4-14-2023

Elizabeth C. Bernard Papers, circa 1950s

Elizabeth C. Bernard

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Elizabeth C. Bernard Papers, (circa 1950s)

Center for Restoration Studies
Manuscripts #586

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14 April 2023
**About this collection**

**Title:** Elizabeth C. Bernard Papers

**Creator:** Elizabeth C. Bernard, (1890-1971)

**Identifier/Call Number:** Center for Restoration Studies Manuscripts #586

**Physical Description:** 0.45 linear feet (1 box)

**Dates (Inclusive):** circa 1950s

**Dates (Bulk):** circa 1950s

**Location:** Center for Restoration Studies

**Language of Materials:** English

**Scope and Content Note:** These papers include Elizabeth C. Bernard’s Chinese New Testament and translations and romanizations handwritten by Gloria “Ah Wing.”

**Biographical Note:** The following biographical note is excerpted from Wikipedia:

“Elizabeth Bernard (October 10, 1890 - December 12, 1971) was an American missionary for the Churches of Christ, known for her missionary work with blind children in Asia. Born in DeSoto, Texas, Elizabeth sought training as a nurse at the College of Industrial Arts in Denton, Texas. Upon completing her education, she joined the United States Army as a nurse in 1918, but was discharged due to poor eyesight after two years of service. Elizabeth then spent three years in schools across America teaching blind children, before moving to Guangzhou, China in 1933 to pursue missionary work. She was able to do this due to a government pension. World War II disrupted Elizabeth's missionary work in Asia, causing her to flee or relocate several times. Prior to the outbreak of the Second Sino-Japanese War, Elizabeth fled in 1938 from Guangzhou to Hong Kong. She moved once more to Macau before settling in Guilin. After spending some time in India, Elizabeth returned to the United States in 1944, during which time she attended the Alhambra Church of Christ. After World War II ended, Elizabeth was able to return to Guangzhou in 1947 and repair the Canton Bible School damaged during the war. She began caring for orphans, but the communist revolution forced her to leave Guangzhou and settle in Hong Kong, taking several orphans with her. By 1949, Elizabeth was the only Churches of Christ missionary in Hong Kong and she worked alone until 1959 when additional missionaries were sent on short-term assignments. Working with others from the American Churches of Christ, Elizabeth reestablished churches and preaching schools, thus reviving the Hong Kong mission. She returned to the United States in 1967 and then made one final trip to Hong Kong in
1970. Elizabeth died on December 12, 1971 and was buried in Happy Valley on Hong Kong Island.¹

Administrative Information
Immediate Source of Acquisition: Leonard R. and Patricia A. Pamplin
Date of Acquisition: 16 October 2017
Accession Number: R2018.007
Date of Accession: 19 January 2018
Accessioned by: Caleb Laster
Processor and Date of Processing: Amanda Dietz, 14 April 2023
Finding Aid Creator and Date: Amanda Dietz, 14 April 2023

Using this collection
Processing Status: Processed

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Preferred citation: [identification of item], [file or folder name], Elizabeth C. Bernard Papers, circa 1950s. Center for Restoration Studies MS #586. Abilene Christian University Special Collections and Archives, Brown Library. Abilene Christian University, Abilene, TX.

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Arrangement of Materials: The processors retained the original order as received.

Separated Materials: None

Subjects and Keywords
Churches of Christ -- History -- 20th century
Churches of Christ -- Asia
Manuscripts
**Inventory**

**Box 1**
[First Folder] Finding Aid
Elizabeth Bernard’s Chinese New Testament
Gloria “Ah Wing”’s translations and handwritten romanizations