

WINDOWS ON WILEY



1899-1999

1899-1910

Wiley School is Born page 1
 Mr. Calvin H. Wiley page 1
 Miss Eliza Pool page 2
 Dr. Roy M. Brown page 2
 Oldest PTA page 2
 Mrs. Sherwood and Miss Bates page 3
 Mr. Edgar Marshall Wyatt page 4
 Mr. Vermont C. Royster page 5

1920-1930

Wiley's Architecture page 6
 Mr. James Wesley York page 7
 Mr. Claude F. Gaddy page 7
 The Sherwood Bates Library page 8
 School in the 30's page 8

1940-1950

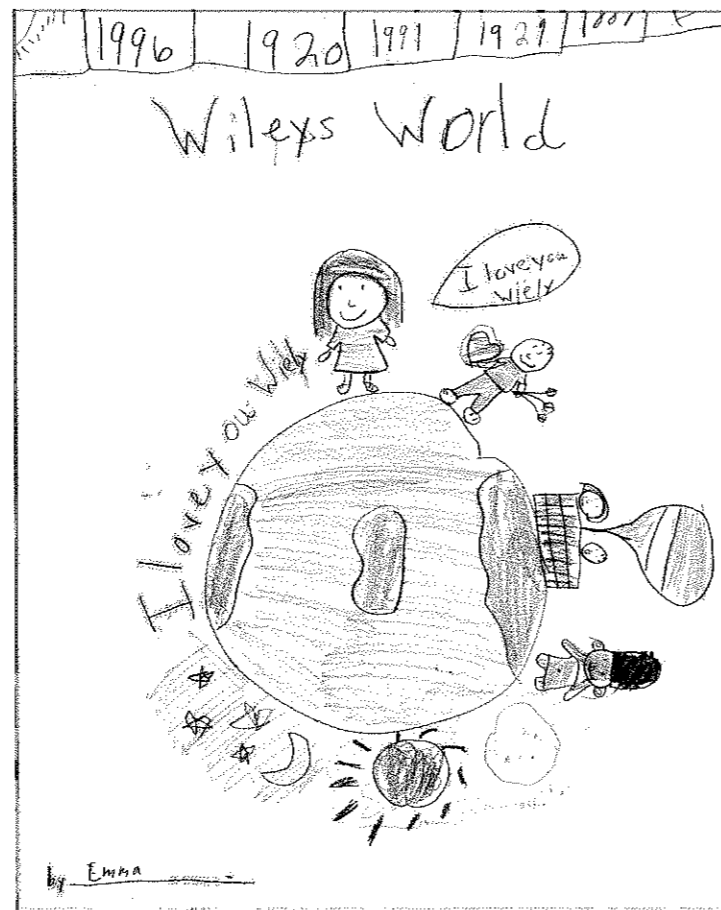
The 40's and 50's page 10
 Miss Barnette Spratt page 11
 Mrs. Ellen Bonner Ballinger page 11
 Miss Dorothy Ray page 12

1960-1970

The 60's and 70's page 13
 Mrs. Barbara Worthington Parramore page 15
 Mr. Mike Connell page 15
 Mr. Scott Hoch page 16
 Mrs. Audrey Allred page 16

1980-1990

Wiley is a Magnet School page 17
 Dr. Pearl Poole page 18
 The ESL Program page 19
 Switch Around Renovations page 20
 Mr. Ed Gainor page 20
 Mrs. Candy Stockert page 21
 Ms. Cecilia Rawlins page 21



Artist: Emma Barber, 1st grade, Wiley School

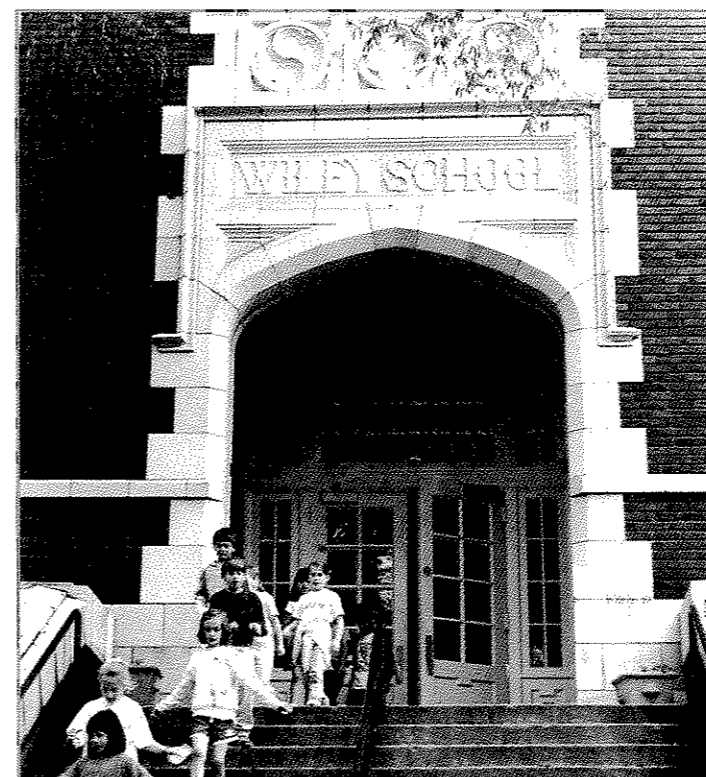
Cover illustration by
 Catherine Bullard and Hannah Krakauer, 5th grade

The following volunteers, and donated materials and services,
 were provided by the Triangle Production Association:
 Terri March, SAS - Project Coordinator
 Kristie Freeman Plaga, Freelance Art Director - Book Design and Production
 Anna Van Leeruw, Unisource - Pottlach Vintage Paper
 Laura Ellison, Eyebeam - Scanning and Film Output
 Richard Wallace, Cary Printing - Printing and Binding

Anyone who has had any association with Wiley Elementary School during its 100 years of existence knows that it is a special place where thousands of children have been loved, nurtured and educated. This book captures Wiley's rich history and re-tells the highlights from the perspective of students. The book and the companion documentary, *Windows on Wiley*, are culminating products of over a year of study by many Wiley students under the guidance and direction of Becky Leousis, Wiley Video, Photography and Technology teacher. During the course of their research they have, of course, learned much about the history of Wiley and Raleigh; but perhaps more importantly, they have also developed an appreciation of the struggles of our ancestors as well as an appreciation and understanding of the unique place we all have in history.

As the current principal of Wiley, I am proud to be a part of the legacy of this school. I extend expressions of gratitude and appreciation to Mrs. Leousis, and to the students, parents and community members who have contributed to the creation of this book. It serves as a significant glimpse into a grand structure that has been a beacon of educational excellence for many decades.

Cecilia Rawlins
 Principal
 Wiley Elementary
 1993-present



WILEY SCHOOL IS BORN!

1899 According to an 1899-1900 Raleigh City Directory and oral history from Zack Arthur, Wiley class of 1912, Wiley's first location was 520 Halifax Street. The teachers were Miss Mary Marsh, Miss Ethel Waitt, Miss Mary MacRae and Miss Jennie Pescud. At this time only grades one through four were taught. After that, the students would attend the Centennial or Murphey schools. The new school was created sometime before the 1900's to ease overcrowded conditions at Murphey School.



The "Old Wiley" School at 411 West Morgan Street

The "Old Wiley" School was located at 411 West Morgan Street from 1900-1924. There were only eight classrooms, and it, too, became overcrowded and the students had to attend double sessions.

Mrs. Etherlene Maddry, widow of Lynn Maddry, who attended Wiley in 1915, recalls that: "The school was overcrowded, so much so that he (Lynn Maddry) was involved in going to one of two sessions they had in one day."

They didn't have a playground and, at the request of the PTA, the police barricaded Morgan Street during lunch to protect the children as they played. There was no cafeteria either, so the students enjoyed lunch on the back porch of Miss Daisy Greene's house. She would serve soup and sandwiches. She also served happily in the new building from 1924-1940.

Edgar Wyatt describes lunch in his book, *Growing Up in Raleigh*. "Miss Daisy Greene lived next door to the school, and her back porch was the lunchroom. Students would enter the screened-in area in one door, walk down the

food line, and exit at the other end of the porch. I can remember pimento cheese sandwiches and milk being on the menu, but little else. We sat on the lawn or school steps to eat, as I recall. Miss Daisy was always there and would serve us herself."

The subjects for fifth through seventh grade were English, History, Latin, German, French, Algebra, and Geometry.

Millard P. Burke said: "In addition to the unusual half-year schedule, the fourth grade and above went from room to room for each subject.... We did not have kindergarten in those days. There, and in the Raleigh schools, one could enter school in the winter as well in the fall, and we were promoted by semesters and not by years. If one failed, it would be half of a year that had to be repeated, such as 1-A, 1-B, 2-A, 2-B, etc."

According to Mr. Wyatt, "Old Wiley" later became Wiley Hotel where rooms for a \$1 and haircuts for a quarter were a bargain.

By Joel Alexander, 5th Grade
Chris Choplin, 4th Grade

MR. CALVIN H. WILEY

1819-1887 Calvin Henderson Wiley had a lot of responsibilities when he was young. He was an attorney, newspaper editor, novelist, educator, legislator, clergyman and a family man. Calvin Wiley was born in Guilford County on Feb. 3, 1819. Mr. Wiley went to UNC and studied law. He was a member of the General Assembly and helped pass the law in 1852 to form the office of state superintendent of common schools. He became the first superintendent in 1853 and stayed superintendent until the surrender of the South in the Civil War in 1865. Calvin Wiley traveled widely at his own expense by horse-and-buggy, giving speeches across 36 counties because he was very interested in education.



Calvin H. Wiley

He saw education as a way of overcoming poverty. He established a journal of education and organized an educational association for teachers in North Carolina. He is famous for keeping schools

open during the Civil War. Mr. Wiley completely changed the idea of education in North Carolina. By 1860, North Carolina was considered to have the best public schools in the South.

Calvin Wiley got married on Feb. 25, 1862 to Miss Mittie Towles from Raleigh. The two lovebirds had seven children. Calvin Wiley died at his home in what is now Winston-Salem at age 68. After his death someone was nice to name a school after him. That school is called Wiley, which is our school now.

