



Smithsonian

National Museum of Natural History

Guide to the Frank Nicholas Meyer collection of Chinese prints

National Anthropological Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Anthropological Archives
Title:	Frank Nicholas Meyer collection of Chinese prints
Date:	undated
Identifier:	NAA.MS253207
Creator:	Meyer, Frank Nicholas (Collector)
Extent:	5 Prints
Language:	Chinese .

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The prints were given to Frank Nicholas Meyer by the head priest of a temple at Mount Wutai. Meyer donated the collection to the Smithsonian in 1908 (USNM Accession 46472). The collection was transferred from the object collections of the Department of Anthropology to the National Anthropological Archives at an unknown date prior to 1984.

Processing Information

The items in this collection were originally cataloged individually by the NAA under their USNM catalog numbers, MS 253207, MS 253208, and MS 253209. In 2023, the collection was reprocessed and all items were incorporated into a single collection under MS 253207.

Preferred Citation

Frank Nicholas Meyer collection of Chinese prints (MS 253207), National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

The collection is open for research.
Access to the collection requires an appointment.

Conditions Governing Use

Contact the repository for terms of use.

Biographical Note

Frank Nicholas Meyer (1875-1918) was an agricultural explorer in China for the US Department of Agriculture Bureau of Plant Industry.

Scope and Contents

The collection consists of five (5) prints collected by Meyer in Shanxi, China. One print is a plan for a temple, and there are two sets of two prints of Chinese characters.

Please note that the contents of the collection and the language and terminology used reflect the context and culture of the time of its creation. As an historical document, its contents may be at odds with contemporary views and terminology and considered offensive today. The information within this collection does not reflect the views of the Smithsonian Institution or National Anthropological Archives, but is available in its original form to facilitate research.

Local Numbers

NAA MS 253207

USNM Accession 49472

Names and Subject Terms

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

Subjects:

- Architecture
- Chinese

Cultures:

- Chinese

Types of Materials:

- Woodblock prints
- Works of art

Places:

- East Asia
- Wutai Xian (China)

Container Listing

Folder 1	Plan for the Nanchan temple at Mount Wutai 1 Print (red ink on white paper; 37 x 67 inches) Image(s): Print of a plan for a Chinese temple
Folder 2, Item 1-2	Ancient Chinese characters 2 Prints (red ink on white paper; 27 x 55 inches) Image(s): Print representing ancient Chinese characters Notes: Two copies of a print said to represent an ancient Chinese character drawn by an emperor.
Folder 2, Item 3-4	Ancient Chinese characters 2 Prints (red ink on white paper; 27 x 55 inches) Image(s): Print representing ancient Chinese characters Notes: Two copies of a print said to represent an ancient Chinese character drawn by an emperor.