

**Roanoke Public Libraries  
Virginia Room  
Fred and Katherine Settle Wright Genealogical Collection**

**Collection Description:**

**Repository:** Roanoke Public Libraries, Virginia Room

**Accession Number:** 2011.12.08

**Title:** Fred and Katherine Settle Wright Genealogical Collection

**Physical Characteristics:** 2 record storage boxes

**Donated by:** Unknown

**Arrangement:** Documents are arranged alphabetically by surname.

**Creator:** Fred Boyd Wright, Jr. and Katherine Settle Wright

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**Processor:** Dyron Knick, 10 March 2023

**Biographical Note:**

Fred Boyer Wright, Jr. was a Professor Emeritus of Mathematics at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. A native of Roanoke, he graduated from Jefferson High School and completed his first year at Virginia Military Institute before being inducted into the Navy V-12 program at UNC.. He was commissioned an Ensign in the U.S. Naval Reserve upon graduation from Midshipmen's school at Fort Schuyler, New York on July 5, 1945. He was sent to the South Pacific and served on Wallis Island for a time in charge of closing the U.S. base there. Upon discharge from active duty, he returned to UNC where he received his undergraduate degree and Master's degree in Mathematics.

He was appointed full time instructor on that faculty for one year until he went to the University of Chicago for his doctorate. He was employed at the Institute for Air Weapons research for the Navy and then joined the faculty of Mathematics at Tulane University. He rose through the academic ranks while there, published 20 papers in the learned journals and was advisor to a number of doctoral candidates. As an Alfred P. Sloan Fellow, he spent one year at Cambridge University in Great Britain. He was Associate Chairman of the Tulane mathematics department when he returned to his alma mater and became Chairman of the mathematics faculty at UNC where he served for eight years. He was on the Faculty Council and was supportive of the founding of Operations Research as a separate department in the UNC.

His later research work was the writing of a two-volume book on History of Mathematics and Number. He taught a course in History of Mathematics with the book as the text used. He was a member of the Mathematical Association of America, Sigma Xi, Phi Beta Kappa, Alpha Delta Phi social fraternity, and University United Methodist Church in Chapel Hill. He was the son of Fred Boyer Wright, an official of the old Norfolk and Western Railway and he was the grandson of the Rev. J.O. Straley, who served for a time as Chief Financial Officer of Emory and Henry College. Fred Boyer Wright, Jr. passed away on April 26, 2006.

Katherine Settle Wright was born on August 8, 1926 in Roanoke. She was the daughter of Katy Henson Settle Smith, a singer and musician, and Byron Settle, who worked for the Norfolk and Western railroad.

In 1948 she married Fred B. Wright Jr. A graduate of Jefferson High School, she received her Bachelor's degree from the College of William and Mary in 1947. She received her law degree

from UNC-Chapel Hill in 1949, where she was a member of the Order of the Coif and the Law Review. She earned an advanced law degree from Tulane University in 1957. She was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Kappa Delta, and Chapel of the Cross Episcopal Church in Chapel Hill, NC. She was a member of the Bar Association in Louisiana, Illinois, Virginia, and North Carolina. In the 1950s, she practiced law with the Sonnenschein law firm in Chicago and was later a partner in law firms in New Orleans and Chapel Hill. In the 1960s she was active in the civil rights movement in New Orleans, especially in connection with integration of Tulane University and the Louisiana public schools. She was interviewed by Charles Kuralt on national television in connection with her civil rights work. In 1968 she became the first woman to practice law in Orange County, NC. She practiced law into her seventies and moved to Salem in 2007. Katherine Settle Wright passed away on December 21, 2008.

### **Scope and Content:**

This collection consists of two record storage boxes of genealogical research compiled by the Wrights on a number of families. Contents are arranged alphabetically by surname as they were kept by the Wrights. The majority of surnames herein have Virginia connections and to a lesser degree North Carolina connections. Manuscripts are typed-written in narrative form. Where specific details could not be confirmed through sources, evidence-based theories are presented. This collection does not include copies of original records used to compile the research; however, sources of information are well documented. Each file typically begins with the first known settler to the United States and continues with descendants.

### **Container List:**

#### **Box 1**

Folder 1: Alexander, Anthony (c. 1670-1741)  
Folder 2: Allen, John (c.1675-c.1709)  
Folder 3: Anderson, Thomas (c. 1673-c.1714)  
Folder 4: Bigg, John (c. 1620-c. 1697)  
Folder 5: Boyer, Daniel (1783-1852)  
Folder 6: Boyer, William Henry (c. 1740-1820)  
Folder 7: Bryan, Morgan (?-1762)  
Folder 8: Carr, Thomas (c. 1655-c. 1728)  
Folder 9: Chiles, William (?-c. 1616)  
Folder 10: Clay, John (c. 1594-c. 1655) - folder 1 of 2  
Folder 11: Clay, John (c. 1594-c. 1655) - folder 2 of 2  
Folder 12: Cornutt, Reuben (c. 1725-c. 1793)  
Folder 13: Dabney, Cornelius (c. 1635-c. 1702)  
Folder 14: Dancy, John or Thomas (c. 1580-c. 1622)  
Folder 15: Davis, John (c. 1690-c. 1734)  
Folder 16: Farley, Thomas (c. 1730-1796)  
Folder 17: Forbis, George (c. 1700-1769)  
Folder 18: French, John (?-c. 1750)  
Folder 19: Guttry, William (c. 1740-1797)  
Folder 20: Hales, Marvin (c. 1640-c. 1686)  
Folder 21: Hand, Richard (?-c. 1692)

