He died on November 14, 1935. His will provided for the creation of the Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation to honor the memory of his father and namesake. Income from the estate was used to help "the poor and needy" of Atlanta.

Scope and Content Note
The series consists of papers of Joseph B. Whitehead, Jr. from 1919-1942. The series includes correspondence, financial papers, the papers of his second wife, Laura G. Whitehead, legal files, personal papers, photographs and subject files. The correspondence consists of letters concerning Whitehead's business interests, including setting up a company called Societe Internationale pour la Finance Industrielle in Paris, France, as well as Whitehead's creditors attempts to collect on his debts. The financial records, legal files and the Laura G. Whitehead papers concern efforts by Whitehead's second wife, Laura G. Whitehead, to sue the executor of Whitehead's estate, Citizen & Southern National Bank of Atlanta. Although they were separated at the time of his death, Laura G. Whitehead sued the executor, claiming that she should receive a portion of her late husband's estate. They reached a settlement in 1942.

Arrangement Note
Arranged by record type.

Restrictions on Access
Special restrictions apply: Selected files in Series 3 are restricted until January 1, 2035.

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Financial records

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### Laura G. Whitehead papers

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### Legal files

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### Personal papers

| 32 | 3 | Membership cards, 1931-1934 |

### Photographs and negatives

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### Subject files

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Series 4  
Business records, 1881-1982  
Boxes 35 - 60; BV 1 - 17; OBV 1 - 3  

Scope and Content Note  
This series consists of the records of the Whitehead Holding Company and the Whitehead Realty Company. The records for each company include correspondence, financial records and subject files related to the company, its holdings and the liquidation of its assets. The Whitehead Holding Company records includes materials about the Whitehead Coca-Cola bottling interests, and the Whitehead Realty Company records contain information about the rental spaces in the buildings the company owned. Business records relating to Conkey Pate Whitehead's personal holding, COPACO, Inc., can be found in Series 2: Conkey Pate Whitehead papers.

Arrangement Note  
Organized into two subseries: (4.1) Whitehead Holding Company records and (4.2) Whitehead Realty Company records.
Subseries 4.1
Whitehead Holding Company records, 1903-1973
Boxes 35 - 44; BV 1 - 9; OBV 1 - 2

Historical Note
The Whitehead Holding Company was incorporated in 1931 in Wilmington, Delaware. Lettie Pate Evans, Conkey Pate Whitehead and Joseph B. Whitehead, Jr. were the stockholders in the company. The company's holdings consisted of the stocks Evans and her sons held in The Coca-Cola Bottling Company, the parent bottling company started by Joseph B. Whitehead, Sr. and J.T. Lupton in 1900, as well as the shares of other bottling companies, including The Atlanta Coca-Cola Bottling Company, The Jackson [Georgia] Coca-Cola Bottling Company, The Newnan [Georgia] Bottling Company and The Coca-Cola Bottling Works in Dallas, Texas. While Evans and her two sons were alive, the company paid out approximately 90% of its net income to the company's three stockholders. In 1933 Robert W. Woodruff, the president of The Coca-Cola Company, arranged a deal to swap all of the holding company's stock in The Coca-Cola Bottling Company for common stock in The Coca-Cola Company. Two years later, in a similar deal, The Coca-Cola Company acquired the Whitehead Holding Company's stock in the Western Coca-Cola Bottling Company. The Whitehead Holding Company was liquidated in 1971, because of changes in the tax law. Its assets were transferred to the Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation, the Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation, Inc., and the Lettie Pate Evan Foundation, Inc.

Scope and Content Note
This subseries consists of the records of the Whitehead Holding Company from 1903-1973. The records include correspondence, financial records and subject files related to the company, its holdings and the liquidation of its assets. The correspondence is of particular interest because it includes letters about the Whitehead Coca-Cola bottling interests, including correspondence about the 1933 and 1935 deals to swap the company's bottling company stock for stock in The Coca-Cola Company. The financial records pertain mostly to taxes and tax-related issues, while the subject files document the company's history and activities.

Arrangement Note
Arranged by record type.

