

University of Chicago Library Special Collections Research Center

Guide to the Margaret Park Redfield Papers 1916-1975



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Descriptive Summary

Identifier ICU.SPCL.PARKRED

Title Redfield, Margaret Park. Papers

Date 1916-1975(inclusive)

Size 1.75 linear feet (4 boxes)

Repository 1100 East 57th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637

Abstract The papers of Margaret Park Redfield, anthropologist and wife of Robert Redfield, include personal correspondence with family and friends, correspondence related to the publication of Robert E. Park: Biography of a Sociologist and China's Gentry, and miscellaneous professional writings.

Information on Use

Access

No restrictions

Citation

When quoting material from this collection the preferred citation is:

Redfield, Margaret Park. Papers, [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

Biographical Note

Margaret Lucy Park, daughter of Clara Cahill and Robert Ezra Park, was born December 6, 1898 in Lansing, Michigan. She grew up in Wollaston, Massachusetts, where the Park family lived while Robert Park worked as an assistant to Booker T. Washington at the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. After graduation from high school in Quincy, Massachusetts, and a year of study at Wellesley College, she transferred to the College of the University of Chicago. In 1920, she received her PhB in anthropology and married Robert Redfield, a classmate and son of a Chicago lawyer. The Redfield family eventually grew to include four children: Lisa (b. 1924), Robert III (b. 1926, d. 1938), Joanna (b. 1930), and James (b. 1935).

Margaret Park Redfield's anthropological writings were based on field work conducted with her husband in the Mexican towns of Tepoztlan, Dzitاس, and Chan Kom. She also accompanied Robert Redfield on a trip to China in 1948-1949, during which she renewed her acquaintance with Fei Hsiao-tung, a noted Chinese sociologist and anthropologist who had studied with her father and whose work she edited for publication in the United States. Following the death of Robert Redfield in 1958, Mrs. Redfield compiled two volumes of her husband's papers for the

University of Chicago Press, *Human Nature and the Study of Society* (1962) and *The Social Uses of Social Science* (1963). She died February 6, 1977.

Scope Note

The papers of Margaret Park Redfield, anthropologist and wife of Robert Redfield, consist of 1.75 linear feet of material. It includes personal correspondence with family and friends, correspondence related to the publication of Robert E. Park: *Biography of a Sociologist and China's Gentry*, and miscellaneous professional writings.

The papers have been arranged into three series: Correspondence, Publications on China, and Other Writings and Memorabilia. The correspondence series is largely personal in nature but also includes significant information on the careers of Robert E. Park and Robert Redfield. This series also includes exchanges with Winifred Raushenbush. Series II, Publications on China, includes correspondence, drafts, photography, contracts regarding her two works, *Earthbound China: A Study of Rural Economy in Yunnan* and *China's Gentry: Essays in Rural-Urban Relations*. Series III, Writings and Memorabilia, contains a group of her anthropological writings.

Subject Headings

- Redfield, Margaret Park
- Redfield, Robert
- Park, Robert Ezra
- Raushenbush, Winifred
- Fei, Xiaotong
- University of Chicago. Dept. of Anthropology
- Anthropology
- Anthropologists

INVENTORY

Series I: Correspondence

Though largely personal in nature, the correspondence of Margaret Park Redfield contains significant information on the careers of Robert E. Park and Robert Redfield. In addition to letters from Park describing his experiences in Europe and the Pacific Northwest, this series includes a lengthy exchange with Winifred Raushenbush concerning the argument and factual details of Raushenbush's study, Robert E. Park: *Biography of a Sociologist* (1979). Robert Redfield's letters to his wife are an important supplement to the professional material in the Redfield Papers; typically, as in his group of reports from Chan Kom, Yucatan, discussions of family matters are mingled with revealing accounts of his work in the field. Mrs. Redfield's replies have been made part of the Robert Redfield Papers Addenda.

Box 1

Folder 1

Chen, Lucy

Box 1

Folder 2

Fei, Hsiao-tung

Box 1

Folder 3

Gutmann, Joanna Redfield

Box 1

Folder 4

Levine, Donald

Box 1

Folder 5

Park, Clara Cahill, 1916-1931

Box 1

Folder 6

Park, Clara Cahill, 1932-1948

Box 1

Folder 7

Park, Clara Cahill, undated

Box 1

Folder 8

Park, Robert Ezra

Box 1

Folder 9

Park, Robert H.

