Smithsonian
Freer Gallery of Art and
Arthur M. Sackler Gallery

Alexander Coburn Soper Typescript

Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery Archives
National Museum of Asian Art Archives
Washington, D.C. 20013
AVRreference@si.edu
https://asia.si.edu/research/archives/

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery Archives
Title:	Alexander Coburn Soper Typescript
Date:	1977-1992
Identifier:	FSA.A1990.05
Creator:	Soper, Alexander Coburn, 1904-1993 (Donor)
Extent:	2 Linear feet
Language:	English .

Administrative Information

Provenance

Donated by Alexander C. Soper, 1991.

Preferred Citation

Alexander Coburn Soper Typescript. FSA.A1990.05. National Museum of Asian Art Archives. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Biographical / Historical

Alexander Coburn Soper was a preeminent professor and historian of Asian art, concentrating primarily on Japanese and Chinese architecture, Chinese art from the Tang through the Northern Sung period, Gandharan Indian art, and Buddhist and secular art of the Six Dynasties period. Published widely, he became the editor of the journal Artisbus Asiae in 1958. Over the course of his life he was active in the American Oriental Society, the Japan Society, and the Association for Asian Studies. He was a professor of Art History at Bryn Mawr and the Institute of Fine Arts in New York.

Biographical / Historical

Sherwood Ford Moran (1885-1983) was a missionary, social worker, Marine, World War II PoW interrogator, and Asian art scholar. He studied Union Theological Seminary in New York and was then enlisted for work initially in India, but rerouted to Japan in 1917, mostly in the area of Osaka, remaining there until the entry of the United States in World War II in 194. During the war, he was an active Marine and a PoW interrogator at Guadacanal. He became extremely interested in Chinese and Japanese Buddhist art, publishing several articles in Artibus Asiae.

Scope and Contents

Offprints of articles by Sherwood F. Moran compiled by Alexander Coburn Soper, accompanied by photographs, a reproduction, and Soper's introduction typescript, assembled in preparation for an unpublished book of Moran' writing entitled "Studies in Japanese Art Treasures."

Arrangement

Organized in 3 boxes: 2 boxes contain files from 1977-1992 regarding Artibus Asiae. 1 box houses an introduction to the typescript, Moran's offprints, photos.

Local Numbers

FSA A1990.05

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Art, Chinese
Art, Japanese

Types of Materials:

Personal papers -- 1950-2000
Photographs -- 1950-2000
Typescripts

Names:

Moran, Sherwood E., 1885-1983

Occupations:

Art historians

Places:

China
Japan
New York (N.Y.)
USA -- New York -- New York