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**Financial records**

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41 4  Liquidation, 1971 [2 of 2]
41 5  Net value, 1956-1970
41 6  Securities, 1968-1970
42 1  Taxes, 1931-1937
42 2  Taxes, 1938
42 3  Taxes, 1939-1941
42 4  Taxes, 1942-1947
42 5  Taxes, 1948-1953
43 1  Taxes, 1954-1960
43 2  Taxes, 1961-1962
43 3  Taxes, 1963
43 4  Taxes, 1964-1965
43 5  Taxes, 1966-1968
43 6  Taxes, 1969-1970
44 1  Taxes, 1971-1973

Subject files
44 2  Board of Directors, meetings, 1931-1945
44 3  By-laws, 1937-1945
44 4  Certificate of incorporation, 1931
44 5  Coca-Cola Bottling Company (Chartered 1903), 1903-1935
BV1  Corporate records, 1931-1941
BV2  Ledger, 1938-1948
BV3  Ledger, 1949-1950
OBV1 Ledger, 1946-1971
OBV2 Ledger, 1956-1971
BV4  Ledger, 1956-1970
BV5  Minutes, 1941-1958
BV6  Minutes, 1941-1955
BV7  Minutes, 1956-1970
BV8  Minutes, 1958-1970
BV9  Shareholding certificates, 1931-1970
44 6  Western Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Chicago, 1910-1934
44 7  Western Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Chicago, 1935
Subseries 4.2
Whitehead Realty Company records, 1881-1982
Boxes 45 - 60; BV 10 - 17; OBV 3

Historical Note
The Whitehead Realty Company was incorporated in 1919. Lettie Pate Evans, Conkey Pate Whitehead, and Joseph B. Whitehead were the only shareholders in the company. The company bought and sold parcels of land in central business district of Atlanta and surrounding areas. In addition, the Whitehead Reality Company collected monthly rental fees for spaces in buildings it owned. For example, the company owned the Norris Building, which was located on Peachtree Street between Cain Street (Andrew Young International Boulevard) and Harris Street. The company changed the name of the building to the Whitehead Building in 1944. The company was liquidated in 1972, and its assets were transferred to the Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation, and the Lettie Pate Evans Foundation, Inc., and the Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation, Inc.

Scope and Content Note
This subseries consists of the records of the Whitehead Realty Company from 1881 to 1982. The records include correspondence, financial records and subject files related to the company, its holdings and the liquidation of its assets. The subject files are of particular interest because of the rent statements, which list the sums the company collected for spaces in its buildings, and the files related to architect, John Portman.

Arrangement Note
Arranged by record type.

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Series 5  
Foundation records, 1935-1975  
Boxes 61 - 63

Scope and Content Note
This series consists of materials related to the Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation, the Lettie Pate Evans Foundation, Inc., and the Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation, Inc. Joseph B. Whitehead, Jr.'s will provided for the creation of the Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation to honor the memory of his father and namesake. Income from the estate was used to help "the poor and needy" of Atlanta. Lettie Pate Evan established the Lettie Pate Evans Foundation, Inc. in 1945, and Conkey Pate Whitehead's will provided for the creation of the Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation, Inc. to honor his mother. The series contains correspondence, financial and subject files related to the foundations eleemosynary activities.

Arrangement Note
Organized into two subseries: (5.1) Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation records and (5.2) Lettie Pate Evans Foundation records.
Subseries 5.1
Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation records, 1935-1972
Boxes 61 - 63

Scope and Content Note
This subseries consists of the records of the Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation from 1935-1972. The records include correspondence and financial records related to the foundation's operations as well as gifts and grants awarded. Of particular interest are the rent account statements from Atlanta properties owned by the foundation. In addition, these files contain materials that discuss the organizations that were awarded gifts and grants.

Arrangement Note
Arranged by record type.

Correspondence

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Financial records

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Subseries 5.2
Lettie Pate Evans Foundation records, 1966-1972
Box 63

Scope and Content Note
This subseries consists of the records of the Lettie Pate Evans Foundation, Inc. and the Lettie
Pate Whitehead Foundation, Inc. from 1966-1972. The records include subject files related to
compliance with the Tax Reform Act of 1969.

Arrangement Note
Arranged by foundation name.

Lettie Pate Evans Foundation

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Lettie Pate Whitehead Foundation

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