Box 1

Folder 10

Peattie, Lisa Redfield

Box 1

Folder 11

Raushenbush, Winifred, 1952-1967

Box 1

Folder 12

Raushenbush, Winifred, 1968-1971

Box 2

Folder 1

Raushenbush, Winifred, 1972-1975

Box 2

Folder 2

Raushenbush, Winifred, undated

Box 2

Folder 3

Redfield, Bertha Dreier

Box 2

Folder 4

Redfield, Robert, 1918-1919

Box 2

Folder 5

Redfield, Robert, 1920-1929

Box 2

Folder 6

Redfield, Robert, 1930

Box 2

Folder 7

Redfield, Robert, 1933-1939

Box 2

Folder 8

Redfield, Robert, 1941-1950

Box 2

Folder 9-11

Redfield, Robert, undated

Box 3

Folder 1-3

Redfield, Robert, undated

Box 3

Folder 4

Redfield, Robert, III

Box 3

Folder 4a

Singer, Milton S.

Box 3

Folder 5

Tawney, Jeanette (Mrs. R. H.)

Box 3

Folder 6

Miscellaneous Correspondence with family and friends

Box 3

Folder 7

Miscellaneous correspondence with scholars concerning Robert E. Park and Robert Redfield (includes Charles Leslie, Fred Matthews, Ralph H. Turner, and Alfonso Villa Rojas)

Box 3

Folder 7a

Correspondence between Charles Leslie and Margaret Park Redfield

Box 3

Folder 7b

Correspondence between Charles Leslie and various scholars concerning reminiscences about Robert Redfield

Series II: Publications on China

Mrs. Redfield edited two works by Fei Hsiao-tung, *Earthbound China: A Study of Rural Economy in Yunnan* (1945) and *China's Gentry: Essays in Rural-Urban Relations* (1953). Although both books received favorable reviews in the United States, a British edition of *China's Gentry* issued by Cambridge University Press provoked controversy when Cedric Dover charged

that the Redfields had unwittingly exacerbated cold war tensions by publishing a work that its author had, under the influence of Mao-Tse-tung, repudiated. The Redfields defended themselves on the grounds that their translation had been dictated by Fei and published in the West at Fei's express instructions (1:2, 3:12).

Box 3

Folder 8

Royalty payments for Earthbound China, 1949-1953

Box 3

Folder 9

Correspondence with University of Chicago Press concerning Earthbound China and China's Gentry, 1951-1953

Box 3

Folder 10

Contract with University of Chicago Press for China's Gentry, 1952

Box 3

Folder 11

Draft introductions for life histories in China's Gentry

Box 3

Folder 12

Correspondence concerning a review of China's Gentry in Encounter, 1955-1957 (includes Cedric Dover, Robert Redfield, Irving Kristol, and Fei Hsiao-tung)

Box 3

Folder 13

Miscellaneous writings of Fei Hsiao-tung

Box 3

Folder 14

Photographs of Fei Hsiao-tung

Box 3

Folder 15

Biography of Fei Hsiao-tung by Robert M. Marsh

Series III: Other Writings and Memorabilia

This series contains a miscellaneous group of Margaret Park Redfield's anthropological writings. A more complete selection can be found in the following folders of the Robert Redfield Papers: Box 27 Folder 6 A Child is Born in Tepoztlan The Farmer's Tools The Folk Literature of a Yucatan Town Notes on the Cookery of Tepoztlan [annotated draft] Box 44 Folder 1 to Box 45 Folder 7 Ethnographic material collected by Robert Redfield, Margaret Park Redfield, and Alfonso Villa Rojas Box 48 Folder 3 Life History of Antonia Box 62 Folder 7 Disease and Its Treatment in Dzitas, Yucatan [written with Robert Redfield] Box 64 Folder 6 Correspondence concerning the publication of Human Nature and the Study of Society Box 82 Folder 1 Secular Social Attitudes Developed in Connection with the Maize Complex [student paper]

Box 3

Folder 16

"Chan Kom Viewed Again, "1973

Box 3

Folder 17

Field diary, undated

Box 4

Folder 17a

Tepoztlan diary, undated

Box 4

Folder 18

Guatemalan field materials (includes correspondence with Gertrude Tax)

Box 4

Folder 19

Human Nature and the Study of Society, introduction

Box 4

Folder 20

"Notes on the Cookery of Tepoztlan, Morelos, " reprint

Box 4

Folder 21

Reminiscence of Boulder and Tepoztlan, undated

Box 4

Folder 22

Review of Stith Thompson, The Folktale (1946)

Box 4

Folder 23

Newspaper clippings

Box 4

Folder 24

Wedding announcement, 1920

Box 4

Folder 25

Passports; 1949, 1969