

With a view to increasing both accessibility and protection of these important historical materials – important both to the church and Taiwan as a nation – we made several inquiries and suggestions to various government bodies. CMC might wish to express support for these at an appropriate time in an appropriate way. To our delight we found all government bodies ready and willing to do work on Mackay. To our dismay we heard several people say that the main problem in promoting Mackay work at a higher level may be the possessiveness of the church/school organizations *vis a vis* the government, and the Tamsui Town government *vis a vis* the Taipei County Government, not the unwillingness of the state! Specifically:

National Archives (Academia Historica 國史館)

President Chang Yen-hsien (張炎憲) and Secretary-General 主任秘書劉峰松 Liu Feng-song noted that strictly speaking Taiwan work comes under the Taiwan Provincial Archives (台灣省文獻委員會) but this body is going to be placed under their Archives this coming June. So they will approach President Yeh of Aletheia University with a proposal to organize a Mackay Archival working group, bringing together all the various organizations that have Mackay archival material. The purpose is to make a complete catalogue, and using the staff and resources of the Academia Historica to make copies of everything, and place copies in key research institutions (Academia Sinica, Academia Historica, Oxford College itself. Presbyterian Church archives etc.) to make them accessible to scholars for research. Chang will also explore if there are any ways that the Academia Historica can help them organize, protect, and manage the original collection at Oxford College. The fact that Liu was baptized by Rev Tsai, Chair of the PCT Mackay Commemoration Committee, makes for a good prospect for co-operation among these various bodies.

Rev. Yasala (陳克安 PCT GA staff responsible for the Church History Committee) suggested that this project should involve both the Northern Synod History Committee and the General Assembly History Committee as well.

Liu also urged us to contact the Taipei County Cultural Centre which has the will and resources to invest in the general improvement of all the Oxford College historic area. Unfortunately, he said that the Tamsui mayor and Taipei Magistrate (both DPP) are faction enemies so Tamsui government has tried to keep the County out of its bailiwick.

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