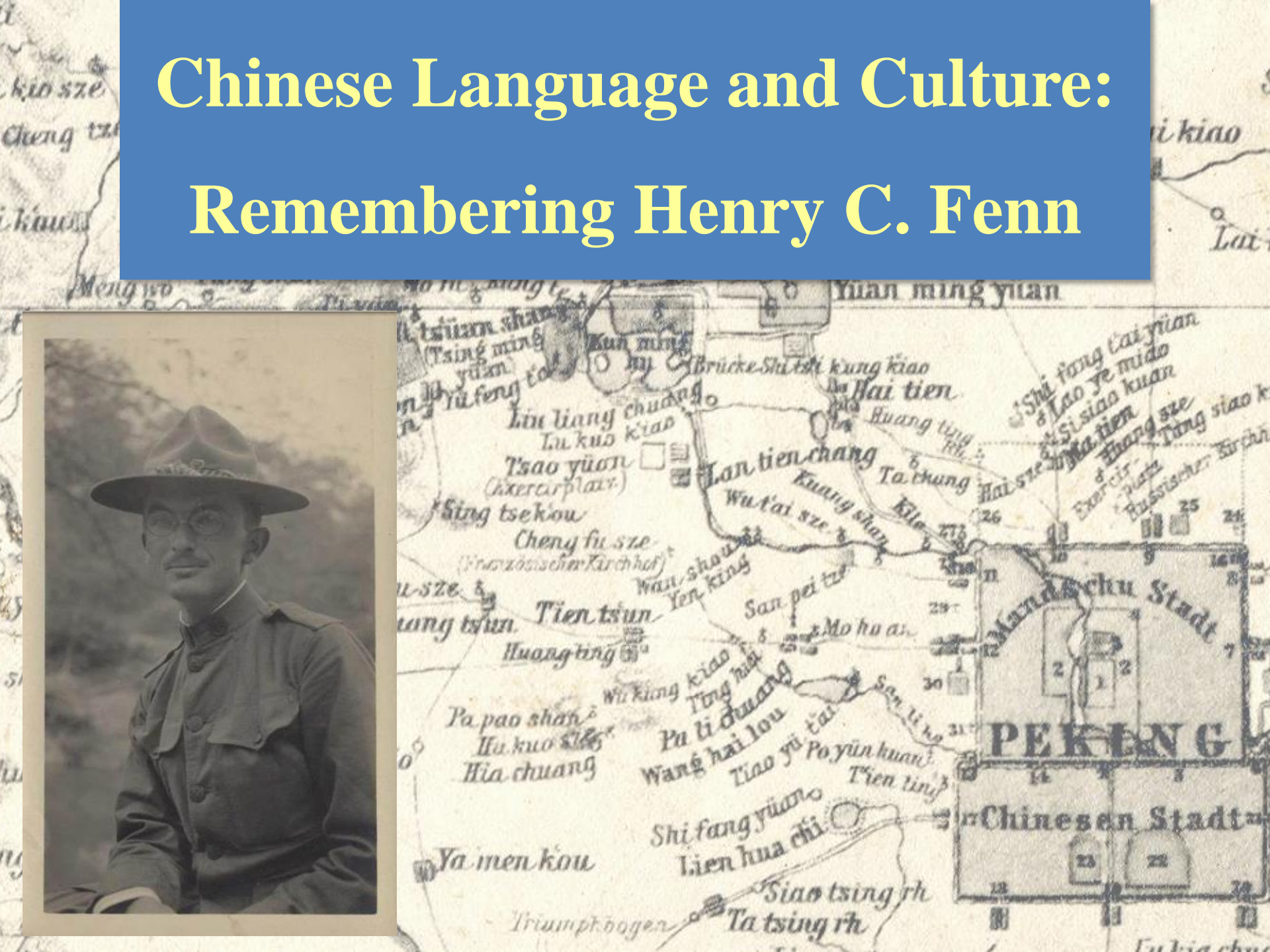
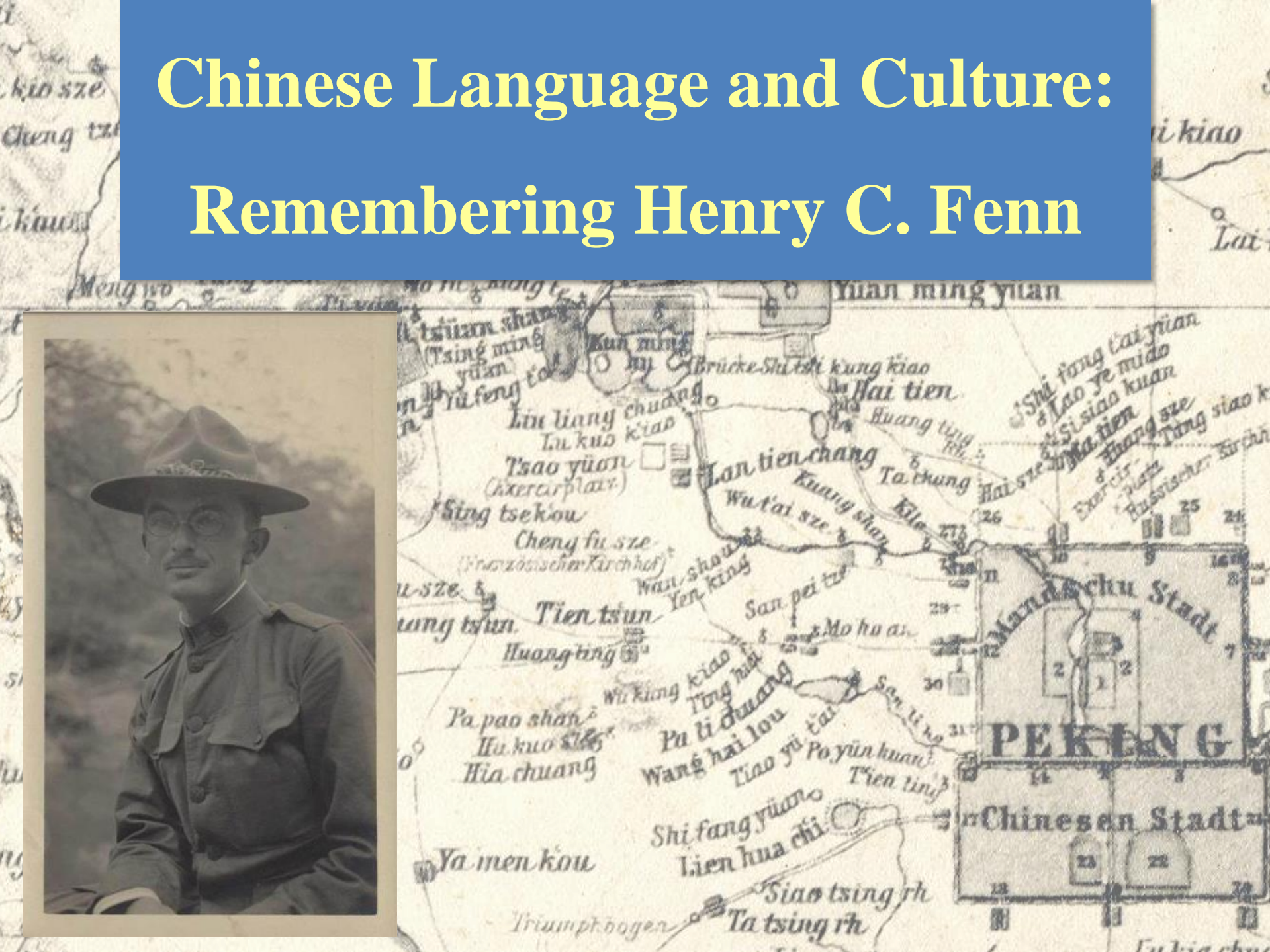


# Chinese Language and Culture: Remembering Henry C. Fenn



# Henry Courtenay Fenn: Background



He was born in Peiping, later called Peking [now Beijing], China, son of the Reverend Dr. Courtenay Hughes Fenn, missionary to China and compiler of *The Five Thousand Dictionary*, and his wife Alice Holstein May Fenn.

