

Groff Family Papers, 1865-1969

Object ID: MG0333

1 box 6 folders .25 cubic ft.

Repository: LancasterHistory (Organization); PV7

Shelving Location: Archives South, Side 8

Scope and Content Note: The Groff Family Papers contain patents issued to Frederick F. Groff, deeds and related documents for the property of Fred F. Groff, Inc. Funeral Home, and a booklet about the history of cremation in Lancaster. Patents include drawings, petition and specifications, and signatures of Mr. Groff, his attorneys, and witnesses. The property records show the purchase of lots at 234, 236, 238, and 240 West Orange Street, Lancaster.

Creators: Groff, Frederick F., 1870-1938; Groff, Robert F., 1903-1983; Groff, Robert F., b. 1930.

Conditions for Access: No restrictions.

Conditions Governing Reproductions: Collection may not be photocopied. Please direct questions to Research Center Staff at research@lancasterhistory.org. Permission for reproduction and/or publication must be obtained in writing from LancasterHistory.

Language: English

Source of Acquisition: The contents of Folder 1, patents of Frederick F. Groff, were donated by Robert F. Groff, Jr. on 29 April 2002. The contents of Folders 2-6, deeds and related legal documents, were donated by Robert F. Groff, Jr. on 6 October 2006.

Accruals: Further accruals are possible.

Preferred Citation: Groff Family Papers (MG0333), Box #, Folder #, LancasterHistory, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

People

Groff, Frederick Fenninger
Groff, Robert Frederick
Groff, Robert Frederick, Jr.

Subject Headings:

Patents
Deeds
Letters
Cremation

Search Terms:

Patents
Deeds
Letters
Correspondence
Cremation
Finding aids
Manuscript groups

Processing History: This collection has been documented, preserved and managed according to professional museum and archives standards. The finding aid was updated using DACS conventions.

Folder 1 Patents of Frederick F. Groff

Insert 1 Patent for panoramic attachment for cameras. #908091. 29 December 1908; Patent for panorama attachment for cameras. #946800. 18 January 1910.

Insert 2 Patent for a wagon-body, particularly an "embalmer's wagon." #959855. 31 May 1910.

Insert 3 Patent for design of a vehicle body. #41085. 10 January 1911; Receipt. Frederick Groff received the letters patent from John J. Thompson, patent attorney. 10 January 1911.

Folder 2 Cremation

Insert 1 *Cremation: History of the Movement in Lancaster, Pa. with an Account of the Building, Furnaces, Other Apparatus and the Processes.* Lancaster. 1886. Do not use—use photocopy in Insert 2.

Insert 2 Photocopy of *Cremation: History of the Movement in Lancaster, Pa. with an Account of the Building, Furnaces, Other Apparatus and the Processes.* Lancaster. 1886. Use this copy instead of the original in Insert 1.

Insert 3 Letter to Robert F. Groff from Jean Scribner, editorial assistant for *National Cremation Magazine*, returning the booklet *Cremation*. 19 February 1969.

Insert 4 Handwritten notes on the history of cremation in Lancaster. No date.

Insert 5 Handwritten notes regarding the history of the cremation movement in Lancaster, taken from the booklet *Cremation*. Written on York Caskets notepaper. No date.

Folder 3 Deed between Daniel S. and Amelia Bare to Abraham Sheetz, all of Lancaster, for brick dwelling house and lot on West Orange St., Lancaster. 1 March 1865. Recorded in Book Q, vol. 9, page 728. 21 September 1868.

Folder 4 Deeds, Equity Suit, Insurance Policy

Insert 1 Deed from George Wiant's heirs to Frederick F. Groff for a lot on Grant St. between Arch St. and Mulberry St. 17 March 1916. Recorded same day in Book M, vol. 22, page 599. George Wiant's heirs: Herman L. Wiant and wife; Mary E. and Christian Kroeger; Ella G. and James R. Daveler; John L. and Clara A. Wiant; and S. Clark and Mary R. Wiant.

Insert 2 Deed from Anna E. Dorwart of Philadelphia to Frederick F. Groff for a brick dwelling house and lot at 234 West Orange St. 23 March 1904. Recorded in Book H, vol. 17, page 516. 25 March 1904; Deed from Albert F. Witmer, substituted fiduciary of the Trust Mortgage Pool of the Lancaster Trust Company, to Frederick F. Groff for lot at 236 West Orange St. 20 May 1937. Recorded in Book E, vol. 33, page 113. 27 May 1937.

