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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

Abilene Christian University Special Collections and Archives
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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

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¹ Wikipedia contributors, "Elizabeth Bernard," *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*, https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Elizabeth_Bernard&oldid=1042775870 (accessed April 14, 2023).

Using this collection

Processing Status: Processed

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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