He joined the Yale Institute of Far Eastern Languages (IFEL), and was known widely as one of the originators of the so-called “blitz” method of teaching students to speak Chinese. He was active in the “Yale system” of Chinese grammar developed by himself, George Kennedy, Gardner Tewksbury, Wang Fangyu, and others, working in the Institute in the late 1940s.

H.C. Fenn was director of the Institute from 1952 to 1962, when he reached the mandatory retirement age of 68. After a period of writing and editing, he set up the Chinese language department at Dartmouth and then for three years was at Washington University in St. Louis, where for a period he was acting chairman of the department of Chinese and Japanese.

b. February 26, 1894

d. July 22, 1978

84 years



# Henry C. Fenn



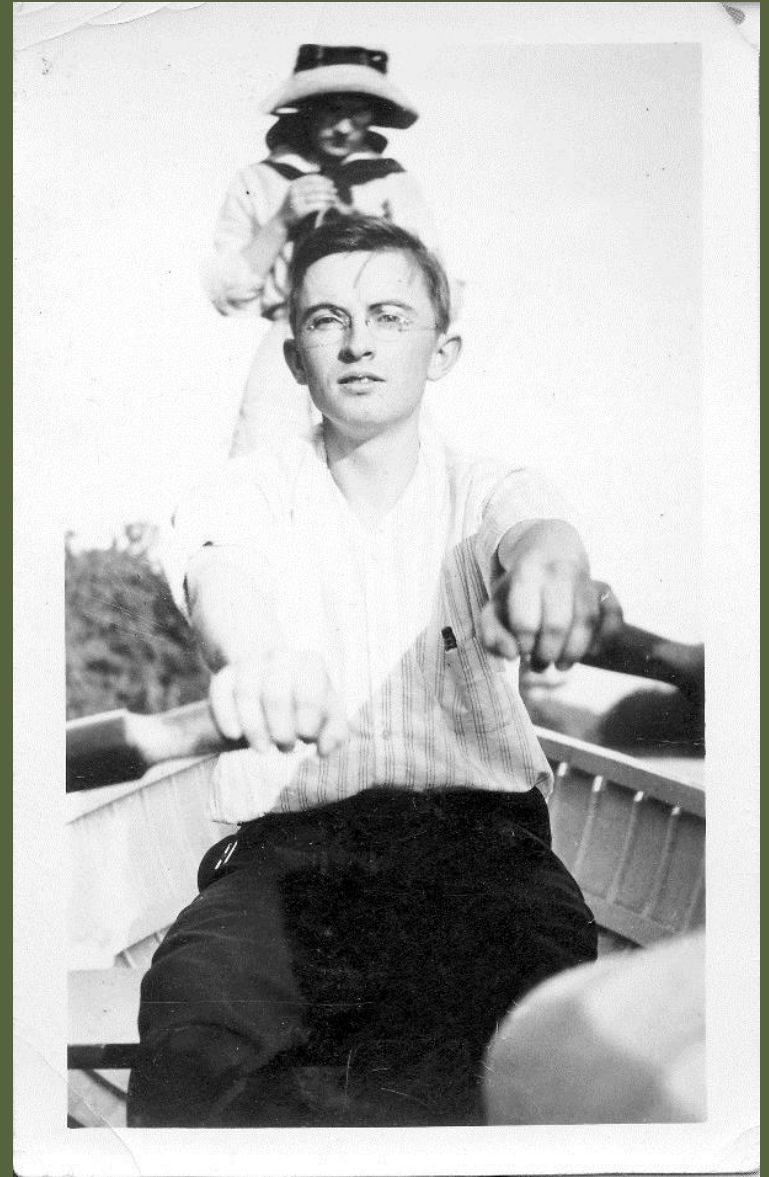
Courtenay  
Henry Fenn  
(Henry's  
father)

Martha Fenn  
(Henry's sister)

