WILLIAMS (PRESCOTT HARRISON, JR.) PAPERS, 1949-2002

Descriptive Summary

Title: Prescott Harrison Williams, Jr. papers
Dates: 1949-2002
Accession Number(s): 1997-028, 2008-005
Extent: 5 feet 5 inches manuscript material, one inch photographs, one audio cassette, one reel-to-reel audio tape, and one artifact
Language: Materials are written primarily in English, with some Hebrew and Greek.

Biographical Note:
Prescott Harrison Williams, Jr. (1924-2009) was a Presbyterian educator and administrator, primarily at the Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. Williams was born in Detroit, Michigan on June 20, 1924. He attended Wheaton College in Illinois from 1943-1947, receiving a bachelor’s degree in Philosophy and Greek. He attended Western Theological Seminary in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania from 1947-1948, but moved to Princeton Theological Seminary in New Jersey and received his bachelor of divinity. In 1950, he graduated and was ordained. While attending Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland for graduate studies, Williams served as pastor at several churches in the area. He studied the Dead Sea Scrolls (or the Qumran) and earned a Ph.D. in Ancient Near Eastern Languages, History, and Archaeology in 1960.

Prior to his graduation, Williams’ long career at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary began. He became the Assistant Professor of Old Testament Languages and Archaeology in 1959. He held this position until 1962, when he was promoted to associate professor status. In 1965, he was promoted again and became a full professor. Also in 1965, he served as the Archaeological Advisor to the Jordanian Department of Antiquities in conjunction with the American Schools of Oriental Research as part of a project consolidating the ruins at Qumran. Throughout his career, Williams served as a visiting professor at the neighboring University of Texas at Austin in several areas including archaeology, classics, biblical studies, and fine art. In addition to teaching, Williams has published many works in his field. He has received numerous honors and awards for his scholarly pursuits.

In addition to his professorship, Williams served Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in an administrative capacity. In 1966, he was appointed Dean of Faculty, a position he held for 10 years. He served as Acting President from 1971-1972, and was
asked to serve as President of the seminary. He held this position from 1972-1976, when he resigned in order to focus on teaching and continued research. Williams continued as Professor of Old Testament Languages and Archaeology until his retirement in 1990. Williams passed away in Austin, Texas on June 18, 2009.

**Scope and Contents:**
Handwritten notes, printed material, correspondence, photographic material, audiovisual material, and an artifact (1949-2002) document the career of Prescott Harrison Williams, Jr. as a professor and administrator primarily at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

The first series, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, consists of three subseries. “Administrative material” contains items that document the administrative nature of Williams’ work at the seminary, including faculty files containing various material types, noted next to the name of the faculty member. “Presidential inauguration” consists of items related to his inauguration and congratulatory correspondence. “Student art” consists of works that feature Williams and were created by seminary students.

The second series, Course materials, consists of handwritten lecture notes, Hebrew texts, syllabi, and printed material prepared and gathered by Williams to utilize in his classes. Some student work is present within these folders. Workshop and seminar materials consist of the same type of materials as in Course materials, but with accompanying correspondence and schedules.

The Correspondence series is primarily of a personal nature, including letters from former students, co-workers, and friends.

Other series include Brazos Presbytery committee work, Williams’ work as student, Biographical information, Williams’ writings, Writings by others, Class registers, Services, Photographic material, Audiovisual material, and Artifacts.

Williams’ original folder titles have been preserved. Information in brackets was added to facilitate access.

**Related collections:**
The David L. Stitt and Prescott H. Williams, Jr. correspondence collection, and the Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary records at the Austin Seminary Archives, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary
Restrictions:
Materials are available by appointment only. Student work with grade information and class registers are restricted for eighty years after the date of creation. Access to reel-to-reel tape is restricted. Contact the archivist for details.

Index Terms:
Williams, Prescott H., 1924-
Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary--Faculty.
Lecture notes.

Preferred Citation: Prescott Harrison Williams, Jr. papers, 1949-2002, Austin Seminary Archives, Stitt Library, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

Inventory:

Box  Contents
D026  Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary:
     Administrative material:
       Faculty Seminar papers, 1959-1965, and undated
       Presidency – Study of, [contains material from Williams’ inauguration and the search for an APTS president to replace him], 1963-1976, and undated
       [Stuart] Currie Memorial, 1968-1980
       EDJ & PHWj 3-8 --- 1976 [Edward Dixon Junkin and Prescott Harrison Williams; includes administrative correspondence], 1975-1976, and undated
       Bob Shelton, 1986-1997, and undated
       [Houston Extension Program], 1991
       1970s Reunion [for alumni of APTS], 1992, and undated
       Dean’s Office, 1998-1999
     Faculty files:
       Alsup, John E. [course syllabi, correspondence], 1975-1998, and undated

D027  Dearman, [John Andrew] Andy [course syllabi, correspondence, publications, faculty review], 1984-1996, and undated
     Dietrich Ritschl’s 65th, Letters, Lists [correspondence], 1980-2006
Box  Contents

Dunn, Ross [memorial service material, course syllabi], 1978-1980, and undated
Fogleman, William J. [correspondence], 1964-1981, and undated
Heyer, George S. [correspondence, inauguration materials], 1979-1988, 2002, and undated
Jansen, John F. [course syllabi, correspondence], 1976-1987, 2000
Klemt, Cal C. [details on memorial service], 1976-1979, 1988-1993

