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Walter Ellis Burch, Jr. Papers, 1956-2006

Walter Ellis Burch Jr

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Walter Ellis Burch, Jr.
Papers, (1956-2006)

Center for Restoration Studies
Manuscripts #77

Abilene Christian University Special Collections and Archives
Brown Library
Abilene Christian University
Abilene, TX  79699-9208

7 February 2022
About this collection
Title: Walter Ellis Burch, Jr., Papers

Creator: Walter Ellis Burch, Jr., (1927-2009)

Identifier/Call Number: Center for Restoration Studies Manuscripts #77

Physical Description: 6 linear feet (13 boxes)

Dates (Inclusive): 1956-2006

Dates (Bulk): 1956-2006

Location: Center for Restoration Studies

Language of Materials: English

Scope and Content Note: A collection of the personal and professional papers of Walter Ellis Burch, Jr. These papers include documents from Abilene Christian College and Pepperdine, journalism materials, information on Burch’s nonprofit work, materials related to Mission Journal, WEBCO documents, EXODUS, and some of his material on race relations. An accrual from University Manuscripts includes speeches given by Burch at Lectureships, Commencements, Faculty Meetings, Chapel, Education Meetings, and Board of Trustees Meetings (1959-1967).

Biographical Note: Walter Ellis Burch, Jr. was born in Fort Worth in 1927. He earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from Texas Christian University in 1949. He was married to Ruth Elizabeth Crouch in 1948. Burch was a longtime employee of Abilene Christian University, serving as director of publicity (1951-56), journalism instructor (1952-56), director of development (1958-62) and campaign manager/consultant (1964-67). He also preached part time in Albany, Texas and Fort Worth, Texas. He also was a consultant for ACU in the 1980s while he owned Webco, a fundraising, public relations and business development company in Abilene. He also worked in university development for Pepperdine University in the early 1970s. He was involved with church planting through the Exodus movement in the 1960s, planting a church in New Jersey. Burch was an important figure in the race relations debates that took place within Churches of Christ, a stalwart advocate for his Black brothers and sisters. He died in 2009.

Administrative Information
Immediate Source of Acquisition: Walter Burch, III
Date of Acquisition: 2006, 2007, 2011
Accession Number: R2007.61, R2011.043, R2011.066
Accessioned by: Beth Purcell; Reid; Bridwell; Brown; and Brady Cox
Processor and Date of Processing: Audrey Schaffner, 24 March 2014
Finding Aid Creator and Date: Audrey Schaffner, 24 March 2014
Finding Aid Update: Mac Ice, Avery Reinoehl, and Amanda Dietz, 4 March 2022
Using this collection

Processing Status: Processed

Conditions Governing Access: Materials are housed in the Abilene Christian University Special Collections and Archives, Brown Library, Abilene Christian University in Abilene, Texas and are non-circulating. Access is available during normal business hours; prior appointments are preferred.

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Arrangement of Materials: There are eleven series in the collection. The first series, printed materials, is the only series that is arranged in alphabetical order. The other series are arranged by subject material.
Series I: Printed materials
Series II: Nonprofit work
Series III: Mission journal
Series IV: W. E. Burch Co. (WEBCO)
Series V: Church of Christ materials
Series VI: World’s Fair Exhibit, 1964-1965
Series VII: Race relations
Series VIII: EXODUS 1960s
Series IX: Pepperdine University materials
Series X: Abilene Christian College/Abilene Christian University Development
Series XI: Miscellaneous
Series XII: Speeches

Separated Materials:

Subjects and Keywords
Churches of Christ -- History -- 20th century
Churches of Christ -- Texas – Abilene
Manuscripts
Inventory

Box 1
[First Folder] Finding Aid
ACC Funds and Enrollment
ACU Bible Lectureship
ACU Pamphlets
Agriculture Department
Brochure Brief
Budget Reports (1)
Budget Reports (2)
Campus Planning (1)
Campus Planning (2)
Campus Planning (3)
Campus Planning (4)
CLASP Program
Design for Development (1)
Design for Development (2)
Design for Development (3)
Design for Development (4)
Design for Development (5)
Design for Development (6)
Design for Development (7)

Box 2
Diversa Inc. Annual Report
Estate Planning Reports
Field Reports (1)
Field Reports (2)
Field Reports (3)
Fundraising Policy
Gift Reports (1)
Gift Reports (2)
Gift Reports (3)
Gift Reports (4)
Gift Reports (5)
Gift Reports (6)
Gift Reports (7)
Gift Reports (8)
Gift Reports (9)
Gift Reports (10)
Gift Reports (11)
Higher Education Papers
John A. Bolinger Conference
Master Development Plan

Box 3
Master Planning Council (1)
Master Planning Council (2)
Master Planning Council (3)
Master Planning Council (4)
Miscellaneous- Received January 24, 2006
National Development Council (1)
National Development Council (2)
National Development Council (3)
National Development Council (4)
Newspaper Clippings (1)
Newspaper Clippings (2)
Newspaper Clippings (3)
Planning Session Notes
Regional Meeting Notes (1)
Regional Meeting Notes (2)
Reports to President and Board
Special Announcement Luncheon
Sports Illustrated
Steering Committee (1)
Steering Committee (2)

