

Guide to the Hyla S. Watters Papers

RG 328



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2022

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Table of Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| Collection Overview | 3 |
| Requesting Instructions | 3 |
| Administrative Information | 3 |
| Immediate Source of Acquisition | 3 |
| Conditions Governing Access | 3 |
| Preferred Citation | 4 |
| Processing Information | 4 |
| Biographical / Historical | 4 |
| Scope and Contents | 5 |
| Arrangement | 6 |
| Collection Contents | 7 |
| Series I: Correspondence, 1924–1987 | 7 |
| Series II: Writings and Notes, 1926–1976 | 8 |
| Writings | 8 |
| Notes | 8 |
| Series III: Collected Materials, 1913–1989 | 9 |
| Series IV: Personal Items and Memorabilia, 1892–1989 | 10 |
| Biographical materials, 1892–1989 | 10 |
| Artwork, 1955–1980 | 11 |
| Series V: Photographs, 1895–1986 | 12 |
| Series VI: Materials and Drafts Related to the Publication of <i>Hyla Doc</i> | 14 |
| Compiled materials and drafts, 1980–1988 | 14 |
| Compiled excerpts from tapes and letters, 1986 | 14 |
| Draft, 1987 | 15 |
| Draft, 1988 | 15 |
| Floppy disks containing the drafts of <i>Hyla Doc</i> , 1988 | 16 |
| Interviews and background materials | 16 |
| Reviews and correspondence related to the publication of <i>Hyla Doc</i> | 17 |
| Published books | 18 |
| Selected Search Terms | 19 |

Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Yale Divinity Library
409 Prospect Street
New Haven, CT 06511
(203) 432-5301
divinity.library@yale.edu
<http://web.library.yale.edu/divinity/special-collections>

CALL NUMBER: RG 328

CREATOR: Hyla Doc (Hyla S. Watters)

TITLE: Hyla S. Watters Papers

DATES: 1892–1994

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 3 linear feet (7 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: This collection documents the life and work of medical missionary Hyla Stowell Watters (1893-1987). Watters served at Wuhu General Hospital in Anhui Province, China, and then at the Methodist Mission hospital in Ganta, Liberia, before spending her later years in Tupper Lake, New York. The collection also contains materials gathered by author Elsie Hayes Landstrom for the publication of Hyla Doc, two books based on Hyla's life.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.328>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use on site, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.328>.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Kenneth Stuntz Allen, 2022.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Preferred Citation

Hyla S. Watters Papers (RG 328), Special Collections, Yale Divinity School Library.

Processing Information

Place names were modernized in the description, with the name originally used in the collection material or in an older version of the finding aid in parenthesis: e.g. "Beijing (Peking)" or "Benin (Dahomey)".

Biographical / Historical

Hyla Stowell Watters, known to friends as "Hyla Doc," was born in 1893 to Ada Stowell Watters and the Methodist pastor Philip M. Watters. While regularly moving across New York state for Philip Watters' career, the family built a cottage in Tupper Lake where they summered annually. Throughout her life, Hyla Watters considered Tupper Lake, New York her enduring home.

Hyla graduated from Smith College in 1915 with a degree in Philosophy. After a brief interim teaching in Atlanta, where her father served as the president of Gammon Theological Seminary, Hyla continued her education at Cornell University Medical School, graduating in 1921. Inspired by the example of Dr. Edward C. Perkins, a close family friend who served as a doctor in Jiujiang (Kiukiang), and an interest in Christian missions in China which began in childhood, Hyla undertook further medical training at the School of Tropical Medicine in London and sailed to China in 1924. Following a year of intensive language study at Nanking University, Hyla served from 1925-1941 at Wuhu General Hospital in Anhui Province, China.

In 1941, when Wuhu was under the Japanese occupation, Hyla Watters wrote, "[we] are planning to stay on as long as possible. One remembers the verse from the wall-builders of Jerusalem, 'I am doing a great work, and cannot come down.'" Though interned by the Japanese and expatriated to the United States shortly after, Hyla traveled back to China in 1945 with the Red Cross and served in the reopened Wuhu General Hospital until 1948. After nearly a quarter century of living in Wuhu, prompted by the concerns of her colleagues amidst the advancement of communist forces, Hyla S. Watters left China.

In 1950 Hyla announced her commission from the Methodist Board of Foreign Missions to go to Ganta, Liberia, stating, "I am looking forward to working in the Liberian hinterland, and to returning to China later when the way opens." From 1950 to 1961 Hyla worked aiding the local clinic's development into a hospital and lived with her companion and friend Mildred Black, who worked in language education. Upon reaching the age of required retirement for the Methodist Board in 1961, Hyla traveled across the continent of Africa with Mildred Black, en route to Tupper Lake.

