

Manuscripts

The N.E.S.T. Special Collection includes an impressive collection of manuscripts. Many were purchased by the Protestant missionaries, while others were commissioned to be copied during the 19th century. The manuscripts total 293 separate volumes. 253 manuscripts are Arabic volumes, which includes both individual titles as well as bound collections, that occasionally includes Turkish or Persian essays. As such, the Arabic manuscripts become 384 distinguishable titles.

The remaining manuscripts include, 21 Armenian manuscripts, 12 Syriac volumes, 3 Hebrew, one Kurdish (in Armenian Alphabet), one Persian and two Turkish volumes. In 1981, the manuscript collection was organized according to the modified Pettee cataloging system by James W. Pollack. This resulted in a printed list of N.E.S.T.'s manuscripts under the title "Catalogue of Manuscripts of the Library of the Near East School of Theology", *The Near East School of Theology: Theological Review*, IV: 1-2 (1981): 1-121, which is available in PDF for researchers. An agreement between N.E.S.T. and [Hill Museum and Manuscript Library \(HMML\)](#) resulted in the digitization of the manuscripts in 2009. As a result, some of the manuscripts are available online through the [World Digital Library](#). All manuscripts can be viewed by researchers through digital facsimiles at designated work stations, with special permission granted to study the original manuscripts.

Please refer to Pollack's article for information on the manuscripts (including shelf mark from which the digital file name was derived).

This index lists the manuscripts that were acquired after 1981 that are not included in Pollack's catalog. Its main purpose however is to give further details of manuscript AC-36: *Arabic Bible*, which is also known as the "Van Dyck Bible" or the "Smith-Bustani-Van Dyck Bible". This is the manuscript of the translation of the Bible by ABCFM missionaries Eli Smith and Cornelius Van Dyck and Arab scholars Buṭrus al-Bustānī, Nāṣif al-Yāzajī and Yūsif al-'Asīr during two phases from 1847 to 1866. A separate Reference Guide outlining the manuscript and affiliated items held by N.E.S.T. was prepared by Christine B. Lindner in 2014 and is available to researchers. The manuscript is composed of 69 separate folders, which are listed on this index under their original shelf mark, with the digital file number also given. The original manuscripts are stored with the first print copies and early versions of this Arabic Bible translation on the lower shelves of the "Van Dyck Cabinet" in the Special Collection Room.

Reproductions of individual pages of manuscripts are available (not whole manuscripts). Please contact the N.E.S.T. Head Librarian at Library@theonest.edu.lb for more information.

Shelf Mark	Title	Author	Publisher	Place	Date
	كتاب السواعي الكبير (مخطوطة), يبدأ بسفر أعمال الرسل: القراءات الخاصة يوم الفصح المجيد، وينتهي بالـ	تعليق "تحرير": حنا بن جريس بن المرحوم الخوري حنا الحموي	Manuscript	Aleppo	1755

Shelf Mark	Digital File	Title	Contents
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Box I, Folder 1	NEST AC 00036 (1)	Genesis (Two Columns of Translation)	Genesis 1:1 to Genesis 50:26; 2 drafts on 2 pages combined; with references; (259) [right side-first draft] 'Presented on the fifth of the month January the opening of the year 1853''
Box I, Folder 1	NEST AC 00036 (2)	Genesis	Genesis 1:1 to Genesis 50:26; Print proof
Box I, Folder 2	NEST AC 00036 (3)	Genesis 27.18-50.26(Two Columns of Translation)	Genesis 27: 18 to Genesis 50:26; 2 drafts on 2 pages combined
Box I, Folder 3	NEST AC 00036 (4)	Exodus (Two Columns of Translation)	Exodus 1:1 to Exodus 40:38; 2 drafts on 2 pages combined; ;(231) 'Was on June 1 year 51''
Box I, Folder 4	NEST AC 00036 (5)	Leviticus (Two Columns of Translation)	Leviticus 1:1 to leviticus 27:34; 2 drafts on 2 pages combined; (177) 'Was on october 13 year 1851'
Box I, Folder 5	NEST AC 00036 (6)	Leviticus (Single Column of Translation) with reference notes	Leviticus 1:1 to leviticus 27:34; one draft on 2 pages combined; with references
Box I, Folder 6	NEST AC 00036 (7)	Numbers (Two Columns of Translation)	Numbers 1:1 to Numbers 38:13; 2 drafts on 2 pages combined; (255) 'was finished translating this month during the day Wednesday February 11 year 1852 in Beirut.

