

# Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center

## Selma Olivia Moberg missionary to China collection

MSS P:332

2 linear feet (1 box & 1 oversized box)

- Creator:** Moberg, Selma Olivia (1869-1934)
- Language:** English, Chinese, Swedish
- Access:** The collection is open for research. A limited amount of photocopies may be requested via mail.
- Subject headings:** Women missionaries--China  
Swedish Americans--Massachusetts--Brockton
- Finding aid prepared by:** Lisa Huntsha, 2013
- Related collections:** MSS P:332 Selma Olivia Moberg missionary to China collection
- Repository:** Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center  
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### Custodial History

Donated to the Swenson Center in 2013 by John F. Nystrom. Relation to the creator unknown.

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### Biographical Sketch

Selma Olivia Moberg was born on October 3, 1869 in Sweden. She served as a missionary to China from 1903-1924 through the South Chihli mission.

The South Chihli mission was an undenominational mission founded in 1896 by Rev. and Mrs. Horace W. Houlding from the United States. The mission was comprised of 14 missionaries, of 7 different denominations. It was considered to be entirely evangelical, with its main goal to bring the gospel to China. The South Chihli mission operated several stations throughout the Zhili (now Hebei) region south of Beijing. The mission headquarters was located at Tai-ming fu, with a farm, boys' school and orphanage, and girls' school and orphanage. Selma lived at worked at the Wei Hsien station. The South Chihli Mission dissolved in the 1920s.

Selma died on December 14, 1934 in Brockton, Massachusetts and is buried in Melrose Cemetery.

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## **Content**

The collection includes postcards Moberg send to Anna Bjork, publications from the mission (in English and Chinese), the New Testament in Chinese, and textiles and cultural objects from China.

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## **Inventory list**

### Box 1

#### Folders

1. Collection notes and family genealogical information from donor
2. Selma Moberg portrait and missionary photographs
3. Postcards from Selma Moberg to Anna Bjork (1906, 1910, 1911, 1912) in English, and to a Mrs. Bjork (1926) in Swedish
4. "Barley Cake" South Chihli Mission publication, 1912, 1914, 1915
5. South Chihli Mission Handbook, 1907 and South Chihli Mission Prayer List, 1906
6. Map of China mission area
7. Printed materials in Chinese
8. New Testament, in Chinese

### Box 2

13 cultural objects including: foot binding shoes (lotus slippers), adornments, chopsticks, a pouch, kimono fragments, and a kimono

Calendar with booklet "The Chinese Kitchen Gods"

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## **Publication Note**

When citing this collection, use the following credit line: Selma Olivia Moberg missionary to China collection (MSS P:332), Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois