



# Smithsonian

*Archives of American Art*

A Finding Aid to the Thomas Waterman Wood  
Letters, 1880-1903, in the Archives of American Art

Archives of American Art  
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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	Archives of American Art
<b>Title:</b>	Thomas Waterman Wood letters
<b>Date:</b>	1880-1903
<b>Identifier:</b>	AAA.woodthol
<b>Creator:</b>	Wood, Thomas Waterman, 1823-1903
<b>Extent:</b>	0.01 Linear feet
<b>Language:</b>	English .
<b>Summary:</b>	The Thomas Waterman Wood letters measure 0.01 linear feet and date from 1880-1903. The collection consists of five letters to Miss Ambia Harris, August 27, 1880-March 26, 1903; a note to Mrs. Daniel L. Harris, May 11, 1883, regretting he will be unable to attend her daughter's wedding; and a note on a calling card. The letters convey the friendly relations between Wood and the Harris family, and discuss sitting for portraits, picture framing, visits to the family, health, and other related matters.

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

The collection was donated to the Archives of American Art from 1955-1962 by Charles E. Feinberg, an active donor and friend of AAA.

### Related Materials

The Archives of American Art also holds microfilm of the Thomas Waterman Wood papers and art gallery records, 1845-1979.

### Available Formats

The collection was digitized in 2025 and is available on the Archives of American Art website.

### Processing Information

The collection was microfilmed on reel D10 (frames 1758-1770) after receipt. The papers were processed and a finding aid prepared by Stephanie Ashley in 2025 and the collection was digitized in 2025.

### Preferred Citation

Thomas Waterman Wood letters, 1880-1903. Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

### Restrictions

This collection is open for research. Access to original papers requires an appointment and is limited to the Archives' Washington, D.C. Research Center.

## Biographical / Historical

Thomas Waterman Wood (1823-1903) was a painter primarily active in New York, New York, and Montpelier, Vermont. He was known for his portraits and genre paintings of the rural American South. Wood also owned an art gallery beginning in 1891 through which he sold his paintings.

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## Scope and Contents

The Thomas Waterman Wood letters measure 0.01 linear feet and date from 1880-1903. The collection consists of five letters to Miss Ambia Harris, August 27, 1880-March 26, 1903; a note to Mrs. Daniel L. Harris, May 11, 1883, regretting he will be unable to attend her daughter's wedding; and a note on a calling card. The letters convey the friendly relations between Wood and the Harris family, and discuss sitting for portraits, picture framing, visits to the family, health, and other related matters.

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## Arrangement

Due to the small size of the collection the papers are arranged as one series.

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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Names:

Harris, Ambia

Occupations:

Painters -- New York (State) -- New York

Painters -- Vermont -- Montpelier

Portrait painters -- New York (State) -- New York

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## Container Listing

### Series 1: Thomas Waterman Wood Letters, 1880-1903

Folder 1                      Thomas Waterman Wood Letters, 1880-1903

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