

MANUSCRIPT DIVISION

Payap College

Record Group Siam and Laos Missions. Board of Foreign Missions.
Presbyterian Church in the United States of America
Control Number 028/79
Inclusive Dates 1840-1910
Terms of Use According to the archival policy of the Church of
Christ in Thailand

Introduction

This record group consists of twelve reels of microfilmed records of American Presbyterian missionaries in Siam. These reels were given by Dr. Maen Pongudom and are from master negatives at the Presbyterian Historical Society, Philadelphia, USA. The original documents no longer exist.

These records cover the whole period of 1840 to 1910 including records for the Laos Mission. They contain primarily correspondence, reports, and minutes from the field with only some correspondence to the field. Financial records, statistics, printed matter, and other miscellaneous materials are also included. In all, these records represent an excellent documentary summary of the history of Presbyterian missions in Siam and have important research uses in a number of other fields.

Historical Statement

The first Presbyterian missionaries arrived in Siam in 1840, but permanent work did not begin until 1847. In 1861, the Siam Mission opened its second station, at Phet Buri; and in 1867 the Rev. Daniel McGilvary family opened a station at Chiang Mai which became the nucleus for the Laos Mission in northern Siam. The Siam and Laos Missions developed independently until 1920 when, owing to improved transportation, the two were merged into the American Presbyterian Mission. Both missions were actively engaged in evangelistic, medical, and educational activities and were responsible for introducing various Western technologies into Siam.

Comments

These reels include records regarding all facets and all significant figures involved in Presbyterian missions in Siam. One of the advantages in using these microfilm reels is that calendar are included for all correspondence.

Other records groups that the interested reader should consult include the Records of the American Presbyterian Mission, RG 001/78(a), The Papers of Paul A. Eskin, RG 017/80, the Records of the Phet Buri Church, RG 032/79, the Records of the Thailand Theological Seminary Church History Committee, RG 026/79(a), and the Research Papers of Maen Pongudom, RG 026/79(c). The Manuscript Division also holds numerous other photographs, individual items, and oral history recordings relevant to Presbyterian mission in Siam.

Herbert R. Swanson

May 31, 1982

Draft

Notes

In 1983, The Church of Christ in Thailand had payed a sum of money for microfilming the records of the Board of Foreign Mission. In September 1983, Payap University has received the set of Microfilm, 10 reels. They are the 16 mm. positive microfilms. At the first part of the last reel, there is a join. On the first reel, there is a guide for this set. The set is comprised of three series of record:

Series I North Siam (North Laos) Mission, 1865-1920.

Series I consists of the minutes of the North Siam Mission, 1892-1920 Station reports, 1876-1920, Personal reports, 1896-1920 Calendared Correspondence, 1911-1920 and Statistical Summaries, 1894, 1911-1920 are also included. Board letters 1915-1917 General Correspondence, 1865-1923, Executive Correspondence, 1898-1911 and General Reports, 1913, 1916 also can be found

The contents of Series I are arranged chronologically by year, month and day with the exception of the Personal reports which are arranged alphabetically by missionary. The Calendared correspondence, which has been numbered has no discernable order and no attempt was made to impose one. A typed calendar appears at the beginning of the folder.

Series II South Siam Mission, 1911-1922.

Series II is comprised of the Minutes of the South Siam Mission, 1911-1920, Station Reports, 1911-1920, Personal reports, 1911-1920 and Calendared correspondence, 1911-1920. Also included are the mission's Statistical Summaries, 1911-1920, Board letters, 1913-1920 and miscellaneous items, 1915-1922.

The contents of Series II are generally arranged chronologically by year, month and day. Personal reports are arranged alphabetically by missionary. The Calendared correspondence has been numbered and has no discernable order. No attempt was made to impose one. A typed calendar appears at the beginning of the folder.

Series III Siam (Thailand) Mission, 1921-1973.

Series III is comprised of Personal reports, 1921-1969, General reports, 1954-1970 and miscellaneous reports 1930-1933. Also included are the Minutes of the Siam Mission, 1921-1968,. Board letters, 1921-1948, Statistical Summaries, 1921-1934 and Cables, 1927-1955 Avariety of correspondence files comprises the bulk of the series, including Station correspondence, 1897-1947 Missionary correspondence, 1882-1965, Executive correspondence 1926-1972, Field Administrator correspondence,

1947-1957 and Institutional/Property correspondence 1932-1972. General correspondence, 1928-1972, correspondence with nationals and non-missionaries, 1926-1939 and miscellaneous correspondence, 1920-1929 are also included Estimates and appropriations, 1938-1969 and a miscellaneous file, 1893-1948 can also be found.

Personal reports are arranged alphabetically by missionary. Minutes, Board letters and Station correspondence are arranged chronologically by year, month and day. Missionary correspondence, Executive correspondence, Field Administrator correspondence and the remaining correspondence files are arranged chronologically by year only.

The description of the contents of the third Series does not match the microfilm. The data is up until 1930 only, not 1973 as the description states. So readers have to be careful. I, myself have read this microfilm and have written this as a temporary guide. Any readers who find the mistakes in the guide, please take a note and give it to our librarian. We will be glad to have your suggestions.

Thank you for your kindness.

