

Yale University Library
Yale Divinity Library

Guide to the Hugh Hubbard Papers

RG 137



Compiled by Shelly Rambo and Martha Lund Smalley

2000, 2015

409 Prospect Street
New Haven, CT 06511
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<http://web.library.yale.edu/divinity/special-collections>

Table of Contents

Collection Overview	3
Requesting Instructions	3
Administrative Information	3
Immediate Source of Acquisition	3
Conditions Governing Access	3
Preferred Citation	3
Processing Information	4
Biographical / Historical	4
Scope and Contents	4
Arrangement	5
Collection Contents	6
Series I: Correspondence	6
Family correspondence	6
General Correspondence	6
Series II: Biographical Documentation	12
Collected Autobiographical Materials	12
Correspondence	12
Autobiographical writings	12
Series III: Writings	13
Series IV: Subject Files	14
Re. Birds	14
China Materials	14
Filmstrip scripts	15
Stamps	17
Selected Search Terms	18

Collection Overview

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

CALL NUMBER: RG 137

CREATOR: Hubbard, Hugh W.

TITLE: Hugh Hubbard Papers

DATES: 1943-1974

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 5 linear feet (15 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Correspondence, writings, and collected material document the life and work of Hubbard. Hugh W. Hubbard was an American missionary serving in North China under the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.137>

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.137>.

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

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of the Hubbard family.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Preferred Citation

Hugh Hubbard Papers (RG 137), 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

Hugh Hubbard was born in Turkey of missionary parents. He was educated in Switzerland and received a B.A. from Amherst College, from which he also later received a D.D. In 1908 Hubbard accepted a short term appointment under the YMCA to Tianjin (Tientsin), China, where he served as a teacher and athletic coach. There he met Mabel Ellis, who was serving under the Women's Board of Missions. Returning to the U.S., Hugh attended Oberlin Seminary, married Mabel Ellis, and returned to China in 1913 under the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. The Hubbards had four children.

A 1959 tribute to the Hubbards describes their mission work in China as follows: "Assigned to Paoting, the Hubbards began at once to seek for more effective ways of carrying the Good News into all areas of life throughout that station's exceptionally large rural field. Some years later it was the marked success of literacy campaigns in the Paoting field which led Dr. James Yen of "Thousand Character" fame to select one of its county seats as the headquarters of the Mass Education Movement. "The Christian Farmer," a magazine for new literates, was another achievement, as was the North China Christian Rural Service Union, later described by the Agricultural Missions Foundation as the most significant advance in rural evangelism in a quarter of a century. The National Christian Council requisitioned Hugh's services for a time to promote nation-wide literacy efforts; and the Fan Family Village Experiment in evangelism was showing great promise when interrupted by the Japanese invasion of 1937. Pearl Harbor caught Dr. Hubbard serving as Executive Secretary of the Church and Missions. But two years of life in an internment camp only gave their talents for leadership opportunities of a different sort. The Hubbards had barely returned from a post-war furlough when in 1947 Hugh was again requisitioned, this time by UNESCO, to direct for two years a pilot project in Fundamental Education. The Hubbards were the last American Board family to leave China after Communist control was established, staying by under increasing limitations until April 1952...."

"Hugh was an ardent hunter, one of the best tennis players in North China, and as an ornithologist published in collaboration with Dr. George Wilder the best handbook on the birds of North China. Both Hubbards had exceptional command of the Chinese language, written and spoken."

Hugh and Mabel Hubbard worked for the American Board Office of Communication following their return from China. They retired in January, 1958. Additional biographical documentation can be found in Series II.

Scope and Contents

[I. Correspondence](#)

[II. Biographical Documentation](#)

[III. Writings](#)

[IV. Subject Files](#)

Though a collection of this size cannot do full justice to the wide range of activities undertaken by Hugh Hubbard during his many years of service in China, the letters, writings, and collected material contained here provide an interesting glimpse into his life and work. These papers are complemented by papers of other American Board missionaries held by the Yale Divinity Library, as well as by the American Board archives on microfilm, and its periodical, pamphlet, and report literature.

