

# Guide to the Theodore Carswell Hume Papers

RG 116



Compiled by Martha Lund Smalley

1998

409 Prospect Street  
New Haven, CT 06511  
(203) 432-5301

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<http://web.library.yale.edu/divinity/special-collections>

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Yale Divinity Library  
409 Prospect Street  
New Haven, CT 06511  
(203) 432-5301  
divinity.library@yale.edu  
<http://web.library.yale.edu/divinity/special-collections>

**CALL NUMBER:** RG 116

**CREATOR:** Hume, Theodore Carswell, 1904-1943

**TITLE:** Theodore Carswell Hume Papers

**DATES:** 1929-1969

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 4 linear feet (7 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Correspondence, writings, and tributes document the life and work of this prominent Congregational clergyman. Theodore Carswell Hume (1904-1943) was a Congregational minister in Chicago and California. He died in Europe while serving as emissary of the American churches under the auspices of the American Church Committee on Relief and Reconstruction and the World Council of Churches.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.116>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use on site, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.116>.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box  
f. folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Mrs. T. C. Hume and Mrs. Charlotte Freeman.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Preferred Citation

Theodore Carswell Hume Papers (RG 116), Special Collections, Yale Divinity School Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Date	Event
1904	○ Born in India; childhood spent in China. His father, Edward H. Hume was a medical doctor in China and later president of Yale-in-China.
1918-1921	○ Attended the Hill School
1925	○ B.A., Yale
1925-1926	○ French government scholarship at the University of Paris
1926-1927	○ Rhodes Scholarship: New College, Oxford, England
1928	○ Began formal theological education at Mansfield College, Oxford
1930	○ B.D., Union Theological Seminary, New York
1930	○ Ordained as Congregational minister
1931	○ Minister: Summerdale Congregational Church, Chicago
1932-1939	○ Minister: New England Church, Chicago ○ Chairman of the World Friendship Commission of the Chicago Church Federation and president of the Chicago Peace Council
1937	○ Secretary of the subcommittee on the Church and the War at the Oxford World Church Conference.
1940-1943	○ Served parish in Claremont, CA; he was married with five children. ○ Vice President of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions
1943 Sep	○ Went to Europe as emissary of the American churches, under the auspices of the American Church Committee on Relief and Reconstruction and the World Council of Churches.
1943 Oct	○ Died when Swedish neutral plane carrying him from London to Stockholm was shot down.

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## Scope and Contents

[I. Correspondence](#)

[II. Writings and Notes](#)

[III. Collected Material](#)

Dating from 1929 to 1969, the material includes correspondence, writings, printed material, and memorabilia of Theodore Carswell Hume. There are two chronologically arranged sequences for each series, because the material was donated to the library at separate times. The writings of Series II form the largest portion of the collection. Included under the broad category of "writings" are sermons, addresses, prayers, service outlines, notes, papers, and memoranda. Hume was clearly a rising star in the ecumenical scene and his death was a blow for many; this sense of loss is reflected in the many tributes to Hume that form part of this collection.

The papers of Hume's parents, Edward H. and Lotta C. Hume, are located at Sterling Memorial Library.

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## **Arrangement**

- I. Correspondence
- II. Writings and Notes
- III. Collected Material

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## Collection Contents

### Series I: Correspondence

#### Original sequence

b. 1, f. 1	Correspondence of TCH	1931-1944
b. 1, f. 2	Correspondence following death of TCH	1943-1969

#### Addendum

b. 7, f. 46	Correspondence of TCH	1934-1943
b. 7, f. 47	Re. TCH mission as representative of American churches in Europe for the WCC	1942-1943
b. 7, f. 48	Correspondence following death of TCH; incl. to from Edward H. Hume, Robert L. Calhoun	1943-1951
b. 7, f. 49	Re. proposed posthumous publication of TCH writings	1943-1955

**Series II: Writings and Notes**

Original sequence		
b. 1, f. 3-13	Writings and notes	1929-1940
b. 2, f. 14-17	Writings and notes	1941-1943
b. 2, f. 18-20	Incl. notebook of sermons and prayers compiled for possible publication.	n.d.
b. 3, f. 21	Card file	n.d.
Addendum		
b. 4, f. 26-34	Writings and notes	1929-1940 Mar
b. 5, f. 36-40	Writings and notes	1940 Apr-1942 May
b. 6, f. 41-45	Writings and notes	1942 Jun-1943, n.d.

**Series III: Collected Material**

Original sequence		
b. 3, f. 22	Printed material	1937-1943
b. 3, f. 23-25	Memorabilia	1943-1948, n.d.
b. OV-d4	Photographic portrait of Theodore Carswell Hume	
Addendum		
b. 7, f. 50	Re. New England Church, Chicago	1935-1939
b. 7, f. 51	Re. Claremont Congregational Church, Claremont , CA	1939-1944
b. 7, f. 52	Poems, prayers, quotations	n.d.
b. 7, f. 53	Biographical documentation	1942-1944
b. 7, f. 54	Writings by others	1939-1952



## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Clergy  
World War, 1939-1945 -- Religious aspects

### **Names**

Hume, Theodore Carswell, 1904-1943

### **Corporate Body**

World Council of Churches