Henry Courtenay Fenn



# Henry C. Fenn: The Early Years





# Henry C. Fenn





# Henry C. Fenn

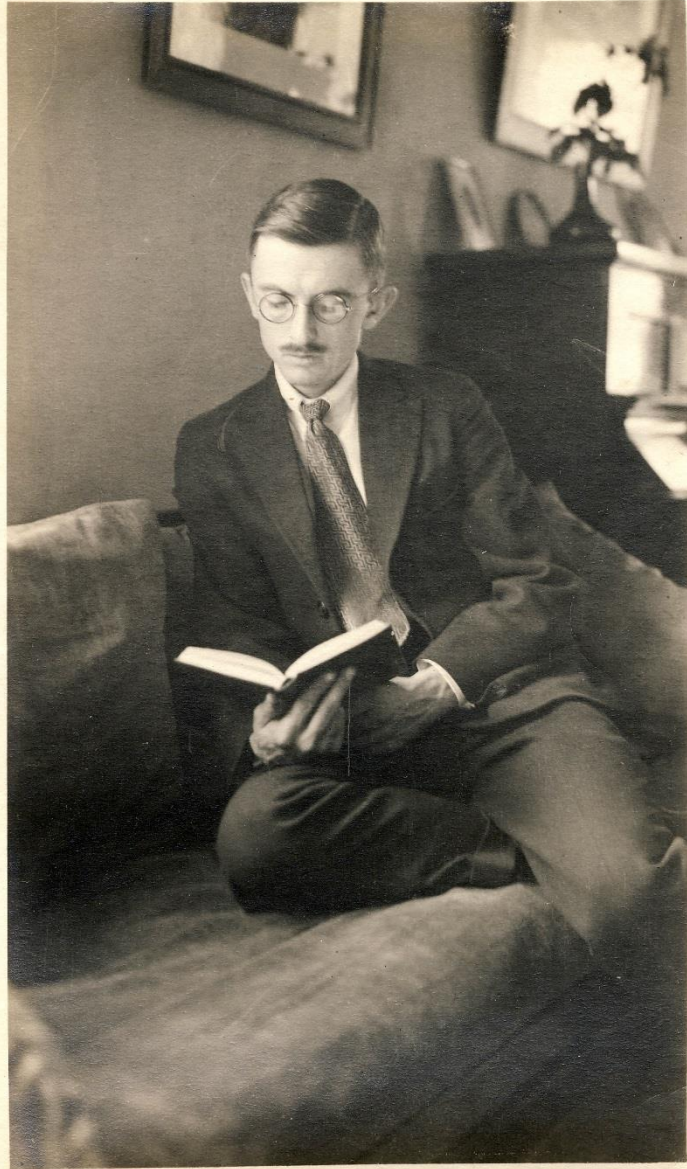




# Henry C. Fenn

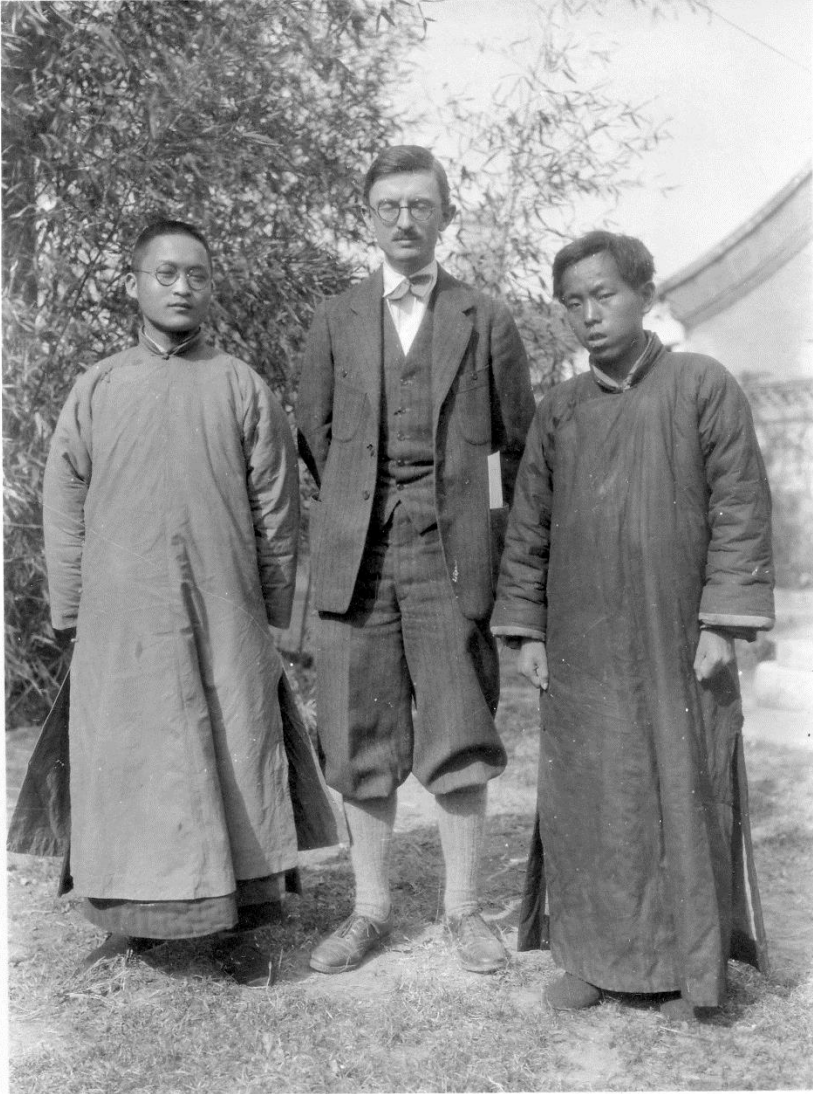


# Henry C. Fenn



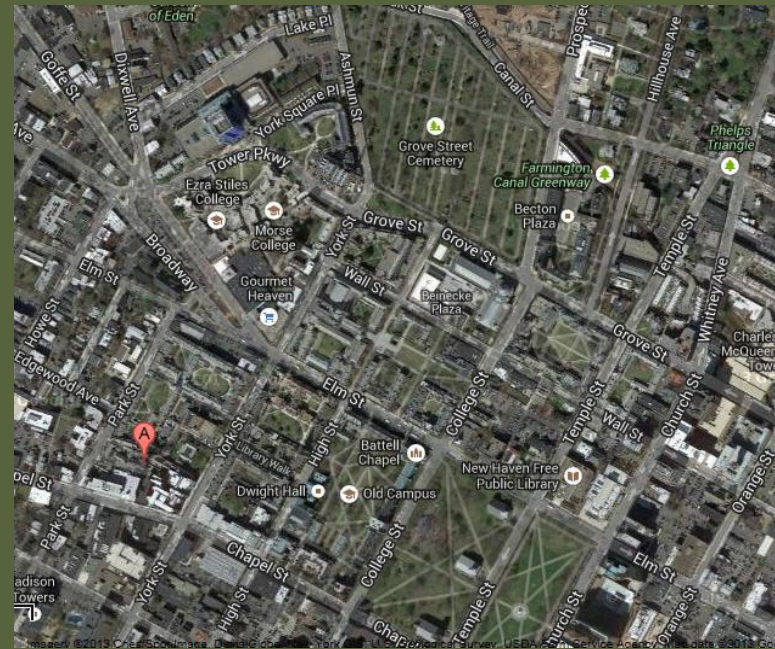


# Henry C. Fenn



Henry with some  
students in China

# Institute of Far Eastern Languages (IEFL)



The Institute  
215 Park Street, New Haven, Conn.  
ca. 1958  
Photo by Dennis Conklin



# Institute of Far Eastern Languages (IEFL)



From 1951 through early 1965, during the presidencies of Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy and Johnson, the US Air Force contracted with Yale University for training in selected Asian languages for Cold War intelligence operations performed by USAFSS under NSA direction. In the 14 year period, over 3,000 airmen completed intensive language courses, primarily in Chinese and Korean, at IFEL in New Haven, Connecticut.



Photos by Florian Simala

# Institute of Far Eastern Languages (IEFL)



In 1965, the Institute of Far Eastern Languages ceased to exist as a separate entity of the University and its language teaching functions were incorporated into the Department of East Asian Languages. The publishing tasks of the Institute were taken over by Far Eastern Publications, which established its headquarters at 28 Hillhouse Avenue, right in the center of the University. Since the seventies, Far Eastern has continuously published additional titles and remains to this day one of the world's leading publishers of texts to learn East Asian languages.



Photos by Florian Simala



# Institute of Far Eastern Languages (IEFL)



Established in January 1943 as the Chinese Language School to provide training in spoken Chinese for officers and enlisted men of the United States Army.

Under its founder and first director, Professor George A. Kennedy (1901-60), it made a successful transition from a wartime expedient to a recognized part of the University's program in instruction and research.

Early in the academic year 1945-46 the school began the training of civilians for service in various posts in the Far East, and in 1946 the first regularly enrolled Yale students took courses here.

Since the spring of 1947 it has been designated the Institute of Far Eastern Languages, and at present enjoys a world-wide reputation in the teaching of spoken and written non-Western languages.

# Institute of Far Eastern Languages (IEFL)



Japanese was first taught in the Institute in the academic year 1948-49, and beginning with the academic year 1960-61 the Institute became responsible for instruction of Yale students in elementary Chinese in cooperation with the department of Indic and Far Eastern Languages and Literatures.

In the academic year 1963-64 it will extend its regular activities into several of the languages of Southeast Asia, some of which have been taught on demand in the past.