Reflecting on her years in Ganta relative to her time in China for the Adirondack Daily Enterprise Weekender in 1980, Hyla observed, "we never got closely involved with our co-workers there...in China we had wars and floods and pestilence. The adversity brought us together."

From 1961 until her death in 1987, Hyla worked in Tupper Lake as a physician until the age of eighty-seven and spoke regularly at community events. In 1980, as the People's Republic of China opened to American visitors, Hyla travelled back to China with Mildred Black, visiting the hospital and colleagues from her years in Wuhu a half century before. In a 1973 interview, Hyla compared Christian missions—her life's labor—to a mountain she saw in Korea standing despite a hole borne through the rock, stating, "nothing that is as beautiful as that can ever be destroyed."

In the final years of her life, Hyla spoke extensively with Elsie Hayes Landstrom, the child of missionaries in Wuhu, who compiled Hyla's memories from lifetime of medical and missionary work into two books published posthumously written in Hyla's voice: *Hyla Doc in China* and *Hyla Doc in Africa*.

Further resources and information on Hyla S. Watters are available at Smith College Special Collections, in the Hyla S. Watters papers: Collection: Hyla S. Watters papers | Smith College Finding Aids. Also of interest may be the papers of Hyla's mentor Edward C. Perkins, which are held at Yale: Perkins, Edward C. (M.D.)

Perkins, Georgina | Archives at Yale. Further materials on Elsie Hayes Landstrom, who edited the memoirs of Hyla S. Watters, are available in the Hayes Family Papers: Collection: Hayes Family Papers | Archives at Yale

Scope and Contents

This collection documents the life and work of medical missionary Hyla Stowell Watters (1893-1987). Watters served at Wuhu General Hospital in Anhui Province, China, and then at the Methodist Mission hospital in Ganta, Liberia, before spending her later years in Tupper Lake, New York. The collection also contains materials gathered by author Elsie Hayes Landstrom for the publication of *Hyla Doc*, two books based on Hyla's life.

Scope and Contents: The Hyla Watters Papers (RG 328) document the life of medical missionary Hyla Stowell Watters and contain the collected research for the posthumously published *Hyla Doc* books, edited by Elsie Hayes Landstrom. Substantive letters and writing from Hyla's years at the Wuhu General Hospital (1925-1941) and her return to China in 1945, provide insight into intercultural and interreligious relations among the greater Wuhu community, her work as a surgeon, her work with the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) in the post World War II era, and the political environment in China from the 1920s until Communist rule. The material gathered by Elsie Hayes Landstrom, which makes up the second part of this collection (Series VI), consists of transcribed letters and an extensive collection of taped interviews Landstrom conducted with Hyla Watters in her later years. Landstrom's material provides a nearly exhaustive archive of Hyla Watters' life—stretching from her early memories, through her work in China and Liberia, and her later years as an active community member and physician in Tupper Lake, New York.

Series I contains the correspondence of Hyla S. Watters, spanning from her early years at the Nanking Language School in 1925 to letters received the year of her death in Tupper Lake, New York, 1987. Within the collection, Hyla's years at Wuhu General Hospital are well-documented in family circulars written by Hyla alone or jointly with her mother Ada Stowell Watters, who moved to China in 1926, and sister Florence (Sally) Watters Stuntz, a missionary in India. In the letters from 1945-1947, Hyla describes her return to China with the United States army, and journey once more to Wuhu, as well as her work with the UNRRA and CNRRA. Related photographs of UNRRA doctors and famine relief work are in Series V, Photographs. Correspondence dating from 1973-1987 is solely addressed to Hyla Watters from friends and colleagues. Notable within the later correspondence are the letters from Hyla's former student Enmei Yu, describing her experiences as a physician in the People's Republic of China. Further correspondence is found within Series VI subseries 1 "Compiled materials and drafts." To write the text of *Hyla Doc*, Elsie Hayes Landstrom initially gathered around 1,000 pages of transcribed letters. The resulting 1986 compilation reflects correspondence beyond the scope of Series I, likely provided by family members and the Hyla S. Watters papers at Smith College Special Collections Collection: Hyla S. Watters papers | Smith College Finding Aids.

Series II, Writings and Notes consists of original writings by Hyla S. Watters, primarily vignettes she composed while serving at Wuhu Hospital as well as talk notes she wrote for speeches around Tupper Lake. The writings, dating from the 1920s into the 1930s, describe the Wuhu community, Hyla's medical work, and Christian themes. The talk notes, dating from 1964-1976, reflect Hyla's life within the Tupper Lake community, speaking at churches and local events on missions, scripture, and her philosophy of retirement.