By Garrett Brown, 5th grade

MISS ELIZA POOL WILEY'S FIRST PRINCIPAL

1900-1905 Eliza Pool was Wiley's first principal. She was principal from 1900-1905. She left Wiley to work at Raleigh High School. She was from Oxford and taught in the Raleigh schools for 40 years, from 1886-1926. She died on November 25, 1935.

In 1903, Caraleigh Mills Company of Raleigh loaned a building for a school that would have five grades known as Caraleigh School. In 1904, a permanent structure was built on a donated lot. Horse-and-buggy transportation was provided for students and teachers. The school was named for Eliza Pool. Another new building was constructed in 1925 and was also named for Miss Eliza Pool.

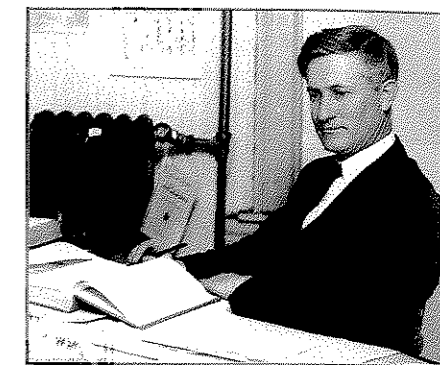
By Hannah Krakauer, 5th Grade



Miss Eliza Pool, top row, 2nd from the left

DR. ROY M. BROWN WILEY PRINCIPAL

1907-1908 Dr. Roy M. Brown was principal of Wiley School for one year, from 1907-1908. During that year he was also a seventh-grade teacher at Wiley. Dr. Brown came to Raleigh from Reidsville, where he taught English in high school. Three principals jobs were open in Raleigh, and Dr. Brown was offered a salary of \$1,200, twice what he had made in Reidsville.



Dr. Roy M. Brown

During his year as principal, Dr. Brown had a son. He named him Thomas Wiley, because the teachers at Wiley insisted he be named after the new school. Later that year, the liquor store was shut down. This was bad because the money made there paid the salary for the teachers at Wiley. They had a vote on a special school tax which would have saved the school, but they voted against it.

"My year in the Raleigh public schools was the least pleasant and the least successful in my teaching experience," Dr. Brown later wrote.

After leaving Raleigh, Dr. Brown became the director of what is now the School of Social Work at UNC-Chapel Hill.

By Joel Alexander, 5th Grade

OLDEST PTA

1919 Wiley has the oldest PTA of any Wake County school still in existence. At the meeting of the Wiley PTA in September, 1919 Dr. Percy Ahrens, superintendent of the Wake County board of health, spoke of the need for proper food for children. Mrs. D. F. Gills was the first president. The programs and work of the PTA were about food and nutrition. They asked that the streets around the school be closed during recess because there was no playground. They talked about the need for a new building. It was because of the

efforts of the Wiley PTA that a new building was finally built. In the 1920's the Raleigh PTA wanted free streetcar tickets for needy children. The officers of the PTA were: Mrs. Fred Ammons, president; Mrs. Robert Derrick, vice president; Mrs. John Hilton, corresponding secretary; Mrs. A. B. Lloyd, recording secretary; and Mrs. Clem Holding, treasurer.

By Joe Lunsford and Madison Bullard, 3rd Grade

MRS. SHERWOOD AND MISS BATES DEVOTED SISTERS FOREVER

Mary Sherwood, the principal of Wiley from 1909 to 1942, and her sister, Grace Bates, a first-grade teacher, contributed many wonderful things to Wiley's past. Mrs. Sherwood was born in 1866, the year after the South surrendered in the Civil War. She was the loving daughter of Fleming Bates and

Hannah Bates. She attended Raleigh Public School, then held in the old Governor's Mansion at the foot of Fayetteville Street. She went to Peace College and graduated in June, 1885.

She married Francis W. Sherwood in 1888. Sadly, he died in 1891. Her sons were Dr. Frank W. Sherwood and

Fleming Bates Sherwood. After her husband's death, she lived with her caring sister in a house at 214 East Morgan Street. Mrs. Sherwood came to Wiley after she had taught first and third grades at Murphey and Centennial schools. She was a lifetime member of First Presbyterian Church.

Mrs. Sherwood began teaching at the "Old Wiley" in 1900, and she was a principal at both the "New Wiley" and the "Old Wiley." At the "Old Wiley," the first, second, and third grades came from the Wiley district, and the fourth, fifth, sixth, and seventh grades came from the Murphey, Centennial, and Wiley dis-

tricts. Mrs. Sherwood described the "Old Wiley" as "sort of like a high school for the fourth through seventh grades, because they would move from room to room."

There was a white oak tree planted on the school grounds and dedicated to her in 1940. At the dedication, Mr. Claude Gaddy, superintendent of schools, compared the wonderful qualities of the white oak tree to Mrs. Sherwood. Mrs. Sherwood was our school's leader for a magnificent 33 years. Unfortunately, she died in 1950 at the age of 84. Two of the pallbearers were John W. Harden and W. G. Mordecai, two famous people in Raleigh's history. Mrs. Sherwood dedicated a large part of her life to our school and we should be very thankful.

Mr. William H. Simpson, a former Wiley student, said: "Mrs. Sherwood remembered the names of every student in the school."

Miss Bates dedicated precisely 50 years of her wonderful life to the public school system. She was born in Raleigh on November 27, 1862, three years before the Civil War ended. She remembered, at the age of two, how her father lifted her to his shoulders to watch as General Sherman marched through Raleigh. Everyone who lived in Raleigh at the time lined the streets. Not a single word was said as the troops passed — the only sound was the beating of the horses' hooves. She grew up in the old Seawell home on East Hargett Street. Like Mrs. Sherwood, she went to Peace College for her further education.

Miss Bates loved teaching the first grade, so that is what she did for 50 years. She started teaching in the Raleigh public schools in 1900. For four years she taught at Centennial and Murphey. Then in 1904 she came to teach at Wiley School.

"Miss Grace Bates was my first-grade teacher. She was a kind person, a wonderful teacher who started her students on the right track. The basics: reading, writing, arithmetic and discipline," recalled Mrs. J. Henry Ligon, Jr.

Miss Grace Bates was loved by her students. She would even lift a child up to the water fountain if

they couldn't reach. At Christmas she would "invite" an elf into the first-grade room to give the students treats.

Mrs. Catherine Wyatt Hudson fondly recalls: "I do remember my first-grade teacher — Miss Grace Bates. I thought she was very old! She was tiny, as I remember. At Christmas time she had us close our eyes and put our heads on our desks. One of Santa's elves paid a visit. I'm afraid I peeked, for I saw Miss Grace tip-toeing around the room leaving a candy treat on each desk. She was a wonderful elf."

She always wanted to be called Miss Grace, not Miss Bates. Late in Miss Grace's life she became blind, and she spent 10 years of her life without sight. Five years before her death, surgery restored her sight.

"I was most fortunate to begin my education at Wiley School and those six years were hard but fun. The main reason was having Miss Grace Bates as my first-grade teacher. She was so nice to each of us and helped us get off to a good

start," Mr. William H. Simpson said.

Sadly, Miss Bates lost her life to a heart attack in her home at 214 East Morgan Street on October 5, 1950, three days after Mrs.

Sherwood was taken seriously ill. Mrs. Sherwood died eight days later, on October 13, 1950. Neither of them knew that the other had died.

These remarkable women dedicated themselves to public schools for a combined career of more than 100 years. They grew up together, taught together, lived together and died close together, as if they couldn't live without each other. The Sherwood-Bates Elementary school, which is now part of Daniels Middle School, was under construction when the sisters died.

"I was privileged to have Miss Grace Bates as my first-grade teacher and Mrs. Sherwood as principal," Betsy Barbara McMillan Parks wrote. "It is fitting that a school in Raleigh now carries their names, for they were tops in the educational field."

They have played such an important part in our school's history; they should be cherished forever. Thank you to all of the people who have helped us learn about these wonderful women.

By Lynsay Bush and Whitney Ruef, 5th Grade



1907: A fifth-grade class at "Old Wiley"

MR. EDGAR MARSHALL WYATT

Edgar M. Wyatt started first grade in 1923 at "Old Wiley" School on the corner of Morgan and West Street. He walked to school from his house on East Park Drive, and Miss Grace Bates was his first-grade teacher. His favorite period was lunch. The lunchroom at "Old Wiley" was on the back porch of Miss Daisy Greene's house.

Wiley moved to its current location on St. Mary's Street when Mr. Wyatt started second grade. At "Old Wiley" the second-graders took turns ringing the school bell, and the fifth and sixth-graders were able to use the outside fire escapes. He describes his first disappointments with the new school building in his book, *Growing Up In Raleigh*:

"I never got to come down the fire escapes, and I never got to ring the bell. The new Wiley School opened the next fall, and I was in Mrs. McDonald's second grade. But, alas, the new school had electric bells."

Mr. Wyatt went to Broughton High School and graduated from Wake Forest College in 1938.

Mr. Wyatt married Bebe Dickenson, and they have three children and three grandchildren. He worked at the family business, Job P. Wyatt and Sons Company and Wyatt-Quarles Seed Company, for 48 years.

He served in the U.S. Army during World War II for four years where he saw action in Europe.



rs. Mary Sherwood



Mrs. Sherwood, Miss Bates and granddaughter Mary B. Sherwood



Miss Grace Bates

Mr. Wyatt has written two books about local history, Growing Up in Raleigh, and Memories of Old Raleigh. He also has written several cowboy biographies.

By Jonathan Worth, 4th Grade

MR. VERMONT ROYSTER

1914-1996 Vermont Connecticut Royster was a famous journalist who attended Wiley School as a boy. He won numerous awards, including two Pulitzer Prizes. He went to college at UNC and was editor of The Daily Tar Heel.

He was born in 1914 and died in 1996. He got his name from his grandfather's family, who named all their children after states — the boys were named Iowa Michigan, Arkansas Delaware, Wisconsin Illinois, and Oregon Minnesota, and the girls were named Louisiana Maryland, Virginia Carolina, and Georgia Indiana.

During his time at Wiley, Mr. Royster started first grade and quickly skipped to third grade. He had a hard time fitting in because he was smaller and two years younger. His family moved to Raleigh in 1920 in order for his father to help his grandfather in the candy business.

While he was in high school, Mr. Royster found his first chance for acceptance. He became a press agent for the school football team. The stories carried his own byline, which made him popular.

