

Max Schur Papers

A Finding Aid to the Papers in the Sigmund Freud Collection in the Library of Congress



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**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.**

2008

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Contact information:

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Additional search options available at:

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms008038>

LC Online Catalog record:

<http://lcn.loc.gov/mm87062040>

Prepared by Allan Teichroew with the assistance of Brian McGuire

Collection Summary

Title: Max Schur Papers

Span Dates: 1923-1974

ID No.: MSS62040

Creator: Schur, Max

Extent: 5,500 items ; 18 containers ; 7 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English and German

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Summary: Physician, psychoanalyst, and writer. Correspondence, memoranda, writings, case files, reports, medical files, and other papers pertaining primarily to Schur's role as physician to Sigmund Freud (1928-1939) and to Schur's career as a writer and lecturer on psychoanalytic topics after World War II.

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.

People

Bonaparte, Marie, Princess, 1882-1962--Correspondence.

Buber, Martin, 1878-1965--Correspondence.

Bullitt, William C. (William Christian), 1891-1967. Thomas Woodrow Wilson, twenty-eighth President of the United States: a psychological study (1967)

Erikson, Erik H. (Erik Homburger), 1902-1994.

Freud, Anna, 1895-1982--Correspondence.

Freud, Anna, 1895-1982.

Freud, Ernst L., 1892-1970--Correspondence.

Freud, Sigmund, 1856-1939--Correspondence.

Freud, Sigmund, 1856-1939--Health.

H. D. (Hilda Doolittle), 1886-1961--Correspondence.

Jones, Ernest, 1879-1958--Correspondence.

Jones, Ernest, 1879-1958. Life and work of Sigmund Freud (1953-1957)

Mann, Thomas, 1875-1955--Correspondence.

Pichler, Hans, 1877-1949.

Schur, Max.

Schur, Max. Freud: Living and dying. 1972.

Trilling, Lionel, 1905-1975--Correspondence.

Zweig, Arnold, 1887-1968--Correspondence.

Organizations

United Restitution Organization.

Subjects

German Americans.

Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)

Psychoanalysis.

Psychoanalysts--Biography.

Occupations

Physicians.

Psychoanalysts.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Max Schur, physician, psychoanalyst, and writer, were given to the Library of Congress by the Sigmund Freud Archives and by Schur's widow, Helen Schur, between 1956 and 1987. Some of the papers were originally part of the Sigmund Freud Papers, from which they were transferred in 1990.

Processing History

The papers of Max Schur were arranged and described in 1990. The finding aid was revised in 2008.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Max Schur is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Mas Schur are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript 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, Max Schur Papers, Sigmund Freud Collection, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1897, Sept. 27	Born, Stanislau, Poland (Austro-Hungarian Empire)
1915-1916	Attended Sigmund Freud's introductory lectures on psychoanalysis at Vienna Psychoanalytic Institute, Vienna, Austria
1915-1920	Attended University of Vienna Medical School, Vienna, Austria
1921	Received doctor of medicine degree, University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria
1922-1938	Austrian equivalent of resident, adjunct, and associate physician in the department of medicine, Vienna Polyclinic Hospital, Vienna, Austria
1925-1930	Analysand of Dr. Ruth Mack-Brunswick Received formal training in psychoanalysis
1928-1939	Personal physician of Sigmund Freud
1932	Associate member, Vienna Psychoanalytic Society, Vienna, Austria
1938	Immigrated to England with Sigmund Freud to attend to his illness
1939	Immigrated to United States
1947-1951	Assistant clinical professor of psychiatry, New York University, New York, N.Y.

