Title: Merl LaVoy China Photographs
Date (inclusive): ca. 1920s - 1930s
Collection number: Bernath Mss 138
Creator: LaVoy, Merl
Extent: .2 linear feet (1 half-size document box)
Repository: University of California, Santa Barbara. Library. Department of Special Collections
Santa Barbara, California 93106-9010
Physical location: Del Sur
Language of Material: Collection materials in English
Access Restrictions
None.
Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
Merl LaVoy China Photographs. Bernath Mss 138. Department of Special Collections, Davidson Library, University of California, Santa Barbara.
Scope and Content of Collection
The collection contains 104 black and white photographs (with some duplicates) taken by photographer Merl LaVoy in China during the 1920's and 1930s. Many of the photos are taken in the Nanjing (Nanking) area which served as China's capital at various times in the nation's history including the Ming Dynasty (14th through 17th centuries). In 1928, Nationalist forces (Kuomintang/KMT) led by Chiang Kai-shek (jiang Jieshi), reestablished the capital in Nanjing during the civil war era with opposing Communist forces. Nanjing eventually fell to the Japanese in 1937. Most of the photos appear to be from the era of KMT rule and civil war strife, many showing evidence of the aftermath of battle and wartime destruction. There are a series of photographs showing U.S. Senator Hiram Bingham (1875-1956) of Connecticut meeting with various government officials including C. C. Wu (Wu Ch'ao-shu), the foreign minister of the Nanjing-based government from May 10, 1927-Jan. 2, 1928. There are also photos of other unidentified officials. Other locales include Canton and a series of photographs of the famous Ming Tombs located north of Beijing.
Related monographs and serials pertaining to China during this period have been cataloged separately and can be searched on Pegasus, the UCSB Libraries online catalog.

Box 1

104 black and white photographs