Box I, Folder 7	NEST AC 00036 (8)	(Single Column of Translation) with reference notes	Numbers 1:1 to Numbers 38:13; one draft on 2 pages; with references
Box I, Folder 8	NEST AC 00036 (9)	Deuteronomy (Two Columns of Translation)	Deutronomy 1:1 to Deutronomy 34:12; 2 drafts on 2 pages combined; (220) 'was finished of coping it in June 23 year 1852'
Box I, Folder 9	NEST AC 00036 (10)	Deuteronomy (Single Column of Translation)with reference notes	Deutronomy 1:1 to Deutronomy 34:12; one draft on 2 pages; with references
Box I, Folder 10	NEST AC 00036 (11)	Joshua (Single Column of Translation)	Joshua 1:1 to Joshua 24:33; one draft on 2 pages; with references ; finished May 2nd 1861 CVD/ finished printing January 13 1862;pencil corrections Van Dyck 13 March 1861
Box I, Folder 11	NEST AC 00036 (12)_Joshua	(Single Column of Translation) with referen	Joshua 1:1 to Joshua 24:33; one draft on 2 pages; with references

Box I, Folder 12	NEST AC 00036 (13)	Judges (Single Column of Translation); Ruth (Single Column of Translation)	Judges 1:1 to Judges 21:25; one draft on 2 pages; with corrections; (003) 'Commenced May 8th 1861 CVD'; Ruth 1:1 to Ruth 4:22; one draft on 2 pages; with corrections; (153) 'Finished June 20th 1861' Judges 1:1 to Judges 21:25; one draft on 2 pages; with references
Box II, Folder 1	NEST AC 00036 (14)	Judges with reference notes (Single Column of Translation)	
Box II, Folder 2	NEST AC 00036 (15)	Ruth with reference notes (Single Column of Translation)	Ruth 1:1 to Ruth 4:22; one draft on 2 pages; with references
Box II, Folder 3	NEST AC 00036 (16)	1st Samuel (Single Column of Translation)	1st Samuel 1:1 to 1st Samuel 31:13; one draft on 2 pages; with corrections; (003) 'Commenced June 24th 1861 CVD'
Box II, Folder 4	NEST AC 00036 (17)	1st Samuel (Single column of Translation) with reference notes	1st samuel 1:1 to 1st Samuel 31:13; one draft on 2 pages; with reference notes

Box II, Folder 5	NEST AC 00036 (18)	2nd Samuel (Single Column of Translation)	2nd Samuel 1:1 to 2nd Samuel 24:25; one draft on 2 pages; (003)'Commenced Aug 24th 1861 CVD'; (144) 'Completed by Rev. [CVAVD??] Oct 16, 1861'
Box II, Folder 6	NEST AC 00036 (19)	2nd Samuel (Single Column of Translation)with reference notes	2nd samuel 1:1 to 2nd Samuel 24:25; one draft on 2 pages; with references.
Box II, Folder 7	NEST AC 00036 (20)	1st Kings (Single Column of Translation)	1st Kings 1:1 to 1st Kings 22:53; one draft on 2 pages; with corrections; (003)[right side-first draft] 'Commenced Nov. 1st 1861 CVD; (168) Finished Dec 12th 1861 CVD'
Box II, Folder 8	NEST AC 00036 (21)	1st Kings (Single Column of Translation) with reference notes	1st Kings 1:1 to 1st Kings 22:53; one draft on 2 pages; with reference notes

Box II, Folder 9	NEST AC 00036 (22)	2nd Kings (Single Column of Translation)	2nd Kings 1:1 to 2nd Kings 25:30; one draft on 2 pages; with corrections; (003)[right side-first draft] 'began Dec 12th 1861 CVD; (153) Finished Dec 28th 1861
Box II, Folder 10	NEST AC 00036 (23)	2nd Kings (Single Column of Translation)with reference notes	2nd Kings 1:1 to 2nd Kings 25:30; one draft on 2 pages; with reference notes
Box II, Folder 11	NEST AC 00036 (24)	1st Chronicles (Single Column of Translation)	1st Chronicles 1:1 to 1st Chronicles 29:30; one draft on 2 pages; with corrections; (003)[right side-first draft] 'Commenced Jan. 13th 1862 C.V.D.; (149) Finished Feb 21st 1862
Box II, Folder 12	NEST AC 00036 (25)	1st Chronicles (Single Column of Translation) with reference notes	1st Chronicles 1:1 to 1st Chronicles 29:30; one draft on 2 pages; with reference notes
Box II, Folder 13	NEST AC 00036 (26)	2nd Chronicles (Single Column of Translation)	2nd Chronicles 1:1 to 2nd Chronicles 36:23; one draft on 2 pages; with corrections; (003)[right side-first draft]'Commenced Feb 24th 1862 CVD; (165) Finished march 27th 1862 CVD'

