

Adam Hérold Collection of Materials Relating to the Sino-French War in Tonkin

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



**Geography & Map Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2020**

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/gmd.contact>

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Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/eadgmd.gm020001>

Prepared by Mike Klein

Finding aid encoded by the Library of Congress Geography & Map Division, February 2020

Collection Summary

Title: Adam Hérold Collection of Materials Relating to the Sino-French War in Tonkin

Span Dates: 1883-1936

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1883-1888)

Call No.: G8021 .S1 coll .H4 Herold Vault shelf

Creator: Hérold, Adam

Extent: 40 maps, 2 journals and miscellany; .5 linear feet

Language: Collection material in French

Location: Geography & Map Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2019587083>

Summary: The Adam Hérold collection consists of manuscript maps, plans, and charts of Northern Vietnam, as well as reports, a post journal, and various personal papers related to the Sino-French War in Tonkin.

Provenance

The collection was purchased in 2012

Processing History

The collection was processed and arranged by Mike Klein in 2020.

Oversized

One folder filed separately in map case

Copyright Status

The status of copyright of the collection is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The collection is open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the [Geography & Map Reading Room](#) prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Adam Hérold collection, Geography and Map Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Adam Hérold was born in Fénétrange (Moselle), France, on July 22, 1855. He entered the French army in 1879, and was sent to Tonkin, where he participated in the defense of Tuyen-Quang, a post situated on the Riviere Rouge, from November 1884 to March 1885. He then took possession of the post of Duong-Hao, in which he took part in various reconnaissance missions, established contacts with locals, accompanied officers and doctors across the region, and escorted armed convoys in pursuit of pirates. In 1902 he was named chief of the 4th battalion of the colonial infantry regiment. Having received the Légion d'honneur, he retired in 1909 and settled in Toulon, France.

Scope and Content Note

The Adam Hérold collection covers Northern Vietnam during the Sino-French War, also known as the Tonkin War, a limited conflict fought from August 1884 through April 1885, to decide whether France would supplant China's control of Tonkin, with campaign maps showing fortress sites and troop locations.

Arrangement of the Collection

The collection was originally organized in eight folders, and consists of a single series.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Hérold, Adam, collector.

Subjects

Sino-French War, 1884-1885--Maps.

Places

Vietnam, Northern--History--Maps.

Vietnam, Northern--Maps.

Form/Genre

Manuscript maps.

Maps.

Container List

Container	Contents
FOLDER 1	Twenty-one manuscript maps, charts, plans, and an order
FOLDER 1	[Handwritten draft of announcement, order, or edict] Item: 1 Address to officers, subofficers, soldiers, and marines of the garrison at T[uyen] Q[uan], possibly signed
FOLDER 1	Face ouest de la citadelle [Tuyen-Quan] le lendemain du siege, March 3, 1885 Scale: n.s. Item: 2 Pencil drawing, ground view of the citadel
FOLDER 1	Tuyen Quan. Distances du mamelon de la Citadelle aux points environnants les plus importants, n.d. Scale: 1:10,000 Item: 3 Manuscript map, black ink with highlights in blue pencil; paper folded with slight tears
FOLDER 1	Travaux d'approche contre la place de Tuyen-Quang [sic] au moment de l'arrivee de la colonne, March 3, 1885 Scale: 1:5,000 Item: 4 Manuscript map, brown, red, and green ink with blue wash highlights; paper folded with some older restoration of the folds. Legend identifies covered trenches, mines, former blockhouses, batteries, mortars, and locations of mortars along ramparts
FOLDER 1	Tuyen-Quan, n.d. Scale: 1:1,000 Item: 5 Manuscript plan of the citadel at Tuyen-Quan, purple ink and black pencil, with highlights in red and blue pencil; paper folded, some tearing at folds, older restoration. Drawing includes officers' quarters, administrative buildings, barracks, hospital, as well contour lines indicating some level of elevation. In upper left-hand corner, cross section diagram entitled Coupe a-b
FOLDER 1	Ban-Yen-Nien, n.d. Scale: n.s. Item: 6 Manuscript plan of fort at Ban-Yen-Nien, brown and red ink, black pencil; folded with slight tears. Plan includes fortifications, pagodas, bridges, cemeteries (one the "Annamite cemetery"), and a market; dotted lines leading from the fort to various structures and places indicate distances between fort and those locales
FOLDER 1	Ban-Yen-Nien. 1887, 1887 Scale: 1:50,000 Item: 7 Manuscript plan, black and red ink, blue and green wash; trace of ties or clips in corners of paper. Plan shows rivers, roads, cultivated fields, settlements, and the French fort; structures outlined in red ink
FOLDER 1	Kep, n.d. Scale: 1:80,000 Item: 8