In 1936 after he graduated, he went to New York and asked for a job at the *Wall Street Journal*. He had always wanted to be a newspaper or magazine writer and joined the *Wall Street Journal* as a correspondent. Then he went to the Bureau Chief in Washington for his first assignment. It was to cover the Department of Agriculture. In 1937 he was given a new assignment — Capitol Hill and the Supreme Court.

During World War II, Mr. Royster served four years in the U.S. Navy. Then in 1945, he returned to his position as chief Washington correspondent for the *Journal*, which his boss had promised to hold for him.

In early 1948, he accepted a position in New York as an editorial writer for the *Journal*. In 1953,

Mr. Royster won his first Pulitzer Prize for editorial writing. He was only the second person at the *Journal* to win one.

After Mr. Royster won his prize, he strengthened the editorial staff of the *Journal*, which allowed him to work outside the office. He used his position to gain access to powerful people, such as Presidents Dwight Eisenhower and John Kennedy. When this happened, the *Journal* rose considerably in power and popularity.

In 1965, Mr. Royster was elected president of the American Society of Newspaper Editors. During the 60's, Mr. Royster continued to write editorials about presidents, world leaders, wars and crises.

In 1970, he was diagnosed with cancer.

During his convalescence, he was offered a chaired professorship at his alma mater, UNC-Chapel Hill.

In 1971, he retired from the *Journal*, but remained a director of the company. When he left the *Journal*, its circulation had climbed to 1.2 million.

While Mr. Royster was teaching, the *Journal* asked him to write a weekly column, "Thinking Things Over."

From 1972-1977, Mr. Royster was also a commentator for CBS Radio and TV. In 1980, he was elected to the Journalism Hall of Fame. In 1984, he received a second Pulitzer for distinguished commentary, and in 1986, President Ronald Reagan awarded him a Presidential Medal of Freedom.

He and his wife, Frances Claypoole, had two daughters, Frances and Sara, who were born during World War II.

In 1996, Vermont Connecticut Royster died at the age of 82 in Raleigh. He is still remembered by many people and his career envied by many young journalists.

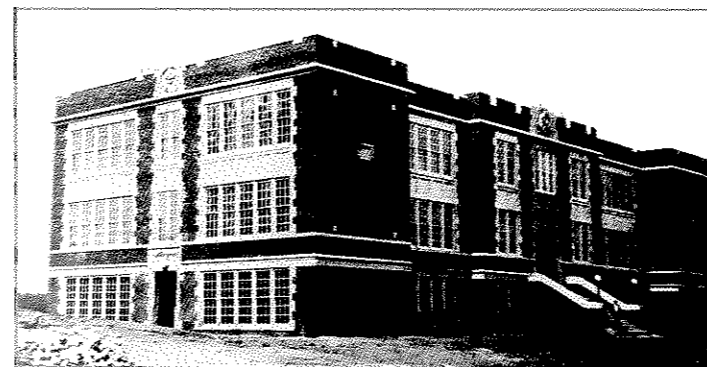
By Joel Alexander, 5th Grade

WILEY'S ARCHITECTURE

In 1919, Cameron Park residents began to ask for a new school on the Saint Mary's Street lot that had been laid out as a school site when the subdivision was built as a "trolley-car suburb." In 1922, at the request of the PTA, Raleigh voters passed the first \$1 million bond issue for the city schools. This money helped replace five old schools with new, fireproof buildings. Wiley, Thompson, Eliza Pool, Barbee, and Washington High were built with the bond money.

Christopher Gadsen Sayre, an Atlanta architect, designed Wiley at its present location. C.V. York Construction Company built the school for a total cost of precisely \$264,225.56! It was built of steel and concrete to a much higher standard than schools that were built just several years later. Mr. Sayre also designed Hugh Morson High, Thompson Elementary, and Washington Grade and High Schools.

Students entered "New Wiley" in the fall of 1924.



1924: The "New Wiley" School

Frank Jeter, a first-grader in September, 1924 remembers: "The first impression was that Wiley shone with newness. The floors gleamed. The desks were coated with varnish and had no carvings or ink stains whatsoever. But a major impression was made by the cafeteria. On the lower level, just below the front steps and to the left, the kitchen featured all stainless steel in the place where you lined up to buy your lunch. Tables and chairs matched those in the classrooms."

The school is a three-story, Jacobethan Revival brick building. The auditorium, now the media center, is classical in style, with 10 Corinthian columns and an arch over the stage. It was originally used as a theater, where on Friday nights silent movies were shown. There are three bas-relief figures along the exterior

roofline. Each is unique. The figure at the front of the main building is reading and holding a torch. This represents ideas. The figure above the K-2 playground, facing Calvin Road, is reading a book and smiling. This represents reading. The third figure, above the butterfly garden, is holding a mathematical tool called a compass. This represents math.



Bas-relief figures with torch and compass

Edgar Wyatt entered second grade at Wiley in 1924. "My pals and I watched with interest the construction of the red brick edifice," Mr. Wyatt wrote in his book, Growing Up in Raleigh. "We marveled at the round concrete figures above the third-floor windows at each end of the building. I think they represented knowledge and wisdom, or some sort of high-minded intangibles. To me, though, the one facing south was God. When I pass the school today, I always remember that when I was a 7-year-old, that was my impression of what God looked like."

The cafeteria was added south of the main building and some other renovations were made in 1986 at a total cost of \$460,000. Marjorie Acker of Team Architects designed them. The kitchen is 1,011 square feet, and the eating area is 1,626 square feet.

Before the cafeteria was built, it went through three designs. One of the designs had what looked like a Pizza Hut roof. Finally, the PTA agreed on a design that blended the main building with the addition. If you look closely, you can see that the brickwork is very similar, and there is a white band near the top of the flat roof.

Some architects reviewed the main building before the renovations were approved. Their report found that the building, then 64 years old, was a sound structure that could easily last another 60 years and whose details could not be duplicated today. This was quite different from how officials felt 10 years earlier, when they tried to close Wiley down.

Another addition is now being planned. The 10-room building and renovations to the main building are expected to cost about \$2 million. The new building will house three kindergarten, three

first-grade, and three second-grade classrooms. Mete Gurel will design it. The design is currently being revised for the second time. The construction is expected to begin this June and finish in the year 2000.

By Hannah Krakauer, Meghan Adkins, 5th Grade
Jana Rust, 4th Grade

MR. JAMES WESLEY YORK

1912 This is a biography of a very important person named James Wesley York. His friends sometimes call him Willie. He attended first grade at "Old Wiley," and his father was in charge of the construction company that built "New Wiley."

Mr. York was born on September 11, 1912 in an upstairs bedroom of his parents' house at 425 Boylan Avenue. He was the fourth of five children. As a young boy, he had two friends whose first names were William, so Mr. York was called "Willie." This nickname is still used today.

Mr. York has worn glasses from the age of four. He had a disease called amblyopia in his left eye. "Willie was a timid little boy," one of his classmates said. "You wouldn't pick him out to be the success he turned out to be."

Mr. York started first grade at "Old Wiley" in the fall of 1918. He didn't like school very much and at first wouldn't try to read. In the summer of 1923, Mr. York was 10 years old and "New Wiley" was being built. His first job was at the construction site. He was the water boy and he earned five cents an hour. He worked 55 hours a week. He carried two buckets of water and two dippers — one set for the white men, the other set for the African Americans.

Mr. York's father's name was Charles Vance York. He was very important to Wiley. His company, as you have read, built Wiley. Mr. York's mother's name was Mabel Anderson York. She wore glasses like one of her sons. They must have been very good parents since they raised such a good son. They had five children. From the oldest to the youngest their names were Charles Jr., Margaret, Anderson, Willie, and little Mabel.

Today, Mr. York is an important man. He is the reason Cameron Village is here today.

By Meghan Adkins and Juan Nevarez, 5th Grade
Chris Choplin, 4th Grade

MR. CLAUDE GADY SUPERINTENDENT OF RALEIGH PUBLIC SCHOOLS,

1935-1942 Mr. Claude Gaddy was superintendent for Raleigh Public Schools from 1935 to 1942. He worked hard to make the schools in Raleigh better. In 1936, he said that he would not be satisfied until "the Raleigh schools are as fine as any in the land." He helped create health programs and new playgrounds for all the schools in Raleigh.

Mr. Gaddy thought that teachers weren't getting paid enough. While discussing the problems facing schools he said, "they should not forget that our teachers in Raleigh are yet suffering too greatly from the lack of adequate pay for their services." The average monthly salary paid to teachers at that time was \$104.00.

Mr. Charles W. Gaddy, his son, remembers that his father didn't like students to miss school, even when it snowed. "All the other school children would ask me to please tell Dad that it was snowing too



Tree Dedicated to Veteran Wiley Principal

Superintendent Compares Qualities of Teacher to Sturdy White Oak

Mrs. Mary B. Sherwood, principal of Wiley School, and for more than 20 years connected with the school system, was honored yesterday at the meeting of the Wiley Parent-Teacher Association when Superintendent Claude F. Gaddy of the Raleigh Schools spoke at the dedication of a white oak tree in her honor.

Mr. Gaddy said the white oak had been selected because of the valuable qualities it possessed. He mentioned the fact that it must always have rich soil in which to grow, and also the fact that the wood is more valuable. Mr. Gaddy associated the sterling qualities of character of Mrs. Sherwood with the good qualities of the white oak.

At the regular meeting of the P.-T. A., Mrs. E. Y. Floyd presented a paper on "The History of the P.-T. A." in observance of Founder's Day. A peasant was also presented by a group of parents under the direction of Mrs. Jennie Mills, entitled "As Told by the Candies."

Mr. Claude Gaddy and Mrs. Mary Sherwood, among others, at the dedication of a white oak tree in her honor.

hard to have school. Needless to say, I wasn't always the most popular kid at school."

Mr. Claude Gaddy spoke and dedicated a white oak tree to Mrs. Mary B. Sherwood, Wiley Principal, at a ceremony honoring her retirement. In his speech, Mr. Gaddy compared the sterling qualities of Mrs. Sherwood's character to the good qualities of the white oak. For many years, Wiley students have enjoyed playing under the tree, which stands, we believe, near the K-2 playground.

