

Edith Forsythe Sharpless papers, 1910-1952

MC.950.161

Finding aid prepared by Mary A. Crauderueff

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Haverford College Quaker & Special Collections

March 2016

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Summary Information

Repository	Haverford College Quaker & Special Collections
Creator - Author	Sharpless, Edith Forsythe , 1883-1956
Title	Edith Forsythe Sharpless papers
Date	1910-1952
Extent	0.17 Linear feet
Language	English

Preferred Citation

Edith Forsythe Sharpless papers (MC.950.161), Quaker & Special Collections, Haverford College, Haverford, PA.

Biographical note

Edith Forsythe Sharpless (1883-1956) was a Quaker religious and educational missionary to Japan from 1910-1943, sent by the Mission Board of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting to work in Tokyo and Mito. She was the daughter of of Isaac and Lydia Cope Sharpless, sister and sister-in-law of Fred and Louise Sharpless.

Scope and Contents

This collection includes correspondence while Sharpless was a missionary in Japan, an artbook, a birthday album, teaching certifiicates, among other materials.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Haverford College Quaker & Special Collections March 2016

Use Restrictions

Standard Federal Copyright Law Applies (U.S. Title 17).

Acquisition

Gift of Marianne Sharpless Potts, September 2002 and Charles Perry, January 1991. Accession # 6743, 5438

Processing Information

Processed by Mary A. Crauderueff; completed March 2016.

Related Materials

Related materials

MC 1153 Esther B. Rhoads papers

Controlled Access Headings

Geographic Name(s)

- Japan

Subject(s)

- Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends
- Quaker missionaries
- Society of Friends -- Missions
- Society of Friends -- Missions -- Japan
- Women--Political activity--Japan

Collection Inventory

Letters 1941

Scope and Contents

Correspondents include Lydia Cope Sharpless, Fred and Louise Sharpless, and John and Edward Rich. They describe the way foreigners, including missionaries, were living, Japanese customs and culture, and Sharpless' efforts to apply the knowledge to her behavior. They also refer to Haverford College missions in China, her teaching responsibilities, the impact of a July 27, 1941 flood, thoughts about deciding to stay in Japan, the impact of the war on community of foreigners and living in Japan when most foreigners had left.

Artbook

Scope and Contents

Artbook created by 4th year students at Keisen Girls' School, depicting their week.

Album

Scope and Contents

This album was a birthday album, primarily written by Edith to her mother, Lydia Sharpless in 1936. It also includes greetings from others, including Gurney Binford, Esther Rhoads, and Arishima Takeo (transcribed from Japanese about Haverford College and Isaac Sharpless), and a water color drawing by Anna Cope Hartshorne, a signed print by Mary Vaux Walvott, and photographs of other Quaker missionaries.