Container List

Container	Contents
	Manuscript map of Kep, black and red ink, highlights in blue and green pencil; paper folded. Plan portrays area around Kep as far as the Song-Thuon River. Contour lines depict elevation in parts of the map. Fort at Kep and other buildings in red. Legend includes "Distances from the Fort at Kep to Blockhouse Triboulez (then Planté and Duché)
FOLDER 1	Ban-Chu, n.d. Scale: 1:10,000 Item: 9
	Manuscript plan, pencil, blue pencil, black and red ink on graph paper; folded with tears. Plan depicts rivers, cultivated fields (rice, potato, and corn) towns, and elevation by contour lines
FOLDER 1	Poste de Dong-Song No. 1, n.d. Scale: 1:5,000 Item: 10
	Manuscript map, black and red ink, with blue watercolor, on graph paper; folded and "rousseurs." Map shows Song-Hoa River, streams, the post with structures in red, roads, and elevation by contour lines. A keyed legend provides information on purpose and use of post buildings
FOLDER 1	[Poste de Dong-Song) No. 2 croquis joint à la lettre de 2e Brigade du 31 octobre 1887 Project primitif, October 31, 1887 Scale: 1:2,500 Item: 11
	Manuscript plan, black and red ink, and blue watercolor on graph paper; folded, with slight tearing. Plan depicts post buildings and Song-Hoa River. Keyed legend identified post buildings: Chief of post's house, lodging for European officers, lodging for indigenous officers, stables, post and telegraph, prison, kitchen, wine cellar, and food storage
FOLDER 1	Mine du fer du canton d'Hu-Tu, Rive droite du Song-Ki-Kong á 7 km de Na-cham, n.d. Scale: 1:5,000 Item: 12
	Manuscript plan, black and red ink, with touches of green wash on tracing paper; paper torn in places. Plan shows river, tracks, elevation by contour lines, rice fields, and locations of the mine, blast furnaces, and caves
FOLDER 1	(Itinéraire de Dong-Dang a That-Khe), n.d. Scale: 1:200,000 Item: 13
	Manuscript plan on two sheets, black and red ink, with touches of blue and brown wash on tracing paper; partially torn. Plan shows route along Song Ki-Kong River, vegetation, and relief
FOLDER 1	Itinéraire de Pho-vi a Dong-But, n.d. Scale: 1:50,000 Item: 14
	Manuscript map, brown and red ink, with touches of blue and green pencil, on fine linen; folded with some spots. Shows route from Dong-But to Pho-vi, as well as locations of settlements, Chinese forts, passes, and elevation by contour lines. A note by one of the passes reads "difficult slope"
FOLDER 1	Itinéraire de Quang-Tong á Dinh-Lap par la porte de Qui Ma, 1889 Scale: 1:50,000 Item: 15
	Manuscript map, black, blue and red ink on tracing paper; folded papers, tears, missing text s.e. corner. Map illustrates route from Quang-Ton to Dinh-Lap. Includes rivers, streams, the boundary line with China at the bridge of Qui-Ma, former and current villages, camps, and locations of hills. A note reads "Villages whose names are underlined"