D029  McIntosh, Ian F. [correspondence with Ian and wife, Jenny], 1966-1980, 1993-1995
      Underwood, Ralph L. [course syllabi, correspondence], 1978-1998, and undated
Presidential inauguration:
      Inauguration, P.H.W., Jr. [includes memos], 1972
Correspondence:
      Congratulations – Friends, 1968-1973, and undated
      Congratulations – Others, 1972 and undated
Student art:
      Faculty spoof yearbook page by Ian and Jenny McIntosh, 1960

FF7  “Good Ol’ P.W.” [Peanuts cartoon spoof by Mary E. Gaines], undated

D029  Course materials:
      Binders:
      Jonah, 1972-1992, and undated

      Servant [Isaiah], 1949-1955, 1968-1984, and undated
      Habbakkuk, 1979-1992, and undated

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Box Contents


D032

[Text of Ancient Scrolls], 1978-2001, and undated
Bi 171 Fall ’88 1 K[ings] 17-22, 1960, 1976, 1988, and undated
Jeremiah 34-45, undated
1 Samuel, 1978-1997, and undated

D033

Deuteronomy, 1968-2000, and undated
Hist[ory]-Arch[aeology], 1961-1981, and undated
History, 1954-1965, and undated
Arch[aeology], 1951-1967, and undated
[Bi 112 – Introduction to Exegetical Skills], 1967-1982, and undated

D034

Jeremiah 1-33, 1968-1990, and undated
Jeremiah & Davidic Messianism, 1981, and undated
Kings, 1960-1976, and undated
Psalms, 1960-1990, and undated

D036

Jeremiah, 1960-1981, and undated

Folders:
I. 316 Readings – Masters 1988 Fall, 1988, and undated
D037

I. 316 Credos (Past 87 & Earlier), 1981-1991
I. 319 Ref[lectio]ns. Spring ’89, 1989 and undated
Bi. 218 – Data of Bible ’77, 1973-1977
Bi. 309 Formation of Scripture Fall 1978, 1978-1979
“Formation” Handouts, undated
“Formation” Biblos, 1978-1980, and undated
Formation of Scripture Syllabi – Copies, 1978 and undated
Hebrew 302, 60-61—63, 1960-1963, and undated
Greek 317-318, 1961, and undated
Summer Hebrew 1963, 1960, 60-61, UTS 64, 1960-1964, and undated
Hebrew 306a-b, Summer 1968, 1967-1968

D038

University of Texas at Austin Archaeology 305 course packet, undated
[Assorted syllabi], 1960, 1988-1990, and undated
[Assorted material about archaeology and the Dead Sea Scrolls; includes several book reviews], 1959-2000, and undated

Workshop and seminar materials:
Formation/Canon for Laity ‘79, 1978-1979
COSTS [Council of Southwestern Theological Schools] Planning Seminar Fall ’78, 1977-1978, and undated
Feb. 9, 1979 – Sanders, COSTS – “Canon” [COSTS Seminar with James A. Sanders on the Biblical Canon], 1977-1979
[Mission Presbytery: Commissioned Lay Minister Program], 1992

D039

What the Qumran Scrolls Teach Us about the Hebrew Bible, Early Judaism and Early Christianity [includes unidentified student? notes], 2001-2003, and undated

Brazos Presbytery committee work:
Brazos Charismatic Committee [Ad Hoc Committee on the Charismatic Movement], 1974-1976, and undated
Correspondence:
[Administrative], 1975-1991, and undated
Congratulations [includes material regarding Williams’ resignation as APTS President], 1964-1976,
“Brack[enridge Hospital]” Chaplaincy, 1980-1981, and undated

C111 Photographs, separated from correspondence

D039 Williams’ work as student:
Course notes:
Wheaton College, 1943-1944

D040 Johns Hopkins University:
Comparative Semitic Grammar, 1956-1957
Hebrew Grammar, 1958-1959
Bible Doctrines/Ethnology, undated
Dissertation: Testaments of the Twelve Patriarchs:
TTP [Testaments of the Twelve Patriarchs], 1959-1960
Dissertation (copy), 1960

Biographical information:
General [includes essay describing Williams’ arrival at APTS and his work through 1968], 1976, and undated
Clippings, 1972, and undated

Williams’ writings:
Writings, 1984-1985, and undated

Writings by others:
Austin Seminary Bulletin, God’s Steadfast Love, A Festschrift in Honor of Prescott Harrison Williams, Jr., 1990
[Assorted writings by others], 1962-1990, and undated

B110 Class registers [restricted; contain student grade information]:
1960-1962
1961-1964
1965-1976
1977-1979
1979-1983
1984-1987
1987-1991
Box  Contents

1992-1998

D036  Services:
[General], 1972
St. Francis’ Prayer, 1982, 2001, and undated

D025  Photographic material:
Photographs:
[APTS campus after snow], 1963
[People], 1976 [includes Walter Crofton, Jack Maxwell,
  Prescott Williams, William McLean, R. Hollingsworth,
  Edward Junkin, B. W. Trull, and David Stitt]
[Ordination exam workshop], 1988
[Faculty retreat], 1988
[McCord Community Center groundbreaking], 1994

C111  Slides:
[Architects’ drawing of Stitt Library expansion], 1975
Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary campus in
  snow, 1973
Christmas party, 1973
Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary football, 1973
Ida Forbes’ 50th birthday party, 1973

C016  Audiovisual material:
Video cassettes:
Prescott H. Williams, Jr., Interviewed by Austin Faith
  Dialogue; July 22, 1990
Interview of Prescott H. Williams, Jr.; July 27, 2001 [for
  APTS Centennial]

D016b  Audio Cassette:
  Inauguration PHWilliams as Pres[ident] at APTS, 1972

C161c  Unidentified reel-to-reel

I002  Artifacts:
  CL Patron stole, ca. 1972