Paul Meyer Wood and the Hayes No. 1 Vaporizer

Semi-retired to Highland Falls, New York, Paul M. Wood, M.D. (1894–1963), lived close to West Point and just 10 miles across the Hudson River from Garrison-on-Hudson. Sometime in the 1940s or 1950s, Wood likely learned of the collection of U.S. Patent models amassed by his neighbor in Garrison, auctioneer O. Rundle Gilbert. We do not know if Wood purchased or bartered for this “Hayes Generator,” but it seems unlikely that the auctioneer donated the item to the Wood Library-Museum’s founder. For his namesake museum, Wood secured the patent model of the Hayes No. 1 Vaporizer—the first in America’s premier patented series of bubble-through anesthetic vaporizers. (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc.)

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