

# Bernard Cruse

## An Introduction to the Cruse Collection

Bernard William Cruse, Jr. was born on July 14, 1927 in Concord, NC to parents Bernard and Juanita Cruse. Upon graduating from high-school, Cruse set out on his path to higher education, attending several different colleges, universities, and trade schools during his very full academic career. His professional career was, if anything, just as full. He would go on to serve as a United States Marine during World War II, run a news stand, open his own restaurant, and work in fields as diverse as dentistry, mechanics, audiology, and engineering, among other things. In spite of his full and busy life, Cruse always retained a passion for his hobby of genealogical research. Following his retirement in 1983, Cruse decided to further pursue his lifelong hobby, going on to publish his work and make many contributions to the fields of history and genealogy before his death in 2011 at the age of 83.

Along with some of Cruse's historical works, the James R. Crumley, Jr. Archives contains a collection of his genealogical research, mostly in the form of biographical material, historical summaries, and correspondence. The collection is fairly large and contains biographical and genealogical material concerning Lutheran families ranging from Allman to Young. Since some of these records contain over two-hundred years' worth of family history and genealogy, Cruse's research is a valuable resource for anyone attempting to trace their Lutheran heritage.

# Cruse Collection

## Catalog of Family Names (with Church and County Records)

Allman Family: 1766-1952. Content: Short histories and genealogical records.

Arey Family: 1800's. Content: Historical summary and genealogical records.

Bame Family: 1710-1924. Content: Limited information from Cruse's historical notes and research correspondence.

Barkley Family: 1066-1798. Content: Excerpts from short histories.

Bernhardt Family: 1660-1970. Content: Genealogical charts and short histories.

Barrier Family: 1727-1973. Content: Short histories, Henry Barrier biography, and genealogical records.

Barringer Family: 1721-1934. Content: Short histories, genealogical records, and Barringer Family Reunion 1934.

Bassingher Family: No date. Content: Limited information from Cruse's historical notes.

Beaver Family: 1800's. Content: Genealogical information.

Berger/Barger Family: 1750-1947. Content: Short histories and genealogical records.

Boland Family: 1800's. Content: Short history and genealogical records.

Bost Family: 1741-1950. Content: Historical articles, short histories, and news clippings.

Bostian Family: 1790-1956. Content: Genealogical records, cemetery records, news clippings, and birth/death records.

Brougner Family: 1784-1965. Content: Genealogical records and historical summary.

Brown/Braun Family: No date. Content: Braun House news clippings and Brown-Fisher Family Reunion 1973.

Buffalo Creek Church and School (with members and land holders in Buffalo Creek prior to 1800.

Cabarrus County, NC marriage records.

Cagle Family: 1755-1900's. Content: Marriages, cemetery records, census records, short histories, and genealogical records.

Church and Cemetery records: Baptisms at St. John's, Cabarrus County 1800-1847, Reed Family Cemetery records, burials, births and baptisms at Bethel, Stanley County, and tombstone records from Mt. Olive Graveyard.

Castor/Kastor Family: No date. Content: Limited information from Cruse's historical notes and research correspondence.

Church and Civic records, NC: 1700's-1800's.

Cline Family: No date. Content: Limited information from Cruse's historical notes and research correspondence.

Cauble/Coble Family: 1800's. Content: Genealogical records.

Corzine Family: 1700's. Content: Limited information from Cruse's historical notes and research correspondence.

Crockett Family: 1700's-1800's. Content: Genealogical records.

Crowell Family: 1747-1900's. Content: George Crowell veteran's records 1747-1837 and genealogical records.

Culp Family: 1751-1926. Content: Genealogical records.

Cress Family: 1721-1969. Content: Genealogical records, the Last Will and Testament of Nicholas Cress, and short history.

Cruse Family: 1766-1969. Content: Portraits, Confederate Civil War records, Cruse Coat of Arms, county records, "Family Tree" survey records, and Cruse Family Reunion with tombstone dedication 1977.

Deal/Diehl Family: 1869 and earlier. Content: Short history.

Dillow Family: 1787-1880. Content: Genealogical information and other records.

Dry Family: 1700's-1900's. Content: Short histories and genealogical records.

Earnhardt/Ehrenhardt Family: 1700's-1800's. Content: Short histories, genealogical records, and Cruse's research correspondence.

Eddleman Family: 1730-1973. Content: Short histories and genealogical records.

Eisenhauer/Eisenhour Family: 1691-1909. Content: Short histories and genealogical records.

Eudie/Udy Family: 1785-1950. Content: Information from gravestones, genealogical records, and Conrad Eudie's Last Will and Testament.

"Bear Creek" Bethel United Church of Christ, Stanley County: Birth/Death records.

Organ Church Salisbury records.

File Family: 1800's-1900's. Content: Genealogical records and Cruse's research correspondence.

Fisher Family: 1748-1830. Content: Genealogical records, Cruse's research correspondence, Roy Linn Fisher, and the Fisher Family Tree.

Fout/Fouts Family: 1746-1900's. Content: Genealogical records and Cruse's research correspondence.

Frick Family: 1567-1950. Content: Short histories.

Furr Family: 1691-1965. Content: Genealogical records and Cruse's research correspondence.

Goodman Family: 1700's-1900's. Content: Genealogical records and Cruse's research correspondence.

Lists of Cemetery Headstones.

Oakland Cemetery.

Gross Family: 1735-no date. Content: Short history.

Harkey Family: 1700's-1900's. Content: Genealogical records.