By Atticus McEntire, Joe Lunsford,
and Madison Bullard, 3rd Grade

THE SHERWOOD- BATES LIBRARY

1929 In the year 1929, Miss Ethel Burks worked with her sixth-grade students to turn an empty classroom into a library. It had walls that were a pale French blue with ivory-colored woodwork. The bookshelves were bright shiny red, and the floors were light maple-brown. The library started with 300 books and ended up with 2,550 volumes. The PTA gave \$50.00 a year to support the library. The school board gave 50 cents per student to help with the upkeep of the library. The library was named the Sherwood-Bates Library in honor of Mrs. Sherwood and Miss Bates, two very important people in our school's history.

By Lynsay Bush and Whitney Ruef, 5th Grade

SCHOOL IN THE 30'S

In the year 1933-34, there were 12 full-time women teachers working at Wiley. Five hundred and five children were enrolled, and 463 students came on an average day. There were 630 children's books in the Wiley library. There were 120 pairs of scissors in the school. Wiley had a baseball team.

Mrs. Mary B. Sherwood was principal and taught three class periods. The courses taught were reading, literature, spelling, geography, arithmetic, history, civics, health and physical education, music, writing, and drawing. The teachers were Adele Ball, Grace Bates, Ethel Burks, Louise Duncan Carson, Pattie Jenkins, Ethel H. McDonald, Mamie Cutler

Noble, Nellie Norris, Dorothy Ray, Lorena Reeves, Mrs. W. Henry Shaw and Agnes Wilson.

"I do recall that I was at Wiley, in that dreary cafeteria, when I heard that Gilmer's Store had failed. It took a bit for me to realize that it hadn't fallen down. This must have been 1929," wrote Alan McIntyre, now of Chapel Hill. "I clearly recall Mrs. Noble as a dark-haired, handsome woman who was so pleasant and firm with the fifth- or sixth-grade class. We used to draw and read and do arithmetic. Did we write? My favorite student reader was Annie Catherine Wyatt (Mrs. Karl Hudson)."

Many students recall that another favorite part of school was the Walter Damrosch Music Hour, when someone would bring a radio and put it on the stage in the auditorium. It sounded horrible at first, but the students got used to it.

"In the third and fourth grades we assembled along with most of the classes to hear Walter Damrosch conduct classical music, either by record or radio," Mr. Louis Wooten, Jr. wrote. "It wasn't heavy opera, but more along the lines of the 'William Tell Overture.' My appreciation of classical music stems from this experience. Mr. Damrosch told stories that gave the music more meaning than just listening."

Lunch was a favorite time of day in the 1930's. "The cafeteria was featured in a good many ways," wrote Frank H. Jeter, Jr., who began first grade at Wiley in 1924. "When the weather got cool, soon after the school year started, you could get what can only be described as a shaving mug of vegetable soup, loaded with meat and vegetables, for one shiny nickel. That included the crackers that came with it.

Most of the Cameron Park kids brought their lunch with them. In a paper bag we would have a sandwich featuring whatever kind of meat your family enjoyed the night before, a piece of fruit (apples in the fall, oranges in winter) and sometimes a slice of cake. (Cookies were fairly rare in those days.) I remember enjoying cold fried chicken as well. But that mug of hot soup really made a difference and even then, when prices were different, five cents was a good price."

"We ate lunch at the cafeteria supervised by Mrs. McDonald and located on the first floor," wrote Louis E.



Schoolyard pals

Wooten Jr. "My lunch money was 15 cents – five for milk, five for a sandwich (peanut butter I remember) and probably five for soup or an Eskimo pie."

Fred Senter recalls: "We had two recesses each day. Little recess about 10 AM and big recess at 12 o'clock. I remember I usually shared my bag lunch from home with a friend who never had anything to eat. The 1930's were difficult times for a lot of families."



Spring 1931: A special school activity - 1st grade Indians and their Teepee

"The 'Great Depression' coincided with my years at Wiley School (1929-35)," wrote Frances Wyatt Nipper. "The fathers of many students were laid off their jobs and some even left home to find work elsewhere. Those children who couldn't pay for lunch at school were given lunch tickets, with which they got a big bowl of Miss Daisy Greene's good vegetable soup, crackers and milk. For some it was the only hot meal of the day. The school year was reduced from nine months to eight and teacher salaries were cut back. That, however, did not keep Wiley School from attracting good and dedicated teachers."

"When I was in the fourth grade, our teacher was Miss Nellie Norris," recalled Memory F. Mitchell, who entered first grade at Wiley in 1930. "She had a boyfriend who had a little plane, and he offered to take us up over the city of Raleigh. We went on a Saturday to the old Raleigh Municipal Airport, on South Wilmington Street, for the experience of flying. It still amazes me that my parents permitted me to go. The pilot could take only three children at a time, and I was mortified when he asked me how much I weighed. I was fat, so he picked the two skinniest girls to go with me. The little plane was open, but the sides were too high for us to see over. One little girl managed to push herself up far enough to see out, and she told us when we were off the ground. The entire ride took about 10 minutes."

Charles Newsom lived on Woodburn Road in Cameron Park. He attended Wiley from 1933 to 1939. "The only notable thing that I remember is that I used to run down the alleyway from Woodburn Road to

Wiley, or I roller-skated down Benehan Street to Wiley, or I rode by bicycle to Wiley each morning, went back home for lunch, and then back home after school. Maybe that's the reason I received a Perfect Attendance certificate for my fifth grade year."

A reunion of Wiley alumni from the 1930's drew a crowd of about 75 people, including spouses, to Robert McMillan's back yard in 1997. Mr. McMillan remembers a special event that happened while he was at Wiley. "I planted the large oak tree near the front steps of Wiley when I was in the third grade," he wrote. "This was in memory of the 200th birthday of George Washington. He was born on February 22, 1732, and we planted the tree in the Wiley yard on February 22, 1932."

"The fourth grade provided more memories," remembers Louis E. Wooten, Jr. "It was 1928 and I recall my first presidential election. We went around asking our classmates if their parents were for Al Smith or Herbert Hoover. Hoover won, you know. Also in the fourth, I can still see Miss Stella Howell at the blackboard demonstrating the 'Palmer Method' of cursive writing. She tried hard but I still have poor penmanship."

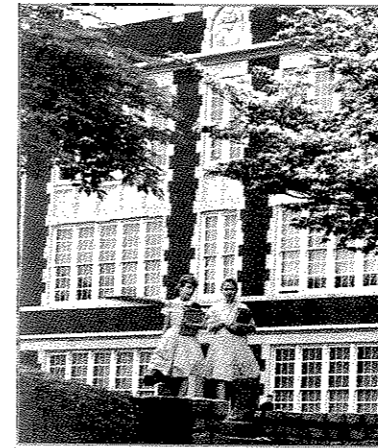
By Joe Lunsford and Madison Bullard, 3rd Grade



1935: Miss Pattie Jenkins' 6A Grade class. Picture and identifications courtesy of Mrs. Frannie Memory Farmer (top row, 1st on right). Starting from the top are (1st row, center) Miss Pattie Jenkins, (2nd row, 2nd from left) Edna Rose McDuffie, next to her Janas Rhodes, (2nd row, 6th from left) Cornelia Mims, (4th row, 1st on left) Doris Neely Lloyd, (4th row, 4th from left) Emily Cheshire, (4th row, 6th from left) Katie Clyde, (front row, 1st on right) Eugene Roberts.

THE 40'S AND 50'S LOVE, WAR, HURRICANES, POLIO AND FALL-OUT SHELTERS

"My first day at Wiley, Alma Brigman introduced me to our class, having met me at Sunday School the day before. I remember many of my class mates quite well, especially Myron Banks, whom I married 45 years ago! (And we are still happily married)," wrote Mary Hobbs Banks, who



Headed home at the end of the school day

attended Wiley during World War II. "Since it was war time, we were all conscious of the world situation, and most us had brothers or other relatives in the services. Ration books were distributed to families who waited in long lines in the gym. We had occasional air-raid drills and were marched to

the auditorium, where we squatted between the rows of seats until the 'all clear' sounded. In spite of the war, our memories of Wiley are happy ones."

On October 15, 1954, with very little warning, Hurricane Hazel hit North Carolina.

Ruth Ann Moss, a student teacher at Wiley, recalls what happened. "By lunch time, rumor had it that a bad storm was on the way and many of our students had gone home. The administrator told teachers to take students from the upper floors to the basement area and prepare to endure Hurricane Hazel! I was more frightened than my handful of 11-year-olds were. Wind blew, rain rampaged, trees fell, electricity went off, and nerves quivered."

During the 1950's, polio and other diseases were dreaded among children and parents. In August, 1955, Wiley vaccinated all of its first- and second-grade students within a day. Wiley had 100 percent good behavior, and it was the first school to receive this award. More than 200 children

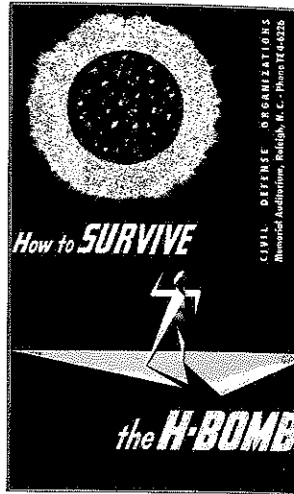


Blue Star recipients

were vaccinated, and there was not a single tear. Wiley also had a preschool clinic at this time. The preschoolers who were found in perfect health were given blue stars.

In the 50's and 60's, we were still uneasy with Russia after World War II. School children, including those at Wiley, brought home little folders with tips about how to survive the H-bomb. It gave tips like:

- "In case of a fallout get to the nearest shelter."
- "Follow traffic one way; outbound."
- "Evacuation signals will be sounded by a three-to-five minute steady sound on sirens and by radio."
- "Warning red means duck and cover."
- "Pack food for three days at least."
- "Don't rush home."
- "Help broken cars off of road and divide up passengers among yourselves."



A Survival Guide for the 50's

Fallout is when gas clouds from the bomb come overhead. These 'clouds' can knock you out just like something falling from the sky that hits you on the head. We were extra careful about Cuba because they were allies of Russia, and Cuba is closer to the United States than Russia. Children and parents were afraid of Cuba and Russia during this time.

Mrs. Margaret B. Davis, a Wiley parent from 1951-1960, was active in the PTA. She served on many committees and was Treasurer, then President of the PTA. As the chairman of the Safety and Civil Defense Committee, she "was in charge of evacuating everyone in the school to Apex in a drill to train everyone what to do in case of a bomb attack. The city had air-raid sirens that could be heard in every part of the city and were tested at noon on the first Wednesday of each month. Signs along city streets pointed out evacuation routes. This was real and was all apart of the 'Cold War.'