1951-1968	Assistant clinical professor and professor of psychiatry, State University of New York, Downstate Medical Center
1966	Published <i>The Id and the Regulatory Principles of Mental Functioning</i> . New York: International Universities Press
1968	Clinical professor emeritus of psychiatry, State University of New York, Downstate Medical Center, Brooklyn, N.Y.
1969, Oct. 12	Died, New York, N.Y.
1972	Posthumous publication of <i>Freud: Living and Dying</i> . New York: International Universities Press

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Max Schur (1897-1969) span the years 1923-1974 and include correspondence, subject files, and writings. They feature Schur's career in medicine and teaching, with the focus on his early role as physician to Sigmund Freud from 1928 to 1939 and on his activities after World War II as a writer and lecturer on psychoanalytic topics. The papers are organized into the following series: [Correspondence](#), [Subject File](#), and [Writings File](#).

The most notable aspect of the Schur Papers is the material he retained and collected pertaining to Freud's medical treatment. Largely original, the core items on this topic were received from another of Freud's personal physicians, Hans Pichler, who forwarded to Schur the medical case history he had begun in 1923. Among the documents are letters, x-rays, prescriptive data, and other material reflecting the care and diagnoses of Freud's ailments. Also present is Schur's account of Freud's long struggle with cancer, first in the form of a retrospective effort by Schur to aid Ernest Jones in the writing of his multivolume biography and then as part of an analytical manuscript published posthumously under Schur's name as *Freud: Living and Dying* (New York: International Universities Press, 1972). Files from Schur's book-length study consist of various notes and research data and are accompanied by voluminous drafts of the publication in progress.

After Schur immigrated to the United States in 1939, he became eminent in the area of psychosomatic medicine, especially for his work on metapsychological insight. Reflected in the [Writings File](#) are his contributions in this field, his depictions of Freud as both psychoanalyst and person, and his discussions of anxiety, instinct, and mental processes. These are issues which also appear with some frequency in the [Correspondence](#) series, including in a few letters of Sigmund Freud as well as correspondence with other prominent writers and individuals of the period. Among the main correspondents are Princess Marie Bonaparte, Martin Buber, Hilda Doolittle, Anna Freud, Ernst L. Freud, Ernest Jones, Thomas Mann, Lionel Trilling, and Arnold Zweig.

In the [Subject File](#) are materials relating to the United Restitution Organization, which supported psychological victims of the Holocaust, and several folders treating the reaction within the Freudian inner circle to the publication in 1967 by William C. Bullitt of *Thomas Woodrow Wilson: A Psychological Study*. [Correspondence](#) and other files outline the role of Schur and others, especially Anna Freud and Erik H. Erikson, in opposing Bullitt's attribution of Freud as coauthor of the study.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in three series:

- [Correspondence, 1936-1969](#)
- [Subject File, 1923-1969](#)
- [Writings File, 1949-1974](#)

Description of Series

Container

BOX 1-2

Series

Correspondence, 1936-1969

Letters to and from Schur, with attached and related matter.
Organized alphabetically by name of correspondent.

BOX 2-4

Subject File, 1923-1969

Correspondence, reports, memoranda, psychological case files, manuscripts, financial matter, medical data concerning Sigmund Freud, including case histories, x-rays, prescriptive data, and other clinical material, and printed matter and miscellany.
Organized alphabetically by type of material, topic, or name of organization.

BOX 4-18

Writings File, 1949-1974

Handwritten and typewritten manuscripts in various stages of preparation, including background matter, correspondence, printed material, and other items.
Organized into two segments, a book file and a miscellaneous file of articles, lectures, and notes, and alphabetically therein by title or subject.

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BOX 2-4	Subject File, 1923-1969 Correspondence, reports, memoranda, psychological case files, manuscripts, financial matter, medical data concerning Sigmund Freud, including case histories, x-rays, prescriptive data, and other clinical material, and printed matter and miscellany. Organized alphabetically by type of material, topic, or name of organization.
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Subject File, 1923-1969

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Writings File, 1949-1974

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Writings File, 1949-1974

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BOX 16	"A Principle of Evolutionary Biology for Psychoanalysis," coauthored by Lucille B. Ritvo, 1966-1969
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