



# ArchivesSpace

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## Frank Joseph Rawlinson papers 8527568

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This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on January 14, 2025.  
Description is written in: English.

Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary

3041 Broadway

New York, NY 10027

Telephone: (212) 851-5606

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

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## Table of Contents

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Summary Information .....	3
Biographical / Historical .....	3
Scope and Contents .....	4
Arrangement .....	5
Administrative Information .....	5
Related Materials .....	6
Controlled Access Headings .....	6
Burke Library record group: .....	7
Collection Inventory .....	7
Frank Joseph Rawlinson papers .....	7

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary
<b>Creator:</b>	Rawlinson, Frank Joseph, 1871-1937
<b>Title:</b>	Frank Joseph Rawlinson papers
<b>ID:</b>	8527568
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1924 -- 1937
<b>Physical Description:</b>	0.5 linear feet 0.5 linear feet; 1 box
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .
<b>Abstract:</b>	Frank Joseph Rawlinson was a Baptist missionary and lecturer in China, and for over two decades served as editor of The Chinese Recorder. The collection contains notes and drafts of his lectures and research on Christianity in China and Chinese religious culture, correspondence with Abbe Livingston Warnshuis, and other materials.

### Preferred Citation

Item description, MRL 6: Frank Joseph Rawlinson papers, 1924-1937, box #, folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Biographical / Historical

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Frank Joseph Rawlinson 樂靈生 was born in 1871 in Langham, Rutland County, England. In 1889, he and his younger brother came to the United States, and Rawlinson became a member of a Baptist church in Baltimore. He studied at Bucknell University from 1895 to 1899, after which he married Carrie Dietz and entered Rochester Theological Seminary. He graduated in 1903; that same year he was ordained, became a U.S. citizen, and was appointed as a missionary to China under the auspices of the Southern Baptist Convention. He arrived in Shanghai on October 16, 1902, and began work with the Central China Mission.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Biographical / Historical

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In June 1911, Rawlinson secured a place on the editorial board of *The Chinese Recorder* (教務雜誌), and in 1914, he was appointed to the executive committee of the China Continuation Committee. In 1917, while on furlough in America, his wife died; later that year, Rawlinson married Florence Lang, earned an M.A. from Teacher's College of Columbia University, and was awarded an honorary D.D. from Bucknell University. From 1918 he lectured at the Nanking University School for Missionaries, and from 1921 regularly lectured at the North China Union Language School in Beijing. His liberal views on Christian and Chinese beliefs antagonized the Southern Baptist Mission Board, however, and in 1921 he was dismissed from his pastorate of Grace Church in Shanghai.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Biographical / Historical

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In May 1922, Rawlinson was accepted to the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, and left his former mission affiliation. He became involved with the National Christian Council of China and edited their *Chinese Christian Yearbook* from 1922. From 1924 to 1925 he studied and lectured as a McFadden Mission Fellow at Union Theological Seminary in New York City. Throughout the 1920s and 1930s he continued lecturing, writing, and serving as editor of *The Chinese Recorder*. On August 14, 1937, during a Japanese attack on Shanghai, Rawlinson was killed when a bomb was accidentally dropped on a busy intersection by a damaged Chinese plane.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Scope and Contents

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This collection contains lecture notes, correspondence, drafts, manuscripts, articles, and other materials related to Rawlinson's studies of Christianity in China and of Chinese religious culture and history, as well as annotations by Rawlinson's son, John Lang Rawlinson.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Arrangement

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This collection is arranged in one series in chronological order.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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### Revision Description

XML Instance Created by Sarah Davis. EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. EAD spot checked and corrected and description updated by Leah Edelman. June 3, 2014 2019-05-20 2020-05-01

### Conditions Governing Access

This collection contains some restricted material. Restrictions related to specific material are listed in the detailed contents list.

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

Metal clips and staples were removed from materials and folded items were flattened. Materials were placed in new acid-free folders and boxes. Acidic items were separated

from one another by interleaving with acid-free paper as needed. Fragile items in folders 8 and 9 were replaced with acid-free photocopies and the originals separated into restricted folder 10. The finding aid was created by Gregory Adam Scott in 2010, updated by Brigette Kamsler in 2014-2015 as part of the Henry Luce Foundation grant, and edited by Leah Edelman in 2020.

### 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.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Related Materials

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### Related Materials

MRL 6: Abbe Livingston Warnshuis papers, 1877-1963, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

### Related Materials

Additional material by Rawlinson can be found in the MRL Pamphlets collection, folders 0484, 2161, 2192, and 2357.

### 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.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Congregational churches -- Missions
- Missions -- China
- Religious education -- China
- China -- Religious life and customs
- Rawlinson, Frank Joseph, 1871-1937

- Warnshuis, A. L (Abbe Livingston), 1877-1958
- Southern Baptist Convention -- Missions
- American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

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## Burke Library record group:

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Missionary Research Library Archives: MRL6, China

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

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## Collection Inventory

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### Frank Joseph Rawlinson papers, 1924 -- 1937

Physical Description: 0.5 linear feet 0.5 linear feet

#### Arrangement

This series is arranged in chronological order.

#### Conditions Governing Access:

#### Conditions Governing Access

This series contains some restricted material. Restrictions related to specific material are listed in the detailed contents list.

#### Scope and Contents

This series contains lecture notes, correspondence, drafts, manuscripts, articles, and other materials related to Rawlinson's studies of Christianity in China and of Chinese religious culture and history, as well as annotations by Rawlinson's son, John Lang Rawlinson.

Title/Description	Instances	
Lecture notes, 1924 -- 1925 <u>Physical Description:</u> 2 folders	box 1	folder 1-2
Correspondence to Abbe Livingston Warnshuis, 1924 -- 1932 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folder	box 1	folder 3
Correspondence, notes, article, 1924 -- 1937 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folder	box 1	folder 4
Notes and drafts on ancestor worship, circa 1925 -- 1937	box 1	folder 5

Physical Description: 1 folder

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"Revolution and Religion in Modern China" typewritten manuscript, 1928	box 1	folder 6
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Physical Description: 1 folder

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Typescript articles, 1931 -- 1937	box 1	folder 7
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Physical Description: 1 folder

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Lecture notes and annotations by John Rawlinson, circa 1932 -- 1936	box 1	folder 8
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Physical Description: 1 folder

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"Correspondence from China" typescript articles for Christian Century, 1937-03-01 -- 1937-08-01	box 1	folder 9
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Physical Description: 1 folder

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Originals, circa 1932 -- 1937	box 1	folder 10
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Physical Description: 1 folder

Conditions Governing Access:

**Conditions Governing Access**

This file is restricted due to physical condition.

### **Scope and Contents**

This file contains fragile original items removed from folders 8 and 9 (these items were replaced with acid-free photocopies).

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)