

MS-563: William C. Wallace Papers

Collection Number: MS-563

Title: William C. Wallace Papers

Dates: 1805-1995; bulk 1927-1988

Creator: Wallace, William Clark, 1906-1960

Summary/Abstract:

The collection covers William C. Wallace, a Merchant Marine and newspaper editor from Coshocton, OH; as well as his wife, Jean E. (Laird) Wallace, and daughter Mary L. (Wallace) Baker. It consists of correspondence, photographs, and the genealogy of the Wallace family in Coshocton, Ohio. They are relatives of the Wallace family of Medway, OH (MS-92 in the Special Collections and Archives).

Quantity/Physical Description: 2.5 linear feet

Language(s): English

Repository:

Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435-0001, (937) 775-2092

Restrictions on Access:

Oversize materials in this collection are stored off-site; therefore, please notify us at least two days in advance if requesting oversize materials (marked as “OS”).

Due to preservation concerns, original audio and video materials cannot be accessed in the reading room. Patrons may have access to reference copies. Items without reference copies can be digitized at the request of a patron for the cost of creating a digital copy. Please provide us at least two (2) weeks advance notice if you would like to request an audio or video reference copy. Call (937) 775-2092 or e-mail us at archives@www.libraries.wright.edu. Use of digitized content is subject to conditions governing use.

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Preferred Citation:

[Description of item, Date, Box #, Folder #], MS-563, William C. Wallace Papers, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio

Acquisition:

The William C. Wallace Papers were donated to the Wright State University Special Collections and Archives by James K. Baker, husband of Mary Letitia (Wallace) Baker on October 24, 2016.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:

This collection contains an original audio cassette tape, which must be digitized prior to access, due to preservation concerns.

Other Finding Aids:

The finding aid is available on the Special Collections & Archives, Wright State University Libraries website at: <http://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/ms563.pdf>. It is also available in the OhioLINK Finding Aid Repository at: <http://ead.ohiolink.edu/xtf-ead/>.

Related Material:

MS-92: Wallace Family Papers Collection

MS-244: National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) Jonathan Dayton Chapter

Processing Information:

Many photographs were loose and placed in an album box. A loose-leaf notebook of newspaper clippings were taken out of the notebook and placed in a file to help preserve the pages so as not to fall out of the notebook. One photo album's binding had disintegrated and the leaves were placed in sleeves, which were placed in a file. Another photograph album was not in the state of deterioration of the previous one, but it has been placed in an enclosure.

Processed by:

Processed and finding aid written to DACS standards by Victoria L. Chadbourne, March 2017.

Arrangement:

The collection is arranged in two series:

Series I: William C. Wallace Family, 1887-1995

Series II: Genealogy, 1805-1995

Biographical/Historical Note:

William Clark Wallace was born on October 26, 1906, in Springfield, Clark County, OH, and died in Coshocton, Coshocton County, OH, on February 7, 1960. His parents were Fred S. and Lettie Burns Wallace. They moved to Coshocton when William was very young and his father was made managing editor of the *Coshocton Tribune*. He graduated from Coshocton High School in 1923 and the New York State Nautical School in 1926.

After graduation from Nautical School, Wallace served in the Merchant Marine from 1926 to 1934. Due to a lack of trained navigators, he returned to active duty during World War II from 1941 to 1945.

After his father died in 1934, Wallace returned to Coshocton and started at the *Coshocton Tribune* on the news staff. He became the managing editor when he return from World War II in 1945; he was the managing editor until ill health caused him to retire in 1959.

He married Jean Elizabeth Laird on September 18, 1937; they were married until his death on February 7, 1960. He was in a serious automobile accident in 1952, which left him partially disabled. William and Jean had one daughter, Mary Letitia (Wallace) Baker.

Mary Letitia (Wallace) Baker was born on December 14, 1939, in Coshocton, Coshocton County, OH, and died on June 6, 2011, in Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County, MI. She graduated from high school in Coshocton and received a degree in journalism from Ohio University. She was employed as an editor at a publishing firm in Cleveland, OH. She relocated to Ypsilanti, MI, in 1967 and was later a secretary at both Ypsilanti Public Schools and Eastern Michigan University.

Mary married James K. Baker about 1962 and they were married until her death. The couple had two children: Letitia Baker and Kyle Baker. Kyle and his wife Karen had three children: Molly, Katherine and Erin.

Scope and Content Note:

The William C. Wallace Papers contain information on William C. and Jean (Baker) Wallace and their daughter Mary (Wallace) Baker. Mary was responsible for collecting the papers. The collection consists primarily of correspondence, photographs, and genealogy information. There are family letters and over 200 photographs dating from the late nineteenth century to the late twentieth century.

Series I, William C. Wallace Family, contains information on the Wallace family and their antecedents, dating from 1887 to 1995. The materials are organized according to subject or family member. Materials include scrapbooks and yearbooks from William and Jean's time at Coshocton High School; materials pertaining to William's time serving in the Merchant Marines; legal documents; documents and newspapers from the *Coshocton (OH) Tribune*, where William was managing editor; papers of Fredrick and Lettie (Burns) Wallace, William's parents; World War II correspondence between William and Jean; an oral history "The Story of My Life" by Gram Wallace (Jean Laird Wallace); and correspondence and engagement announcement of Mary (Wallace) Baker. Of particular note are a deck work log, and a medal and plaque received due to lifesaving efforts in 1932; an Olive Branch Commencement program dated 1894, the oldest original document in the collection from Lettie (Burbs) Wallace; a school program from 1887, the second oldest original document in the collection, in which Fredrick Wallace gave the "Class Prophecy"; correspondence between Fredrick Wallace and his mother during Fredrick's time in the army in 1898; and the WWII correspondence of William and Jean Wallace, which is arranged in the original grouping order the materials were received upon donation.

Series II, Genealogy, contains documents from 1805 to 1995 created or accumulated by Jean (Laird) Wallace and Mary (Wallace) Baker primarily for the purpose of gathering a genealogical record, apparently with the goal of joining the Children of the American Revolution and

Daughters of the American Revolution. This series includes information on the Burns, Cecil, Sweet, and Wallace families, with information dating circa 1700 to 1995; however, all copies in this series are from the twentieth century. There are lineages, family Bibles, obituaries and memoirs, and family history materials covering these families from approximately when they came to North America, as early as 1700, to 1995. Much of the correspondence in the collection is typed copies of originals; it is unknown if the originals still exist and if they do, where they are located. The series also contains over 200 photographs, including two tintypes. Photographs are a non-organized group of pictures from two albums and loose photographs in the collection. The earliest dated photograph is from April 12, 1912, but there are many that appear to be much earlier. The collection also includes two tintypes. Some photos are labeled with names, but many of these only have first names.

Subject Terms

Persons/Families

Wallace, William Clark, 1906-1960
Wallace, Jean Elizabeth (Laird)
Baker, Mary Letitia (Wallace), 1939-2011
Wallace family

Organizations/Corporate Names

Coshocton Tribune (Coshocton, Ohio)
National Society of the Children of the American Revolution
Daughters of the American Revolution
United States Merchant Marines

Subject (General)

Newspaper publishing – Ohio – Coshocton
World War, 1939-1945 – Naval operations
American newspapers – Ohio
Journalism

Places

Coshocton (Ohio)
Coshocton County (Ohio)
Springfield (Ohio)
Medway (Ohio)

Material Types

Correspondence
Genealogies (histories)
Photographs
Newspapers and newspaper clippings
Yearbooks
Marine work log
Awards

