

Guide to the Mathilde and Louise Killingsworth Papers 1947-1986



Mathilde and Louise Killingsworth Papers

1947-1986

0.45 cubic feet

gcsh.ms.3809

The purpose of this finding aid is to help you understand the nature of this collection and to assist you in the retrieval of material from this collection. The following pages contain a brief biographical history of the person, or persons, who created or collected these papers, followed by a general description of the collection in the scope and content note. If more detailed information is warranted then series descriptions also appear. The container listing appears last and is the listing of material in each box, or container, of this collection. To request material you need to turn to the container listing section. It is essentially a listing of file folders, or artifact items, in the collection. Each folder, or item, has a call number associated with it. Each folder also lists the inclusive dates of the material in the folder. On the material request form list both the call number and the folder, or item, title. Use a different line for each folder, or item, requested. When your request sheet is complete, or full, bring it to the archivist and the material will be retrieved.

Biographical Note

Mathilde Killingsworth (1904-1986) was an American missionary. She was born on March 14, 1904 in Fayette, Mississippi. She received a B.A. degree from the University of Mississippi, and an M.A. from Scarritt College. In 1936, she was commissioned and appointed to China as a missionary for the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. When the Sino-Japanese war broke out, Killingsworth worked in the Tai Wha Christian Community Center, Korea, for six months before returning to China. Upon returning to China, she worked in the Shanghai refugee camps. From 1938 until 1941, she worked at the Hong Kong Institutional Church in Soochow.

Sometime after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Killingsworth was ordered to return to the United States. She was transferred to the China Office of the Board of Mission in New York City. By 1946, she was allowed to return to Soochow and resumed her work at the Moore Memorial Church in Shanghai. Killingsworth began working with the Methodist Church in Malaya in 1954. During her stay she worked with the Kampong Kapor Methodist Church in Singapore for a year and a half and then as a treasurer and field correspondent with the Women's Division in Malaya and Singapore for six and a half years.

Upon returning to the United States in 1963, she served as a field worker, along with her sister Louise, for the Department of Christian Social Relations and the Board of Christian Social Concerns. Then in 1965, both she and Louise, transferred from the World Division to the National Division of the Board of Missions of the Methodist Church. The reason for this transfer was to work as deaconesses in the Upper Mississippi Conference of the Central Jurisdiction. Killingsworth retired in 1969 and died in 1986.

Scope Note

Mathilde Killingsworth's materials includes several brief biographical materials created for various board reports and a diary/journal from either Mathilde or her sister. There are also correspondence from both her private and professional life. The two articles in the collection reflect both sisters work within the church and Mathilde's obituary. Other record types include portraits of Mathilde and a large collection of photographs and slides taken in Singapore, China, Jackson, and Clarksdale, Mississippi.

Arrangement

Material has been arranged in the following manner. Material is arranged by record type, and then chronologically by calendar date.

Access Restrictions



There are no restrictions regarding this collection.

Preferred Citation

When citing material from this collection please use the following format: Direct reference to the item or its file folder, Louise and Mathilde Killingsworth Collection, United Methodist Church Archives - GCAH, Madison, New Jersey. Do not make use of the item's call number as that is not a stable descriptor.

Index Terms

Additional Creators - Personal

Killingsworth, Louise.

Subject Names - Corporate

Methodist Church. Board of Missions and Church Extension
Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Board of Missions. Woman's Section

Subject Topics

Missionaries
Women, Methodist.
World War, 1939-1945 -War work -Methodist Church

Subject Geographic

China
Mississippi
Singapore.

Genre

Articles
Certificates
Correspondence
Diaries
Photographs
Slides.

Occupations

missionary.

Container List

Call Number	Folder Title	Date(s)
1553-1-2:1	Biographical Information	1963-1969
1553-1-2:5	Certificates	1969-1977
1553-1-2:6	Photographs: Singapore	1961-1965
1553-1-2:7	Photographs: Clarksdale	1966-1968
1553-1-2:8	Photographs: Miscellaneous	1948-1963
1553-1-2:9	Photographs: Portraits	1947
1553-1-2:10	Photographs: Miscellaneous	1955-1963