

# GENEALOGY DATABASE ENTRY

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Woodhouse, James

1770 - 1809

DEGREE: MD

DATE: 1792

PLACE: Pennsylvania

TEACHER/RESEARCH ADVISOR: Rush

founder of Chemical Society of Philadelphia - the first chemical society in the world; determined that "heavy inflammable air" is not hydrogen but an oxide of carbon (CO); studied action of poison ivy for medical purposes; opponent of phlogiston theory; independently of Davy, may have prepared potassium from soot and potassium carbonate; discovered fixation of nitrogen by the cyanide process; studied indelible ink, heats of evaporation, the making of bread, the combustion of coal, and the refining of camphor; explained role plants play by their uptake of carbon dioxide.

1. *J. Chem. Ed.* **1932**, 9, 1744-1750.
2. *American Chemists and Chemical Engineers*; Miles, W. D., Ed.; American Chemical Society: 1976; p522-523.
3. Partington, J. R. *A History of Chemistry*; Macmillan: 1962; vol. 3, p273-274.
4. *J. Ind. Eng. Chem.* **1919**, 11, 405-410.
5. *J. Chem. Ed.* **1964**, 41, 282-284.
6. *J. Chem. Ed.* **1927**, 4, 1515-1521.
7. *Bull. Hist. Med.* **1953**, 27, 43-68.
8. Smith, E. F. *James Woodhouse A Pioneer in Chemistry*; John C. Winston Co.: 1918.