A monograph that Hubbard contributed to *The Healthy Village; an Experiment in Visual Education in West China* is available in the Library's cataloged collection.

Arrangement

- I. Correspondence
- II. Biographical Documentation
- III. Writings
- IV. Subject Files

Collection Contents

Series I: Correspondence

Family correspondence

b. 1, f. 1	Hubbard, Chauncey
b. 1, f. 2	Hubbard, Crescens and Julia
b. 1, f. 3	Hubbard, Dave and Sterl (Grandsons)
b. 1, f. 4	Hubbard, Emma Rose (daughter)
b. 1, f. 5	Hubbard, Emma Spenser (mother)
b. 1, f. 6	Hubbard, Gladys and Lloyd (Swift)
b. 1, f. 7	Hubbard, Gladys and Lloyd (Swift)
b. 1, f. 8	Swift, Larry and Marilee (grandson)
b. 1, f. 9	Hubbard, Mabel
b. 1, f. 10	Hubbard, Martin (nephew)
b. 1, f. 11	Hubbard, Nan (Sister-in-law)
b. 1, f. 12	Hubbards (Peel, Faith, Spenser, etc.)
b. 1, f. 13	Hubbard, Theodore and Ruth
b. 1, f. 14	Hubbard, Ward and Arline
b. 1, f. 15	Swift, Alan (grandson)
b. 1, f. 16	Swift, Eric (grandson)
b. 1, f. 17	Swift, Jon (grandson)
b. 1, f. 18	Hubbard, general family, miscellaneous

General Correspondence

b. 2, f. 19	Circular letters from Hubbard family while serving in China under UNESCO and ABCFM, including "The Watchman"	1947-1951
b. 2, f. 20	American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions	
b. 2, f. 21	The Auburndale Congregational Church	
b. 2, f. 22	Babcock, Everitt	
b. 2, f. 23	Baily, Harold -- Ballou, Earle	
b. 2, f. 24	Barnes -- Barnett	
b. 2, f. 25	Barron -- Bedikian	

General Correspondence (continued)

b. 2, f. 26	Bliss -- Boorman
b. 2, f. 27	Birge -- Blemker
b. 2, f. 28	Bostelmann -- Bowen
b. 2, f. 29	Boynton -- Briggs
b. 2, f. 30	Brown -- Butts
b. 2, f. 31	Cady -- Carleton
b. 2, f. 32	Cary -- Chandler
b. 2, f. 33	Chang
b. 2, f. 34	Chapman -- Christie
b. 2, f. 35	Chuan -- Clack
b. 2, f. 36	Clarement -- Cochran
b. 2, f. 37	Commonwealth -- Cooley
b. 2, f. 38	Cooper -- Crossley
b. 2, f. 39	C misc.
b. 2, f. 40	Darymple -- Davis
b. 2, f. 41	Denison -- Dewar
b. 2, f. 42	Dewick -- Dodd
b. 2, f. 43	Donaldson -- Dow
b. 2, f. 44	Downs -- Durgin
b. 2, f. 45	Dutton
b. 2, f. 46	Eddy -- Ellis
b. 2, f. 47	Ellis
b. 2, f. 48	Fairbank -- Frazier
b. 2, f. 49	Ferrell -- Fitzgerald
b. 2, f. 50	Fingerhut -- Fong
b. 2, f. 51	Foto -- Fowle
b. 2, f. 52	Franzen -- F (misc)
b. 2, f. 53	Gallup -- Goodrich
b. 2, f. 54	Guest -- G (misc.)
b. 3, f. 55	Galt

