

Collection #  
P 0519

## CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS COMPANY 1593 PHOTOGRAPH ALBUM, CA. 1940

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## COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 album with 218 photographs on 55 pages

COLLECTION DATES: Ca. 1940

PROVENANCE: Gift from George Thomas Gifford of Indianapolis, January 1995. Mr. Gifford received the scrapbook from Kenneth M. Wood.

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1995.0202

NOTES: *See also: The Cavalier* (newsletter of CCC Company 1593).  
General Collection: S900 .C38

## HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) was created in 1933 to provide jobs for unemployed young men between the ages of 17 and 23 who were U.S. citizens. (This was modified to include older men, too.) They were paid a base salary of \$30 per month, most of which was sent home to their families. The men lived in work camps under the operation of the Department of War. Work that was done included reforestation, construction of fire observation towers, the laying of telephone lines, development of state parks, and the construction of dams, bridges, buildings, and roads. The men gained valuable job skills and were given the opportunity to receive their high school diplomas.

On 17 April 1933, the first CCC camp was established in Virginia. By 1 July there were 275,000 enrollees in 1300 camps across the country. The program was criticized by conservatives and liberals alike for various reasons, but President Franklin Roosevelt saw the CCC as a way to tap two wasted resources: young men and the land. During the Great Depression work and income were scarce, and the land had been impoverished as well by massive deforestation and erosion.

There were fifty-six CCC companies in the state of Indiana. Camp Cavalier, where Company 1593 was located, was established on 11 August 1935 in Greene County, Indiana, in the town of Worthington on land near the public library. It is noted in this scrapbook that forty-eight of the enrollees learned to read and write while they were in this camp. A brief history and hand-drawn map of the camp can be found in the May 1936 issue (vol. 1, no. 4) of the company's newsletter, *The Cavalier*, as well as the 30 June 1939 issue.

The CCC program ended on 30 June 1942, after World War II had strengthened the U.S. economy. The CCC had employed more than three million men nationally, including almost 200,000 blacks and 80,000 Native Americans. Men in the program had built 3,470 fire towers and 97,000 miles of road. They had protected more than 20 million acres of land from erosion, and planted more than 2.3 billion trees. They had devoted more than four million man-days to fighting fires. The CCC was responsible for removing nearly 15 million families from welfare, and provided the Department of Conservation with labor that was badly needed at the time.

Sources:

"CCC Camps in Indiana." Civilian Conservation Corps Legacy ([http://ccclegacy.org/CCC\\_Camps\\_Indiana.html](http://ccclegacy.org/CCC_Camps_Indiana.html)). Accessed 22 July 2013.

*Cavalier*. Published by the journalism class of Civilian Conservation Corps Company 1593, Worthington, Indiana. General Collection: S900 .C38.

Center for Democracy and Citizenship, Hubert H. Humphrey Institute for Public Affairs, University of Minnesota. "The Civilian Conservation Corps: Building a Legacy" (<http://www.publicwork.org/pdf/casestudies/CCCfgreen.pdf>). Accessed 20 July 2004.

Indiana Historical Bureau. "Indiana Heritage Research Grants abstracts 1993" (<http://www.statelib.lib.in.us/www/ihb/resources/ihr93.html>). Accessed 20 July 2004.

National Association of Civilian Conservation Corps Alumni. "Roosevelt's Tree Army: A Brief History of the Civilian Conservation Corps" (<http://www.cccalumni.org/history1.html>). Accessed 21 July 2004.

Personal correspondence from Tom Krasean, 17 January 1995.

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

The donor of this scrapbook received it from Kenneth M. Wood\*, whose hobby was photography. Also known as "Red" or "Doc," Wood served as senior medical attendant for Civilian Conservation Corps Company 1593.

Wood began his CCC career with Company 596 in Versailles, Ripley County, Indiana, on 29 April 1935. He took leave in June 1935 to graduate from Shortridge High School in Indianapolis, where he had been in the ROTC and played Sousaphone in the band. He was transferred to Worthington on 13 August 1935 to help organize CCC Company 1593.

The company's newsletter, *Cavalier*, reported in its issue of 10 April 1936 that Wood was among the enrollees who had successfully completed a first aid course. He tended the sick and injured, gave first aid demonstrations in wound dressing, bandaging, and artificial respiration, and later taught advanced first aid classes. He took photographs of life in Camp Worthington, ran the movie projector, and contributed to the company newsletter. The 31 August 1939 issue of *The Cavalier* described his "good nature, big-heartedness, and all-around usefulness" and stated that he "makes as good use of his leisure time as any enrollee."

He enlisted in the army on 4 January 1941 at Fort Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis. During World War II, he served as a master sergeant in the medical corps. After the war, he earned a degree in pharmacy at Butler University in 1949. He worked as a staff pharmacist and as a manufacturing pharmacist before joining Butler's pharmacy faculty. He served as president of the Indianapolis chapters of the American Society of Hospital Pharmacists and the American Pharmaceutical Association. He was a member of the Indiana Pharmaceutical Association, the PTA, the Masonic Lodge, and the Sertoma Club. He served on the board of directors for the Indiana University Federal Credit Union. A scholarship fund at Butler University was established in his name by friends and family.

Wood's year of birth appears to be listed as 1915 in some places and as 1919 in others. There is a gravestone in Greenwood Cemetery in Johnson County, Indiana, for a "Kenneth M. Wood, husband, father, pharmacist, friend" who died 1 December 1975.

\*His name sometimes appears as Woods.

Sources:

*Cavalier*. Published by the journalism class of Civilian Conservation Corps Company 1593, Worthington, Indiana. General Collection: S900 .C38. (Vol. 1, no. 2, 10 April 1936; Vol. 1, no. 7, August 1936; Vol. 2, no. 7, July 1937; *Cavalier Weekly*, August 5–12, 1938; August 31, 1939).

Items in the collection.

"Kenneth M. Wood." Find A Grave (<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GSln=WOOD&GSfn=K&GSpartial=1&GSbyrel=all&GSst=17&GScnr=4&GSsr=41&GRid=35242062>). Accessed 24 July 2013.

"The Kenneth Wood Scholarship." Butler University's Registry of Endowed Funds and Named Spaces ([http://www.butler.edu/media/2606599/registry\\_of\\_endowed\\_funds\\_and\\_named\\_spaces1.pdf](http://www.butler.edu/media/2606599/registry_of_endowed_funds_and_named_spaces1.pdf)). Accessed 24 July 2013.

U.S. Census, 1930, 1940. Ancestry Library Edition ([www.ancestrylibrary.com](http://www.ancestrylibrary.com)). Accessed 24 July 2013.

U.S. Social Security Death Index, 1935–Current. Ancestry Library Edition ([www.ancestrylibrary.com](http://www.ancestrylibrary.com)). Accessed 24 July 2013.

U.S. World War II Army Enlistment Records, 1938–1946. Ancestry Library Edition ([www.ancestrylibrary.com](http://www.ancestrylibrary.com)). Accessed 23 July 2013.

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This collection consists of one scrapbook that holds 218 black-and-white photographs of Civilian Conservation Corps Company 1593 at Camp Cavalier in Worthington, Indiana, in Greene County. The photographs show the buildings and grounds of the camp as well as men at work and at leisure. Some people are identified.

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For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog:  
<http://opac.indianahistory.org/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, P 0519).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.