

A Guide to the Edward B. O'Neal Papers, 1968-1975

Edward B. O'Neal Papers, 1968-1975
1968-1975

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Biographical Information

Edward Bert O'Neal was born in Rocky Mount, Nash County, North Carolina on 14 July 1925. He was the son of Bert Edward O'Neal (1896-1939) and Clara Eleanor Brown (1905-1971). He attended St. Paul's School in Baltimore, and later moved to Norfolk, Virginia. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. O'Neal attended the division of the College of William and Mary in Norfolk, where he took a course in business administration, and was employed by an architectural and engineering firm as office manager and bookkeeper. In 1970, O'Neal moved to Atlanta, where he was employed by Atlanta Airport Engineers as an accountant. Edward B. O'Neal died in Norfolk, Virginia on 16 May 1999.

Scope and Content

Papers, 1968-1975, of Edward B. O'Neal (1925-1999) of Norfolk, Virginia, and Atlanta, Georgia, consisting of his genealogical research files on the Cotten/Cotton families of Virginia and North Carolina, specifically the descendants of John Cotton (d. 1728) of Bertie County, North Carolina. O'Neal intended to publish a book entitled *Our Southern Heritage: A History of the Cotten/Cotton Families of the South, Their Descendants, and Allied Families*. The collection also contains research on the family of Alexander Rankin of Scotland and his descendants, many of whom settled in Tennessee.

There is a substantial amount of information on the allied families of Andrews, Braswell, Brown, Davis, Donelson/Donaldson, Holladay/Holliday, Powell, Rodgers, Turner, Upchurch, Van Tassel, Waugh, and Wilkinson. Areas represented in the collection include Isle of Wight, Nansemond, Princess Anne, Surry, Sussex, and York Counties, Virginia; Betie, Edgecombe, Hertford, and Northampton Counties, North Carolina; and Blount and Knox Counties, Tennessee.

The papers contain abstracts, transcriptions, and copies of Bible records, census records, deeds, land patents and grants, marriage records, obituaries, pension records, published sources, tombstone inscriptions, and wills. In addition, there is correspondence, family group sheets, and genealogical charts.

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