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

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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.

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.

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. Permission to publish material from the collection must be requested from the Associate University Librarian for Rare Books and Special Collections. The library has no information on the status of literary rights in the collection and researchers are responsible for determining any questions of copyright.

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).

Processing and Other Information

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.

Processing Information

This collection was processed by Denise Soufi in 2011. Finding aid written by Denise Soufi in 2011.

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