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	are entirely destroyed. Numbers in parentheses indicate number of houses (in a given village)." Indicates villages along the Song-Tha-Lo River that have been destroyed. filed in drawer under call number G8021 .S1 coll .H4 Herold vault
FOLDER 1	Itinéraire de Chi-Ma à Dinh-Lap, n.d. Scale: n.s. Item: 16 Manuscript plan, black, blue, and red pencil, and brown ink; several folds in paper, small tear in middle. Plan shows route from Chi-Ma to Dinh-Lap, villages (some with number of houses), and elevation by countour lines
FOLDER 1	Plan de la Citadelle, n.d. Scale: 1:4,000 Item: 17 Manuscript plan, brown and red ink, with blue pencil. Plan includes lengthy legend concerning the defense of the citadel indicating sentry posts and the composition of officers and men guarding each them
FOLDER 1	(Plan d'une place forte), n.d. Scale: n.s. Item: 18 Unnamed mansucript plan, brown and red ink, with touches of blue pencil; folded paper, traces of former folds. Indicates five sentry posts and their lines of sight from the police post
FOLDER 1	Reconnaissance des 25 et 26 Mars 1887, March 27, 1887 Scale: 1:50,000 Item: 19 Manuscript plan, black, red, and blue ink with areas of brown wash. Shows the area reconnoitered in the vicinity of Kap-Ke, Na-loc, and Ban-tao; also indicates the presumed Chinese border, and two Chinese fortified locations
FOLDER 1	(Sketch/Diagram of the area around Qui-ma), n.d. Scale: n.s. Item: 20 Manuscript sketch in pencil and black ink. Indicates the amount of time needed to travel between the villages of Qui-Ma and Ai-La; also includes annotations regarding the number of men in each village along the route
FOLDER 1	(Folder with 15 unfinished charts/plans), n.d. Scale: n.s. Item: 21 15 charts of different sizes, most executed in pencil on graph paper
FOLDER 2	Two printed maps on China paper, one of which is in Chinese characters with manuscript annotations in ink and pencil; maps are on folded paper
FOLDER 2	(Carte en caractères Chinois), n.d. Scale: n.s. Item: 1 Manuscript chart, black and red ink, with annotations in black pencil. Gives the names of villages and rivers in an unidentified area in the Roman alphabet; paper folded.
FOLDER 2	(Carte en caractères Latins), n.d. Scale: n.s. Item: 2 Manuscript chart, black ink, with touches of grey wash, red and blue pencil. Plan appears to show routes among villages in the vicinity of Mau Son Mountain, Lang Son Province, in northeastern Vietnam near the border with China. First village name on the top left of the map is Na Chi, which may be the border crossing point. The river depicted likely is the

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	Song Ky Cung. Map identifies number of houses and inhabitants in each village. Source map may have been a Vietnamese map
FOLDER 3	Seven stencilled printed maps, four of Bac-Ninh and vicinity and three of Sontay and vicinity
FOLDER 3	Croquis par reseignements d'après une carte annamite (route de Bac-Ninh) dessine par Mr. le Lt. Goldschoen [...] C.A.C.en Cf. sous le direction de Mr. le Lt. Colonel Badens Cf. d'Etat Major No. 6, November 30, 1883 Scale: n.s. Item: 1 Printed map, folded, depicts canal, villages, roads, and hills (with note concerning ease with which one can ascend each hill)
FOLDER 3	Croquis par reseignements dessine par Mr. le Lt. Goldschoen [...] C.A.C.E.C. sous la direction de Mr. le Lt. Colonel Badens, Chef d'Etat Major No. 4, November 26, 1884 Scale: ca. 1:35,000 Item: 2 Printed map, folded, depicts the citadel of Bac-Ninh and surrounding villages, the Song Cau River, roads, hills, a Chinese post, and locations of flood plains. Legend on map identifies buildings within the citadel, i.e., royal pagoda, store rooms, prison, tower, barracks, etc. Note on the map indicates that the "fortification of Bac-Ninh in this sketch is shown at a larger scale than other features [on this map]"
FOLDER 3	Croquis de Bac-Ninh dressé le Lieutenant Launay sous la direction et d'après les plans Annamites recueillis par Mr. le Lt. Colonel Badens, Chef d'Etat Major, (1884) Scale: 1:10,000 Item: 3 Printed map, folded, illustrates the citadel of Bac-Ninh and its environs, including villages, the Song Cau River, roads, hills, positions of outposts and batteries, and flood plains. Also includes two cross-sections of the citadel.
FOLDER 3	Carte par Renseignements Comprenant Hanoi. Bac-Ninh, Hai Dzuong, dressée par Mr. le Lieut.Schillemans officier d'ordonce. du Général Bichot, February 7, 1884 Scale: 1:100,000 Item: 4 Printed map, folded with tear, depicts the fortified towns of Hanoi, Bac-Ninh, and Hai Dzuong and their environs, including rivers, roads, villages, and hills
FOLDER 3	Facsimile d'un Plan Annamite de Sontay fourni par Mr. le Lt. Colonel Badens Chef d'Etat Major dessiné par le S. Lt. Launay (No. 5), n.d. Scale: n.s. Item: 5 Printed map, folded, copied from a Vietnamese plan, illustrating Sontay and its citadel. Also shows the Song Cau and Song Tech Giang rivers, roads, adjacent villages, vegetation, and relief, the last three features being represented pictorially. A legend notes the locations of canon, villages with gates, roads, and bamboo hedge rows. Features on map appear rough and stylized, perhaps imitating Vietnamese cartographic customs
FOLDER 3	Copie d'une carte Annamite (Sontay). Executed par le Lt. Goldschoen Off. d'O du C.A.C.E.C. et le S. Lt. Launay sous la direction et d'après les pland recueillis par Mr. le Lt. Colonel Badens, Chef d'Etat Major No. 7, December 1, 1883 Scale: n.s. Item: 6 Printed map, folded, copied from a Vietnamese map, depicting the town and citadel of Sontay, the Fleuve Rouge, nearby villages, roads, canals, and hills by contours