There were no school busses taking part in this drill. Each classroom had parents who came to an assigned spot at an assigned time and took the assigned students to Apex. When all 400 students and teachers arrived in Apex at the

assigned parking lot, the North Carolina Trucking Association had some of its members there to pass out ice cream bars. Then everyone in a very orderly manner returned to school.

If you wonder why we would go out of town, it was feared that bomb threats might be made against the state government and people should get as far away from the capitol as possible in a short period of time."



Everyone was on their best behavior in Mrs. Spratt's lunch room.

Rebecca McMillan Sparrow, a first-grade student of Miss Ellen Bonner, has memories of "the very beginnings of daylight savings time and the introduction of 'new math' (both of which thoroughly confused poor Mrs. Gilliam); getting the oral polio vaccine at a clinic in the gym; an assembly one night (so parents could come) in which my brother's class all wore backpacks and marched into the auditorium singing 'My Knapsack on My Back' (we used book satchels in those days, so wearing backpacks seemed really glamorous, and all the rest of the kids were so envious!); the drums of emergency foods that we would have used in the fall-out shelter if there was an air raid."

"Although I didn't go to Wiley, I loved going to the Wiley Auditorium to see Raleigh Children's Theater performances, which were a very big deal in the late fifties and sixties," recalls Carol McMillan Lewis. "I went to Sherwood-Bates, which my grandparents, who lived in Cameron Park, considered to be way out in the suburbs! The actors were local children and, in my memory, the plays were beautifully staged and acted (probably more imagination than fact!). The auditorium, of which I was very jealous because Sherwood-Bates didn't have one, always seemed to be packed for the performances. It was so exciting to sit there in the dark just before the curtain opened! In the fifth grade, I actually got a role in a play called 'Clown Out West.' I played one of the town gossips and I'm sure I was terrible; I had quite a few lines, which I dutifully memorized and blurted out in a monotone."

By Lynsay Bush and Whitney Ruef, 5th grade

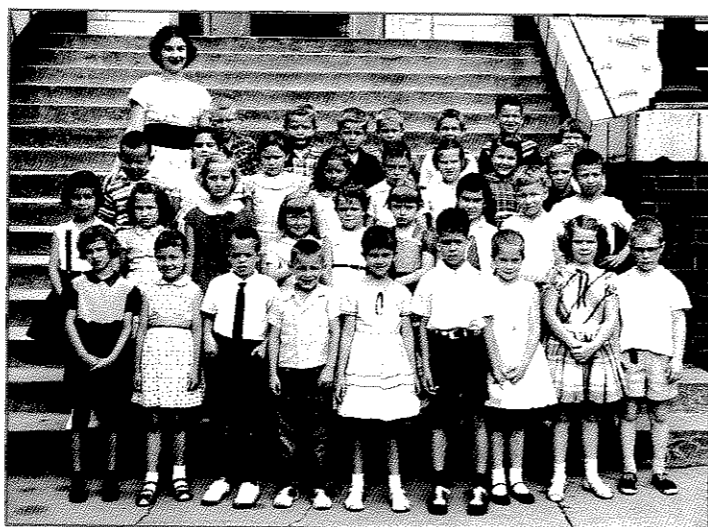
MISS BARNETTE SPRATT WILEY PRINCIPAL

1942-1953 Miss Spratt, our principal from 1942 to 1953, was very well-respected by teachers and students. This caring woman deserved it all. One of her favorite phrases was "Steady, boys!" when her students (and possibly teachers) got a little out of hand.

Nancy Hobbs Banks, a sixth-grader at Wiley in the early 40's, can hear her voice after all these years. "The principal, Miss Barnette Spratt, ran the school with a firm hand. I can still remember how she said, 'Steady, boys!' My teacher was Miss Pattie Jenkins. We must have been rowdy occasionally, for she often said, 'I can't hear my ears!'"

Ellen Bonner Ballinger also remembers Miss Spratt. "Our principal was about retirement age. She was a strict disciplinarian and was frequently heard to say, 'Steady, boys' when the boys were too loud in the hall. Many of the students, out of her hearing, called her 'Steady Boys Spratt.' Once, I was in the music room with a small group trying to figure out the Tarantella dance so we could teach the class. I forgot and left a candy wrapper on the piano. Miss Spratt traced it back to me. I never left a trail again!"

Mr. Henry Helms remembered Miss Spratt's love for birds and how she liked to have the students study and draw birds. Outside, she assembled a pole with an extension on it where birds would build their



Miss Bonner's 1st grade class of 1956-57. Picture by Wati C Huniley. Identifications courtesy of Nancy Huniley (2nd row, 1st from left) and family. Starting from the top are (1st row, 1st from left) Miss Ellen Bonner, (1st row, 6th from left) Richard Duckett, (1st row, 8th from left) Linda Napier, (2nd row, left to right) Johnny Anderson, Barbara Shearer, Helen Neal, unknown, Mike Barr, Margaret Poyner, Mary Nery, Tommy Anderson. (3rd row, 7th from left) Andrea Stein, (front row, 1st from left) Ellen Barrow, (front row, 4th-9th from left) Raymond Henry, Kathy Anderson, Douglas Parker, Annie Louise Flint, Karen Kelly, and Daniel Walker.

nests and lay eggs. There, the students could watch as the baby birds hatched and grew.

When she retired in May of 1953, there was a gift presentation from the PTA, where she received a donation of money from the children and parents of the school. There was a reception afterwards, where we are sure that many tears were shed. Miss Spratt was surely one of the most respected and loved principals that we have ever had at Wiley Elementary.

By Lynsay Bush and Whitney Ruef, 5th Grade

MRS. ELLEN BONNER BALLINGER WILEY STUDENT AND WILEY TEACHER

Ellen Bonner Ballinger did a lot at Wiley. As a child, she went to Wiley in the 40's, and when she grew up she became a first-grade teacher here in the 50's.

Her fifth-grade teacher, Irene Fleming, taught her many things, like to embroider and to cross-stitch. As a child, Mrs. Ballinger talked a lot in class. She also passed a lot of notes. Many years later when she was



Folk dancing class - swing your partner!

grown up, she loved Wiley so much that she became a first-grade teacher here. Miss Fleming was still teaching fifth grade then!

Mrs. Ballinger's students loved her. She made school fun for

them. She taught her students how to be gardeners. In fact, she and her students made a garden of their own.

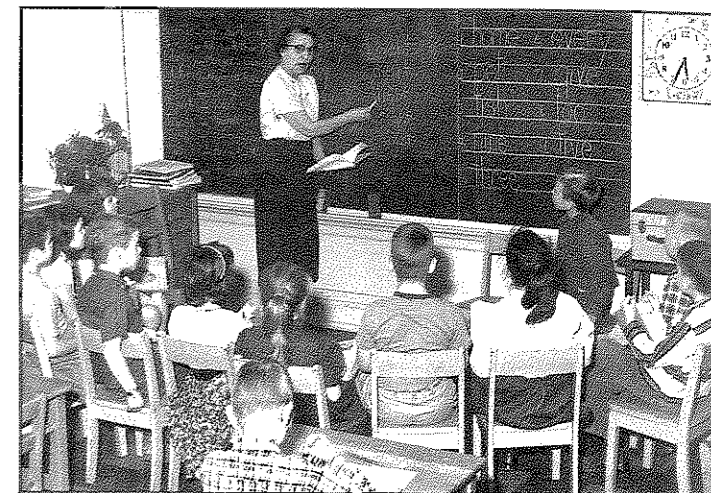
She liked to do new activities and have fun. In the late 1950's, she taught all her students the latest dance, the Twist. "It was a turning, twisting dance with your right foot putting out the light of an imaginary cigarette," Mrs. Ballinger wrote. "The children caught on fast, and everyone could do 'The Twist' to perfection."

Emily Hall Jones was a second-grade teacher next door to her class. Mrs. Ballinger didn't like to teach folk dances and Mrs. Jones didn't like to teach songs, so they would take both classes to the gym at the same time. Mrs. Ballinger would teach the songs

and Mrs. Jones would teach the folk dances. Both classes had fun!

After teaching first grade for six years at Wiley, Ellen Bonner married Dr. Walter Ballinger, a professor of horticulture at N.C. State University. The Ballingers had three sons.

By Jana Rust, 4th Grade



Miss Dorothy Ray's class - one of many

MISS DOROTHY RAY WILEY TEACHER

1917-1960 Miss Dorothy Ray taught at Wiley for 43 years, beginning in 1917. She taught with Mrs. Sherwood and Miss Bates, and she taught at the "Old" and "New Wiley." During her years at Wiley she taught more than 2,000 students. "I have taught doctors, lawyers, successful businessmen," she said. One student remembered her love of birds and the poster with many kinds of birds that she displayed in her classroom.

"When I was a student in Miss Dorothy Ray's second grade, we had a unit study of birds. In my mind I can see a very large poster of birds. The students were allowed to choose a bird to color," wrote Kathryn Lancaster Johnson.

When she retired in 1960, she told *The News and Observer* she expected to miss teaching. "I don't know what I'll do. It's been my life," she said. "I love children so, especially my little second-graders. I don't know what I'll do without them."

By Hannah Krakauer, 5th Grade

THE 60'S AND 70'S FROM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO SIXTH-GRADE CENTER

The 1960's and 70's at Wiley School stand out as a time of great change. During the 60's, the girls at Wiley wore dresses and skirts while the boys wore pants and shorts. In the 70's, both boys and girls wore bellbottoms and tie-dyed shirts. A lot of people joined the PTA. At night

they had square dances and sang songs. The head of the PTA was Allen Adams. He made sure that the parents got what they expected.

Two students, Marie Hiott McEntire and Doug McMillan shared their memories: "I was there for 5th grade when it was an elementary school (1970) and then in 6th grade the first year it became a sixth-grade center (1971)," said Marie Hiott

McEntire. "I remember art classes and learning about the color wheel. Mythology lessons. Learning to play the recorder. Safety patrol. A friend from Methodist Children's Home. Reading Beverly Cleary books. Lining up with all the other kids and getting the German measles vaccination in the auditorium. A sex education course. Walking home every day with Mary McMillan and wishing for a moving sidewalk. Even then I was too lazy for my own good. Watching Brett Hewitt dance in the halls and thinking he was the coolest guy I'd ever seen. (He was even better than the young Michael Jackson!) Oh well. Those were great times."