The academic programs of Yale University, especially those in International Studies, require a high degree of foreign language competence for the student; for the languages of the Far East and Southeast Asia the Institute of Far Eastern Languages provides the staff, facilities, and program by which this level of achievement may be reached quickly and efficiently.



# Institute of Far Eastern Languages (IEFL)



Faculty and Staff  
Institute of Far Eastern Languages  
Yale University  
1953

# Books on the Chinese Language

## Some books authored by H.C. Fenn

Fenn, Henry C. *Songs from Hypnia*, Clinton, New York: 1915.

———. *Chinese Characters Easily Confused*. Mirror Series A, no. 18. New Haven: Institute of Far Eastern Languages, Yale University, 1953.

———. *Speak Mandarin; a Beginning Text in Spoken Chinese*. Yale Linguistic Series. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1967.

## Books edited or contributed to by H.C. Fenn

*Beginning Chinese*, by John De Francis, edited by Henry C. Fenn and George A. Kennedy, Yale Linguistic Series. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1946.

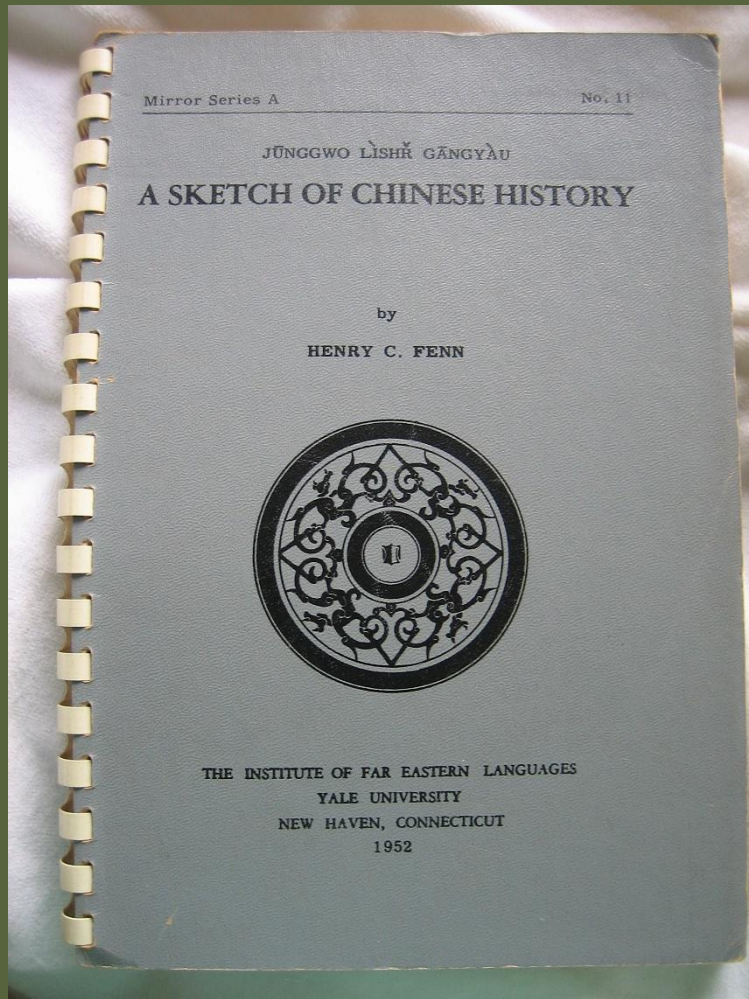
*A Syllabus of the History of Chinese Civilization and Culture*, by L. Carrington Goodrich and Henry C. Fenn. New York, N.Y: The China Society of America, Inc., 1929, 1941.

Wang, Fangyu. *Chinese Dialogues*. Mirror Series A, no. 5. New Haven: Institute of Far Eastern Languages, Yale University, 1953.

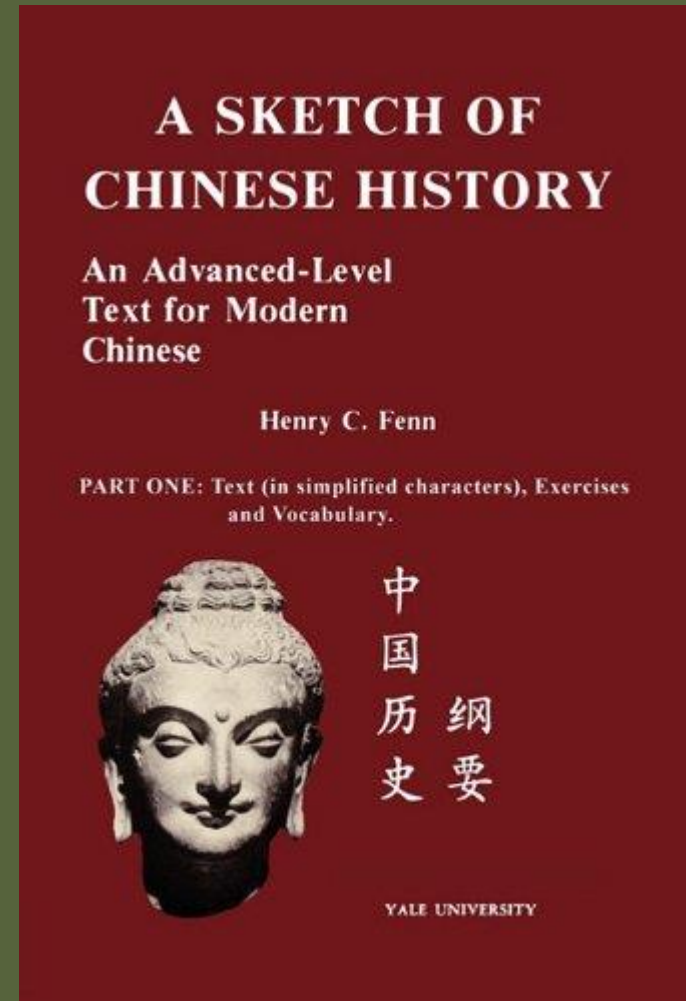




# Books on the Chinese Language



1952



1982 (Revised edition)

