Guide to Rev. Alfred L. Griffiths and Ernestine C. Griffiths papers M2231

Malgorzata Schaefer
Department of Special Collections and University Archives
September 2017
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Note
This is a listing of materials rather than a true finding aid.
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: Department of Special Collections and University Archives
Title: Rev. Alfred L. Griffiths and Ernestine C. Griffiths papers
creator: Griffiths, Alfred L.
creator: Griffiths, Ernestine C.
source: Griffiths, Stephen L.
source: Meyer, Katharine Griffiths Yelas
Identifier/Call Number: M2231
Physical Description: 2.0 Linear Feet 2 MB, 1 half box, 2 flat boxes, 1 map folder
Date (inclusive): c. 1937-1963
Content Description
Materials include correspondence, photographs, unpublished typescript bound volumes, colored slides, telegrams, documents, newspaper clippings, and more. Most of the material relates to the Griffiths' life in the Philippines before, during, and after World War II, including their missionary work, the local landscape and population, and Alfred Griffiths' work to help Balbalasang men who served in the 121st company receive back pay.
Biographical / Historical
The arrangement and historical information was compiled by the son, Stephen L. Griffiths. His document is included in file 1/0.
Biographical / Historical
Reverend Alfred ("Al") L. Griffiths and Ernestine ("Nessie") C. Griffiths were Episcopal Missionaries in the Philippines stationed in Balbalasang, Kalinga, Luzon in the Philippines in the 1930s and 1940. They, along with their daughter Katharine (Katy), were captured by the Japanese during World War II and were imprisoned until the end of the war. Alfred and Ernestine had a son, Stephen L. Griffiths, in 1946. Stephen wrote a book about his family's experience: Guerrilla Priest: An American Family in World War II Philippines.
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Immediate Source of Acquisition
Preferred Citation
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Subjects and Indexing Terms
Griffiths, Alfred L.
Griffiths, Ernestine C.
Griffiths, Stephen L.
Meyer, Katharine Griffiths Yelas

box 1, folder 1
Letters from Ernestine Griffiths as POW in Camp Holmes to her father, Dr. Charles Coles, (8-1-42) and to her brother-in-law, Charles E. Perry (8-22-43)
box 1, folder 1
Letter from Ernestine Griffiths to Charles E. Perry 1943-12-13
box 1, folder 1
Letters - National Council Protestant Episcopal Church 1944-01-03-1945-03-22
box 1, folder 1
Letter from Headquarters Army Service Forces to Mrs. Charles E. Perry 1945-01-16
box 1, folder 1
Postcard from Ernestine Griffiths to Dr. Charles E. Coles 1944-06-30
box 1, folder 1
Letters from Ernestine Griffiths, POW, to her sister and to her father, Charles Coles, and stepmother, Kitty 1945-02-08