Box 4
Memo and Summary of Contents from Walter Burch III (Son)
Abilene State School- Publicity- Clippings
Plan of Action- Agape Social Services, Inc.
Plan of Action- Agape Social Services, Inc.
Report: The Case and Campaign to Endow President Scholar in Religion in the A.D. Bruce Religion Center at the University of Houston
Case Statement for York College
Hands of Compassion Ministry- Update Report and Recommendations- 1983
Case Statement- Northeastern Christian Junior College
Development Report and Plan- Turnpike Christian School
Plan of Action- Center for Church Growth
Hands of Compassion
1967 California Campaign for Christ
Case Statement- Timothy Hill Children's Ranch
On Wings of Eagles: A Campaign of Vision for Sonrise Christian School
Plan of Action- Institution for Christian Studies

**Box 5**
Campaign for Vision- Canada
Report and Plan of Action- Christian Homes of Abilene
Campaigns for Christ
Christian Child Care Conference
Communications Workshop- Advancing the Church Through Effective Community Relations
Timothy Hill Children’s Ranch
Institute for Christian Studies (ICS)
Miscellaneous- Work With Nonprofits
WEB Work With Nonprofit Agencies
Mission Volume 1.1- July 1967- Inscripted by W.E. Burch
Background to Mission’s Founding
Mission Magazine Origins
Beginnings of Mission Magazine
Resource Needs- Things to Consider- Miscellaneous
Mission Retreat with Church of Christ Ministers

**Box 6**
Gary Freeman Project
Mission Magazine- General
Mission Magazine Historical Documents
Mission Magazine Historical Documents
Correspondence with Travis Stanley re: Mission Magazine
Mission Journal Trustee Manual
Correspondence Between W.E. Burch and Richard Hughes re: Mission Journal
Organizational Phase Mission
Mission Correspondence 1967
Mission 1968-1970

**Box 7**
Plainly, How the Church can Best Reach the Most
Walter E. Burch (WEB) Advertising- Miscellaneous
Miscellaneous Documents re: Churches of Christ
Church of Christ “Issues”
World’s Fair 1964-1965 Pictures
World’s Fair 1964-1965 Materials
Race Relations Primary #1
Race Relations Primary #2
Race Relations Primary #2

Box 8
Race Relations Primary #4
Race Relations Primary #5
Race Relations Relations Retreat
Nashville Retreat
Jesus and Politics
Special Issue of 20th Century Christian on Race Relations and the Controversy that Followed
Black ACC Culture
W.E. Burch- Reflections of Grace- 2 Copies
Speeches
Nashville Retreat Contact Cards
In Significance of Our Interracial Conference- Sermon
The Search for Solutions- Speech
Pamphlets and Journal re: Race Relations
Correspondence Between W.E. Burch and Reverend Floyd E. Rose
Recommended Books- Renewal

Box 9
Power, It’s Locus and Function in Defining Social Commentary in the Church of Christ Study of
Black Civil Rights (Dissertation) By Robert Christy Douglas
[Miscellaneous Correspondence and other Materials]
Exodus- Master Plan
Exodus- New Jersey- Master Plan
Exodus- New Jersey- Master Plan
Exodus- Bayshore- Master Plan

Box 10
Exodus Brochures and Materials
Exodus Brochures
Exodus Brochures
A Development Report for Pepperdine University- 1971
Pepperdine College Conviction Papers
A New Beginning- Concept for the President’s Report- Pepperdine University- 1972
A Report to the President- An Evaluation of Public Relations Supports Needed by Pepperdine College for a Successful Capital Gifts Campaign (Paper)- 1967

Some Personal Reflections on Pepperdine- Speech

WEB Speeches

W.E. Burch’s Notebook for the Course “The Life of Christ” (1952) Taught by John P. Lewis


Evaluations Abilene Christian University/ WEBCO Workshop- September 16, 1991

Teaching Journalism Notes

Advancing the Changeless- The National Development Council of ACC 51.1 (1967)

Metropolitan Area Organization Concept- CG Campaign- Abilene Christian College

Abilene Christian College Exes- ACC Events- Byron Nelson- Bobby Morrow

Must a Christian Education be a Censored Education? (Paper)

Box 11

The Strength of the Nation: Good Citizenship (Paper)-Entry of Abilene Christian College

A.C.P.R.A. 1966 National Honors Competition

WEB Speeches 1957-1961 (Abilene Christian College Fundraising Efforts)

An Unknown Answer: The New Case Statement for Abilene Christian College- 1973

Dr. Robert Johnston’s Disputes with ACC and Don Morris re: Infallibility of Script

Can Higher Education be both Christian and Excellent? (Paper)

Special Gifts Plan- Design for Development Abilene Christian College 1964-1965

Building Enrollment in a Christian School

Related to Horizons- Abilene Christian College Development- Miscellaneous

Related to Horizons- Abilene Christian College Development- Miscellaneous

Related to Horizons- Abilene Christian College Development- Miscellaneous

Related to Horizons- Abilene Christian College Development- Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous

Box 12

[Miscellaneous Materials]

Box 13

Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous

Miscellaneous

Communications Workshops- Journalism Teaching

Milligan Christian College Lecture- October 1966

Correspondence Between W.E. Burch and Norvel Young

Academic Freedom Issue- 1968

Pub. 80-1- Speech Scripts 1959
Pub. 80-1- Speech Scripts 1960
Pub. 80-1- Speech Scripts 1961
Pub. 80-1- Speech Scripts 1962
Pub. 80-1- Speech Scripts 1963
Pub. 80-1- Speech Scripts 1964
Pub. 80-1- Speech Scripts 1965
Pub. 80-1- Speech Scripts 1966-1967