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Harold Shepard Matthews papers8516277

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Description is written in: English.

Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary

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New York, NY 10027

Telephone: (212) 851-5606

burke@library.columbia.edu

URL: <https://library.columbia.edu/locations/burke.html>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary
Creator:	Matthews, Harold S (Harold Shepard)
Title:	Harold Shepard Matthews papers
ID:	8516277
Date:	1967
Physical Description:	0.25 linear feet 0.25 linear feet; 1 box
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	This collection contains a 1967 typewritten manuscript history of the ABCFM missions in North China from 1935 to 1960, compiled by Harold Shepherd Matthews, an American Board missionary in China and China secretary at the ABCFM.

Preferred Citation

Item description, MRL6: Harold Shepard Matthews papers, box #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

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Biographical / Historical

Harold Shepard Matthews was born in Hull, Iowa in 1894. In 1916 he received his B.A. from Grinnell College in Iowa, and in December of the following year married Grace Hazel Waters. In 1920 he attained an M.A. from the University of Chicago, and in 1922 he, his wife, and their young son Alden traveled to China under the auspices of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (ABCFM). They spent their first year in Beijing 北京 studying Chinese, after which they worked in Dezhou 德州, Shandong 山東 province at the Grinnell in China school. In 1923 they had another son, Homer Burtis Matthews. In 1930 Harold Shepard Matthews was awarded a B.D. from Chicago Theological Seminary, with the thesis "Dr. Sun Yat Sen and his Three Principles for the People." From 1930 to 1933 the family was stationed in Tianjin 天津, and in 1934 were transferred to Fenzhou 汾州, Shanxi 山西 province. In 1937 the family returned to the United States on furlough, and a year later Harold returned to China alone. In 1942 his book *Seventy-Five Years of the North China Mission* was published in

Beijing, and in that same year he was repatriated to the U.S. on the MS Gripsholm. From 1944 to 1953 he served as China secretary at the ABCFM headquarters in Boston, Massachusetts. In 1967 his typewritten manuscript *Some Historical Notes Pertaining to The Experiences of the North China American Board Mission, 1935 - 1960*, a continuation of his earlier published history, was completed in Boston. Matthews died on May 14, 1971 in Claremont, California. His son Dr. Alden Ewart Matthews worked as a missionary in Fujian province from 1947 to 1950, and in Japan from 1952 to 1986. In 2007 Dr. Matthews published *My Three Worlds*, a history of his family's experiences in East Asia.

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Scope and Contents

This collection contains a 306-page typewritten manuscript history of the ABCFM missions in North China from 1935 to 1960, compiled by Matthews in 1967 and including a number of additional handwritten notes.

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Arrangement

This collection is arranged in one series in original order.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

PDF converted to EAD and description updated by Leah Edelman. 2021-09-09

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Onsite storage.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Formerly part of the independent Missionary Research Library (MRL), these records were accessioned by the Burke Library at the time of the MRL's closure in 1976.

Processing Information

Materials were placed in new acid-free folders and boxes. The finding aid was created by Gregory Adam Scott in 2010, updated by Brigette C. Kamsler in 2014 with the support of the Henry Luce Foundation, and edited by Leah Edelman in 2021.

Conditions Governing Use

Some material in this collection may be protected by copyright and other rights. Information concerning copyright, fair use, and reproduction requests can be consulted at Columbia's Copyright Advisory Office.

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Related Materials

Related Materials

MRL 12: American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions records, 1878-1958, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

Related Materials

Harold Shepard Matthews papers, Hoover Institution Archives.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Congregational churches -- Missions
- Missions -- China -- History
- China -- Religious life and customs
- Matthews, Harold S (Harold Shepard) -- : Archives
- American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. North China Mission

Burke Library record group:

Missionary Research Library Archives: MRL6, China

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Collection Inventory

Harold Shepard Matthews papers, 1967-08-31

Physical Description: 0.25 linear feet 0.25 linear feet; 1 box

Conditions Governing Access:

Conditions Governing Access

This series is open for research.

Arrangement

This series is arranged in original order.

Scope and Contents

This series contains a 306-page typewritten manuscript history of the ABCFM missions in North China from 1935 to 1960, compiled by Matthews in 1967 and including a number of additional handwritten notes.

Title/Description	Instances
"Some Historical Notes Pertaining to the Experiences of the North China American Board Mission, 1935 -1960", 1967-08-31	box 1

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