# Books on the Chinese Language

## SPEAK MANDARIN

Henry C. Fenn  
M. Gardner Tewksbury

## SPEAK MANDARIN

Student's Workbook

Henry C. Fenn  
Helen T. Lin  
Henry T. K. Kuo  
Joseph Kuo

1967



# Books on the Chinese Language

**A Syllabus  
of the  
History of Chinese Civilization  
and Culture**

SIXTH EDITION

BY  
L. C. GOODRICH      H. C. FENN

*Illustrated*

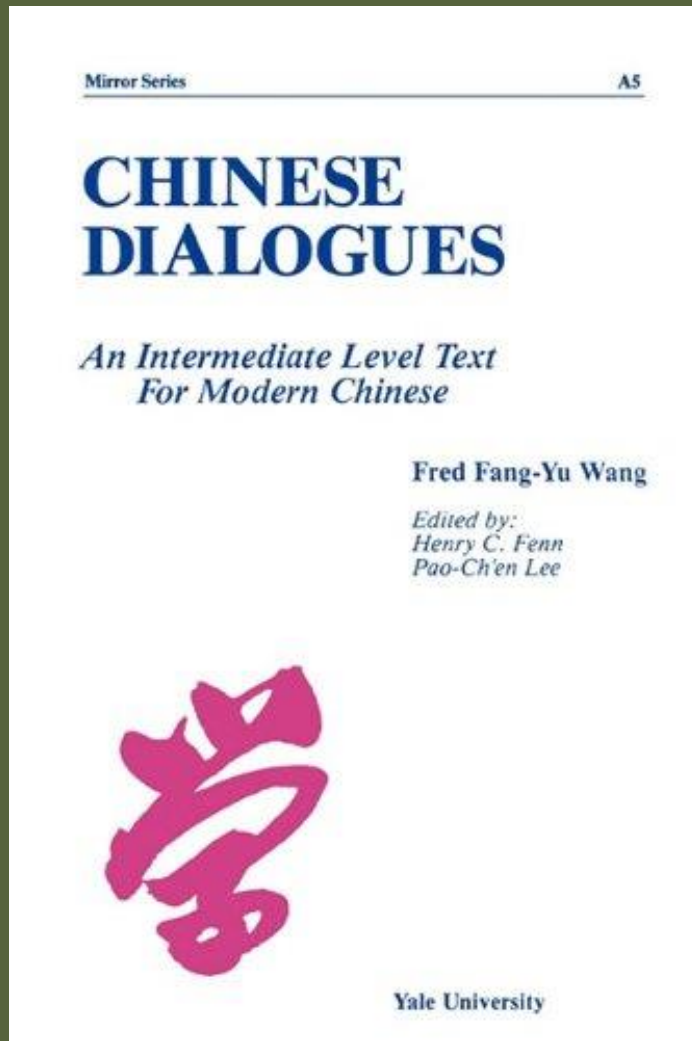


THE CHINA SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC., NEW YORK

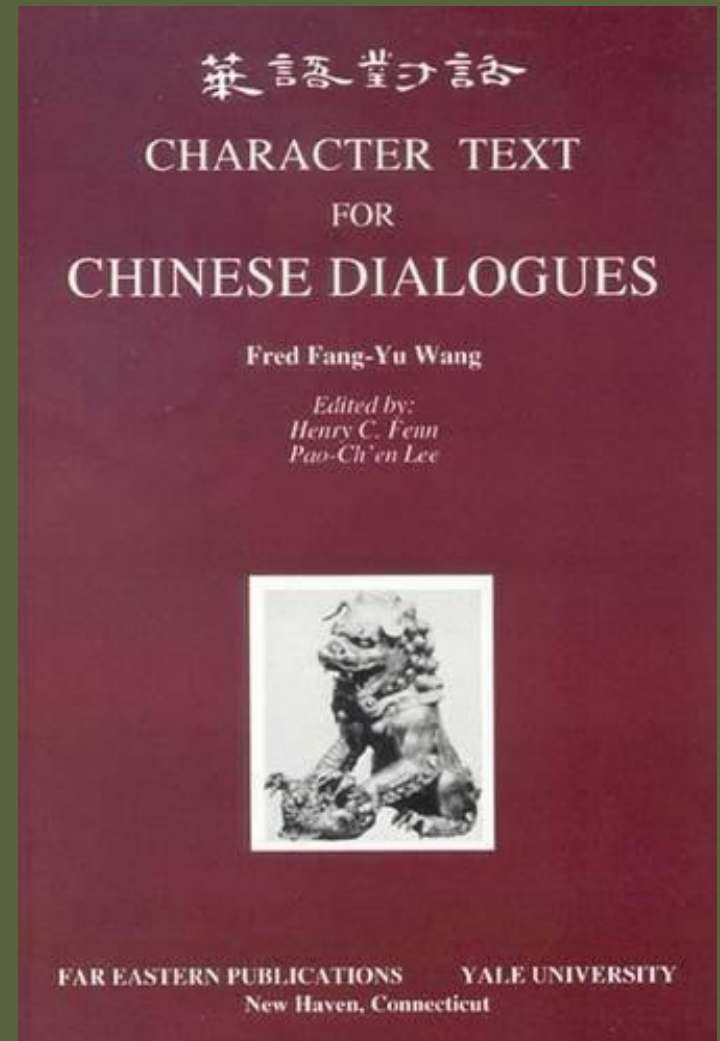
Published in 1929, 1934,  
1941, 1947, 1950, and 1958.

