Collection Summary
Title: Howard-von Recum Family Papers
Span Dates: 1869-1972
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1881-1955)
ID No.: MSS49395
Creator: Howard, Henry, Sir, 1843-1921
Extent: 14,000 items
Extent: 51 containers
Extent: 20.4 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English, German, and French
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm82049395
Summary: British diplomat. Diaries and correspondence relating primarily to the diplomatic career of Sir Henry Howard and documenting his postings at Hague, Netherlands, the Vatican during World War I, and in China, Denmark, France, Greece, Guatemala, Russia, and the United States, also including the diaries and correspondence of his daughter, Baroness Marie Ernestine Howard von Recum, and the correspondence of his other family members and relatives.

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
Howard family.
Howard, Alice Lawrason, 1876-1942--Correspondence.
Howard, Cecilia Riggs, Lady, 1844-1907--Correspondence.
Howard, George, 1869-1919--Correspondence.
Howard, Henry Mowbray, 1873-1953--Correspondence.
Howard, Henry, Sir, 1843-1921.
Howard, Janet Madeleine Cecilia, 1871-1960--Correspondence.
Riggs family.
Riggs, Alice L., 1840-1927--Correspondence.
Riggs, Jane Agnes, 1854-1930--Correspondence.
Von Recum family.
Von Recum, Franz, 1906-1974--Correspondence.
Von Recum, Marie Ernestine Howard, Baroness, 1868-1954. Marie Ernestine Howard von Recum correspondence and diaries.
Von Recum, Rudolf Heinrich, Baron, 1861-1944.

Organizations
Catholic Church--Foreign relations--Great Britain.

Subjects
Aristocracy (Social class)--France.
Aristocracy (Social class)--Germany.
Aristocracy (Social class)--Great Britain.
Diplomatic and consular service, British.
World War, 1914-1918.
World War, 1939-1945.

Places
China--Foreign relations--Great Britain.
Denmark--Foreign relations--Great Britain.
France--Foreign relations--Great Britain.
France--Social life and customs--19th century.
Germany--Social life and customs--19th century.
Great Britain--Foreign relations--Catholic Church.
Great Britain--Foreign relations--China.
Great Britain--Foreign relations--Denmark.
Great Britain--Foreign relations--France.
Great Britain--Foreign relations--Greece.
Great Britain--Foreign relations--Guatemala.
Great Britain--Foreign relations--Netherlands--Hague.
Great Britain--Foreign relations--Russia.
Great Britain--Foreign relations--United States.
Great Britain--Social life and customs--19th century.
Great Britain--Social life and customs--20th century.
Greece--Foreign relations--Great Britain.
Guatemala--Foreign relations--Great Britain.
Hague (Netherlands)--Foreign relations--Great Britain.
Russia--Foreign relations--Great Britain.
United States--Foreign relations--Great Britain.

Titles
Howard family papers
Von Recum family papers

Occupations
Diplomats.

Provenance
The papers of the Howard-von Recum family were given to the Library of Congress by Franz von Recum in 1974.

Processing History
The papers of the Howard-von Recum family were arranged and described in 1974. The finding aid was revised in 2010.

Copyright Status
Copyright in the unpublished writings of the Howard-von Recum family in these papers and in other collections of papers in the custody of the Library of Congress has been dedicated to the public.

Access and Restrictions
The papers of the Howard-von Recum family 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, Howard-von Recum Family Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Biographical Note

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1843, Aug. 11</td>
<td>Born, Berlin, Prussia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1866-1883</td>
<td>Posted intermittently by British foreign service to Washington, D.C.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1867</td>
<td>Married Cecilia Riggs (died 1907)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1871-1875</td>
<td>Aided in preparation of Treaty of Washington to settle Anglo-American claims</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Oversaw distribution of payments to United States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1874</td>
<td>Reposted to Hague, Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>circa 1875</td>
<td>Served as secretary, Royal Commission on Fugitive Slaves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1883</td>
<td>Posted to Guatemala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1885</td>
<td>Posted to Greece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1886</td>
<td>Posted to Copenhagen, Denmark</td>
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<tr>
<td>1887-1890</td>
<td>Posted to Peking, China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1890</td>
<td>Secretary and then minister plenipotentiary, St. Petersburg, Russia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1894</td>
<td>Posted to Paris, France</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>circa 1896-circa 1908</td>
<td>Served at Hague, Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1899</td>
<td>Member British delegation, Peace Conference, Hague, Netherlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907</td>
<td>Received Order of the Bath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1914-1916</td>
<td>Served as first British minister to the Vatican since 1687</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1921, May 4</td>
<td>Died, Rome, Italy</td>
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Scope and Content Note

The papers of the Howard-von Recum family span the years 1869-1972, with the bulk of the material dating from 1881 to 1955. The papers document the lives of a British diplomat and his family from the late nineteenth century, through two world wars, and into the 1950s. The papers are in English, German, and French and are organized into the following series: Diaries, Correspondence, and Addition.