Series III, Collected Material, begins with a variety of pamphlets referencing Hyla's work in both Wuhu and Ganta. Collected publications and newspaper articles show Hyla's continuing interest in Chinese affairs. The series ends with miscellaneous material and Chinese cutout art gathered during Hyla's time in Wuhu.

Series IV, Personal Items and Memorabilia, contains materials dating from 1892 to 1989. Materials in the initial folders provide insight into both family genealogy and the broad chronology of Hyla's life. The bulk of the material relates to Hyla's time in Tupper Lake from 1961 until her death in 1987. During this time, she was featured regularly in local newspaper articles. Series IV, subseries 2 contains watercolors painted by Hyla during her time in Liberia until the end of her life.

The photographs in Series V, dating from 1895 to 1987, include both family photos and images related to Hyla's work in China and Africa. The Series begins with family portraits and images from Hyla's early life and proceeds roughly chronologically. Substantial photos date from Hyla's years in China, depicting Hyla and Ada in their Wuhu home, scenes from the hospital including the nursing staff and images of patients, and portraits of friends and colleagues. Multiple folders of proofs most likely date from Hyla's return to China and work with the UNRRA in 1945-1948. Photographs from Hyla's years in Liberia contain pictures with her housemate and friend Mildred Black, including images from their 1961 trip across the African continent. Later images consist primarily of portraits taken during the years Hyla lived in Tupper Lake.

Series VI, Materials and Drafts Related to Hyla Doc Books, contains research materials and drafts related to the book *Hyla Doc*, which was published in two volumes. The first volume, *Hyla Doc: Surgeon in China Through War and Revolution 1924-1949* (1991) documents Hyla's experience at Wuhu General Hospital and the second volume, *Hyla Doc in Africa 1950-1961* (1994) documents her work at the Ganta Mission in Liberia. Although published posthumously, the books are written entirely in Hyla's voice. Elsie Hayes Landstrom compiled and edited extensive materials, gathering text for the later books through transcribing Hyla's correspondence and driving from her own home in Conway, Massachusetts to Hyla's home in Tupper Lake, New York. The resulting drafts, which provide a nearly comprehensive archive of Hyla's correspondence from her time at Smith until her later years in Tupper Lake, are held in box 3 of this collection. Landstrom described the community effort of the composition process in the introduction to *Hyla Doc: Surgeon in China Through War and Revolution 1924-1949*, "Shel Horowitz...undertook the enormous job of retyping these letters. Fortunately, to fill in gaps, Elizabeth Allen (Hyla Doc's niece) and her husband Daniel and I had taped many stories. But there remained pages of questions to ask Hyla Doc. Many remain mysteries, but some answers were found and spliced into her story from letters from her mother, Ada Stowell Watters, and from other members of the I-chi-san community." The ironing out of the text into its finished form is reflected in the multiple drafts contained in Series IV: the 1986 draft consists primarily of letters stitched together across stages in Hyla's life, by the 1988 draft, Landstrom smoothed out the transitions to appear as a single, continuous narration. Series VI also contains cassette tapes of interviews with Hyla, conducted between 1980 and 1987, many of which are transcribed in the 1986 compilation. The series ends with letters from Elsie Landstrom regarding the publication of the books, reviews, and the published monographs.

Arrangement

Arrangement

- I Correspondence, 1924-1987
- II Writings and Notes, 1926-1976
- III Collected Materials, 1913-1989
- IV Personal Items and Memorabilia, 1982-1989
- V Photographs, 1895-1986
- VI Materials and Drafts related to Publication of *Hyla Doc*,