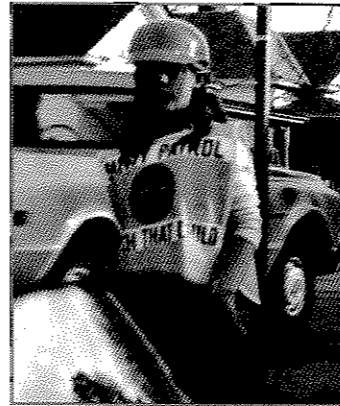
Doug McMillan remembers: "Hula Hoops were invented when I was in elementary school. Skateboards became popular about that time, too. We made skateboards by taking our sister's skates apart and nailing them to a board. They weren't very pretty. We couldn't turn like skateboards do today. We could only go straight. There were no computers. All TVs that I saw were black and white. We had no CDs, no tape players, no air conditioning, at home or school. Because there was no air conditioning, we always played outside. Kick the can, spud, and neighborhood chase were my favorites games. We played little league baseball, but not football or basketball. Those sports didn't start until seventh grade. Soccer wasn't played in Raleigh until after I got out of high school."

"In the late 60's, when I was eight or nine and a so-called tomboy, I noticed a particularly inviting detail of the Wiley School brickwork," recalls Melissa Harris, who attended Wiley from 1966-70 and as a sixth-grader in 1972. "The mortar joints were far enough inset that I could wedge the soles of my sandals between the bricks and secure enough of a hold to climb. My small fingers also fit these slots and so I scaled. And scaled. The ease of moving up this sheer vertical surface so thrilled me that thoughts of getting back to solid ground exerted no pull. Not until I realized I was up to the second floor did I panic. I called out for help, finally going down much less dramatically than up, via ladder."

"My best friend was Jimmy Wise," Doug McMillan recalls. "We were School Patrol boys together. When we were in sixth grade, Brenda Poole was named a School Patrol boy (girl). She was the first girl to be named a patrol girl. Being a patrol boy was just about the best thing that you could do in sixth grade. You had to make good grades to be selected. And you had to be responsible enough to help look after the first- and second-graders. It felt good to be selected by the teachers. We were all proud of our jobs."

In 1971, the school changed to a sixth-grade center after years of being an elementary school. It was the oldest sixth-grade center in Raleigh. The walls were painted psychedelic colors, and people pinned notes onto a huge foam Batman in the front hall. The Batman was about seven feet tall, and only the teachers could reach the head. No one can describe this experience better than James T. Mitchell, who attended Wiley at that time.

"The first thing I saw when I entered the front doors of the school was a large (it must have been 7 feet high) foam statue of Batman. I never did find out where he came from, but he was certainly a sight! At first, he was unblemished, but as the school year wore on, he became a standing bulletin board for notices, posters, etc. You could always tell who had hung the notice by its height. Students would pin posters on his stomach and legs, and teachers would pin things to his chest and upper arms. This, of course, was due to the pinner's height — the students couldn't reach his chest."



School Patrol boy ... uh, girl

"In the middle of the school year, a contest was held to determine who would paint the 'sick room.' This room was set aside for kids who weren't feeling well, and it was pretty bleak. As I recall, the room was originally painted a dull yellow. The contest was to find pictures that could be painted on the walls to brighten the room up. My painting was one of the ones selected, and I painted a purple monster on the wall. I remember trying to do the best job I could, not only since I was leaving a lasting legacy, but also because I was allowed to get out of math class to paint!"

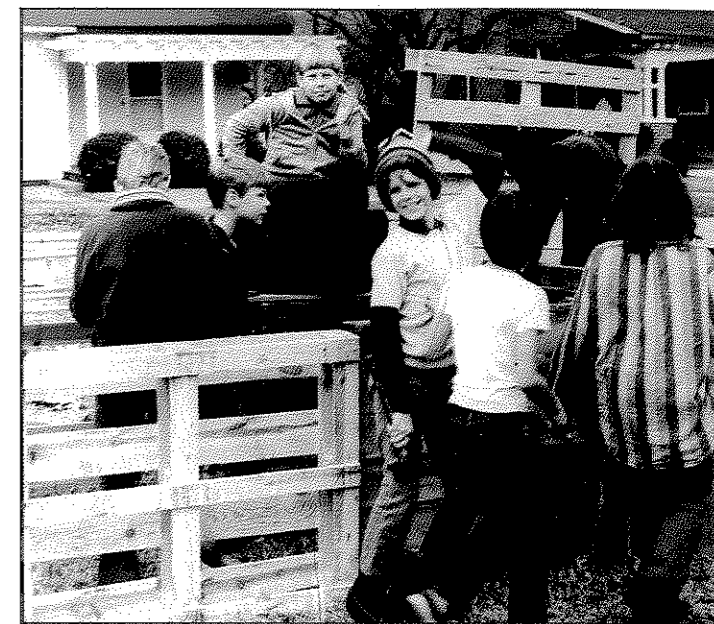
Ben S. Tench was the principal. He had been in the Wake County school system for 11 years, and was the principal of Wiley for eight years, beginning when it was an elementary school. He received an undergraduate degree from Wake Forest University, a master's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and was working on a Ph.D. from Duke University while at Wiley. He left Wiley to become director of community schools in Wake County.

Ben S. Tench might have been the coolest principal Wiley ever had! "With him came a wonderful, free-spirited energy and a tough-love attitude," a former student, Dr. Melissa Harris, recalled.

Thomas Paul De Witt, who attended Wiley from 1969-1971 also, remembers Mr. Tench. "Among other things, then-Principal Ben Tench helped us form the first-ever soccer team at Wiley and, as I recall, on a cold, rainy Saturday our team actually beat Ravenscroft. Both my younger brother Steve and I attended Wiley at the time and were members of the team."

Mr. Tench liked having sixth-graders, and he had a lot planned for them. The students observed Earth Day by collecting trash, and with the help of Joe Liles, a NCSU design student, they built "Wiley City" on the school grounds. Melissa Harris, who attended Wiley in the 70's and is now a professor of architecture, describes the project as "one of my most indelible learning experiences."

"With scraps of materials, old tires, some donated hand tools and nails, we (the students) literally built ourselves a small city, complete with a courthouse, a jail, and an elected mayor," Dr. Harris recalls. "There were stores and houses, each looking slightly more shanty-like than the next. To us, they were glorious, but to the neighbors our city was a junk pile. After many protests, newspaper articles, meetings between 'our' mayor and Raleigh's, and pleas from



"Wiley City" builders hard at work

the students, we were forced to demolish our constructions. But not before realizing the diversity of tastes and the power of unified voices."

Wren Harris Rhem wrote about accepting her first defeat as a sixth-grader at Wiley. "I remember competing for a spot on the cheerleading team in the sixth grade — an obsession my father was not so particularly fond of — and losing. Having much difficulty accepting the defeat, I decided to be the first mascot for Wiley, a Wiley wildcat. I distinctly remember my outfit, which consisted of a navy blue dress, gold turtleneck, a very long tail and ears. This seemed to lessen the blow to my self-confidence — for at least 10 years!"

At the beginning of the school year in 1971, there were only 150 students enrolled at Wiley, including 68 African American students. The next year, Wiley's enrollment grew to 369, with 168 African Americans. In 1977, Wiley became an elementary school again, with students in grades one through six. They only had 268 students at the time, when they thought they could have at least 400. There were 15 teachers and 16 classrooms back then.



A more diverse enrollment

By Emily Weiss, Meghan Adkins and Shanquana Hinton, 5th Grade

*Mrs. BARBARA
WORTHINGTON
& PARRAMORE
WILEY PRINCIPAL*

1959-1965 Barbara Worthington Parramore was principal at Wiley for six years, from fall, 1959 to spring, 1965. During the time she was principal,

Wiley had grades one through six. Usually there were two or more classes for each grade. She said, "Since Wiley is an older school, we had the pleasure of having an auditorium, a gym and a library full of books."

Mrs. Parramore says that an event that stands out was when

President John F. Kennedy was shot. A teacher's husband telephoned her as soon as he heard the news. There was time before the school day ended, so she decided to go to each class and tell them that the president had been shot. Wiley students to this day tell her that they remember the day she came to their class to report the news. Over the weekend, the teachers got together to decide what to do. They decided to have a flag raising ceremony. During the ceremony, members of the School Patrol would raise the flag to half-mast and read statements. Sixth-grade students wrote editorials, and *The News & Observer* published some of them.

"As I watched Kennedy's body being transferred to the Capitol, one thought entered my mind - 'I am an American.' I could see the Statue of Liberty, signs of war, and The Unknown Soldier's Tomb. This was tragic, not only for our nation, but for the whole world. For the whole world had honored him. Now they too are mourning for John F. Kennedy." - Roy H. Huntley

"These past few days of our lives have been the most tragic ones. We are greatly grieved by the death of our late President John F. Kennedy. Although this Thanksgiving Day may be sad, we will have much to be thankful for. We should be thankful for our President's life. Kennedy had spent his

entire life serving others. I hope more people will take this as an example and devote their lives to service to mankind." - Duncan Archibald McMillan

In the summer of 1962, our principal went to India as Raleigh's Community Ambassador. A student in the sixth grade at that time was part of a Hindu family that had relatives in Calcutta. His class studied India and provided her with helpful information. When she returned from the trip, she showed slides to the class while dressed in a sari. "Perhaps students remember me demonstrating how to turn nine yards of material into a sari," she said.

Mrs. Parramore began her career as a teacher at Longview Gardens School in 1945 and continued in education until 1996. When she left Wiley, she earned a doctorate in education from Duke and became a member of the education faculty at N.C. State University. She says: "There's much to learn from the past that can make the future what it ought to be. I salute the teachers and parents of Wiley School who taught me, too."

By Meghan Adkins and Emily Weiss, 5th Grade

MR. MIKE CONNELL

Mike Connell spent three years as a student at Wiley in the 60's. He was here for first, second, and third grade. Then he moved to Macon, Ga., where he finished high school. He came back to North Carolina for college at the University of North Carolina, better known as UNC.



The Connells, left to right: George Huntley, David Connell, Doug MacMillian, Steve Potek and Mike Connell

Mike Connell is in a music group called "The Connells," a rock-and-roll band that has been recording for 15 years. Two other members of the group also went to Wiley — George Huntley and David Connell. Other band members are Doug MacMillian and Steve Potek.

