



KENNY, Helen

Born in New York in 1931 to a second generation Irish Catholic family, Sister Helen Kenny was the eldest of five children. Kenny trained to work as a nurse and became a missionary early on in her life. She moved to Maryknoll Convent upon her arrival in Hong Kong. Sister Helen was still residing there at the time of the interview.

Interview date: 2008/10/13; 2008/10/21; 2008/10/27

Keyword: Colony, Missionary, Welfare

Describes her close family life, catholic schooling in the United States, and ultimate decision to become a missionary. Talks of her life and experience in a convent and as a missionary in the United States and Hong Kong. Describes her works in a hospital for refugees in Hong Kong and compares the hospital systems between colonial Hong Kong and the U.S.. Speaks of the urbanisation process in Hong Kong and some of the most pressing social issues from the 1960s up to the 1980s.

Interviewer: Amelia Allsop

I227, I236, I242