Collection Contents

Series I: Correspondence, 1924–1987

| | | |
|------------|--|-----------|
| b. 1, f. 1 | Including from: Hyla, Ada Stowell Watters, Florence Watters Stuntz Circulars and family letters from Hyla S. Watters at Nanking Language School, 1924-1925. Circulars and family letters from Hyla, Ada Stowell Watters, and Florence Watters Stuntz addressed from Wuhu, Anhui Province, China and Guling ("Kuling"), Jiujiang, China, 1929-1931. | 1924–1931 |
| b. 1, f. 2 | Including from: Hyla, Ada Stowell Watters, Florence Watters Stuntz, Clyde Allen, Paul Sommerfreund Circulars and family letters from Hyla S. Watters, Ada Stowell Watters, and Florence Watters Stuntz, addressed from Wuhu, Anhui, China. January 22, 1936 circular from Clyde Allen regarding his mission work in Lahore, West Pakistan with a handwritten note from Sally Watters Stuntz. January 5, 1939 transcribed letter from Dr. Paul Sommerfreund, a Jewish refugee and medical doctor from Vienna. Later circulars, 1939-1941, from Hyla describing work at Wuhu General Hospital in wartime. | 1933–1941 |
| b. 1, f. 3 | Hyla Stowell Watters Letters from Hyla S. Watters describing her return to China. Located in Chengdu ("Chengtu"), Sichuan Province, China, before traveling through Congquing ("Chungking") to Wuhu. | 1945 |
| b. 1, f. 4 | Hyla Stowell Watters Circulars and family letters and personal correspondence from Hyla S. Watters detailing her work with the UNRRA and CNRRA. | 1946–1947 |
| b. 1, f. 5 | Including from: Hyla, James K. Matthews Circulars and personal letters addressed from Hyla S. Watters at Ganta Mission, Ganta, Liberia. July 19, 1954 letter from James K. Matthews to Daniel D. Allen regarding the purchase of land at Mathura. | 1950–1961 |
| b. 1, f. 6 | Including from: Norman Vincent Peale, Enmei Yu, Wang Ping, Kay Davison, Isaac Shih Personal correspondence addressed to Hyla S. Watters, including letters from friends and former students in the People's Republic of China. | 1973–1981 |
| b. 1, f. 7 | Including from: Amicia Carroll, Enmei Yu, John Ting, Dora Lee Personal correspondence addressed to Hyla S. Watters. Continued correspondence from Enmei Yu, a former student of Hyla's, working at the Provincial Medical Information Institute in Sinchuan, China. | 1982–1987 |
| b. 1, f. 8 | Christmas cards and postcard Christmas cards and messages sent from Wuhu General Hospital. | n.d. |

Series II: Writings and Notes, 1926–1976

| Writings | | |
|-------------|---|-------------|
| b. 1, f. 9 | Wuhu writings "The Christmas Play at Wuhu" 1926, "Devils and Toes" n.d. (1920s), "A Night Signal" 1931, "The Beautiful Glass Eye" n.d. (1930s) | 1920s–1930s |
| b. 1, f. 10 | Wuhu writings "For My Mother I ate That Bitterness" 1935, "Dear Friends" 1935, "The Method About Sin" 1936 | 1935–1936 |
| b. 1, f. 11 | Wuhu writings "Hurry Up and Laugh!" 1939, "A New Way to Eat." 1939, "How I Heard It" by George A. Hallett September 3, 1939, "How They Left." September 6, 1939, "The Polliwog Man" 1939, "Outstanding Ears" 1939, "East and West" n.d., "Making the Best of It" n.d. "Making the Best of It," copy with handwritten note from Jinny to Betty (Hyla Watters' niece). | 1939, n.d. |
| b. 1, f. 12 | Writings Account of childhood titled "Growing-up Days." n.d., Easter play "As it Began to Dawn" n.d. "Why Do They Go?" News: Indiana Council of Churches n.d., "Out of the Bush" World Outlook n.d. | n.d. |
| Notes | | |
| b. 1, f. 14 | Talk notes Prepared notes for talks at community and church events. Including reflections on various Christian scripture, and themes like, "Claimed by God for Mission," "Philosophy of Retirement." | 1964–1974 |
| b. 1, f. 15 | Talk notes and letters of appreciation Various reflections on Christian scripture. Materials related to the 1976 speech "Senior Citizens Philosophy of Retirement." | 1976 |
| b. 1, f. 16 | Talk notes Program introducing the guest speaker Doctor Hyla Watters, n.d. Collected notes on the theme of freedom and liberty, Christian morality, various Christian biblical passages, and miscellaneous notes. | n.d. |

Series III: Collected Materials, 1913–1989

| | | |
|-------------|--|------------|
| b. 1, f. 17 | Pamphlets "A Second Visit to Kiukiang," 1913, by Edward C. Perkins. "Central China Conference Bulletin," Vol. 4 (no. 1), January 1937, issue devoted to Wuhu medical mission, including an image and brief article on Hyla Watters. "Ganta United Methodist Mission (1926-1976)," 1976, with forward by Bishop Bennie D. Warner. | 1913–1976 |
| b. 1, f. 18 | Hospital report and bibliography "Wuhu General Hospital Report to Conference," written by superintendent L.S. Morgan, 1940. "Bibliography on Posture," n.d. | 1940, n.d. |
| b. 1, f. 19 | Hefei Album Book given to Hyla Watters by Thomas Y., June 29, 1985. | n.d. |
| b. 1, f. 20 | Yijishan Hospital of Wannan Medical College, booklet "Yijishan Hospital of Wannan Medical College," booklet published 1989 commemorating the one-hundredth anniversary of the founding of the hospital. | 1989 |
| b. 1, f. 21 | Newspaper articles "ITC's Dr. Harry Richardson: Success Of A Quiet Crusader," The Atlanta Journal and Constitution, March 17, 1979. "More Japanese Deny Nation Was Aggressor During World War II: Youths Learn Little of Era; Spread of Revisionist View Irks Many Other Asians; Was Nanking Really Raped?" The Wall Street Journal, September 8, 1988. | 1979, 1988 |
| b. 1, f. 22 | Cutout art "Wuhu black cutout pictures," of dragons, birds, ships, preserved between leaves of Wuhu General Hospital stationery. "Using a Traditional Craft in Christian Communications," handout compiled by China Talk, n.d. | n.d. |
| b. 1, f. 23 | Miscellaneous material from China Business card of Liu Zu Xin, director of Hefei Municipal Second People's Hospital, Hefei, Anhui Province. Stamps entitled, "China Life Saving Stamp." Card of membership written in Chinese to the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA). Various photocopied documents written in Chinese, including one entitled "I stand by the side of a river." | n.d. |