**1958 (6<sup>th</sup> ed.)**

# Books on the Chinese Language



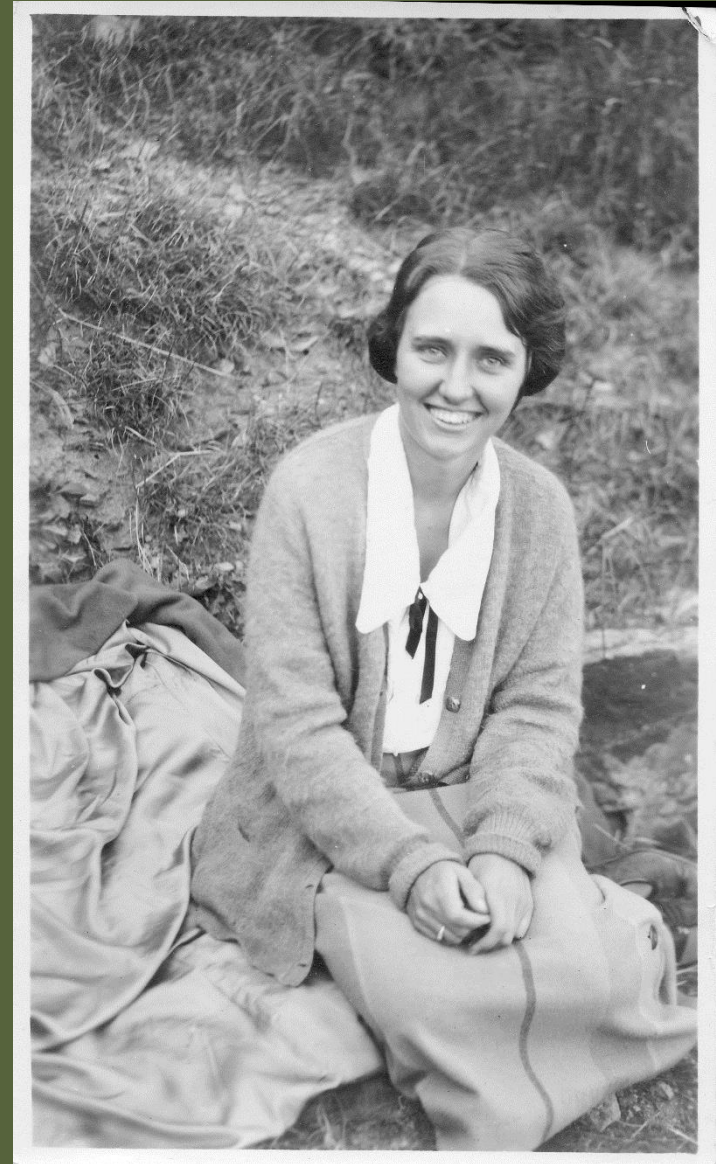
1953



1966



# Constance Sargent Fenn



# Henry and Connie



The Newlyweds

January 27, 1925

Peking (Beijing), China

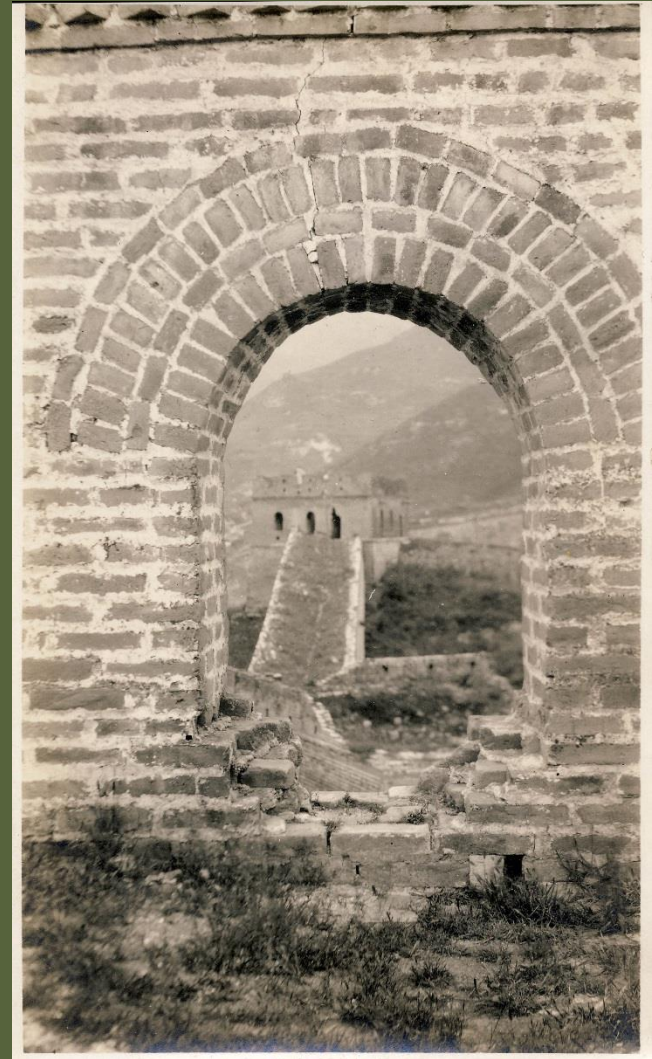


# Travels



Connie S. Fenn (with her father) and Feng Yü-hsiang's soldiers (1925)

