The John Kirtland Wright Papers

John Kirtland Wright

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John Kirtland Wright Papers

John Kirtland Wright, 1891-1969, was a former librarian, director, and chronicler of the American Geographical Society. He attended Harvard where his father was Dean of the Graduate School, and received his bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees there. After his return from World War I he became librarian of the American Geographical Society. Wright became the Society’s Director in 1938 where he remained until his retirement in 1956. He received an Honorary Degree from Clark University in 1967.

Clark University Archives received these papers after his death from his family at the instigation of William A. Koelsch.

Box 1  Diaries

#1, 2, 3, 1904-1914
Synopses of Certain Early Diaries, References to Austin T.W. and other notes
#5, January 1908 – June 1909 (2 folders)
#5a, Some Recollections of B. and N. in the 1900s. (August 1954)
#6, December 25, 1910 – June 16, 1911 (2 folders)
#7, Shaler Expedition, June 17 – August 19, 1911
#8, Graduate Student in History, May 8, 1914 – August 22, 1916 (2 folders)
#10, War: France, 1918 – 1919
#11, March 12, 1919 – August 6, 1920, Military Recollections, Cambridge, Europe and England
#14, August 3, 1933 – November 2, 1933 and January 2, 1939
#17, Account of JKW’s Visit to Washington, September 14-16, 1941 (“This Relates to the beginnings of the Office of Strategic Services, which later became The Central Intelligence Agency”
#18, Europe 1949 and #19, Western U.S. 1954 and England and Scotland, 1955

Box 2  Diaries, Typescript

#1 Front Matter, #2 Europe 1906-07, #3 1907-11
#4 Shaler Expedition
#5 1914-16, #6 1917-19 War (2 folders)
#7 1919-20 Europe
#8 Mountains

Bound diary “Mountaineering in New England, 1910-1913”
Box 3  **Vanity Book**

#1
#2, New Yorker Profile 1941, Martyn Bowden 1959 and 1964, Whitaker 1964 and Glacken 1964
#3
#4, Geography in the Making, 1952
#5, Human Nature in Geography, 1966
#6, Limelight
#7, Honors
#8, Miscellaneous

**Journals**


Box 4  **Miscellaneous**

“Cravay: JKW’s Imaginary country” scrapbook, includes a map of John Henry Wright’s imaginary country, c. 1870.

**Photographs**

JKW’s Honorary Degree from Clark University, 1967.

Updated May 24, 2007