Language of Material: Multiple languages
Contributing Institution: Special Collections & Archives
Title: Small Family Nanking University Collection
Creator: Small, Alexander and Mary
Creator: Schurman, Jacqueline W.
Identifier/Call Number: OCH.SFN
Extent: 0.23 linear feet
Date (inclusive): 1907-2004
Date (bulk): 1907-1928
Abstract: The Small Family Nanking University Collection consists of a family history, a map of Nanking, copied correspondence, newspaper clippings, and other materials on Nanking University, Lex's career as an architect, and the Nanking Incident, compiled by Jaqueline Schurman, the Smalls' granddaughter.
Language of Material: English, Chinese
Biographical Information:
Alexander and Mary Small, also known as Lex and Polly, travelled to China in 1912 shortly after being married. Lex initially worked at the FatI Language School in Canton, where he was the school's engineer, involved in various small building and maintenance projects. After one year he was assigned to be the Superintendent of Construction for the Nanking University, part of the China Union Universities, created and administered by four US missions in New York. For over thirteen years, Lex supervised the construction of 66 buildings on campus, and he and Polly hosted numerous visiting missionaries. In 1927, the Smalls fled down the Yangtsze River with few of their possessions in the midst of the Nanking Incident, an uprising of Nationalist and Communist soldiers in which foreign residents were attacked and their property looted and destroyed. The family left China for the United States, eventually settling in Pasadena, California, where Lex worked for an architectural firm and then the Los Angeles Board of Education
Scope and Contents:
The Small Family Nanking University Collection consists of a family history, a map of Nanking, copied correspondence, newspaper clippings, and other materials on Nanking University, Lex's career as an architect, and the Nanking Incident, compiled by Jaqueline Schurman, the Smalls' granddaughter.
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Immediate Source of Acquisition
Jacqueline Schurman, 2006
Preferred Citation:
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Processing Information:
Ellen Jarosz and Tim Kauffler, 2012
Subjects and Indexing Terms
Documents

Box 1, Folder 1 Nanking University Documents, 1907-1949
Box 1, Folder 2 Articles from The American Architect about Alexander Small's Work at Nanking University, 1925-1928
Box 1, Folder 3 Nanking Incident Documents
Box 1, Folder 4 Affidavits Regarding Alexander Small's Career Accomplishments in China