Box II, Folder 14	NEST AC 00036 (27)	2nd Chronicles (Single Column of Translation) with reference notes	2nd Chronicles 1:1 to 2nd Chronicles 36:23; one draft on 2 pages; with reference notes
Box II, Folder 15	NEST AC 00036 (28)	Ezra; Nehemiah; Esther (all Single Column Translations)	Ezra 1:1 to Ezra 10:44; Nehemiah 1:1 to Nehemiah 13:31; one draft on 2 pages; with corrections; (003) 'Began April 18th 1862 CVD and (0122) Finished May 7th 1862'; Esther 1:1 to Esther 10:3; with corrections; (158) 'Finished May 14th 1862 CVD'
Box II, Folder 16	NEST AC 00036 (29)	Ezra (Single Column of Translation) with reference notes	Ezra 1:1 to Ezra 10:44; one draft on 2 pages; with reference notes
Box II, Folder 17	NEST AC 00036 (30)	Nehemiah (Single Column of Translation) with reference notes	Nehemiah 1:1 to Nehemiah 13:31; one draft on 2 pages; with reference notes
Box II, Folder 18	NEST AC 00036 (31)	Esther (Single Column of Translation) with reference notes	Esther 1:1 to Esther 10:3; one draft on 2 pages; with reference notes

Box III, Folder 1	NEST AC 00036 (32)	1.1-89.48 (Single Column of Translation) with reference notes	Psalms 1:1 to Psalm 89:48a; one draft on 2 pages; with reference notes
Box III, Folder 2	NEST AC 00036 (33)	Job (Single Column of Translation) with reference notes	Job 1:1 to Job 42:17; one draft on 2 pages; with reference notes
Box III, Folder 3	NEST AC 00036 (34)	Psalms 1.1-150.5 (Single Column of Translation) with reference notes	Psalms 1:1 to Psalms 150:5; one draft on 2 pages; with reference notes
Box III, Folder 4	NEST AC 00036 (35)	Proverbs (Single Column of Translation) with reference notes	Proverbs 1:1 to Proverbs 31:31; one draft on 2 pages; with reference notes
Box III, Folder 5	NEST AC 00036 (36)	Ecclesiastes (Single Column of Translation) with reference notes	Ecclesiastes 1:1 to Ecclesiastes 12:14; one draft on 2 pages; with reference notes
Box III, Folder 6	NEST AC 00036 (37)	Song of Solomon (Single Column of Translation) with reference notes	Song of Solomon 1:1 to Song of Solomon 8:14; one draft on 2 pages; with reference notes

Box III, Folder 7	NEST AC 00036 (38)	Two Columns of Translation until 52.3, then Single Column of Translation) with reference notes	Isaiah 1:1 to Isaiah 52:3a; 2 drafts on 2 pages combined; with corrections; (002)[left side-second draft] 'Began June 14.1855 E.S.'; Isaiah 52:3b to Isaiah 66:24; one draft on 2 pages; with corrections; (268)[right side-first draft] 'Finished Feb 4th 1864 C.V.D.'
Box III, Folder 8	NEST AC 00036 (39)	Isaiah (Single Column of translation) with reference notes	Isaiah 1:1 to Isaiah 66:24; one draft on 2 pages; with reference notes
Box III, Folder 9	NEST AC 00036 (40)	Jeremiah (Single Column of Translation)	Jeremiah 1:1 to Jeremiah 52:34; one draft on 2 pages; with reference notes
Box III, Folder 10	NEST AC 00036 (41)	Lamentations (Single Column of Translation)	Lamentations 1:1 to Lamentations 5:22; one draft on 2 pages; with reference notes; (025)[left side- second draft] 'Finished April 5 1864 CVD'