General Correspondence (continued)

b. 3, f. 56	Goodsell -- Grant
b. 3, f. 57	Greater -- Gregorian
b. 3, f. 58	Gregory -- Gulick
b. 3, f. 59	Groetzinger
b. 3, f. 60	Haband -- Harrison
b. 3, f. 61	Harvey -- Hausske
b. 3, f. 62	Hayes
b. 3, f. 63	Hayford -- Hazleton
b. 3, f. 64	Hebert -- Helfferrich
b. 3, f. 65	Hemmingsen
b. 3, f. 66	Hemmingsen
b. 3, f. 67-70	Hemmingsen, W and H
b. 3, f. 71	Hemmingsen -- Hessel
b. 3, f. 72	Hewlett -- Hinkhouse
b. 3, f. 73	Hock -- Holmes
b. 3, f. 74	Hood -- Hoskins
b. 3, f. 75	Heath, Harvey and Leola
b. 3, f. 76	Huggins
b. 3, f. 77	Hughes -- Hyer
b. 3, f. 78	Writings: Hunter, J.A.
b. 3, f. 79	Correspondence: Hunter, J.A.
b. 3, f. 80	Hunter, J.A., includes pictures
b. 3, f. 81	Ih-Chi -- Isaacs
b. 3, f. 82	Jack -- Jacques
b. 3, f. 83	deJaegher, incl. photos
b. 3, f. 84	Jenkins, Alfred
b. 3, f. 85	deJaegher -- Judd
b. 3, f. 86	J
b. 4, f. 87	Kandle -- Kang
b. 4, f. 88	Kattwinkel -- Kees

General Correspondence (continued)

b. 4, f. 89	Keitel
b. 4, f. 90	Kelly -- Kenco
b. 4, f. 91	Kennedy -- Kung
b. 4, f. 92	Lamb -- Leham
b. 4, f. 93	Leiper -- Leonard
b. 4, f. 94	Lerrigo -- Li
b. 4, f. 95	Lien -- Long
b. 4, f. 96	Lord
b. 4, f. 97-101	Loucks
b. 4, f. 102	Luidens
b. 4, f. 103	Lovatt -- Lung
b. 4, f. 104	Misc. L
b. 4, f. 105	Ma --
b. 4, f. 106	MacDonald -- Mackenzie
b. 4, f. 107	Mackey -- Malcom
b. 4, f. 108	Malcom
b. 4, f. 109	Manchester -- Manny
b. 4, f. 110-111	Martin
b. 4, f. 112	Massachusetts -- Matthews
b. 4, f. 113	Matthews
b. 4, f. 114	McClure -- McGlamery
b. 4, f. 115	McMurty -- Medicott
b. 4, f. 116-117	Melcher
b. 4, f. 118	Menge -- Mersereau
b. 4, f. 119	Merwin -- Meyer
b. 4, f. 120	Meyers -- Mills
b. 4, f. 121	Miller -- Mook
b. 4, f. 122	Montgomery -- Moore
b. 4, f. 123	Moriwaki -- Moulton
b. 4, f. 124	Mulholland -- Myrick

General Correspondence (continued)

b. 4, f. 125	Najaka -- Newsweek
b. 4, f. 126	New York -- Nitta
b. 4, f. 127	North -- Nystrom
b. 4, f. 128	Oberlin -- Olds
b. 4, f. 129	Orr -- Owyang
b. 4, f. 130	Parker -- Peabody
b. 4, f. 131	Peake -- Pennsylvania
b. 4, f. 132	Perkins -- Phillips
b. 4, f. 133	Planned Parenthood
b. 5, f. 134	Pikher -- Prien
b. 5, f. 135	Price
b. 5, f. 136	Pyke -- Pyle
b. 5, f. 137	Rahill -- Rankin
b. 5, f. 138	Rawlinson -- Read
b. 5, f. 139	Reader's -- Rueling
b. 5, f. 140	Reitlinger -- Riggs
b. 5, f. 141	Riley -- Rural
b. 5, f. 142-144	Robinson, Harold and Mary
b. 5, f. 145-146	Robinson, Hugh L., MD
b. 5, f. 147	Sanderson -- Severance
b. 5, f. 148	Severinghaus
b. 5, f. 149-150	Severinghaus
b. 5, f. 151-152	Severinghaus, Les
b. 5, f. 153	Sharp -- Shaw
b. 5, f. 154	Shek -- Shield
b. 5, f. 155-156	Smith
b. 5, f. 157	Smith -- Stern
b. 5, f. 158	Stowe, David and Virginia
b. 5, f. 159	Stockwell -- Stowe
b. 5, f. 160	Stowers -- Swart

