

Yen, Collection of W. W., materials

Collection of W. W. Yen materials

1899-1974

Title Statement

Yen, Collection of W. W., materials Collection of W. W. Yen materials MSS 16323

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Publication Statement

Publisher: Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library

Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library
P.O. Box 400110
University of Virginia
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Profile Description

Creation: This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2026-03-05 17:50:17 +0000.

Language Usage: English

Descriptive Rules: Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

MSS 16323

Unit ID

[Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID

[Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID

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Unit ID

/repositories/3/resources/488

Unit Date

1899-1974

Mixed Materials [X030869155]

1 (box)

Language

Three items are in English, one item is in Chinese.

Creator

Yen, Hui-ch'ing, 1877-1950

Extent

0.5 Cubic Feet 1 document box

Repository

Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research use.

Provenance

Materials are on deposit from the Yen family, 2016.

Preferred Citation:

MSS 16323, Collection of W. W. Yen materials, Albert & Shirley Small Special Collections Library, University of Virginia

Biographical Note

Yen Hui-Ch'ing, (Name in English: Yen, Wei Ching Williams or W.W. Yen) was born on 2 April 1877 and passed away on 24 May 1950. He was a Chinese writer, politician, and diplomat from Shanghai.

A graduate of the University of Virginia, he taught the English language at St. John's University, Shanghai in a short time after coming back from the United States and then went to Beijing to start his political career. It was in the US he became a Freemason.

He served as premier five times and simultaneously as acting president on his last premiership in 1926. Wu Peifu handpicked him for the acting presidency to pave the way for Cao Kun's restoration but he was unable to take office due to Zhang Zuolin's objection. When Yan finally took his post, he immediately resigned and appointed navy minister Du Xigui as his successor.

He was also China's first ambassador to the Soviet Union and he was a delegate in the League of Nations. During World War II, he translated and compiled Stories of Old China in Hong Kong while under Japanese house-arrest in 1942. He took his first plane trip in 1949 to Moscow in hopes of resolving the Chinese Civil War.

Source: "Yan Huiqing." Wikipedia, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yan_Huiqing. Accessed 12 July 2017.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection consists of three published books and one notebook. The Moral philosophy notebook and Standard Masonic Monitor have been digitized by the library.

Keywords

Notebooks

diaries

Autobiography (genre)

University of Virginia--Students--Social life and customs.

Description of Subordinate Components

Standard Masonic Monitor / George E. Simons

Unit ID 1

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/54177

Unit Date 1899

Digital Archival Object

Standard Masonic Monitor / George E. Simons: 1899

Language English

Moral philosophy notebook.

Unit ID 2

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/54178

Unit Date 1898-1899

Digital Archival Object

Moral philosophy notebook.: 1898-1899

Language English

Scope and Contents

Handwritten notebook of W. W. Yen.

East-West Kaleidoscope 1877-1944: An Autobiography by W. W. Yen

Unit ID 3

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/54179

Unit Date 1974

Language English

Diaries. Chinese / Hui-ch`ing Yen

Unit ID 4

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/54181

Unit Date 1996

Language Chinese

Pocket Watch

Unit ID [Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID [Previous Archival Resource Key](#)

Unit ID /repositories/3/archival_objects/209656

Unit Date circa 1910s