Series IV: Personal Items and Memorabilia, 1892–1989

| | Biographical materials | 1892–1989 |
|-------------|---|--------------------------------|
| b. 1, f. 24 | Biographical and genealogical materials Sermon by Philip M. Watters, Hyla's father, and material from Philip Snedeker, Hyla's first cousin, and Judith Frissell, a distant relative. Extract of a letter from August 26, 1914 by Hyla's mentor and medical missionary in China, Edward C. Perkins. Biographical materials including business card, life chronology, and brief biography. | 1892–1981, n.d. |
| b. 1, f. 25 | Family compositions and gathered hymn texts Texts to family compositions of songs and poetry, including from Hyla, Ada Stowell Watters, and Caroline A. Watters. | n.d. |
| b. 2, f. 1 | Mildred Black's journal Written by Mildred Black who lived with Hyla in Liberia, which describes Hyla's work at the Ganta mission, a trip to Israel and Palestine, and a boat journey off the coast of Italy, Spain, arriving in Canada. Related images of Hyla and Mildred's trip across Africa in box 2, folder 27. | 1961 April 15– 1961 July 19 |
| b. 2, f. 2 | Transcription of an interview with Hyla Interview, with Florence (Sally) Watters Stuntz, conducted by Jacqueline Van Voris for the Smith College Centennial Study on Hyla's career, Smith education, and Sally and Hyla's experience of global missions. | 1973 August 2 |
| b. 2, f. 3 | New York State map, residency, and certification documents "Geology of Newcomb Quadrangle," map, n.d., University of the State of New York. Physician certification by the State Education Department, 1961, 1967, 1971, 1973. Certificate of Residence, 1977. | 1961 – 1977, n.d. |
| b. 2, f. 4 | Materials related to traveling back to China Correspondence from travel agencies and the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Washington, D.C. regarding permission to travel to China. September 12, 1979 letter from Hyla Watters, petitioning for permission to visit. | 1979 |
| b. 2, f. 5 | Awards and certificates Honors and awards, bulk from 1969-1981. | 1904 – 1981, n.d. |
| b. 2, f. 6 | Newspaper articles about Hyla S. Watters "Sorority Gives \$615 For Scholarship," The St. Lawrence Plaindealer, December 18, 1974. "Retirement -- one more chance," Press-Republican, May 17, 1974. "Church speaker lauds pre-communist China," The Daily Press, January 8, 1979. "Tupper doctor returns to China," March 7, 1980. "With the spirit of adventure," The Weekender, March 15, 1980, cover and feature regarding Hyla Watters' 1980 trip to China. Coverage continues with, "Inside Part II of an interview with Dr. Hyla Watters," The Weekender, March 22, 1980. "B.P.W. Club honors Dr. Hyla Watters," Tupper Lake Free Press, October 31, 1984. "Dr. Watters Named Woman of the Year By Medical Society," n.d. "Dr. Hyla Watters Terminates Practice After Lifetime in Medical Service; Plans to Revisit Former Post in West Africa," n.d. "Florence Stuntz dies," n.d. "90 years young," n.d. | 1974 – 1984, n.d. |

Biographical materials (continued)

| | | |
|-------------|---|------------|
| b. 2, f. 7 | Materials related to the death of Hyla S. Watters Program of Service, United Community Church, 1987. Text to "Hyla Watters: God so Loves the Earth People," William J. Bostrom, August 8, 1987. Obituary for Hyla Stowell Watters. November 1989 letter from Betty Allen and Elsie Landstrom regarding a gift in honor of Hyla Watters to the Wuhu Hospital. | 1987-1989 |
| b. OVd11 | Life membership in the CMA poster Calligraphy certificate of Hyla S. Watters' lifetime membership in the Chinese Medical Association (CMA). | n.d. |
| | Artwork | 1955-1980 |
| b. 2, f. 8 | Watercolors Primarily botanical studies and Liberian landscapes. | 1955-1961 |
| b. 2, f. 9 | Tupper Lake sketchbook | 1977 |
| b. 2, f. 10 | Watercolors and sketches Tupper Lake landscapes. | 1977-1978 |
| b. OVd11 | Watercolors Watercolors, including of Tupper Lake and Korea. | 1980, n.d. |