General Correspondence (continued)

b. 5, f. 161	Taylor -- Thomson	
b. 5, f. 162	Thomson	
b. 5, f. 163	Thornton	
b. 5, f. 164	Thurston -- Todd	
b. 5, f. 165	Tong-- Typer	
b. 5, f. 166	Ulanga -- United	
b. 5, f. 167	Misc.	
b. 5, f. 168	Miscellaneous M's	
b. 5, f. 169	Miscellaneous Papers and Photos	
b. 6, f. 170	Van Kirk	
b. 6, f. 171	Vetch -- Verink	
b. 6, f. 172-177	Vetch	1968-1971
b. 6, f. 178	Wilder, Durand	
b. 6, f. 179	Walburn, Wantabe	
b. 6, f. 180	Wheatcroft, White	
b. 6, f. 181	Whitney -- Wilder	
b. 6, f. 182-186	Wilder, T.S.	
b. 6, f. 187	Wilder -- Wilson	
b. 6, f. 188	Wimer -- Wylie	
b. 6, f. 189	Yale -- Yen	
b. 6, f. 190	Yeranian	
b. 6, f. 191	Yinson -- Yu-Shan	
b. 6, f. 192	Zia -- Zinsmaster	

Series II: Biographical Documentation

Collected Autobiographical Materials

b. 7, f. 193 Amherst College, MA, 1908

b. 7, f. 194-196 Collected Materials

b. 7, f. 197 Family Information

b. 7, f. 198 Health and Medical

b. 7, f. 199 Insurance

b. 7, f. 200 Property Lists

b. 7, f. 201 Last Will and Testimony

b. 7, f. 202 UCBFWM Financial Information

b. 7, f. 203 Wells Hubbard Memorial Fund

b. 7, f. 204 UCBFWM Conditional Gift

Correspondence

b. 7, f. 205 Correspondence

Autobiographical writings

b. 7, f. 206 Introduction to Autobiography

b. 7, f. 207-208 Writings

Series III: Writings

b. 8, f. 209	Communism and Religion
b. 8, f. 210	Essays: Miscellaneous topics
b. 8, f. 211	Misc. Notes
b. 8, f. 212	Missionary Work in China
b. 8, f. 213	North China Mission History
b. 8, f. 214	Poems
b. 8, f. 215	Prayers
b. 8, f. 216	Public Addresses
b. 8, f. 217	Sermons and Speeches
b. 8, f. 218	Rural Literature

Series IV: Subject Files

Re. Birds

b. 9, f. 219	Agreements Birdbook	
b. 9, f. 220	Avian Drugs	
b. 9, f. 221	Bird Book Notes	
b. 9, f. 222-224	Birds from Desk	1973
b. 9, f. 225	Book Draft	
b. 9, f. 226	Chinese Birds Names	
b. 9, f. 227	(Wilder and Hubbard) corrections	
b. 9, f. 228	Bird Book - Vetch	
b. 9, f. 229	First Copy	
b. 9, f. 230	Foreword: "Observations" by Hubbard	
b. 9, f. 231	Glossary	
b. 9, f. 232	Index -- Migration Notes	
b. 9, f. 233	Migration notes	
b. 10, f. 234	"List of the Birds of the Chihli Province" by G.D. Wilder and H.W. Hubbard	
b. 10, f. 235	Ornithology	
b. 10, f. 236	Outline: "Adventures" by G. Wilder	
b. 10, f. 237	Wilder's Repatriation Trip	1943
b. 10, f. 238	Wilder's Repatriation Trip	1943
b. 10, f. 239	Bird Collection	1945

China Materials

b. 11, f. 240	Agricultural Missions Tribute	
b. 11, f. 241	Chinese Newspaper Articles	
b. 11, f. 242	Chinese Calendars	
b. 11, f. 243	Chinese Nationalism	
b. 11, f. 244	China Notes	1967-1970
b. 11, f. 245	China Notes	1971-1973
b. 11, f. 246	Foreign Claims Settlement Commission: War losses claim	
b. 11, f. 247-249	Foreign Claims Settlement	

