



Prentice A. Wampler Letters (CG0093)

Collection Number: CG0093

Collection Title: Prentice A. Wampler Letters

Dates: 1936-1945

Creator: Prentice A. Wampler, 1912-1998

Abstract: The collection includes 206 letters written by Prentice A. Wampler between 1936-1945. The series begins with letters to his future wife, Mary Kathryn Ward, in 1936, and continues after their marriage in 1938 through his service in the Transportation Corps during World War II.

Collection Size: .4 cubic feet
(9 folders)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Cape Girardeau](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at capegirardeau@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Prentice A. Wampler Letters* (CG0093); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Cape Girardeau [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Cape Girardeau].

Donor Information: The records were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Dwight Steven Robertson on April 23, 2026 (Accession No. CGA0097).

Processed by: Processed by Morgan Lake, May 18, 2026.

Biographical Note:

Prentice A. Wampler was born May 29, 1912, in St. Francois County, son of Alva and Zoa Counts Wampler. On January 1, 1938, he married Mary Kathryn Ward at Flat River in St. Francois County. Prentice voluntarily enlisted in the Army on May 14, 1943, and became active duty on May 22, 1943. He was assigned to the Transportation Corps and stationed at different locations during the war, including the Port of Embarkation in Wilmington, CA and the New Orleans Army Airbase in New Orleans, LA. Following his service in the U.S. Army Transportation Corps, he worked as an accountant for the St. Joe Lead Company.

Mary Kathryn Ward was born April 30, 1910, in Mission, Texas. Her family relocated to Missouri before 1920. In 1935, Mary accepted a position in Flat River as a secretary of W.D. Manson, Asst. District Supervisor of the WPA. By 1937, she was serving as the clerk of the WPA District Office in Jefferson County.

Prentice died January 28, 1998; Mary died on March 17, 2000. The couple shared 60 years of marriage.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into a single series.

Scope and Content Note:

The collection consists of 206 letters between Prentice A. Wampler and his wife Mary Kathryn Ward. The letters are arranged chronologically, except for 18 letters with no date. The letters primarily discuss their relationship, hometown news, and occasional references to recreational activities.

Container List:

Box 1

- f.1 Letters, 1936-1939, n.d.
- f.2 Letters, n.d.
- f.3 Letters, September, 1943
- f.4 Letters, October, 1943
- f.5 Letters, November, 1943
- f.6 Letters, October-December, 1944
- f.7 Letters, January-April, 1945
- f.8 Letters, May-August, 1945
- f.9 Letters, September-December, 1945

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Wampler, Prentice A.	1-9	

Index Terms	Folder	Image
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