Box III, Folder 11	NEST AC 00036 (42)	Ezekiel (Single Column of Translation) with cover page	Ezekiel 1:1 to Ezekiel 48:35; one draft on 2 pages; with corrections
Box III, Folder 12	NEST AC 00036 (43)	Ezekiel (Single Column of Translation) with reference notes	Ezekiel 1:1 to Ezekiel 48:35; one draft on 2 pages; with reference notes
Box III, Folder 13	NEST AC 00036 (44)	Daniel (Single Column of Translation) with cover page	Daniel 1:1 to Daniel 12:13; one draft on 2 pages; with corrections
Box III, Folder 14	NEST AC 00036 (45)	Daniel (Single Column of Translation) with reference notes	Daniel 1:1 to Daniel 12:13; one draft on 2 pages; with reference notes
Box III, Folder 15	NEST AC 00036 (46)	Hosea (Single Column of Translation for the first page, then Two Columns of Translation)	Hosea 1:4a; one draft page; with corrections and reference notes; Hosea 1:4b to Hosea 14:9; 2 drafts on 2 pages combined(X) 'over first page'; with corrections and reference notes

Box III, Folder 16	NEST AC 00036 (47)	Joel (Single Column of Translation)	Joel 1:1 to Joel 3:21; 2 drafts on 2 pages combined (X)'over first page'; with corrections and reference notes
Box III, Folder 17	NEST AC 00036 (48)	Amos (Single Column of Translation)	Amos 1:1 to Amos 9:15; 2 drafts on 2 pages combined (X)'over first page'; with corrections and reference notes
Box III, Folder 18	NEST AC 00036 (49)	Obadiah (Single Column of Translation)	Obadiah 1:1-21; 2 drafts on 2 pages combined (X)'over first page'; with corrections and reference notes
Box III, Folder 19	NEST AC 00036 (50)	Jonah (Single Column of Translation)	Jonah 1:1 to Jonah 4:11; 2 drafts on 2 pages combined (X)'over first page'; with corrections and reference notes

Box III, Folder 20	NEST AC 00036 (51)	Micah (Single Column of Translation)	Micah 1:1 to Micah 7:20; 2 drafts on 2 pages combined (X)'over first page'; with corrections and reference notes
Box III, Folder 21	NEST AC 00036 (52)	Nahum (Single Column of Translation)	Nahum 1:1 to Nahum 3:19; 2 drafts on 2 pages combined (X)'over first page'; with corrections and reference notes
Box III, Folder 22	NEST AC 00036 (53)	Habbakuk (Single Column of Translation) with cover page	Habbakuk 1:1 to Habbakuk 3:19; one draft on 2 pages; with corrections and reference notes
Box III, Folder 23	NEST AC 00036 (54)	Habbakuk (Single Column of Translation) with reference notes	Habbakuk 1:1 to Habbakuk 3:19; one draft on 2 pages; with reference notes
Box III, Folder 24	NEST AC 00036 (55)	Zephaniah (Single Column of Translation) with cover page	Zephaniah 1:1 to Zephaniah 3:20; one draft on 2 pages; with corrections and reference notes

Box III, Folder 25	NEST AC 00036 (56)	Haggai (Single Column of translation) with cover page	Haggai 1:1 to Haggai 2:23; one draft on 2 pages; with corrections
Box III, Folder 26	NEST AC 00036 (57)	Zecharaiah (Single Column of Transation) with cover page	Zecharaiah 1:1 to Zechariah 14:21; one draft on 2 pages; with corrections
Box III, Folder 27	NEST AC 00036 (58)	Malachi (Single Column of Translation) with cover page	Malachi 1:1 to Malachi 4:6; one draft on 2 pages; with corrections; (011)[left side-second draft]'Finished Aug. 22nd 1864 C.V.D.'
Box III, Folder 28	NEST AC 00036 (59)	Malachi (Single Column of Translation) with reference notes	Malachi 1:1 to Malachi 4:6; one draft on 2 pages; with reference notes

Box IV, Folder 1	NEST AC 00036 (60)	Handwriting description of the Translation process; Notes from Eli Smith and C.V.A. Van Dyck); Matthew (Two Columns of Translation)	Handwriting description of the Translation process; Notes from Eli Smith and C.V.A. Van Dyck); (002Left) 'Began first of Sept 1852 E.S.; appointed to this work April 1857; Commenced in reality Oct 1857 ;the summer having been spent in preparation & C. C.V.A. Van Dyck'; Matthew 1:1 to Matthew 28:30; 2 drafts on 2 pages combined
Box IV, Folder 2	NEST AC 00036 (61)	Mark (Two Columns of translation)	Mark 1:1 to Mark 16:20; 2 drafts on 2 pages combined; (004) 'began first of Dec 1852 E.S.'
Box IV, Folder 3	NEST AC 00036 (62)	Luke (Two Columns of translation)	Luke 1:1 to Luke 24:53; 2 drafts on 2 pages combined; (002) 'began Jan 31 1853 E.S.'
Box IV, Folder 4	NEST AC 00036 (63)	John (Two Column of Translation)	John 1:1 to John 21:25; 2 drafts on pages combined; (002) 'began Jan ?30 1853'