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FOLDER 3	<p>Copie d'une Carte Annamite (Day Sontay) executée par le Lt. Goldschoen. Off. d'O du C.A.C.E.C. et le sous Lt. Laumay sous la direction et d'apres les renseignements et plans recueillis par Mr. le Lt. Colonel Badens Chef d'Etat Major No. 7 bis, December 1, 1883</p> <p>Scale: n.s.</p> <p>Item: 7</p> <p>Printed map, folded, copied from a Vietnamese map, depicting villages, roads, and streams near the intersection of the Fleuve Rouge and Day Fleuve</p>
FOLDER 4	Eight maps, one manuscript and seven printed
FOLDER 4	<p>(Map of extreme northeast Vietnam), n.d.</p> <p>Scale: n.s.</p> <p>Item: 1</p> <p>Manuscript map, folded, in blue, red, and black ink on linen. Shows various routes, among them one along the Song-Pho-Cu river from the Gulf of Tonkin to to Dinh Lap and Dong But; and the route from Tien Yen (and blockhouse) up the Song Tien Yen River to the Chinese border. Routes and villages are depicted in red ink, streams and rivers in blue ink. Map also identifies various islands in the Gulf of Tonkin: Ke Bao, Sangliers, Pirate, Cigales, and Singes. One dotted line bears an annotation "ligne de partage des eaux." Map also shows border with China and indicates several probable passes or crossing points across the frontier from Vietnam into China</p>
FOLDER 4	<p>Plan de la Ville de Hanoi. F.H. Scheider Imprimeur Editeur, Hanoi, n.d.</p> <p>Scale: 1:10,000</p> <p>Item: 2</p> <p>Printed map, folded. Shows rivers, lakes, streets, railroad, railroad station, and some buildings. Includes a keyed legend, and some pencil notations. Map possibly dated 1901 or later, as location of 1901 exposition noted</p>
FOLDER 4	<p>Carte de la IXme. Région Avril 1888, April, 1888</p> <p>Scale: 1:100,000</p> <p>Item: 3</p> <p>Printed map, folded. Depicts a portion of the Tonkin Gulf region from Haiphong in the east to the Red River (and Hanoi just beyond) in the west, and extends as far north as Sept-Pagodes and the Thai-Bin River. Map shows streams, rivers, roads, villages, cities, Vietnamese administrative divisions (phus and huyens), cantons and elevations (especially in the north). Printed at bottom of map: "Etat-Major des Troupes de l'Indochine Bureau Topographique"</p>
FOLDER 4	<p>Carte des postes du Tonkin, January, 1888</p> <p>Scale: 1:1,000,000</p> <p>Item: 4</p> <p>Printed map. Depicts posts (military and/or postal) in Tonkin region. Postal names in capital letters. Also shows towns, cities, rivers, roads, trails, and a railroad line. Printed by le Service Géographique (Etat-Major de la Division)</p>
FOLDER 4	<p>Haï-Phong Feuille No. 8, December, 1886</p> <p>Scale: 1:100,000</p> <p>Item: 5</p> <p>Printed map, folded. Shows the Gulf of Tonkin, and the town of Haiphong and its environs. Also includes streams, rivers, roads, and perhaps defenses or levees. Blue and brown pencil marks may also relate to military defense. Printed at bottom of map: "Imprimerie Zincographique du Service Géographique" and "Etant Chef du Service géographique, le Général Perrier"</p>
FOLDER 4	<p>Haï-Duong Feuille No. 8, December, 1886</p> <p>Scale: 1:100,000</p> <p>Item: 6</p>