Guide to Rev. Alfred L. Griffiths and Ernestine C. Griffiths papers
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box 1, folder 1 Copy of letter from Ernestine Griffiths to her sister, Carey Perry 1945-02-08
box 1, folder 1 Typewritten copies of postcard messages from Ernestine Griffiths to family (4/27/44) with letter from Dr. Charles Perry to his children 1945-01-31
box 1, folder 1 A. L. Griffiths to Leonard and Louise 1945-02-11
box 1, folder 1 A. L. Griffiths to Elizabeth and Marion 1943-12-13
box 1, folder 1 Letters from Ernestine Griffiths to family members 1945-02-15-1945-03-14
box 1, folder 1 Copy of letters from Ernestine Griffiths to family members 1945-02-22-1945-03-01
box 1, folder 1 Copy of note from A. L. Griffiths (no date)
box 1, folder 1 Telegram from Provost Marshall General to Dr. Charles E. Coles re the release of Alfred, Ernestine and Katharine Griffiths from Bilibid Prison 1945-02-22
box 1, folder 1 Telegram from Carey Perry to Dr. Charles Coles re article in the New York Herald Tribune about the Griffith's release from prison camp
box 1, folder 1 Promissory note to the Philippine Mission of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ signed by Alfred L. Griffiths agreeing to pay the sum of one hundred (100) dollars U. S. currency one day after the day peace is declared or hostilities cease 1943-11-21
box 1, folder 1 Letter from Rosalio B. Bobil-o, 1st Lt Infantry, AFP, to Mrs. Alfred L. Griffiths returning a check for $14.53 because "I sincerely knew you had financially given aid to the guerrillas when our soldiers were harassed with hunger..." 1948-12-31
box 1, folder 2 A. G. Griffiths Army papers - relief from active duty, re physical exam, settlement of accounts 1945-08-1945-10
box 1, folder 2 Mountain Province Emergency Notes
box 1, folder 3 Concepcion's report to Colonel Nakashima - partial original copy
box 1, folder 3 Concepcion's report to Colonel Nakashima - copy of report
box 1, folder 3 A. L. Griffith's letter from Bilibid Prison to the Counter Intelligence Corps identifying Concepcion as the author of the spy report 1945-03-11
box 1, folder 4 Walter M. Cushing: Guerilla Leader and Hero of the Ilocos Provinces, by E. B. Ordun
box 1, folder 5 Copy of Col. Horan's Diary
box 1, folder 6 A. L. Griffith's induction paper with Captain Walter Cushing's original signature 1942-03
box 1, folder 6 General Orders from Headquarters 121st Infantry (PA) U. S. Army 1942-04-12
box 1, folder 6 Enlisted Record of Mark Bugnalien signed by A. L. Griffiths 1942-04-15
box 1, folder 6 Roster of Troops, Hq. Company, 121st Infantry, USAFFE 1942-04-30
box 1, folder 6 General Orders No. 1 from Headquarters Kalinga Guerilla Forces of Northern Luzon 1943-02-27-1943-02-28
box 1, folder 6 Roster of Troops, Headquarters, 1st En. "C" Co., Cagayan Guerilla Forces, USAFFE
box 1, folder 7 Correspondence: post-guerilla documents and letters documenting A. L. Griffith's efforts to ensure that men who served in the 121st company would receive back pay 1942-1943
box 1, folder 8 Design for "Priest's Residence Balbalasang Kalinga," with handwritten comments by Ernestine Griffiths
box 1, folder 8 Map of Balbalasang and neighboring villages; sketch map of Balbalasang showing some of the Griffith's wartime hiding places
box 1, folder 8 Collection of Tinguian folktales
box 1, folder 8 Headquarters, United States Army Forces in the Far East re Award of Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Ribbon (Griffiths are among the awardees) 1945-04-25
box 1, folder 8 St. Paul's Day Celebration program 1947-01-24
box 1, folder 8 Photographs - prewar of hunters and gatherers on a beach, probably north or northeastern Luzon. Caption on back of one written by A. Griffiths. Two photographs
box 1, folder 9 Photographs - children in village
box 1, folder 10 Photographs - trip to Balbalasang before the war (?)
box 1, folder 11 Photographs - Balbalasang and its environs 1947-1950
box 1, folder 12 Photographs - Balbalasang villagers 1947-1950
box 1, folder 13 Photographs - Balbalasang village scenes
box 1, folder 14 Photographs - Various scenes, some pre-war and some 1947-50
box 1, folder 15 Photographs - villagers 1947-1950
box 1, folder 16 Photographs - dance and fiesta
box 1, folder 17 Photographs - damage caused by 1947 typhoon
box 1, folder 18 Photographs - church and school
box 1, folder 19 Photographs - visitors to Balbalasang, including Bishops Binstead and Kennedy
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<td>Photographs - considered for “Guerilla Priest” but not used</td>
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<td>Colored slides of churches and schools in Manila, churches and other scenes in Baguio, traveling to and from Balbalasang, and mostly scenes in Balbalasang, including villagers and Griffith family members 1946-1950</td>
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<td>Half-box 3</td>
<td>Shanghailander Refuggy: Letters Written Home During the Summer of 1937 by Ernestine Griffiths, bound manuscript 1937</td>
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<td>Flat-box 4</td>
<td>For God and Country by Rev. Alfred Griffiths, bound original manuscript 1946</td>
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<td>Flat-box 4</td>
<td>Photograph album - all photos taken by Alfred Griffiths. Photos include his graduating class (1931), summer in Maine, his trip to the Philippines on the Empress of the Orient, photos of Baguio City and Brent School, and photos of the Mountain Province and its people</td>
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<td>Flat-box 4</td>
<td>Photograph album - snapshots taken in the Philippine Islands by Alfred Griffiths 1932-1933</td>
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<td>Map-folder 1</td>
<td>Newspaper articles from several U.S. newspapers; letter to the Editor of Life Magazine 1945-1960</td>
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