# Travels



The Great Wall



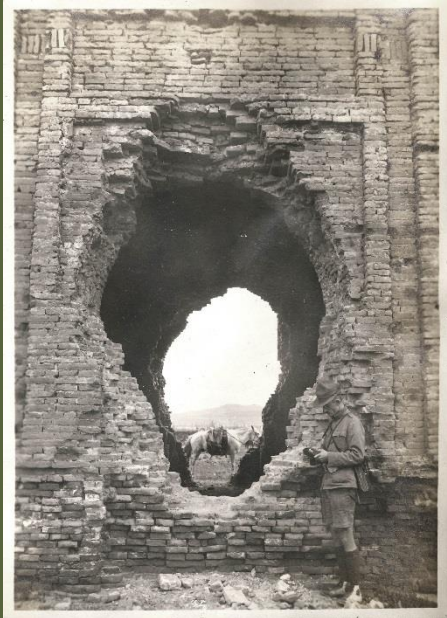
# Travels



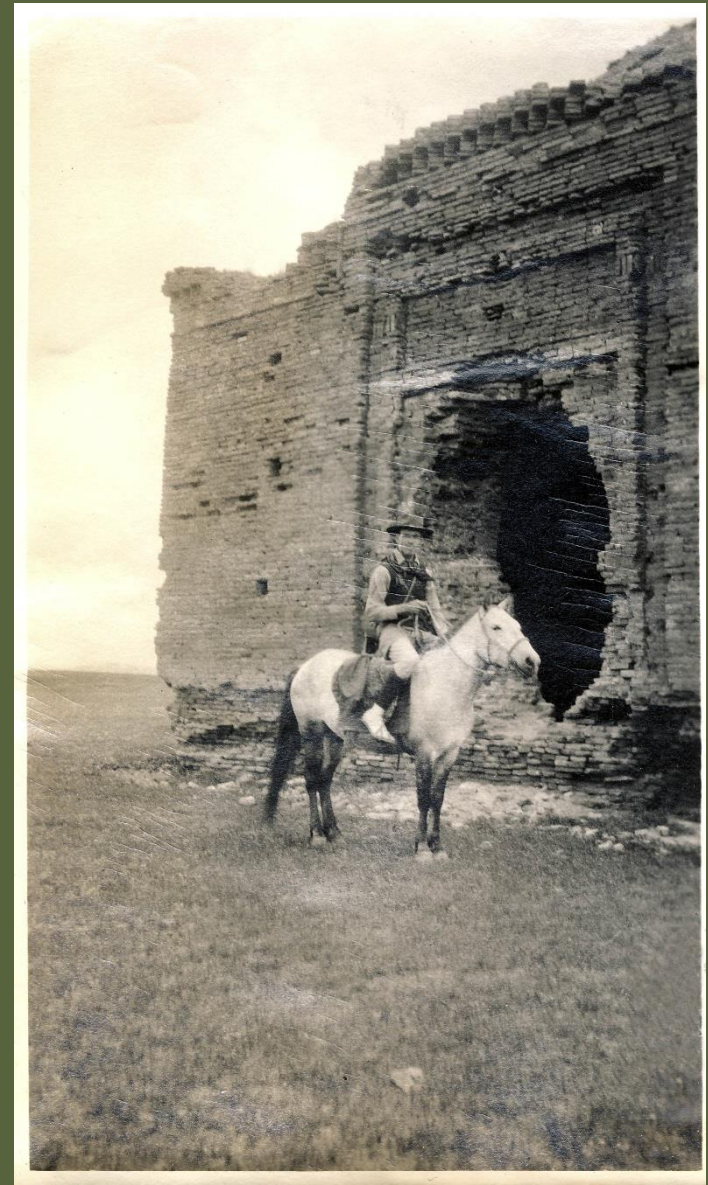
A picnic at the Great Wall



# Travels



An ancient  
domed marvel





# Travels

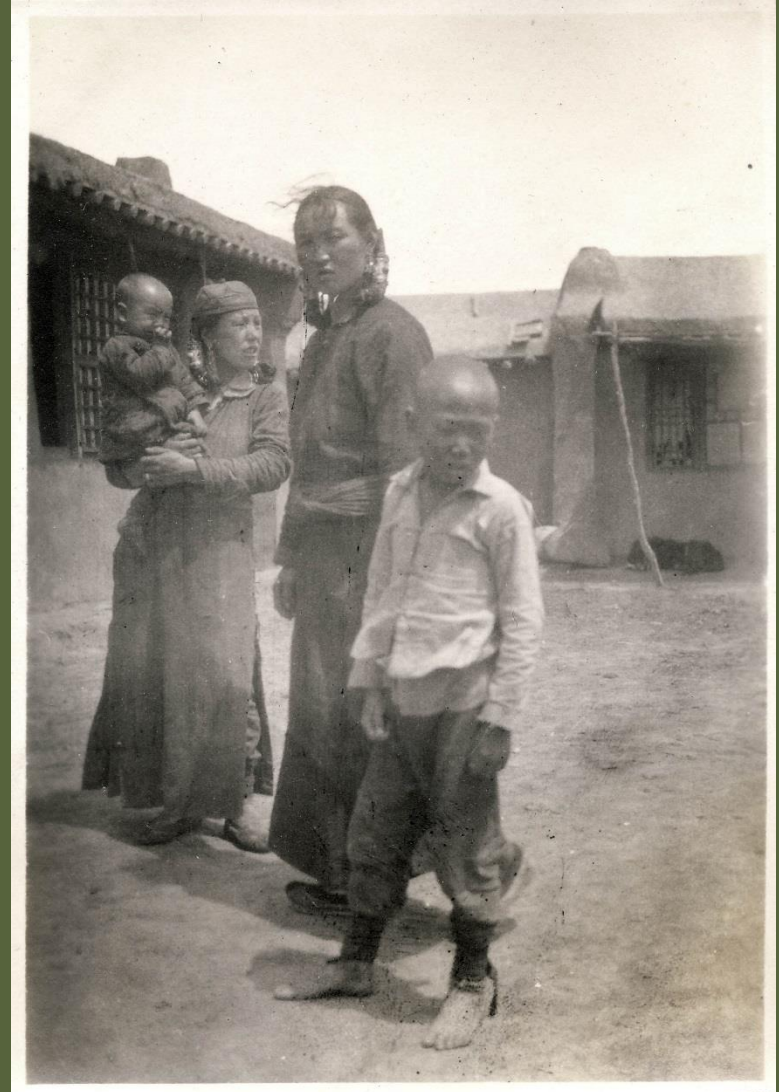


Camels carrying coal to the city

Connie S. Fenn traveling  
with camels



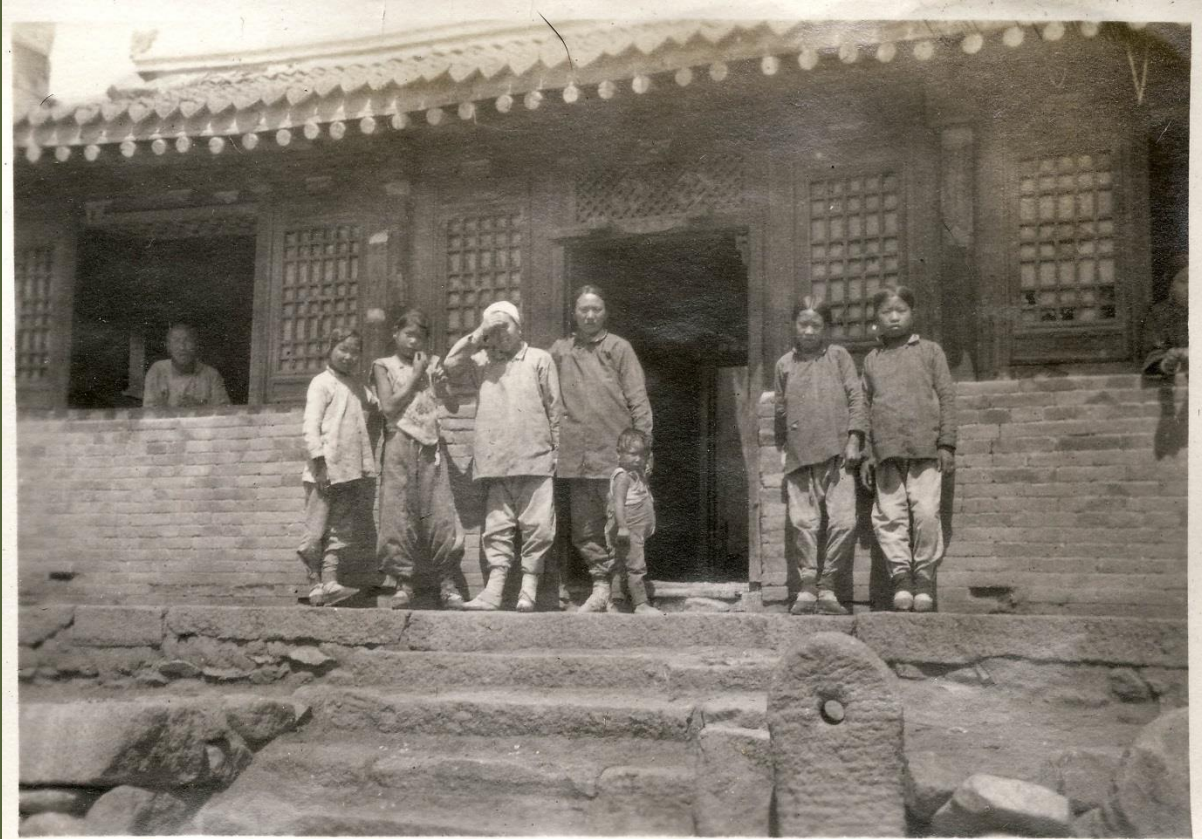
# Travels



A family in Inner Mongolia



# Travels



Locals along the way to Inner Mongolia

# Travels



A camp site on one of the expeditions



# Travels



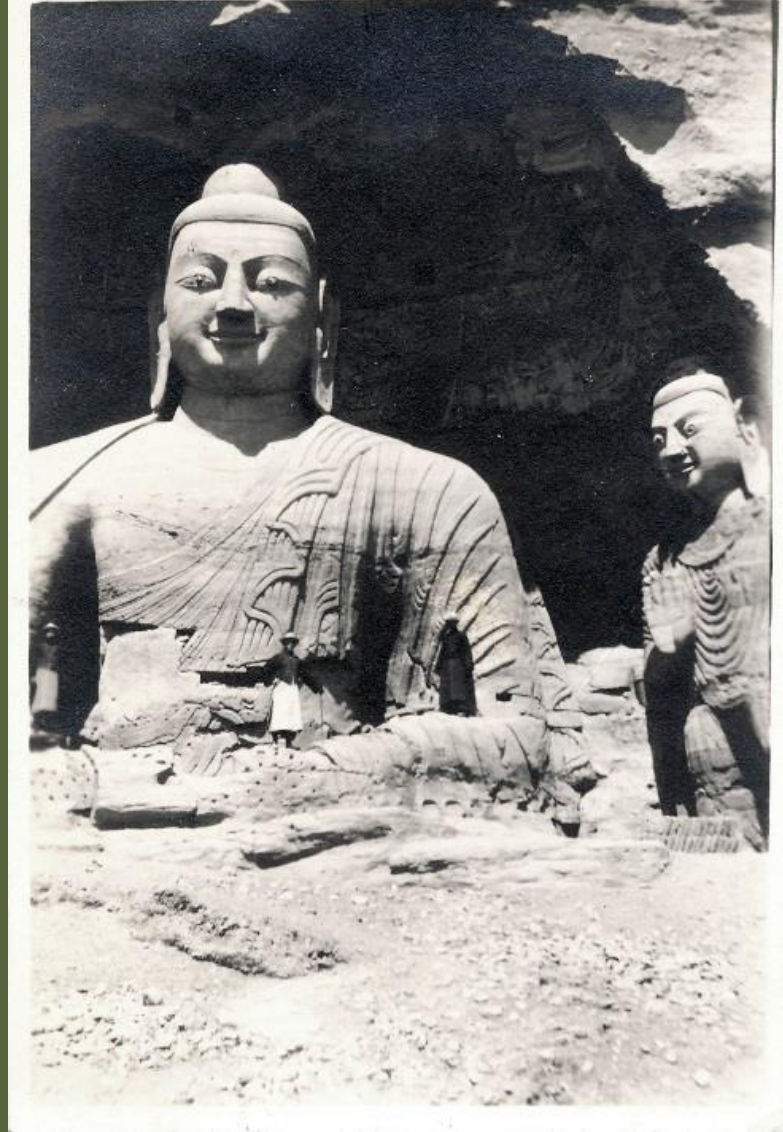
A camp site and view from the camp on one of the expeditions