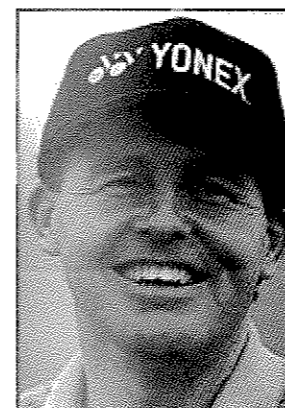
The Connells have seven records out, and most of their success has been in Europe. They have one platinum record from Norway and gold records from Sweden and Germany.

Mr. Connell has been a great tutor at Wiley. He is here every Wednesday to help tutor a student with math and reading. One of his friends told him about the tutor-mentor program, and the fact that it was at our school made him interested. He called Mrs. Goyer, our school counselor, and he found out how and when he could tutor a student. We are glad that Mike Connell decided to come back, and we hope he tutors for many years to come at Wiley.

By Meghan Adkins, Emily Weiss,
and Shanquana Hinton, 5th Grade
Jana Rust, 4th Grade

MR. SCOTT HOCH

Scott Hoch went to Wiley in the early 60's. Scott Hoch is now a famous pro golf player. He became a pro in



Mr. Scott Hoch

1979. His first big win was in 1980 in the Quad Cities Open. His most recent big win was in 1997, when he won the Greater Milwaukee Open. He started his career in Cameron Park where he would practice his stroke. This was very interesting to his neighbors. He has won six international victories and eight PGA Tour victories. His best

season was in 1997 with 11 top-ten finishes, and he earned \$ 1,393,788, which was good for sixth place. He has gone very far and is still going on, and just think, his career started by hitting golf balls in Cameron Park.

By Meghan Adkins, 5th Grade

*Mrs. AUDREY
ALLRED
WILEY PRINCIPAL*

1965-1970 Audrey Allred was principal of Wiley Elementary from 1965 to 1970. She remembers the annual Christmas program, where all (almost 300)

students would sing and perform on musical instruments. She also remembers how Wiley housed the first public kindergarten in Raleigh. She wrote: "In the late 1960's, Wiley housed the first kindergarten in Raleigh. The innovative teachers of this successful new program were Ms. Tempe Hardesty and Ms. Anne Edwards. The idea of public school kindergarten spread rapidly through Raleigh and Wake County."

She is now retired and living in Bishop's Park. She frequently passes the building and remembers wonderful times past and present. "I look at the fine, traditional building and think about the good work going on inside it," she said.

By Hannah Krakauer, 5th Grade

WILEY IS A MAGNET SCHOOL!

Between the years of 1979 and 1983, Wiley went through many changes. Three times during that period the school board came within one vote of closing the school. Dr. John Gilbert of the Wake County school board, Wiley Principal Pearl Poole, Raleigh Mayor Smedes York, Wiley School Community Association President Rosa Kirkman and many Wiley parents were leaders in the protest. Not only did they help the library get new books at this time, they kept the school alive over the next few years.

Tuesday, February 22, 1983, Raleigh, N.C.
Local & state news/Obituaries/Classified ads



School closing alternatives offered

Headline from *The News & Observer*

In 1979, many parents suspected that inner-city schools were getting the "short end of the stick" compared to newer schools. Some complaints from Wiley parents were about the old, worn-out staircase leading up to the second and third floors. Mrs. Kirkman thought it was unfair that Farmington Woods Elementary, a new school in Cary, had 9,000 new books on the Media Center shelves and 14 full boxes that hadn't even been unpacked, when Wiley's library was full of castoffs from other schools.

There were many interviews and meetings about these complaints, and these were the conclusions about Wiley and other inner-city schools that The Raleigh Times printed in June, 1979:

- They had a disproportionate share of Wake County's low-income and African-American students.
- They had produced the country's worst average California Achievement Test (CAT) scores at the elementary school level in a recent year.
- They were under-enrolled.
- They were limited in programs and options they could offer to students.
- They had less parental participation than other schools.

School Superintendent John Murphy said he believed that inner-city schools were better than people thought. In June 1979, he said: "Wiley's first year as an elementary school was difficult. But in this, its second

year, improvements can be seen. This year the school got a new principal, a new remedial teacher, more aides and the pilot version of the Parent Involvement Program."

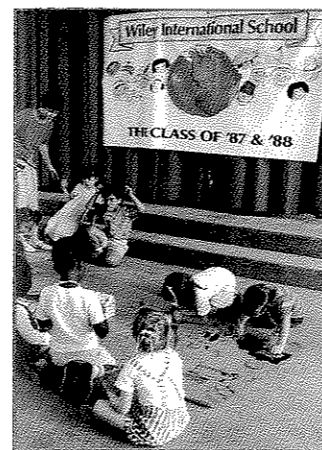
There were three plans for closing Wiley. In 1979-1980, the school board wanted to close Wiley and build a new school on the Methodist Home for Children property. In this plan, 12 acres of land would be bought and a new school for both Wiley and Underwood would be built on the property. To help pay for the new school, they talked about selling Wiley to St. Mary's College. In the second plan, they wanted to close Wiley, Underwood and Washington and build a new school where Washington is. In 1982-1983, they were going to close Wiley again and move the international students to Poe Elementary, the other international magnet, and the base students to Combs, Olds, and Washington.

Carmen Hiott, a Wiley parent during this time and now a grandparent to first- and third-graders at Wiley, wrote an editorial titled, "And So What's New?" In this article she questioned the school system closing Wiley and praised the work that the Wiley staff had accomplished:

"As parents of Wiley school children began calling neighbors, informing them of Dr. Murphy's efforts to close Wiley School, we were met with 'and so what's new? This has been going on for at least 18 years.' Parents of former students at Wiley told us that they couldn't ever remember having a feeling of security or continuity from June to September because of ever-changing administration and/or ideas.... Again we praise our new principal and her superb staff who have accomplished miracles in spite of unnecessary difficulties."

In March 1982, many people gathered to see the Wake County Board of Education vote on the new magnet program. People for the magnet program wore yellow buttons saying, "Give Choice a Chance." People against the program wore buttons with a red "X" on them. By a 7-2 vote, Superintendent Walter L. Marks got permission to start 27 magnet schools. He also reorganized the schools at this time so that all K-5 grades were in elementary school, 6-8 was middle school, and 9-12 became high school.

At first Wiley was to be turned into a light-house school, a magnet program for preschoolers. According to Tom Erwin, whose children attended Wiley, the international program was first presented to



Wiley, the magnet school

Root Elementary, but Root preferred the classical program and turned it down. When Dr. Marks proposed the international program to the Wiley parents, they said they'd be delighted to have the it at their school.

Wiley test scores have changed over the years many times. In 1977-78, the first year that Wiley changed back to an elementary school from a sixth-grade center, the scores were terrifying. The first, second and third-graders averaged below the 50th percentile in reading and math. In 1978-1979, over half of Wiley's students qualified for free lunch.

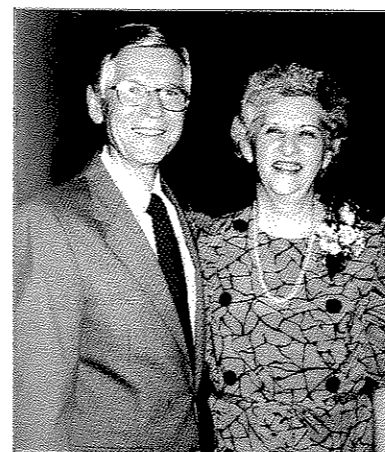
In 1982, after Wiley became a magnet school, the scores improved somewhat. There were three scores given, one each for reading, language and math. The students at Wiley averaged above the 50th percentile this time.

These were not great years for Wiley Elementary. Some people wanted to close Wiley down because of the low test scores and other complaints. This is a good reason why you should keep your grades up, so Wiley can stay open.

By Emily Weiss, Meghan Adkins and Shanquana Hinton, 5th Grade

DR. PEARL POOLE WILEY PRINCIPAL

1978-1986 In 1978, Dr. Pearl Poole became



Mr. and Dr. Pearl Poole

principal at Wiley Elementary. During that time Wiley was changing from an elementary school to a magnet. She arrived during its second year as an elementary school. The school had only sixth-grade supplies, so Wiley got older books from other schools while

other elementary schools got new books. It was a very tough time for the teachers having to work extra hard to keep the school open.

"The equipment, materials, and books that had been left from sixth grade surely were not suitable for K-5. Parents and staff began working diligently to bring the school up to desired standards," Dr. Poole said.

Dr. Pearl Poole was born on October 4, 1922 in Hamptonville, North Carolina. She started college at Appalachian State in 1938, but left at Christmas because of a family illness. She returned four years later and graduated and received the magna cum laude award in 1944.

Dr. Poole moved to Raleigh in 1961. She taught at Daniels Middle School. In 1964, she received her master's degree at N.C. State University. In 1965, she returned to Daniels as a counselor and worked there for 13 years. She then spent a year as an assistant principal at Broughton High School.

In 1978, she became principal here at Wiley. The year before, the school had changed back from a sixth-grade center to a regular K-5 elementary school. She helped Wiley become a magnet school in 1982 and experienced a new excitement *"as students were enrolled from 29 different countries. The curriculum was expanded to include five different foreign languages, plus courses in computer science, photography, ESL, as well as interest courses to strengthen and enhance the basic curriculum."*



Japanese students at Wiley

The change to a magnet school was a challenging and rewarding time for Dr. Poole. *"One of my most memorable impressions has always been the work, efforts, and loyalty of parents and all members of our wonderful staff in the struggle for exemplary status as students were taught to reach their maximum potential,"* she said.

- Some of her most treasured memories are:
- A parent-volunteer teaching a child to read, sitting on the front steps.
 - International pot luck suppers on the lawn.
 - Children marching into the auditorium carrying handmade flags from his or her country and singing, 'We Are the Children of the World' and 'Let There Be Peace On Earth.'

- The governor's wife (Mrs. Carolyn Hunt) tutoring every Monday morning for several years — no publicity, just concerned that children learn to read.



Mrs. Carolyn Hunt tutoring Wiley students

- A parent-volunteer (an NCSU architecture professor) sitting on the floor in kindergarten teaching bridge-building.

