

**FINDING AID 3058**

FONDS 3058  
COATES FAMILY FONDS

Accession Number 1986.053C  
Accession Number 1986.067C

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Revised by Amanda Tomé, December 2017

Updated by Laura Hallman, November 2023

**COATES FAMILY FONDS. – 1886-1977. – 1.03 m of textual records. --103 photographs. --2 scrapbooks.**

Harper Havelock Coates (1865-1934) and Agnes Wintemute Coates (1864-1945) were missionaries to Japan in the late nineteenth and earlier twentieth century. Agnes Wintemute Coates was born near St. Thomas, Ontario, in 1864. She studied at Normal School and Alma College (Mistress of Arts). She was sent by the Women's Missionary Society (Methodist) to Japan in 1886. She taught school until 1893, when she married Harper H. Coates and resigned from the Women's Missionary Society. She raised a family, and continued to teach school. She also studied and taught nutrition. She had many Japanese friends, converted to Ba'h'ai, and remained in Japan after her husband's death. She died in 1945. Harper Havelock Coates was born near Prescott, Ontario, in 1865. He studied at Victoria University (M.A., D.D.), and was ordained in 1888. He went to Japan (ca. 1890) as part of Dr. Eby's "Self-Support Band" and taught English in government schools until 1892. He was a missionary at Central Tabernacle, Tokyo, until 1902, Professor of Theology at Aoyama College until ca. 1914, and an evangelist at Hamamatsu and Kanazawa until his death in 1934. He was an expert in Japanese language and customs. He had a special interest in Buddhism, and he co-authored a major study of Honen, a Buddhist reformer. He also wrote poetry and music.

Fonds consists of correspondence of Agnes Coates, 1891-1943; addresses and diaries of Agnes Coates, 1886-1887, 1935; annotated copy of Agnes Coates' book, "The Sure Road to Health; or "What Can Be Learned From The Nutrition Laboratory"; correspondence, diaries and addresses of Harper H. Coates, 1892-1913; family correspondence, 1910-1977; biographical and genealogical notes; three boxes of unsorted notes of Willson Coates for planned biography; 2 scrapbooks and 103 photographs.

Acc.	Box-File	Title	Date(s)
1986.053C	1-1	Correspondence	1891-1900
	1-2	---	1900-1913
	1-3	---	1914-1917
	1-4	---	1918
	1-5	---	1919
	1-6	---	1920-1922
	1-7	---	1923-1927
	1-8	---	1928-1929
	1-9	---	1930-1931
	1-10	---	1932-1934
	1-11	---	1935-1936
	1-12	---	1937-1938
	1-13	---	1939
	1-14	---	1940-1941
	1-15	---	1942-1943
	1-16	---	n.d.
	1-17	---	n.d.
	2-18	Articles and speeches	
	2-19	Miscellaneous	
	2-20	Diary	1886
	2-21	---	1886
	2-22	---	1886-1887
	2-23	---	1887
	2-24	---. Japanese impressions	1935
	2-25	The Sure Road to Health. Or What can be learned from the Nutrition Laboratory	
	3-1	Correspondence	1892-1914
	3-2	---	1915-1916
	3-3	---	1917-1918
	3-4	---	1919-1920

Acc.	Box-File	Title	Date(s)
	3-5	---	1921-1934
	3-6	---. re death and tributes	1934
	3-7	---. death and tributes	1935
	3-8	Miscellaneous cars, letters, clippings	
	3-9	---. in Japanese	
	3-10	Harper and Agnes Coates' degree parchments	
	3-11	Poetry and songs and miscellaneous	
	3-12	Diary trip to Europe	1913
	3-13	---. trip to Europe	1913
	3-14	---	1912-1915
	3-15	Address delivered to fellow passengers on S.S. Cleaveland	1913
1986.067C	1-1	Bertha Coates correspondence	1924-1968
	1-2	---	1969-1975
	1-3	Carol Coates correspondence	1914-1931
	1-4	---	1951-1970
	1-5	---	1971-1977
	1-6	---	1971-1977
	1-7	Laura Coates correspondence	1940
	1-8	---	1958-1975
	1-9	Lila Coates correspondence	1916-1948
	1-10	---	1949-1955
	1-11	---	1967-1971
	1-12	---	1972-1977
	1-13	Mary Coates correspondence	1914-1946
	1-14	Wells Coates correspondence	1910-1918
	1-15	---	1918-1930
	1-16	---	1931-1946
	1-17	Willson Coates correspondence	1914-1920
	1-18	---	1921-1930
	1-19	---	1923-1939
	5-1	Wells Coates' Address to 1957 architecture graduation class, Univ. of British Columbia	1957
	5-2	Willson H. Coates – trip to Japan	
	5-3	---	1971
	5-4	Correspondence re biography of parents	1971
	5-5	---	
	5-6	Coates family historical information	
	5-7	Coates' genealogical and biographic information	
	5-8	Hilda Coates' draft of history of husband's parents	
	5-9	Notes re Agnes Coates for biography	
	6	Unsorted material for biography	
	7	Unsorted material for biography	
	8	Unsorted material for biography	

## Photographs

Series consists of 103 photographs and 2 scrapbooks relating to the life of the Coates Family, and especially mission work in Japan.

See Archives Catalogue for item-level description of photographs.