Series V: Photographs, 1895–1986

| | | |
|-------------|--|-------------------|
| b. 2, f. 11 | Early and family life | 1895–1937 |
| b. 2, f. 12 | En route to China, Nanking Language School, portraits | 1923–1930 |
| b. 2, f. 13 | Years in Wuhu Photographs of Hyla and Ada Stowell Watters, general life in Wuhu, Charles and Anne Lindbergh's 1931 visit to Wuhu General Hospital. | 1931–1935 |
| b. 2, f. 14 | Years in Wuhu Including photographs of Hyla and Ada, Edward C. Perkins, Paul and Stella Sommerfreund, Max Birman, May Goldie, unnamed Wuhu patient. Family photograph of the Homer Stuntz family. Group photograph, "Commencement Day Wuhu General Hospital." | 1930 – 1935, n.d. |
| b. 2, f. 15 | Wuhu General Hospital and patients | 1930s |
| b. 2, f. 16 | Wuhu General Hospital nursing staff | 1930s – 1940s |
| b. 2, f. 17 | Medical images from Wuhu General Hospital Photographs related to the treatment of child patients at Wuhu General Hospital, showing eye drop applications, advanced bone sarcoma, and tongue cyst. | n.d. |
| b. 2, f. 18 | Friends and colleagues Photographs of Chao Hsiu Chun (corresponding letter in box 1, folder 1), Liu Peng Cheng, Irene Chu Shih, Sun Po Fan, C.Y. Li, George C.C. Liang, the Dong family, Hsia The Ying, and others unnamed. | 1928 – 1947, n.d. |
| b. 2, f. 19 | Portraits of Hyla S. Watters | n.d. |
| b. 2, f. 20 | Years in Wuhu Photographs with Frances Culley, Wuhu patients, landscapes. | 1940–1947 |
| b. 2, f. 21 | UNRRA relief work Photographs of the reopened hospital, UNRRA and Ichisan doctors, and a series of twenty film proofs potentially from UNRRA famine relief work and "feeding stations." | 1945–1947 |
| b. 2, f. 22 | Proof series Twenty film proofs from an unknown location in China, depicting streetscapes, children, and rural landscapes. | n.d. |
| b. 2, f. 23 | Proof series Fourteen film proofs from China, depicting fishermen, children and caregivers, village life, and an empty church. | n.d. |
| b. 2, f. 24 | Proof series Fifteen film proofs from China depicting crowded streetscapes. | n.d. |
| b. 2, f. 25 | Miscellaneous proofs Thirty-one proofs depicting variously village life, groups of children, fishermen, a group trip, and a young family. | n.d. |
| b. 2, f. 26 | Miscellaneous photographs from China years | n.d. |

| | | |
|-------------|--|-----------|
| b. 2, f. 27 | Liberia years and Africa trip Photographs with Mildred A. Black, Ganta Methodist Mission, and images from traveling across Africa. Further information regarding the 1961 trip are in box 2, folder 1, which contains Mildred's journal from this time. | 1958–1961 |
| b. 2, f. 28 | Tupper lake years Portraits of Hyla S. Watters at her Tupper Lake home, photographs with friends and family including Edgar Whitcomb, Wilfred Boayue, Hillary Stowell, Austin Stowell, and Dan Allen. | 1967–1986 |
| b. 2, f. 29 | Broken glass negative Image of a dog named Rube. | n.d. |