Insert 3 Typed copy of decree for bill of complaint for equity suit between George W. Hoover and Michael A. Hoover, surviving executors of Joseph Hoover, and numerous defendants regarding the property title for 240 West Orange St. 16 June 1924; Deed from Michael A. and Petronella Hoover to F. Lyman Windolph for a brick dwelling house and lot at 238 West Orange St. 23 June 1914. Recorded same day in Book Y, vol. 21, page 420; Deed from F.

Lyman Windolph to Petronella Hoover for a brick dwelling house and lot at 238 West Orange St. Recorded same day in Book Y, vol. 21, page 421.

Insert 4 Deed from Elizabeth Brinkman to Oscar F. Brinkman for a brick dwelling house and lot at 240 West Orange St. 12 April 1926. Recorded in Book A, vol. 28, page 259. 19 April 1926; Title insurance policy held by Kirk Johnson for 240 West Orange St. Northern Trust & Savings Company, Lancaster. 5 April 1927.

Insert 5 Deed from Robert F. and Nancy S. Groff to Orange, Inc. for lots at 234, 236, 238, and 240 West Orange St. 28 April 1952. Recorded in Book D, vol. 42, page 150. 29 April 1952.

Folder 5 Correspondence, Legal Papers, Deeds

Insert 1 Cover letter from George B. Hetrick to Robert F. Groff regarding the property at 238 West Orange St. Letterhead of Engle & Hambright, realtors, Lancaster. 26 March 1940.; Zimmerman, Myers & Kready received payment from Robert F. Groff for preparation of deeds, etc. Billhead of Zimmerman, Myers & Kready law offices, Lancaster. 1 July 1940; Cover letter from B. Frank Kready to Robert F. Groff regarding insurance for 238 and 240 West Orange St. and 237 and 239 West Grant St. through the Commonwealth Title Company of Philadelphia. Letterhead of Zimmerman, Myers & Kready. 5 July 1940.

Insert 2 Articles of agreement between the estate of Petronella Hoover and Robert F. Groff for purchase of the lot at 238 West Orange St. 19 March 1940; Articles of agreement between the Hershey Trust Company and Robert F. Groff for purchase of the lot at 240 West Orange St. 19 March 1940; Release of part of mortgaged property from Kirk Johnson to the Northern Trust & Savings Company. 8 May 1940.

Insert 3 Settlement certificate. Conveyance of premises for insuring 238 and 240 West Orange St. and 237 and 239 West Grant St. Commonwealth Title Company of Philadelphia. Conveyance from Hershey Trust Company, Loretto L. Hoover, Jeanette H. and Elbridge B. Gerry, Mary Elizabeth and Charles L. Lieberman, Miriam H. and Henry B. Springer, and Florence H. and J. P. McCaskey to Robert F. Groff. 30 March 1940.

Insert 4 Duplicate of settlement certificate in Insert 3.

Insert 5 Deed from Hershey Trust Company to Robert F. Groff for brick dwelling house, store, and lot at 240 West Orange St. 8 May 1940. Recorded in Book P, Vol. 34, page 551. 15 May 1940.

Insert 6 Deed from Loretto L. Hoover, Jeanette H. and Elbridge B. Gerry, Mary Elizabeth and Charles L. Lieberman, Miriam H. and Henry B. Springer, and Florence H. and J. P. McCaskey to Robert F. Groff for a dwelling house and shops at 238 West Orange St. and 237 and 239 West Grant St. 4 May 1940. Recorded in Book R, vol. 34, page 496. 8 June 1940.

Folder 6 Deeds and Correspondence

Insert 1 Deed between Fred F. Groff's executors and Robert F. Groff for dwelling house and lot at 234 West Orange St. 1 April 1941. Recorded in Book C, vol. 35, page 67. 2 April 1941.

Insert 2 Deed from Fred F. Groff's executors to Robert F. Groff for dwelling house, stable, and lot at 236 West Orange St. 28 March 1942. Recorded in Book R, vol. 35, page 470. 2 June 1942.

Insert 3 Ground rent deed between The Pennsylvania Company for Insurances on Lives and Granting Annuities, trustee for the estate of Rosalie M. Johnson, and Robert F. Groff for lots at 234 and 236 West Orange St. Regarding Hamilton Ground Rent for lot 372 on the Hamilton Plan. 24 April 1942. Recorded in Book S, vol. 35, page 151. 4 May 1942.

Insert 4 Cover letter from B. Frank Kready to Robert F. Groff regarding insurance policy for property at 234 and 236 West Orange St. Letterhead of Zimmerman, Myers & Kready. 25 July 1942.