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FOLDER 4	<p>Printed map, folded. Depicts the region from Song-Dang Giang River in the east to Hai-Duong in the west, to Sept-Pagodes and Dong-Trieu in the north. Includes rivers, roads, villages, cities, and select elevations by contours</p> <p>(Cao-Bong Region), n.d.</p> <p>Scale: 1:500,000</p> <p>Item: 7</p>
FOLDER 4	<p>Printed map, shows villages, towns, streams, rivers, the border with China, and possibly the locations of two silver mines. Appears to be the southwest portion of a larger map</p> <p>(Lao-Kay and Vinh-Thuy Region), n.d.</p> <p>Scale: 1:500,000</p> <p>Item: 8</p>
FOLDER 5	<p>Printed map, shows villages, towns, streams, rivers, and the border with China. Appears to be the southeast corner of a larger map</p>
FOLDER 5	<p>Two manuscript reports, printed on a hand press, published by the Division d'occupation du Tonkin et de l'Annam Etat-Major Service des Renseignements</p>
FOLDER 5	<p>Etude sommaire de la Région Est du Tonkin, October 15, 1886</p> <p>Item: 1</p> <p>Created and printed in Hanoi, this eight-page report describes the "theater of operations" in the eastern part of Tonkin. Report includes some information on topography and hydrography of the region. References the fact that only a few rivers leading into the Gulf of Tonkin are navigable. Also includes a considerable amount of information on Chinese pirates, such as the composition of pirate bands, their slaving activities, their interaction with sea pirates, their occupations as coolies or day laborers in China, and the names of their leaders. Report also has information on roads and routes, villages, and strategic locations</p>
FOLDER 5	<p>Etude de la Région nord du Tonkin, entre la route mandarine de Lang-Son et de la Haute-Rivière-Clarire, September, 1886</p> <p>Item: 2</p> <p>Created and printed in Hanoi, this seventeen-page report deals with North Tonkin, a region that consisted primarily of Cao Bang Province and northern portions of Thui-Nguyen and Tuyen Quang provinces. The first part of the report contains a descriptive overview of each province, referencing its geography, orography, hydrography, climate, produce, population, administration, and pirates. The second part of the report concerns roads and distances in the provinces.</p>
FOLDER 6	<p>Le Pilon Indochinois, journal bi-hebdomadaire Républicain, Mercredi 9 Mars 1910, March 9, 1910</p> <p>Bi-weekly republican newspaper published in Hanoi, likely added to the collection on account of an important article appearing in the March 9, 1910, supplement describing in detail the commemorative ceremonies surrounding the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Battle of Hoa-Moc and the deliverance of Tuyen-Quang</p>
FOLDER 7	<p>Eight items from the personal collection of Adam Hérold</p> <p>Item: 1-8</p> <p>Eight personal items formerly in the possession of Adam Hérold, including the following: notices of final payment of salary as a member for the Légion d'Honneur (1909); notification of his retirement and pension (1909); a subscription to the second national defense loan (1916); a list of names and addresses of the survivors of the Battle of Tuyen-Quang; a letter of service (1920); a pamphlet containing suggested changes to regulations of 1829 regarding the cavalry (1847); and a membership renewal statement for the Société de la Légion d'Honneur (1936)</p>
FOLDER 8	<p>Two manuscript notebooks kept at the Poste de Ban-Yen-Nien</p> <p>Two manuscript journals, essentially ledger books, kept for just over two years from April 1, 1886, to April 15, 1888. Both have several columns on every page with information</p>

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Container	Contents
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on the name of the commanding officer; date of the mission or reconnaissance; purpose of each mission; "observations"; a break down of the number of men on each mission or reconnaissance and remarks on whether they were officers, Europeans, or indigenous; and a "historical account" of each mission. Varying amounts of information are given. Many entries are concise, giving little more information than who led the reconnaissance party, where it was headed, who was the commanding officer, how many men were involved, and the number of the party who were tirailleurs (riflemen). The frequent goal of missions seems to have been raiding villages in order to seek out and eradicate pirates, i.e. bandits. From those explorations and raids French forces became familiar with both the terrain and routes of communication via land and water to and from native villages in the Gulf of Tonkin

FOLDER 8 Poste de Ban-Yen-Nien. Journal du Poste. Période du 1er avril 1886 au 31 mars 1887 inclu

Item: 1

Manuscript journal, thirty-two pages

FOLDER 8 Poste de Ban-Yen-Nien. Journal du Poste. Période du 1er avril 1887 au 15 avril 1888

Item: 2

Manuscript journal, forty-four pages