Series VI: Materials and Drafts Related to the Publication of *Hyla Doc*

| | | |
|-------------|---|-----------|
| | Compiled materials and drafts | 1980–1988 |
| | Compiled excerpts from tapes and letters | 1986 |
| | 1986 compilation described by Elsie Landstrom as, "letters and other documents telling the story of Hyla S. Watters, M.D. chief surgeon, Wuhu General Hospital, Wuhu, Anhwei, China, 1925-1948. A document prepared for her family, friends and archives." | |
| b. 3, f. 1 | Front matter, family background, and chronological overview Material from tapes, newspaper articles, the Stowell Genealogy, notes from Betty Stuntz Allen, and Hyla's account, "Growing-Up Days." | |
| b. 3, f. 2 | "Two: 1911-1924" "Smith College – Atlanta – Cornell Medical School – Bellevue Morristown, NJ – London School of Tropical Medicine – Preparations to leave for China." Transcribed letters 1917 – 1924, materials gathered from tapes and interviews. | |
| b. 3, f. 3 | "Three: 1924-1925" "Voyage to China – Nanking Language School – Work in Wuhu." Transcribed letters 1924-1925, extensive material from taped interviews. | |
| b. 3, f. 4 | "Three: 1924-1925" | |
| b. 3, f. 5 | "Three: 1924-1925" | |
| b. 3, f. 6 | "Four: 1926-1929" "Wuhu - Northern Expedition emergencies – New Hospital built – Korea – Letters from Ada Watters, Wuhu and India – Furlough." Gathered materials from taped interviews, transcribed 1927 letters from Korea, 1929 letters from Ada Stowell Watters in Lahore, 1929 letters from Ada and Hyla in Vienna. | |
| b. 3, f. 7 | "Four: 1926-1929" | |
| b. 3, f. 8 | Miscellaneous material from Wuhu years Transcribed letters 1932-1935, material from taped interviews regarding 1927-1928, and the 1931 flood. | |
| b. 3, f. 9 | "Five: 1930-1937" "Return to China from furlough – Wuhu – Holiday in Japan – Return from furlough as Japanese taking Shanghai, Nanking, Wuhu." Transcribed letters 1930-1936, transcribed articles, materials from tapes including information on the 1931 visit of Charles and Anne Lindbergh to Wuhu General Hospital. | |
| b. 3, f. 10 | "Five: 1930-1937" | |
| b. 3, f. 11 | 1937 letters | |
| b. 3, f. 12 | "Seven: 1938-1939" Elsie Landstrom's initial notes, photocopied newspaper articles on missionaries in China in 1939, transcribed stories and letters. | |

Compiled materials and drafts > Compiled excerpts from tapes and letters (continued)

| | |
|-------------|---|
| b. 4, f. 1 | 1940-1942 letters |
| b. 4, f. 2 | 1944-1945 materials Transcribed letters and taped interviews regarding the Japanese occupation. |
| b. 4, f. 3 | 1946-1948 materials Transcribed letters, taped interviews, and articles. |
| b. 4, f. 4 | Miscellaneous material from Wuhu years |
| b. 4, f. 5 | "Nine: 1950-1956" Taped interviews, photocopied articles. |
| b. 4, f. 6 | Miscellaneous material from Ganta, Liberia years Elsie Landstrom's initial notes, transcribed journal from the 1961 trip across Africa with Mildred Black. |
| | Draft 1987 |
| b. 4, f. 7 | Front matter |
| b. 4, f. 8 | "Book one: 1893-1925" |
| b. 4, f. 9 | "Book two: 1924-1925" |
| b. 4, f. 10 | "Book three: 1925-1927" |
| b. 4, f. 11 | "Book four: 1927-1930" |
| b. 4, f. 12 | "Book five: 1930-1937" |
| b. 4, f. 13 | "Book six: 1937-1941" |
| b. 5, f. 1 | "Book seven: July 1942-October 1943" |
| b. 5, f. 2 | "Book eight: 1945-1949" |
| b. 5, f. 3 | "Book nine: 1950-1961" |
| b. 5, f. 4 | "Book nine: 1950-1961" |
| b. 5, f. 5 | "Book ten: return to China 1980," epilogue |
| | Draft 1988 |
| b. 5, f. 6 | Front matter, foreword |
| b. 5, f. 7 | "1. Tell the Truth and Tie Square Knots" |
| b. 5, f. 8 | "2. China Was Where I Belonged" |
| b. 5, f. 9 | "3. Old Friend Unexpected" |
| b. 5, f. 10 | "4. The Impossible and Unthinkable" |
| b. 5, f. 11 | "5. China was Far From Standing Still" |

Compiled materials and drafts > Draft (continued)

