Negotiating the Christian Past in China

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Note on Romanization, Names, and Monetary Units

The pinyin system of romanization of Mandarin Chinese (Putonghua) is used for most Chinese expressions, except when the organization, individual, or author is better known under another spelling (for example, John Sung instead of Song Shangjie).

I have translated the Chinese names of churches and places into English, since these names are often descriptive. In some cases, it is important to note that urban changes have necessarily brought changes in names, or that some of these churches have inherited names from their predecessors. For example, the New District Gospel Church (Xinqu fuyin tang), located in Huli district, quite a new administrative district established only in 1987, was said to have been constructed to take the place of the abandoned Gulangyu Gospel Church. For most Chinese respondents referred to throughout the book, names are given in the Chinese order (surname followed by given name). However, when I refer to Chinese scholars whose publications are in English in the text, their full names follow the European order, in keeping with bibliographic standards (given name precedes surname).

All monetary units in this book refer to Chinese yuan (RMB) unless otherwise indicated. The official RMB-USD exchange rate was about RMB8.33 = USD1 in 1995. In 2013 it was around RMB6.15 = USD1.