Box IV, Folder 5	NEST AC 00036 (64)	Acts (Two Columns of Translation)	Acts 1:1 to Acts 28: 31; 2 drafts on 2 pages combined; (002) 'Began on the first of Nov 1853 E.S.'
Box IV, Folder 6	NEST AC 00036 (65)	Romans (Two Columns of Translation)	Romans 1:1 to Romans 16:27; 2 drafts on 2 pages combined; with corrections; (003) [right side-first draft] 'Began Feb 6 1854 and (o75) Finished March 7 1854' in 3 February 1854 Beirut'
Box IV, Folder 7	NEST AC 00036 (66)	1 Corinthians 2 Corinthians (both Two Columns of Translation)	1 Corinthians 1:1 to 1 Corinthians 16:24; 2 drafts on 2 pages combined; with corrections; (002) [left side-second draft] 'Began march 18.1854 E.S. and (069) [right side-first draft]Finished May 3 E.S.' 2 Corinthians 1:1 to 2 Corinthians 13:14; 2 drafts on 2 pages combined; (071) [left side-second draft] 'Began May 10.1854 E.S.'

Box IV, NEST AC 00036 (67)
Folder 8
(6 Books
combined
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Galatians Ephesians Philippians Colossians
1st Thessalonians 2nd Thessalonians (all
Two Columns of Translation)

Galatians 1:1 to Galatians 6:18; 2
drafts on 2 pages combined; with
corrections; (002) [left side-second
draft] 'Began June 16 1854 E.S.';
Ephesians 1:1 to Ephesians 6:24; 2
drafts on 2 pages combined; (028)
[left side-second draft] 'Began July
10. 1854 E.S.'; Philippians 1:1 to
Philippians 4:23; 2 drafts on 2 pages
combined; (052) [left side-second
draft] 'Began July 26.1854 E.S.';
Colossians 1:1 to Colossians 4:18; 2
drafts on 2 pages combined; (072)
[left side-second draft] 'Began Aug. 4
1854 E.S.'; 1 Thessalonians 1:1 to 1
Thessalonians 5:28; 2 drafts on 2
pages combined; (088)[left side-
second draft] 'Began Aug. 17. 1854
E.S.'; 2 Thessalonians 1:1 to 2
Thessalonians 3:18; 2 drafts on 2
pages combined;

Box IV, NEST AC 00036 (68)
Folder 9
(7 Books
Combined
)

1 Timothy 2 Timothy Titus Philemon
Hebrews James 1 Peter 2nd Peter (all Two
Columns of Translation)

1 Timothy 1:1 to 1 Timothy 6:21; 2
drafts on 2 pages combined; with
corrections; (003)[left side-second
draft] 'Began Sep. 14. 1854 E.S.'; 2
Timothy 1:1 to 2 Timothy 4:22; 2
drafts on pages combined; (022)[left
side-second draft] 'Began Oct.2.1854
E.S.'; Titus 1:1 to Titus 3:15; 2 drafts
on 2 pages combined; (038)[left side-
second draft] 'Began Oct.27.1854
E.S.'; Philemon 1:25; 2 drafts on 2
pages combined; (048)[left side-
second draft] 'Done Nov. 1.1854';
Hebrews 1:1 to Hebrews 13:25; 2
drafts on 2 pages combined;
(054)[left side-second draft] 'Began
Nov.2.1854 E.S.'; James 1:1 to James
5:20; 2 drafts on 2 pages combined;
(109)[left side-second draft] 'Began
Dec.2.1854 E.S.'; 1 Peter 1:1 to 1
Peter 5:14; 2 drafts on pages
combined: (129)[left side-second

Box IV, NEST AC 00036 (69)
Folder 10
(5 Books
combined
)

1 John 2nd John 3rd John Jude Revelation
(all Two Columns of Translation)

1 John 1:1 to 1 John 5:21; 2 drafts on
2 pages combined; with corrections;
(002)[left side-second draft] 'Began
Jan.2.1855 E.S.'; 2nd John 1:13;2
drafts on 2 pages combined; with
corrections; 3rd John 1:15; 2 drafts
on 2 pages combined; with
corrections; Jude 1:25; 2 drafts on
pages combined; with corrections;
Revelation 1:1 to Revelation 22:21; 2
drafts on 2 pages combined; with
corrections; (034)[left side-second