Audio cassette tape

Occupations

Newspaper editor

Merchant seaman

Collection Inventory

Box	File	Description	Date
Series I: William C. Wallace Family			1887-1995, undated
1	1	School – Scrapbook created by Jean Wallace (1 of 3)	Undated
1	2	School – Scrapbook created by Jean Wallace (2 of 3)	Undated
1	3	School – Scrapbook created by Jean Wallace (3 of 3)	1927
1	4	School – Coshocton High School Yearbook	1925
1	5	School – Coshocton High School Yearbook	1928
OS-208	1	School – Coshocton HS Weekly News Page clippings	1929
1	6	School – Coshocton High School Yearbook	1929
1	7	Merchant Marines – records of service for William Wallace	1929 – 1934
1	8	Merchant Marines – information on liberty ships and USN Armed Guard	1995
1	9	Merchant Marines – deck work log from the SS John Fiske	1944 Jan.1 – 1944 May 5
1	10	Merchant Marines – Voyage Sailing Letter for the SS “Jim Bridger	1944 Dec. 18
1	11	Merchant Marines – photograph of Morgan City, LA	circa 1950
4		Merchant Marines – USN medal for bravery	1932 Sep.
4		Merchant Marines – plaque commemorating heroism	1932 Sep. 29
4		Merchant Marines – newspaper clipping describing heroism	1934 Sep. 15
1	12	Legal Documents – deeds	1947, 1960, 1967
1	13	Legal Documents – 1952 automobile accident settlement	1953
1	14	Coshocton (OH) Tribune – audit reports	1961
1	15	Coshocton (OH) Tribune – Tribune staff photograph	circa 1943
1	16	Coshocton (OH) Tribune – Letitia M. Wallace, president	1934-1945, undated
1	17	Coshocton (OH) Tribune – Sale of Tribune to Zanesville Publishing Co.	1914, 1960-1970, undated
2	1	Coshocton (OH) Tribune – Notes and Clippings (See also Oversized Location #208, Folder #1 for 1 photocopy of newspaper clipping 10” X 12”)	1960, 1982, undated
OS-208	2	Coshocton (OH) Tribune – Dedication of Tribune issue to William C. Wallace	1961 Apr. 9
OS-208	2	Coshocton (OH) Tribune – Joke front page of Tribune	1962 Nov. 8
OS-208	2	Coshocton (OH) Tribune – Full page tribute to two retiring Tribune managers	1972 Dec. 31
OS-208	2	Coshocton (OH) Tribune – Reproduction of the first issue originally published 1909 Aug. 23	Probably 1959 Aug. 23

Box	File	Description	Date
OS-208	2	Coshocton (OH) Tribune – Issue celebrating the 50 th anniversary of the paper’s founding, Section B	1959 Aug. 23
2	2	Lettie (Burns) Wallace– Olive Branch Commencement program	1894
2	3	Lettie (Burns) Wallace – correspondence to her son “Bobby Boy”	1921 Jun. 28
2	4	Fredrick Wallace– school program	1887
2	5	Fredrick Wallace– letters of recommendation for a teaching position	1892
2	6	Fredrick Wallace– correspondence to his mother and brother	1898
2	7	Fredrick Wallace – wedding invitation addressed to “Mr. Wallace”	1898
2	8	Fredrick Wallace – postcard from Martin & Allardyce concerning coat of arms and crest of Wallace family	1930 Apr. 3
2	9	Fredrick Wallace & Lettie (Burns) Wallace – correspondence from Ida Crouse	1931, 1933
2	10	William C. Wallace – correspondence from Cpl. James Sigman during World War II	1945
2	11	William C. Wallace – unidentified correspondence	1957 Jul. 6
2	12	William C. Wallace – funeral memorial book	1960 Feb.
2	13	Jean (Laird) Wallace – correspondence to William Wallace during his service in World War II	1944-1945
2	14	Jean (Laird) Wallace – correspondence from Millie Wallace, Jean’s aunt	1975, 1985, undated
2	15	Jean (Laird) Wallace – correspondence between Jean and John Campbell, a Scottish artist	1973, 1987
2	16	Jean (Laird) Wallace –correspondence to and by Jean (See also Oversized Location #208, Folder #1 for 1 photocopy of letter 11” X 17 ”)	1937,1972-1995, undated
2	17	Jean (Laird) Wallace – audio cassette tape entitled “The Story of My Life” by Gram Wallace	1981 Jul. 9
2	18	Mary (Wallace) Baker – engagement announcement	Undated
2	19	Mary (Wallace) Baker – correspondence from Jean to Mary and her husband James Baker	1967-1974
Series II: Genealogy			1805-1995, undated
3	1	Lineage – Burns, Cecil, Sweet and Wallace families (copies)	1891-1927, 1995, undated
3	2	Lineage – Wallace Family presented to the National Society of the D.A.R.	1946
3	3	Family Bibles (copies) – Burns, Cecil, Sweet and Wallace families (copies)	1891-1900, 1943, undated

Box	File	Description	Date
3	4	Obituaries and Memoirs (copies)	1855, 1900-1927, undated
3	5	Family History – correspondence and documents containing genealogical information (copies)	1805-1860, 1933-1982, 1983, undated
3	6	Family Residence – newspaper clipping	1939
3	7	Estate Inventories (copies)	1808, 1974-1990, undated
3	8	Children of the American Revolution & Daughters of the American Revolution	1900-1947
3	9	Photographs – leaves of a photograph album placed in sleeves	undated
3	10	Photographs – photograph album; includes two tintypes	1912 Apr., undated
5		Photographs – loose photographs inserted into enclosures	1925, 1938, undated