# Travels





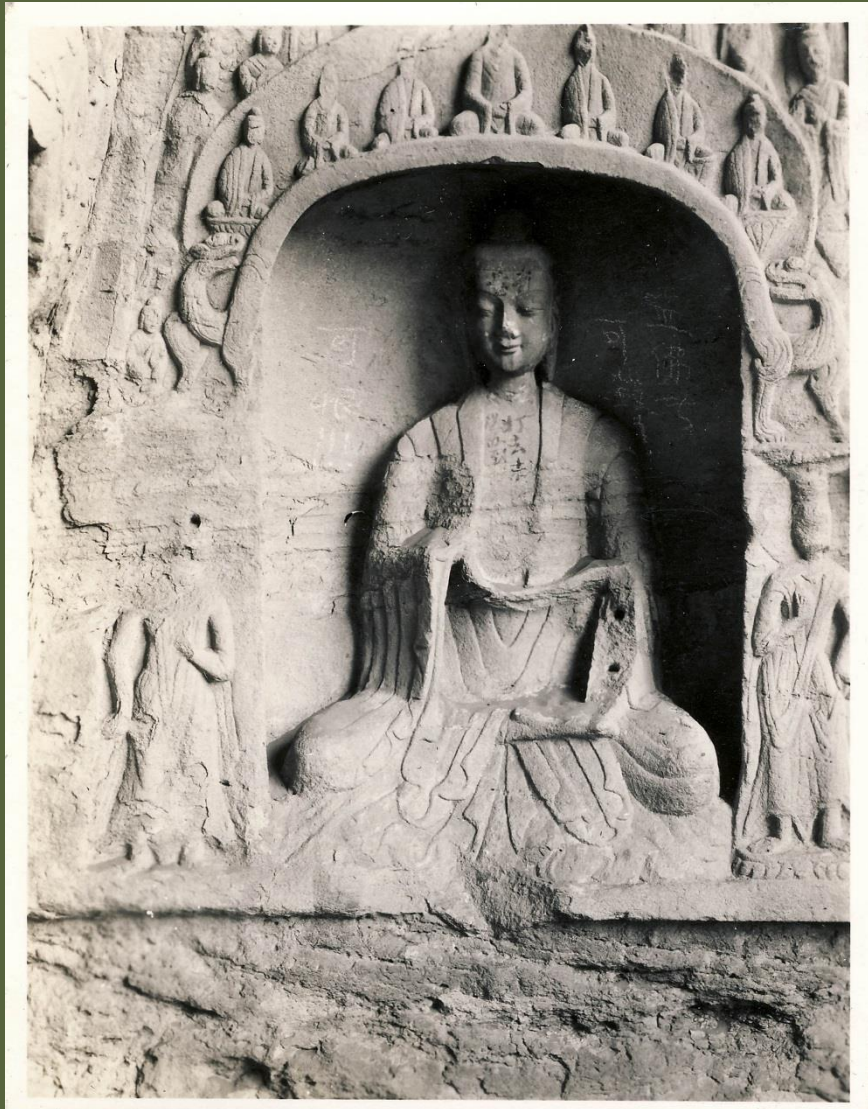
# Buddhism



Yungang Caves in Datong China



# Buddhism



Yungang Caves



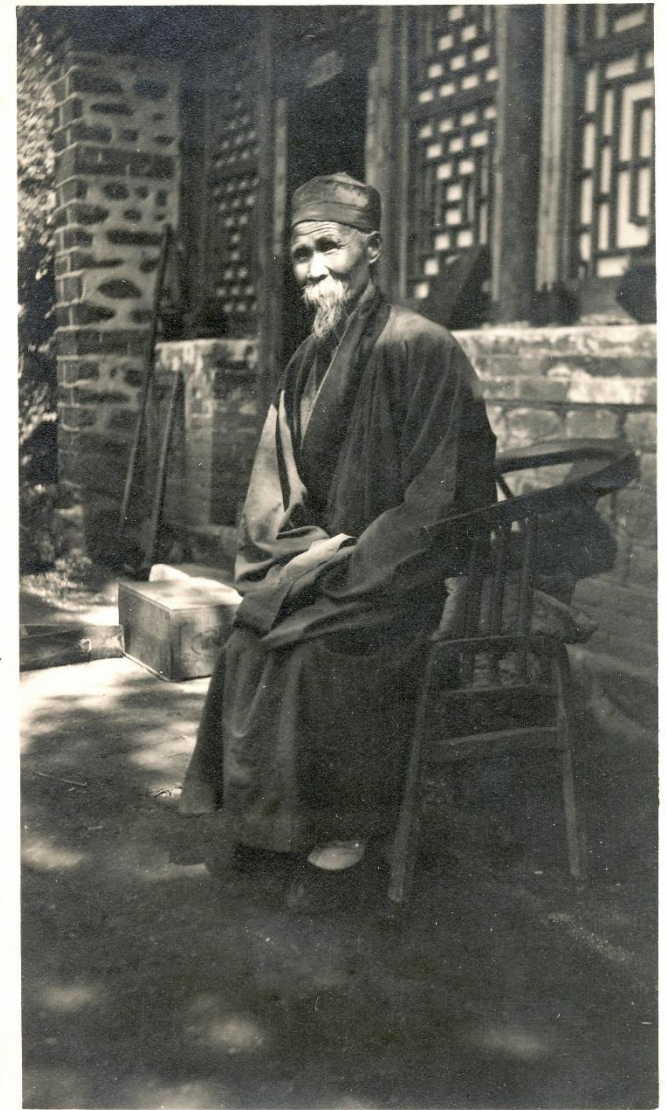
*A Buddhist Monk*



# Other Religions



Lama priest



Taoist priest



# The Famines: 1920-21 & 1928-30





# The Famines: 1920-21 & 1928-30



Children at a soup kitchen





# The Famines: 1920-21 & 1928-30





# The Famines: Hope



A ritual dance as a  
prayer for children



Road building; famine relief effort



# Street Scenes



Sawing wood into planks



# Street Scenes



Harvesting ice



# Street Scenes



Barber



# Street Scenes



Hauling reeds to market

# Street Scenes



Vegetable seller, arriving for early market



# Street Scenes



Peanuts and persimmons

# Street Scenes



More peanuts and persimmons



# Street Scenes



Baskets for sale

# Street Scenes



A street lunch counter



# Henry C. Fenn

Not the end of the story...



...only the beginning...