Folder 22: Harris, Walter (?-1654)  
Folder 23: Hendricksen van den Burchgraeff  
Folder 24: Hooper, George – of Somerset, England  
Folder 25: Jennett, John (c. 1669-1738)  
Folder 26: Jordan, George (c. 1620-1678)  
Folder 27: Layton, George (c. 1617-1693)  
Folder 28: Long, William (c. 1755-1822)  
Folder 29: Lynn, William (?-c. 1758)  
Folder 30: McCraw, Benjamin (c. 1736-c. 1812) – folder 1 of 2  
Folder 31: McCraw, Benjamin (c. 1736-c. 1812) – folder 2 of 3  
Folder 32: McCraw, Benjamin (c. 1736-c. 1812) – folder 3 of 3  
Folder 33: McCraw, James (c. 1731-c. 1800)  
Folder 34: McCraw, Samuel (1729-1811) – folder 1 of 2  
Folder 35: McCraw, Samuel (1729-1811) – folder 2 of 2  
Folder 36: McCraw, Stephen (c. 1743-c. 1814) – folder 1 of 2  
Folder 37: McCraw, Stephen (c. 1743-c. 1814) – folder 2 of 2

## **Box 2**

Folder 1: McCraw, William (c. 1701-c. 1752)  
Folder 2: McCraw, William (c. 1727-c. 1800)  
Folder 3: “The McCraw Clan of Lynchburg and Vicinty” by Jane McCraw Kent  
Folder 4: “McCraw Genealogy”, generations 1-5. First draft compiled by Shirley B. Garmon, 1981 – folder 1 of 2  
Folder 5: “McCraw Genealogy”, generations 6-7, index. First draft compiled by Shirley B. Garmon, 1981 – folder 2 of 2  
Folder 6: May, William (1684-1744)  
Folder 7: Mees, Gasper (c. 1766-c. 1809)  
Folder 8: Merritt, William (c. 1666-1695)  
Folder 9: Page, John (?-c.1628)  
Folder 10: Patton, William (c. 1565-1634)  
Folder 11: Patton, William (c. 1600-c. 1626)  
Folder 12: Perratt, James (c. 1654-1729)  
Folder 13: Phillippi, John (c. 1730-c. 1800)  
Folder 14: Purefoy, of England  
Folder 15: Purefoy, William (c. 1581-c. 1639)  
Folder 16: Purefoy-Dudley, index  
Folder 17: Rhudy, Jacob (c. 1755-1816)  
Folder 18: Romine, Samuel (c. 1730-c. 1795)  
Folder 19: Smith, John (c. 1610-1669)  
Folder 20: Smith, Peter (?-c. 1706)  
Folder 21: Sparrow, George (?-c. 1732)  
Folder 22: Straley, Jacob (?-c. 1783)  
Folder 23: Straley, James O. (1865-1912) – “Descendants of J.O. Straley and Lula Straley, 1864-1998”  
Folder 24: Sutherland, Alexander (c. 1760-1843)  
Folder 25: Tabb, Humphry (c. 1609-1659)

Folder 26: Thompson, Hugh (?-1762)  
Folder 27: Tinker, John (?-1662)  
Folder 28: Van Nes, Cornelius Hendricksz (c. 1601-1681)  
Folder 29: Vaught, Christian (c. 1750-1816)  
Folder 30: Vogt, Johan Paul (c. 1680-c. 1761)  
Folder 31: Wallace, John (c. 1770-c. 1815)  
Folder 32: Waller, John (?-c. 1667)  
Folder 33: Waller, William (c. 1648-c. 1694)  
Folder 34: Watkins, Henry (1638-c. 1716)  
Folder 35: White, Joseph (?-c. 1731)  
Folder 36: Wilburn, Richard (c. 1740-c. 1800)  
Folder 37: Wilson, John (c. 1621-c. 1686)  
Folder 38: Winston, William (?-c. 1702) – folder 1 of 2  
Folder 39: Winston, William (?-c. 1702) – folder 2 of 2  
Folder 40: Winston, William (?-c. 1732) – folder 1 of 2  
Folder 41: Winston, William (?-c. 1732) – folder 2 of 2  
Folder 42: Wright, Richard (c. 1731-c. 1820)  
Folder 43: Wyatt, Enoch (1799-1858)  
Folder 44: Wyckoff, Pieter Claeson (c. 1621-c. 1694)  
Folder 45: Yates, John (c. 1595-1648)