"Dr. Poole was the principal during my five years at Wiley," wrote David Farrell, a former student and teacher at Lacy. "She knew everyone's names, who their parents were, and what grades they made on their report cards! When I was in third grade, I entered a poster in the dental health contest and won. Dr. Poole accompanied me to the awards ceremony at Crabtree Valley Mall. I felt so honored that she would take her time to be there. When I saw her during my college years, she remembered exactly what year I was in at the time!"

Dr. Poole retired after eight years at the school, in 1986. In her honor, they had a Pearl Poole Day at Wiley. The PTA held a big party. All of the kids at Wiley showered her with gifts like poems, stories, and patchwork pillows with the students' names on each square. The PTA gave a portrait painted by Judy Harmon (the parent of a Wiley student) and an antique lap desk. "It's very difficult to leave the staff and students," said Dr. Poole.

In return, Dr. Poole gave something to the school. She tried to keep it a secret, but it got out that she donated \$1,000 to a mini-grant program for teachers.

By Casey Hester, 4th Grade

THE ESL PROGRAM

The English as a Second Language (ESL), and the Foreign Language programs began at Wiley in 1982, when Wiley became an International Magnet.

Mrs. Gloria Arriagada came at this time from Effie Green School to start the ESL and Spanish programs. For many years, she taught both ESL and Spanish at Wiley until the ESL program grew to where it was necessary for her to be the full-time teacher. At first, ESL was only taught at a few schools in Wake County. Now the program is in over 40 schools. Mrs. Arriagada clearly remembers the first time she visited Wiley in the spring of 1982:

"I wanted to see what the building looked like before I requested the transfer from Effie Green. The old trees surrounding the brick building were majestic and beautiful, adding warmth to the structure built decades ago, making it attractive and inviting. After talking to the principal, Dr. Pearl Poole, who gave me a tour through the campus, I had no doubt in my mind that I wanted to be a part of this school."



Mrs. Gloria Arriagada

Mrs. Yoshiko Johnson, the Japanese teacher, also came to Wiley at this time. During its first year as a magnet, Wiley began offering Spanish, French, Japanese, Chinese and German.



Mrs. Yoshiko Johnson

International Night was established in 1983 at Wiley. Mrs. Arriagada and Maxine Carr, the ESL teachers, started this great Wiley tradition.

"The purpose of International Night was to give the foreign students the opportunity to share their culture with the students and teachers at Wiley. They sang songs in their own language and dressed in typical costumes from their countries. It was so beautiful to hear the large variety of languages," remembers Mrs. Gloria Arriagada.

The first International Night was a success. Mrs. Arriagada remembers this special and unique event:

"A delicious dinner was prepared by the parents of the ESL students. A great variety of dishes were placed on long tables in the halls of the first floor for everybody to enjoy. There was such a big crowd attending the event that the line for the food went around the first floor and outside both doors towards Calvin Road!"

Two other great Wiley traditions began with the ESL program — the Country of the Month study and the International Book Fair.

Meghan Adkins and Garrett Brown, 5th Grade

SWITCH-AROUND RENOVATIONS

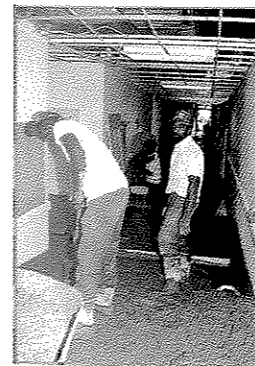
1986 If you asked any teacher at Wiley to describe the renovations that were made in 1986, most would describe them in three words — 'awful,' 'treacherous' and 'disturbing.' No one, students or teachers, would know where they would be one day after another. Some days the school would not have power. Some days the teachers had to go to the Brown Wynne Funeral Home to use water. Some days more than one class had to share the same room. Some days the boys and girls had to use the same bathroom but at separate times.

Mrs. Vicky Powers, the art teacher said: "It was awful. No one knew where they'd be teaching from one day to the next! I had to change rooms three times in one semester and I was sharing my room with the math resource teacher. I basically had to teach out of boxes."

Every day, something new would take everyone by surprise. One time a group of students were trying to take a math test, and the next thing they knew a couple of construction workers started drilling holes through the wall! During one part of the renovations there was no ceiling for the second floor. Dust was everywhere.

"It was like teaching in a warzone," said Mrs. Brenda Millar, the fourth grade language arts teacher.

"There was lots of background noise. We had to be careful



Working on Wiley

walking in the hallways because there were often long wires, etc., along the sides,"

Mrs. Jeanne Berndt, the fourth-grade math and science teacher, told us.

The school construction was so awful that Mrs. Millar's fourth-grade class wrote a story about what it was like,

called "This is the Year of School Construction." They talked about what

it was like, how they got through it

and some of the funny places that the classes were located when they were not in their homeroom.

This is the year of school construction.

When I arrived at school in August, the first thing I saw was a mess. The second floor had no ceiling. It looked horrible except for the cafeteria and the third floor.

This is the year of school construction.

I said, "What happened? Did a hurricane pass through?"

The workman answered, "No, we're working on the school."

This is the year of school construction.

There was dust everywhere! Equipment made loud noises. I thought, this is going to be some year.

This is the year of school construction.

DANGER-KEEP OUT signs were everywhere. Ladders were everywhere. Large holes were in the walls.

This is the year of school construction.

By Meghan Adkins, 5th Grade

MR. ED GAINOR WILEY PRINCIPAL

1986-1992 Ed Gainor started his teaching career in Dallas, Texas. He taught at Roosevelt High School

for one year. He then moved to

Raleigh, where he taught science at

Daniels Junior High for five and a

half years. He was assistant principal

at Daniels for two and a half years, and then came to Wiley to be principal in 1986 for six years. He left Wiley

to be principal at Leesville Elementary School, where he still is today.

Mr. Gainor was born in Charlotte in July, 1954. He attended three elementary schools in Wake

County. In first grade (there was no kindergarten) he went to Aldert Root. Then he was transferred to Myrtle

Underwood for grades two through five, and then finished at J.W. York Elementary for sixth grade during

the first year it was open. For grades seven through nine he attended Carroll Junior High School. He then

went to Sanderson High School, graduating in 1972. He graduated from N.C. State in 1976 with degrees in

zoology and science education. He then began his teaching career.

Mr. Gainor chose to be a principal because he wanted to stay in public education after realizing that

his teaching salary wasn't enough to support a family. So he moved into administration.

What he remembers most about Wiley is the sense of family. He thinks this came about because its



Mr. Ed Gainor with some of his students

small size allowed staff and students to work together. He also remembers how fast the students learned foreign languages. "I could go to a K-2 Japanese language class, and here were these students conversing in Japanese, and I couldn't understand any of it!" He also remembers the fun of the magnet program and its electives and the noise and dust of the renovations. "All day long there was this pounding and pounding as they worked their way through the rock, and when I asked how they were doing, they were only making six inches of progress a day!"

By Juan Nevarez, 5th Grade

Jonathan Worth and Casey Hester, 4th Grade

Mrs. Candy Stockert WILEY TEACHER

1974-Present One Wiley teacher began teaching here about 25 years ago, when Wiley was a sixth-grade center. Her name is Candy Stockert and now she teaches

fifth grade. Mrs. Stockert says that some of her favorite memories of Wiley are the smiles she has seen on children's faces. "Whether they're smiling for an 'A' they got on a test, an award they've been able to earn,

or applause they hear as

they perform, or just because they're happy, it makes for great memories," she said in an interview.

Some of the most dramatic changes that Mrs. Stockert has seen have been to the school building itself. The library used to be in Mrs. Cassandra Powers' and Mrs. Sarah Merriman's rooms. The cafeteria was in what are now the ESL and kindergarten rooms, and the media center was a theater with seats, stage lighting and everything.

Mrs. Stockert thinks that International Night has stood out as an important part of Wiley. "Wiley becomes a very special place where you see and hear the children, from many different countries, coming together," she said.

By Meghan Adkins, 5th Grade

Ms. Cecilia Rawlins GETTING TO KNOW WILEY'S PRINCIPAL

1993-Present We have gone through many principals in the past 100 years, and Ms. Cecilia Rawlins is our principal at Wiley now. Ms. Rawlins is very caring and supportive like most of the others, but for some wonderful reasons she stands out.

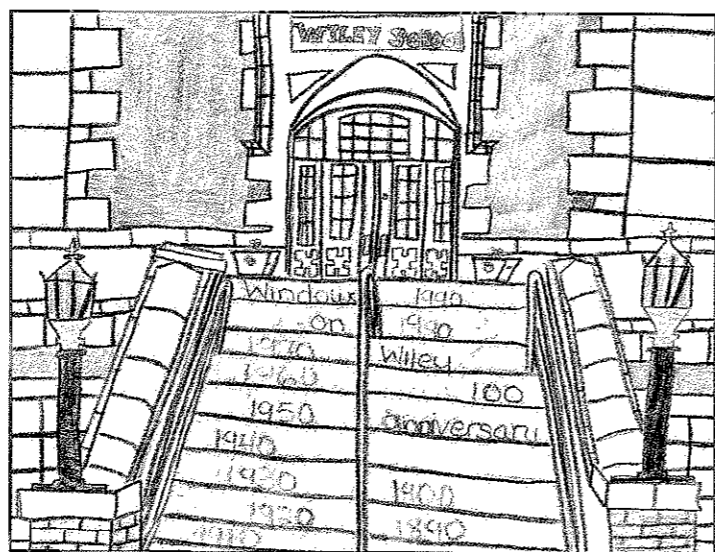
She has been principal here for six years. She is very understanding and will listen to what you have to say. She has worked at other schools such as Hunter Elementary Magnet School, where she was also principal. At Underwood Elementary she was the assistant principal. At Carnage Middle School and at Wake Forest Rolesville Middle School she was a guidance counselor.



Principal Cecilia Rawlins

Ms. Rawlins said: "Yes, I LOVE being principal at Wiley. It is the best school in Raleigh!" Everybody remembers all the fun things she has done at Wiley, such as being in the Wiley talent shows in the "surprise act." She was "Pepper Spice" last year and a farmer in this year's hilarious "Cameron Village People YMCA" act. She also got a lot of laughs at the pie-in-the-face fundraiser. She has made us smile with the funny things she does, and she has kept us safe and secure by running the school so well.

By Meghan Adkins, 5th Grade



Artist: Rachel Rice, 5th grade, Wiley School