China Materials (continued)

b. 11, f. 250	Jiangxi (Kiangsi), Rural Construction	
b. 11, f. 251	Music	
b. 11, f. 252-254	North China Rural Service Union	
b. 12, f. 254-255	Newsletters - American Board	1949-1952
b. 12, f. 256	North China Mission History	
b. 12, f. 257	Photograph	
b. 12, f. 258	Play- "Easter Story"	
b. 12, f. 259	Play- "The Two Roads"	
b. 12, f. 260	Rural Church	
b. 12, f. 261	Slides: Misc.	
b. 12, f. 262	United Nations report	1949
b. 12, f. 263	Vadala Gift	
b. 12, f. 264	Village Reconstruction	
b. 12, f. 265	"When East Meets West" - Christopher Ma	
	Filmstrip scripts	
b. 13, f. 266	Blakney, C.P.	
b. 13, f. 267	Bwerudza, H	
b. 13, f. 268	Dettman, Paul "Waters Break Though"	
b. 13, f. 269	Dettman, Paul "The Making of Indian Pastors"	
b. 13, f. 270	Dettman, Paul "Madurai Pastor"	
b. 13, f. 271	Dettman, Paul "The Story of Sunder"	
b. 13, f. 272	Dewar, Mary	
b. 13, f. 273	Donaldson, John	
b. 13, f. 274	Dudley, Raymond	
b. 13, f. 275	Fairbank, R	
b. 13, f. 276	Gillett, Clarence and Marion	
b. 13, f. 277	Grant, Robert	
b. 13, f. 278	Griesy, Paul	
b. 13, f. 279	Gulick, Leeds	
b. 13, f. 280	Hayes, Lois and Malcolm	

Filmstrip scripts (continued)

b. 13, f. 281	Heinrich, John
b. 13, f. 282	Houston, Lyda
b. 13, f. 283	Kaetzal, Sam and Rika
b. 13, f. 284	Lord, Charles (personal report)
b. 13, f. 285	Lord, Charles "The Prodigal Son"
b. 13, f. 286	Lord, Charles "The Good Samaritan"
b. 13, f. 287	Lord, Charles "Joseph and His Faith"
b. 13, f. 288	Markham, Robin "Joao's Life at School"
b. 13, f. 289	Markham, Robin "Missionary to His People"
b. 13, f. 290	Markham, Robin and Vicky
b. 13, f. 291	Markham, Robin "A Student's Life at Currie"
b. 13, f. 292	McGowan, Robert "A Doctor's Adventures in Angola"
b. 13, f. 293	Munson, Frederick "India, A Land of Opportunity"
b. 13, f. 294	Nicholson, Oline
b. 13, f. 295	Nishimura, Sugao
b. 13, f. 296	Riggs, Dr. and Mrs. Edward
b. 13, f. 297	Robertson, Grace
b. 13, f. 298	Scott, Lavinia
b. 13, f. 299	Shepard, Fred and Alice
b. 13, f. 300	Sell "Building for Tomorrow"
b. 13, f. 301	Shepard, Fred and Alice
b. 13, f. 302	Stetson, Dr. and Mrs. Kirk
b. 13, f. 303	Swift, Lloyd
b. 13, f. 304	Summerville, Harriet
b. 13, f. 305	Terpstra, Chester
b. 14, f. 306	Thelin, Guy and Betty
b. 14, f. 307	Thomas, Margaret and Ross
b. 14, f. 308	Weeber, Carolyn
b. 14, f. 309	Whitener, Sterling
b. 14, f. 310	Introductions

Filmstrip scripts (continued)

b. 14, f. 311	"Peking the Beautiful"
---------------	------------------------

b. 14, f. 312	Script lists
---------------	--------------

b. 14, f. 313	Bible Stories
---------------	---------------

b. 14, f. 314	Lecture Notes
---------------	---------------

Stamps

b. 15, f. 315-316	Correspondence	1960-1973
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b. 15, f. 317	Cross, Rowland
---------------	----------------

b. 15, f. 318-319	Kauder, Warrin G.	1967-1972
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b. 15, f. 320	re: The China Stamp Society, "The China Clipper"
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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

Missions -- China

Names

Hubbard, Hugh W.

Corporate Body

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign
Missions -- China