

**Gowdy Chinese Watercolors Collection**  
**Collection 1000-60**  
**Preliminary Inventory**

Collection of 4 Chinese opaque watercolors (gouache), late 19<sup>th</sup>/early 20<sup>th</sup> century, given to Wesleyan by John Gowdy (Wesleyan class of 1897) and his wife Elizabeth Thompson Gowdy (Wesleyan class of 1898). Gowdy spent the years 1902-1944 in China as a teacher in Foochow, as president of Fukien Christian University (1923-27), and as (Methodist) Bishop of the Central Conference, East Asia (1930-44?). Given the inscriptions below, the original date of donation to Wesleyan seems to be in the mid-1920s.

Two are on card stock, approx. 11" x 14," and have typewritten labels attached:

"2.047 Lantern Feast / Foochow, China / Presented by Pres. John Gowdy, '97"

"2.046 Student of Chinese College making his first calls after graduation, showing mode of salutation / Foochow, China / Presented by Pres. John Gowdy '97"

Two are on thin paper mounted onto heavier stock and/or cloth backings. One has an inscription in ink on the lower right corner "417 / Chinese Painting / Mrs. Wm Russell". The other is marked "419". These latter two may not have been part of the Gowdy donation but are being kept together as a collection.