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Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Guide to the Wright Family Papers

GEN MSS 2141



Tina Evans

May 2024

P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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CALL NUMBER: GEN MSS 2141

CREATOR: Wright family , author

TITLE: Wright family papers

DATES: 1814–1907

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 2.67 linear feet (3 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English (Latin script)

SUMMARY: This collection contains correspondence between Richard Wright and Hannah Wrighter and Peter Robinson, with related correspondence between members of the Robinson family and others. It also includes writings by Richard Wright, as well as correspondence and legal documents relating to Joseph Johnson Robinson.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.wrightfamily>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.wrightfamily>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchase from Samuel Gedge Ltd. on the Chandler White and Philena Pennell Smith Acquisitions Fund, 2023.

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research

Conditions Governing Use

The Wright Family Papers are the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

Wright Family Papers. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

Biographical / Historical

Richard Wright was born in Liverpool, England, in 1794, the son of John Wright, a Unitarian lay preacher. Seeking to escape religious persecution, the Wright family emigrated from Liverpool to Georgetown, Washington in 1817. The family corresponded with Peter Robinson and others in Liverpool; their letters contain impressions of Georgetown, Washington, D. C., and Alexandria, Virginia, as well as extensive writing about their Abolitionist views. Richard Wright died in 1870.

Scope and Contents

This collection contains correspondence between Richard Wright and Hannah Wrighter and Peter Robinson, with related correspondence between members of the Robinson family and others. It also includes writings by Richard Wright, as well as correspondence and legal documents relating to Joseph Johnson Robinson.

Arrangement

This collection is organized into two series: I: Wright family, 1817 - 1889. II: Robinson, Joseph Johnson, 1814 - 1907.

Collection Contents

Series I: Wright family, 1817–1889

2.42 linear feet (2 boxes)

This series contains correspondence, writings, and other materials related to the Wright family.

Materials roughly maintain order found at time of acquisition, with the exception of oversize materials, which are housed separately as appropriate.

b. 1	Richard Wright letters to Peter Robinson 5 Folders	1818-1835
b. 3	Richard Wright letters to Peter Robinson 2 Folders Contains oversize letters.	1820-1833
b. 1	Peter Robinson letters to Richard Wright 2 Folders	1818-1832
b. 1	Peter Robinson letters to Mrs. John Wright	1819-1829
b. 1	Hannah Wright letters to Peter Robinson	1817-1834, undated
b. 3	Hannah Wright letter to Peter Robinson Contains an oversize letter.	1818 October
b. 3	Unidentified letter	no year September 22
	Other correspondence	
b. 1	Helen Robinson letters to Susanna Robinson	1819-1820
b. 1	Peter Robinson letters from others	1820-1843
b. 1	Susanna Wright copy of letter to Sarah Powell	1820 February 27
b. 1	Susanna Wright letters to Helen Robinson	1818-1821
	Writings	
b. 1	Carrier's address to the patrons of the Alexandria Phoenix Gazette by Richard Wright	1833 January 1
b. 1	Columbian Carrier's address to his patrons by Richard Wright	1889 January 20
b. 1	Come kneel at the altar, by Richard Wright	1823 April 11
b. 1	"Copies of several pieces of poetry the originals of which are sent to Mr. Richard L. Wright Georgetown D. C." Title transcribed directly.	1820 January 21
b. 3	Logan's address for the carriers-December 25th, 1824	1825

- b.1 "Copper coins rec from Mr. Richard Wright Alexandria, District of Columbia, United States of America, by Philip Joncherez, a sailor board the Shenandoah"
Title transcribed directly. 1829 January 20
-

Series II: Robinson, Joseph Johnson, 1814–1907*0.25 linear feet (1 box)*

This series contains papers relating to Joseph Johnson Robinson's life and work.

Materials maintain order found at time of acquisition.

b. 2	Accounts, bills, and receipts	1829-1903
b. 2	Birth certificates	1850, 1859
b. 2	Correspondence <i>10 Folders</i>	1854-1907
b. 2	Coutts' family portrait photograph of a painting owned by Joseph Johnson Robinson	1889 October
b. 2	Genealogy	undated
b. 2	Legal documents	1888-1905
b. 2	Marriage certificate of Thomas Barlow and Elizabeth Wagstaff	1814 February 17
b. 2	Prayer and in memoriam cards	1890, undated
b. 2	Salford Bourough Cemetary	1859–1890

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Abolitionists
Abolitionists -- United States
Unitarianism
Unitarians