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| b. 5, f. 12 | "6. There's No Putting into Words the Wonder of it All" | |
| b. 5, f. 13 | "7. Storm Beaten Craft of Every Draught" | |
| b. 5, f. 14 | "8. Disasters on a Grand Scale, and Good Things Too" | |
| b. 6, f. 1 | "9. Staying On Under the Japanese" | |
| b. 6, f. 2 | "10. I Never Thought I'd Be a Prisoner of War" | |
| b. 6, f. 3 | "11. Out Over The Edge of The World" | |
| b. 6, f. 4 | "12. Stand Not Upon the Order of Your Going" | |
| b. 6, f. 5 | "13. With Great Regret We Got That First Train" | |
| b. 6, f. 6 | "14. Witches, Witchdoctors, Devils and the Bush 1950-1961" | |
| b. 6, f. 7 | "15. Tupper Lake via Tombouctou" | |
| b. 6, f. 8 | "16. Under Heaven One Family" | |
| b. 6, f. 9 | Edits and correspondence with Mildred Black | 1988 |
| b. 6, f. 10 | Book 9 sent to Mildred Black | |
| b. 6, f. 11 | "14. Witches, Witchdoctors, Devils and the Bush 1950-1961," Mildred Black correction | |
| | Floppy disks containing the drafts of Hyla Doc | 1988 |
| b. 7, f. 19 | "Hyla-Chaps 1-11" Four floppy disks labeled "Hyla-Chaps 1-11," "Hyla-Chaps 12-end," "Hyla-summer 1988," "Hyla back up summer 1988." | |
| Interviews and background materials | | |
| b. 7, f. 1 | Interview by Decker One cassette tape labeled, "1945 trip to Wuhu/Hu Li Jing, Black, Liberia. | 1980 |
| b. 7, f. 2 | Interview Three cassette tapes. Interview of Hyla S. Watters conducted by Elsie Landstrom. | 1982 May |
| b. 7, f. 3 | Interview by Lillian A. Johnson Three cassette tapes captioned, "Interview with Hyla S. Watters, M.D. conducted at Tupper Lake, NY, September 28, 1983 by Lillian A. Johnson." Copyright 1983 by the Women's and World Divisions, the General Board of Global Missions (GBGM). | 1983 |
| b. 7, f. 4 | Interview Three cassette tapes, conducted by Elsie Landstrom. Topics include, "internment," "repatriation," "back to W. China." | 1984 September |
| b. 7, f. 5 | Interview One cassette tape, conducted by Elsie Landstrom. Topics including, "Kuling," "general board," James' tragic death." | 1987 March |

Interviews and background materials (continued)

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| b. 7, f. 6 | Funeral recording Tape of Hyla S. Watters' funeral service. | 1987 August 8 |
| b. 7, f. 7 | Interview, "Tupper Lake Memories" Two cassette tapes. | n.d. |
| b. 7, f. 8 | 1, interview Cassette tape labeled one, including themes, "witch hunt," "Dr. Boayue." | |
| b. 7, f. 9 | 2, interview Cassette tape labeled two, including themes, "Dr. Boayue," "Egar Whitcomb," "Yao RN." | |
| b. 7, f. 10 | 3, interview Cassette tape labeled 3, including themes, "Ganta," "Leprosy village," "progressive creation." | |
| b. 7, f. 11 | 4, interview Cassette tape labeled 4, including themes, "Dr. Boayue to W.H.O.," leaving China 1949." | |
| b. 7, f. 12 | 5, interview Cassette tape labeled 5, including themes, "Jews in China," "Trip to Egypt." | |
| b. 7, f. 13 | 6, interview Cassette tape labeled 6, recording of a 1977 service. | |
| b. 7, f. 14 | 7, interview Cassette tape labeled 7, including themes, "return to Wuhu after Japanese," "Shanghai-are you a man or a woman?," "Wuhu during flood." | |
| b. 7, f. 15 | 8, interview Cassette tape labeled 8, including themes, "1945 return to China with U.S. army," "internment camp." | |
| b. 7, f. 16 | 9, interview Cassette labeled 9, including themes, "internment camp," "Korea," "India when Ada sick + died," "Liberia." | |
| b. 7, f. 17 | 10, interview Cassette labeled 10, including themes, "Christmas," "man who had head half cut off." | |
| b. 7, f. 18 | Interview Cassette tape labeled "Hyla Doc." | |

Reviews and correspondence related to the publication of *Hyla Doc*

Reviews and correspondence related to the publication of Hyla Do [...] (continued)

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| b. 6, f. 12 | Correspondence and articles regarding the publication of Hyla Doc Correspondence from Elsie Landstrom. "Mish Kid," photocopied article regarding the publication of Hyla Doc, n.d. "Smith grad's life in China captured in book by friend," Daily Hampshire Gazette, February 6, 1991. "An Astounding Woman: Hyla S. Watters '15," article in The Sophian, Smith College, by Julia Hayden, September 24, 1992. "A woman surgeon's love affair with China," China Weekly, by H.R. Lan, March 7, 1991. Review Hyla Doc, Zion's Herald, n.d. | 1981-1991 |
| Published books | | |
| b. 6, f. 13 | Hyla Doc: Surgeon in China Through War and Revolution 1924-1949 Two copies of the published monograph Hyla Doc, edited by Elise H. Landstrom, Q.E.D. Press, Fort Bragg, California, 1991. | 1991 |
| b. 6, f. 14 | Hyla Doc in Africa 1950-1961 One copy of the published monograph Hyla Doc in Africa, edited by Elsie H. Landstrom, Q.E.D. Press, Fort Bragg, California, 1994. | 1994 |

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Missionaries -- Africa
Missionaries -- China
Missions, Medical -- China
Women missionaries
Women missionaries -- China

Names

Hyla Doc (Hyla S. Watters)

Acquired From

Allen, Kenneth Stuntz