Chayan Hiranpan
Acting Director
Payap University Archives
20/6/85

CH/LD
21/6/85

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Contents List

Reel Number One:

Volume	1	Siam Letters	44 items	1840-1844
	2		254 items	1847-1865
	3		347 items	1865-1876

Reel One ends with Item 9 of Volume 3.

Reel Number Two:

Volume	3	Siam Letters (continued)	347 items	1865-1876
	4	Siam Mission	278 items	1872-1884

Reel Two ends with Item 37 of Volume 4.

Reel Number Three:

Volume	4	Siam Mission (continued)	278 items	1872-1884
	5	Siam Mission Letters	117 items	1885-1886

Reel Three ends with Item 91 of Volume 5.

Reel Number Four:

Volume	5	Siam Mission Letters (continued)	117 items	1885-1886
	6	Siam Letters	128 items	1887-1888
	7		137 items	1889-1890
	8		144 items	1891-1892

Reel Four ends with item 41 of Volume 8.

Reel Number Five:

Volume	8	Siam Letters (continued)	144 items	1891-1892
	9	Siam Letters	70 items	1891-1893
		- Laos Mission		
	10	Siam Letters	114 items	1893-1895

Reel Number Six:

Volume	11	Siam Letters - Laos Mission	81 items	1894-1895
	12	Siam Letters	50 items	1896-1897
	13	Siam Letters - North Laos Mission	113 items	1896-1897
	14	Siam Letters	59 items	1898-1899
	15	Siam Letters - North Laos Mission	115 items	1898-1899

Reel Six ends with Item 6 of Volume 15.

Reel Number Seven:

Volume	15	Siam Letters (continued)	115 items	1898-1899
	16		44 items	1900
	17	- South Siam Mission	40 items	1900
	18	- Bangkok & Southern Mission (Boon Itt Case)	27 items	1891-1900
	19	Siam Minutes	-	1890-1898
	20	Siam Reports	-	1885-1899
	21	Siam (North Laos) Minutes	-	1889-1898

Reel Number Eight:

Volume	22	Siam (North Laos) Minutes	-	1886-1899
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Reel Number Nine:

Volume	270	Philippine Reports	-	1899-1910
	271	Siam Letters - Laos Mission	98 items	1902
	272		67 items	1903
	273		78 items	1904
	274		81 items	1905
	175		105 items	1906
	276		83 items	1907
	277		77 items	1908

Reel Nine ends with Item 8 of Volume 277.

Reel Number Ten:

Volume 277	Siam Letters' (continued)	77 items	1908
278		53 items	1909
279		58 items	1910
280	North Siam Minutes	-	1900-1910
281	North Siam Reports	-	1900-1910
282	Siam Letters - South Siam Mission	51 items	1901
283		68 items	1902

Reel Number Eleven:

Volume 284	Siam Letters - South Siam Mission	62 items	1903
285		61 items	1904
286		72 items	1905
287		58 items	1906
288		55 items	1907
289		59 items	1908
290		35 items	1909
291		49 items	1910
292/1	Siam Letters (outgoing)	120 items	1904-1907
292/2		111 items	1907-1910

Reel Number Twelve:

Volume 293	Siam Minutes	-	1900-1910
294	Siam Reports	-	1900-1910

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Contents List

Reel number one :

Series I North Siam (North Laos) Mission 1865-1920	
Minutes	1892, 1911-1920
Station Reports	1876-1886, 1900-1901, 1911-1920
Personal Reports	1896-1898, 1901, 1911-1920
Calendared Correspondence	1911-1920

Reel number two :

Calendared Correspondence	1911-1920 (cont.)
Statistical Summaries	1894, 1911-1920
Board Letters	1915-1917
Correspondence	1865-1923

Reel number three :

Correspondence	1865-1923 (cont.)
Reports	1913, 1916

Series II South Siam Mission 1911-1920

Minutes	1911-1920
Station Reports	1911-1920
Personal Reports	1911-1920
Calendared Correspondence	1911-1920

Reel number four :

Calendared Correspondence	1911-1920 (cont.)
Statistical Summaries	1911-1919
Board Letters	1918-1920
Miscellaneous	1915-1922

Series III Siam (Thailand) Mission 1921-1973

Personal Reports	1921-1930
Station/Institutional Reports	1921-1930

Reel number five :

Station/Institutional Reports	1921-1930 (cont.)
Miscellaneous Reports	1930-1933
Minutes	1921-1930
Cables	1927-1930
Board Letters	1921-1930

Reel number six :

Board Letters	1921-1930 (cont.)
Statistical Summaries	1921-1930
Station Correspondence	1897-1930

Reel number seven :

Station Correspondence	1897-1930 (cont.)
Calendared Correspondence	1921-1925

Reel number eight :

Calendared Correspondence	1921-1925 (cont.)
Missionary Correspondence	1882-1930

Reel number nine :

Missionary Correspondence	1882-1930 (cont.)
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Reel number ten :

Missionary Correspondence	1882-1930 (cont.)
Executive Correspondence	1926-1930
General Correspondence	1928
Correspondence-non Missionaries	1926-1930
Miscellaneous Correspondence	1920-1921
Miscellaneous items "A - Z"	1898-1948