Robert Garrett Collection of Syriac Manuscripts, 1100-1899: Finding Aid

Summary Information

Call number: C0744.05
Repository: Princeton University. Library. Department of Rare Books and Special Collections
Manuscripts Division
One Washington Road Princeton, New Jersey 08544 USA
Size: 23 volumes
Language(s) of Material: Syriac
Arabic
Abstract: Consists of a collection of 23 manuscripts written in the Syriac alphabet.
Location: This collection is stored in special vault facilities at Firestone Library.
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Biography/History

Robert Garrett (1875-1961) was an American banker and philanthropist. Garrett (Princeton Class of 1897) was also an Olympic athlete, Princeton Charter Trustee, and a collector.

Description

This collection contains 23 manuscripts written in the Syriac alphabet, a writing system primarily used to write the Syriac language. Contents include partial copies and fragments of the Bible (Peshitta), Biblical commentaries, prayer books, collections of magical charms, and other religious texts.

Arrangement

Organized numerically. The original collection contained 15 manuscripts, one of which (no. 12) was transferred to the Princeton Papyri Collection. Three manuscripts which were shelved as Garrett Garshuni (Arabic written in Syriac script) were added to the collection in 2011 as nos. 16-18. Six manuscripts which had been donated by Garrett as part of the Islamic Manuscripts, Littman series, were added in 2011 as nos. 19-24.

Access and Use

Access

Restricted. Consult curator for access.

Restrictions on Use and Copyright Information

Single photocopies may be made for research purposes. No further photoduplication of copies of material in the collection can be made when Princeton University Library does not own the original. Inquiries regarding publishing material from the collection should be directed to RBSC Public Services staff at rbsc@princeton.edu. The library has no information on the status of literary rights in the collection and researchers are responsible for determining any questions of copyright.

Acquisition and Appraisal

Custodial History

Previously owned by Robert Garrett (1875-1961), Princeton Class of 1897.

Provenance and Acquisition

Gift of Robert Garrett in 1942.
Related Archival Material
Princeton University has one other collection of Syriac manuscripts, the Princeton Collection of Syriac Manuscripts (C0941).

Preferred Citation
Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Robert Garrett Collection of Syriac Manuscripts, Volume Number; Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, Princeton University Library.

Encoding

Descriptive Rules Used
Finding aid content adheres to that prescribed by Describing Archives: A Content Standard.

Subject Headings
- Church of the East.
- Coptic Church -- Doctrines.
- Syrian Orthodox Church.
- Syrian Orthodox Church -- Prayers and devotions.
- Astrology, Arab -- Early works to 1800.
- Catholic Church -- Maronite rite -- Prayers and devotions.
- Church history -- Early works to 1800.
- Divination -- Middle East -- Early works to 1800.
- Eastern churches -- Liturgy.
- Eastern churches -- Prayers and devotions.
- Lectionaries -- Texts.
- Liturgy -- Texts.
- Magic -- Middle East -- Early works to 1800.
- Medicine, Arab.
- Syriac language.
- Theology -- History -- Middle Ages, 600-1500.
- Theology, Doctrinal -- Early works to 1800.
- Manuscripts, Syriac.
· Manuscripts, Arabic.
· Headpieces (layout features).
· Illuminated manuscripts.
· Illuminated title pages.
· Lectionaries.
· Prayer books.
· Parchment.
· Middle East
· Religion