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Records of the Church of England in South Africa

Mollenhauer, Erin

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Church of England in South Africa

This collection relates to the history of the Church of England in South Africa, and consists of photocopies of correspondence, minutes and reports, publications and newspaper articles. It was collected by Peter James Spartalis for his MTh thesis “From Silvertrees to Lambeth: The Australian connection and the Church of England in South Africa 1933-1948” awarded by the Australian College of Theology in 1990. A copy of the thesis is available for in-library use only in the Moore College Library.

Now called the Reformed Evangelical Anglican Church of South Africa, it is not recognised by the Anglican Communion but maintains strong links with the Diocese of Sydney. The established Church of the Province of South Africa was formed in 1870. In 1938, with help and advice from Archbishop H.W.K. Mowll, the Church of England in South Africa adopted a federal Constitution. In practice the Church is organised as one Diocese with a Bishop and Area or Assistant Bishops. Much of the material in the collection relates to Bishop Stephen Bradley, an Australian who came to South Africa in the 1930s and was Presiding Bishop from 1965-1984.

Record series:

Correspondence and related articles and reports (Chronological) – includes Spartalis’ annotations and handwritten notes: 1931-1951, 1953-1988


Minutes and reports of the Executive Committee 1970-1972

Reports and articles relating to doctrine, theological education and George Whitefield College 1981-1983

Natal Ecclesiastical Properties and Trusts Amendment Bill, correspondence and related articles 1937-1975

Publications – includes Constitution 1980

Reports, correspondence and articles relating to missions in Southern Africa, including Namibia and Zimbabwe 1974-1981

Articles and reports relating to Nigeria and the Sudan United Mission 1900-1992, includes Sudan diary 1934 (Dawson? Redmayne?)

Papers relating to the appointment of Rev Dudley Foord as presiding bishop 1984

Papers and articles relating to Bishop Stephen Bradley

Articles and pamphlets by and about John William Colenso, Bishop of Natal
Guide to the Archives of the Church of the Province of Southern Africa, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

Papers relating to the Colonial Bishoprics Fund 1930-1931

Correspondence of Peter Spartalis, some relating to submission and publication of MTh thesis 1990s

Papers relating to missions in Natal & Transvaal, Ovamboland, Rhodesia 1930s-1970s