Hartman Family: 1743-1838. Content: Genealogical records and Cruse's research correspondence.

Fein/Fine Family: No date. Content: Records from Friedburg Diary.

Heilig Family: 1660-1941. Content: Genealogical records.

Holshouser Family: 1772-1955. Content: Genealogical records.

Karriker/Carriker Family: 1700's-1900's. Content: Genealogical records and Cruse's research correspondence.

Ketner Family: 1733-no date. Content: Limited genealogical information and Cruse's research correspondence.

Kincaid Family: 1800's-1900's. Content: Limited information from Cruse's research and correspondence.

Lefler Family: 1800's. Content: Genealogical records.

Legal Documents and Ship Lists: 1700's-no date.

Lentz Family: 1730-1950. Content: Historical notes, short histories, and genealogical records.

Lingle Family: 1700's-1900's. Content: Short histories, genealogical records, and marriage records.

Link Family: 1733-1956. Content: Cruse's research correspondence, short histories, and genealogical records.

Lipe Family: 1763-1900's. Content: Genealogical records and short history.

Litaker Family: 1800's-1900's. Content: Genealogical records and family documents.

Ludwig Family: 1700's-1900's. Content: Genealogical records.

Lyerly Family: 1766-1975. Content: Genealogical records, the Last Will and Testament of John Christopher Lyerly, and Cruse's research correspondence.

Original Land Grants in the "Irish" and "Trading Camp" Settlements, 1747-1762 (with names of Grantees).

Miller Family: 1730-1976. Content: Genealogical records, short histories, Cruse's research correspondence, and family documents.

Misenheimer Family: 1740-1800's. Content: Short history and genealogical records.

McAllister Family: No date. Content: Dr. Robert Brown McAllister (Biographical Information).

Nussman Family: 1739-1900's. Content: Short histories, Cruse's research correspondence, genealogical records, and Adolph Nussman biography.

Overcash Family: 1700's-1900's. Content: Genealogical and marriage records.

Peeler Family: 1755-1900's. Content: Short history, genealogical records, and Cruse's research correspondence.

Plyer Family: 1800's-1900's. Content: Genealogical records and Cruse's research correspondence.

Powlas Family: 1768-1900's. Content: Short histories, articles and news clippings, genealogical records, Cruse's research correspondence, and biographical information on Annie and Maude Powlas.

Pyron Family: 1600's-1900's. Content: Genealogical records and Cruse's research correspondence.

Reed/Reid Family: 1750-1945. Content: Genealogical records and Cruse's research correspondence.

Rendleman/Randleman Family: 1759-1800's. Content: Short histories and genealogical records.

Rich Family: 1764-1800's. Content: Cruse's research correspondence, genealogical records, and short history/biography.

Ridenhour Family: 1661-1800's. Content: Genealogical records and Cruse's research correspondence.

Ritchie Family: 1827-1900's. Content: Genealogical records and Cruse's research correspondence.

Rittenhouse Family: 1688-1800's. Content: Genealogical records, short history, and Cruse's research correspondence.

Reinhardt Family: 1745-1974. Content: Family Bible records.

Church Histories and Records: St. John's, Concord NC, St. John's, Union County Ill., St. John's, Cabarrus County NC, St. Matthew's, Rowan County NC (cemetery records), and St. Paul's, Red Hill Pa.

Sanders Family: 1700's-1900's. Content: Genealogical records.

Sherrill Family: 1639-1957. Content: Genealogical records.

Suther Family: 1750-1900's. Content: Genealogical records, family documents, and Cruse's research correspondence.

Shinn Family: 1750-1900's. Content: Genealogical records.

Sides Family: 1751-1900's. Content: Genealogical records, marriage records, and Cruse's research correspondence.

Shuping Family: 1758-1961. Content: Genealogical records and Cruse's research correspondence.

Sifford Family: 1753-1954. Content: Genealogical records, portraits, family documents, and Cruse's research correspondence.

Snapp Family: 1771-1800's. Content: Genealogical records and Cruse's research correspondence.

Starnes Family: 1779-1973. Content: Genealogical records and Cruse's research correspondence.

Excerpts from "The Account Book of Pastor Storch."

Thompson Family: 1779-1900's. Content: Genealogical records.

Troutman Family: 1700's-1900's. Content: Short histories, biographies, Genealogical records, and Cruse's research correspondence.

Van Poole Family: 1460-1906. Contents: Short history, genealogical records, and Cruse's research correspondence.

Wagoner Family: 1828-1956. Content: Genealogical records and Cruse's research correspondence.

Walker Family: 1800'-1900's. Content: Limited information from Cruse's research correspondence.

Letters to Bernard W. Cruse from his cousin, Deward C. Williams (historical research letters).

Whitten Family: No date. Content: Limited information from Cruse's research correspondence.

Limited genealogical content for: Winecoff Family, Weaver Family, Webster Family, Weisner Family, White Haven Parish, Widenhouse Family, Wilson Family, Yost Family, and Young Family.

## Related Sources and Collections

LTSS Collections: President Marcus Miller, and Thomas Ridenhour.

NC Synod Collections: Allman, Raymond Bost, Abel J. Brown, Bachman Brown, Branham Storch Brown, Jr., Chrisenberry Brown, P. D. Brown, Carl M. Fisher, Sr., Jeremy Fisher, Roy Linn Fisher, St. John's, Concord, and Organ Church, Salisbury.

SC Synod Collections: Bishop Herman W. Cauble and Catherine Link.

VA Synod Collections: J. P. Cline and Frank Floyd Bost Lingle.