

**The Center for the Evangelical United Brethren Heritage
United Theological Seminary
Trotwood, Ohio**



HC-50

Harold & Pearl Testerman Megill Papers

Processed by Timothy Binkley

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INTRODUCTION

The Harold & Pearl Testerman Megill Papers were given to the Center for the Evangelical United Brethren Heritage by Esther Megill in July of 1999. This collection consists of snapshots, post cards, one panoramic photograph, and a laminated Bonebrake Theological Seminary diploma from 1919. All materials in this small collection (2 folders plus oversize items) relate to the history of BTS and focus on the activities and friends of Pearl Testerman and Harold Megill, the donor's parents. In 2006 Esther Megill added a folder of materials (Accession 006.7) to the collection.

HC-50 has been organized into four series:

- Series I: Photographs
 - Subseries 1: Snapshots
 - Subseries 2: 8 x 10" photos
 - Subseries 3: Panoramic photo

- Series II: Post Cards

- Series III: Diploma

- Series IV: Writings

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Pearl Testerman Megill graduated from Bonebrake Theological Seminary in 1919. Harold Megill graduated in 1927. They both served as ordained rural ministers in Kansas and as missionaries in New Mexico for the Church of the United Brethren in Christ.

Their daughter, Esther Megill (b. 27 Feb. 1924) served as a medical missionary and Christian Educator in Sierra Leone and at the McCurdy School, New Mexico. She later became the Secretary for North and West Africa for the World Division, United Methodist Board of Global Ministries. Esther Megill also worked at Trinity College, Ghana, as teacher of Christian Education. There she established the Center for Leadership Development.

Upon her return to the United States, she became a United Methodist Deaconess. During the 1980s, Dr. Megill went on to establish a program of leadership development for small membership churches at Wood Junior College, Mathiston, MS.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Megill collection begins with images of Bonebrake Theological Seminary students and activities during the 1910s and 1920s, when the donor's parents matriculated, and ends with some memoirs of what the Megills experienced in the New Mexico mission field 1927-28. The four series are based on media and size. Series I, photographs, includes 21 pages of snapshots mounted on black photo album pages (subseries 1), three mounted 8x10" group photos (subseries 2), and a laminated panoramic photo of an unidentified group gathering. Series II consists of two Bonebrake Theological Seminary picture post cards from the mid-to-late 1920s. Series III is a single item: the BTS diploma of Pearl Testerman ('19). Like the panoramic photo, the diploma has been laminated, and the lamination has damaged the item it was meant to protect. Series IV (Accession 006.7) consists of 12 pages of reflections by Rev. Harold Megill composed as a concluding chapter to A. L. Brandstetter's book: *Mission Pioneering in New Mexico*.

BOX AND FOLDER LISTING

<i>Box</i>	<i>Folder</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Series I:		Photographs	
	Subseries 1:	Snapshots	
1	1	Snapshots on photo album pages	1916-28
	Subseries 2:	8x10" Photos	
		3 mounted 8 x 10" BTS group photographs	ca. 1920
	<i>Location:</i>	<i>Oversize Photo Box 2</i>	
	Subseries 3:	Panoramic Photo	
		Laminated panoramic photo, unidentified group / event	1920s
	<i>Location:</i>	<i>Rolled Photo Box</i>	
Series II:		Post Cards	
1	2	Photo post cards of Bonebrake Theological Seminary	1924-28
Series III:		Diploma	
		1919 BTS Diploma of Pearl Testerman, laminated	1919
	<i>Location:</i>	<i>Oversize Document Box</i>	
Series IV:		Writings	
1	3	Chapter: "Amistad and Sedan, New Mexico 1927-28"	ca. 1970