

Herman R. Friis cartographic manuals collection.
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Geography & Map Division
Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2019

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/2018585084>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/eadgmd.gm019002>

Prepared by Ryan Moore

Finding aid encoded by the Library of Congress Geography & Map Division, 2019

Collection Summary

Title: Herman R. Friis cartographic manuals collection.

Span Dates: 1905-1989

Call No.: G3701.B7 coll Friis

Extent: 18 manuals

Extent: 1 box (.4 linear ft)

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2018585084>

Summary: The Hermann R. Friis collection contains cartographic manuals published by the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, Army, War Department, and Geological Survey. A number of the manuals are from World War II, which discuss aerial photographs and military map symbols. Maps in the manuals include: the world, North America, the United States, Montana, Scandinavia, and France, among others. These maps exemplify different cartographic techniques.

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

Friis, Herman R. (Herman Ralph), 1905-1989

Subjects

Cartography.

Military intelligence--Maps--Photographs.

Photographic interpretation.

World War, 1939-1945--Maps.

Places

France--Maps.

Montana--Maps.

North America--Maps.

Remote sensing--World War, 1939-1945.

Scandinavia--Maps.

United States--Maps.

Form/Genre

Maps.

Provenance

The materials were donated by Ralph E. Ehrenberg in 2018.

Processing History

The collection was arranged and described by Ryan Moore in 2019.

Copyright Status

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

Access and Restrictions

The Herman R. Friis cartographic manuals 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, Herman R. Friis cartographic manuals collection, Geography & Map Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Herman Friis was born in 1905.

He was interested in the polar regions and studied geography at UCLA. He continued his studies at the University of California at Berkeley, where he also received a master's degree in geography. His earliest employment was teaching geography at the University of Wisconsin and at Southern Illinois University.

In 1938, he was hired by the National Archives to serve as Assistant Chief, Division of Maps.

When America entered World War II, he served in the Army Air Forces in the China-Burma-India theater and was awarded a Bronze Star.

After the war, Friis returned to the Archives. He served as Chief of the Cartographic Records Division and was promoted to Chief Archivist of the Technical Records Division. However, his specialty was Antarctic cartography, and he became the Director of the Center for Polar Archives in 1969. He served in that capacity until he retired in 1975.

Friis was the author of a number of papers that dealt mainly with historical geography and exploration, mapping, and surveying.

Friis died in 1989 and the age of 83.

Scope and Content Note

The Hermann R. Friis collection contains 18 cartographic manuals published by the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, Army, War Department, and Geological Survey. Many of the manuals were published during World War II.

Arrangement of the Collection

The collection is organized into one series

- [Series I](#) Herman R. Friis cartographic manuals collection

Description of Series

Container

Series

Herman R. Friis cartographic manuals collection

Container List

| Container | Contents |
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| ITEM 1 | U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, Latitude Observations with Photographic Zenith Tube at Gaithersburg, MD. By Frank E. Ross. (Special Publication No. 27). GPO, 1915 127 pages |
| ITEM 2 | U.S. Department of the Army Field Manual, Topographic Symbols (FM 21-31), June 1961 102 pages |
| ITEM 3 | U.S. Department of the Army, Office of the Chief of Engineers, Engineering and Design, Engineer Manual, Photogrammetric Mapping (EM 1110-2-1000), January 7, 1963 37 pages |
| ITEM 4 | U.S. General Land Office, Manuscript Edition Chapter on Plats. Manual of Instructions for the Survey of the Public Lands of the United States. U.S. Geological Survey, 1928 68 pages |
| ITEM 5 | U.S. Geological Survey, Formulas and Tables for the Construction of Polyconic Projections. (Bulletin 809). By C.H. Birdseye. GPO, 1928 164 pages |
| ITEM 6 | U.S. Geological Survey, Results of Primary Triangulation and Primary Traverse Fiscal Year 1901-1902. (Bulletin 201). By H.M. Wilson, J.H. Renshaw, E.M. Douglas, and R.U. Goode. GPO, 1928 378 pages |
| ITEM 7 | U.S. Geological Survey, Topographic Instructions of the United Geological Survey. (Bulletin 788). By C. H. Birdseye GPO, 1928 432 pages |
| ITEM 8 | U.S. National Resources Committee, Suggested Symbols for Plans, Maps, and Charts. GPO, June 1938 |
| ITEM 9 | U.S. War Department, The Williams System of Classification, Cataloging, Indexing, Filing and Care of Maps as Adopted for the General Staff Map Collection, Washington. Lt. Col. J.P. Terrell, Chief, Geographic Division, 1939 36 pages |
| ITEM 10 | U.S. War Department Basic Field Manual (FM 21-25), Basic Field Manual. Elementary Map and Aerial Photograph Reading. (Changes No. 3). War Department, 1942 190 pages |
| ITEM 11 | U.S. War Department Basic Field Manual (FM 21-26), Basic Field Manual. Advanced Map and Aerial Photograph Reading. War Department, September 1941 190 pages |
| ITEM 12 | U.S. War Department Field Manual (FM 21-26), Advanced Map and Aerial Photograph Reading. War Department, December 1944 141 pages |
| ITEM 13 | U.S. War Department Basic Field Manual (FM 21-30), Conventional Signs, Military Symbols, and Abbreviations. War Department, October 1943 104 pages |
| ITEM 14 | U.S. War Department Basic Field Manual (FM 21-30), Conventional Signs, Military Symbols, and Abbreviations. Changes No. 1. Application of Special Symbols. War Department, 1939 1 page |

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| ITEM 15 | U.S. War Department Basic Field Manual (FM 21-30), Conventional Signs, Military Symbols, and Abbreviations. Changes No. 3, Part IV (Added) Photo Interpretation Symbols. War Department, February 28, 1945 16 pages |
| ITEM 16 | U.S. War Department Basic Field Manual (FM 30-20), Military Intelligence Military Maps. War Department, 1940 41 pages |
| ITEM 17 | U.S. War Department Tentative Technical Manual, Use of Foreign Maps. War Department, 1942 |
| ITEM 18 | U.S. War Department Technical Manual (TM 5.9990), Kit Instruction Map Reading (Instructions for Use). War Department, October 1946 36 pages |