The Diaries were kept by Sir Henry Howard (1843-1921) and his daughter Baroness Marie Ernestine Howard von Recum (1868-1954), with a few diary pages kept during 1914 by Lizzie Walker, a household maid. The diaries of Sir Henry Howard cover his diplomatic career from 1881 until his death. Some of the diaries sustained damage while others were lost completely during a warehouse fire in 1919. His diaries, also containing reminiscences, clippings, postcards, and ephemera, are complete for the two peace conferences he attended at Hague, Netherlands, his Peking, China, appointment from 1887-1890, and his posting to the Vatican during World War I. Events before 1881 are covered in letters to his parents especially since his father had also been a diplomat.

The diaries of Baroness Marie Ernestine Howard von Recum cover her years as a teenager posted with her family to various countries, her marriage to the German aristocrat Baron Rudolf von Recum, and the beginning of World War I. Her diaries, interleaved with photographs, clippings, and ephemera, document her family life and social and world events. The diaries may cease in 1914 because the baroness was held in protective custody by the German government during World War I.

The Correspondence documents the diplomatic life of both Sir Henry Howard and his family, the separation of family members on different sides during the world wars, and provides a glimpse into the lives of interrelated British, German, and French aristocrats. Correspondents include Sir Henry Howard, his wife Lady Cecilia Riggs Howard (1844-1907), and their children Alice Lawrason Howard (1876-1942), George Howard (1869-1919), Henry Mowbray Howard (1873-1953) known as "Pompey," Janet Madeleine Cecilia Howard (1871-1960) known as "Jessie," and Baroness Marie Ernestine Howard von Recum known as "Da." Other family members with correspondence in the papers include Franz von Recum (1906-1974), Alice L. Riggs (1840-1927), Jane Agnes Riggs (1854-1930), and other members of the Riggs family. The correspondence is arranged as it was received in three-ring binders. Although the binders are labeled as to the person and dates of correspondence enclosed, the labels do not always reflect all the persons or dates contained in a binder. At the end of the correspondence is a volume on Howard genealogy.
Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in three series:

- Diaries, 1881-1921
- Correspondence, 1869-1972
- Addition, 1873-1934
## Description of Series

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<th>Series</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>BOX 1-16</td>
<td><strong>Diaries, 1881-1921</strong></td>
<td>Diaries kept by Sir Henry Howard and Baroness Marie Ernestine Howard von Recum with a small diary kept by Lizzie Walker. Includes Sir Henry Howard's address and account books. Arranged by name of person and therein chronologically.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 17-51</td>
<td><strong>Correspondence, 1869-1972</strong></td>
<td>Letters of the Howard, von-Recum, and Riggs families, and a genealogical publication. Arranged as received.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 51</td>
<td><strong>Addition, 1873-1934</strong></td>
<td>Sermon and printed matter. Arranged by type of material.</td>
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# Container List

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| BOX 1-16  | **Diaries, 1881-1921**  
Diaries kept by Sir Henry Howard and Baroness Marie Ernestine Howard von Recum with a small diary kept by Lizzie Walker. Includes Sir Henry Howard's address and account books. Arranged by name of person and therein chronologically. |
| BOX 1     | Howard, Henry, Sir, diaries  
1881-1887  
(5 vols.) |
| BOX 2     | 1887-1890  
(4 vols.) |
| BOX 3     | 1890-1899  
(4 vols.) |
| BOX 4     | 1900-1902  
(3 vols.) |
| BOX 5     | 1903-1904  
(2 vols.) |
| BOX 6     | 1905-1906  
(2 vols.) |
| BOX 7     | 1907-1908  
(2 vols.) |
| BOX 8     | 1909-1910  
(4 vols.) |
| BOX 9     | 1911-1913  
(4 vols.) |
| BOX 10    | 1913-1914  
(3 vols.) |
| BOX 11    | 1914-1917  
(8 vols.) |
| BOX 12    | 1917-1921  
(6 vols.) |
| BOX 13    | Recum, Marie Ernestine Howard, Baroness von ("Da"), diaries  
1883-1890  
(5 vols.) |
| BOX 14    | 1890-1898  
(5 vols.) |
| BOX 15    | 1898-1914  
(4 vols.) |
| BOX 16    | Howard, Henry, Sir, address and account books, undated  
(2 vols.) |
| BOX 16    | Walker, Lizzie, diary, 1914 |
| BOX 17-51 | **Correspondence, 1869-1972**  
Letters of the Howard, von-Recum, and Riggs families, and a genealogical publication. |
Correspondence, 1869-1972

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| BOX 17    | Howard, Henry, Sir  
To Henry Francis Howard and Marie Ernestine von der Schulenburg Howard (parents)  
1878-1880  
(2 vols.)  
1880-1883  
(2 vols.)  
1883-1885  
(2 vols.)  
1893-1896  
(2 vols.) |
| BOX 18    | 1880-1883  
(2 vols.) |
| BOX 19    | 1883-1885  
(2 vols.) |
| BOX 20    | 1893-1896  
(2 vols.) |
| BOX 21    | To Lady Cecilia Riggs Howard (wife)  
General  
1869, 1876-1877, 1890-1894  
(3 vols.)  
1905-1907  
(2 vols.) |
| BOX 22    | From Athens, Greece  
1885  
(1 vol.) |
| BOX 23    | 1886  
(1 vol.) |
| BOX 23    | To Janet Madeleine Cecilia Howard ("Jessie") (daughter), 1914-1915 |
| BOX 24    | To Baroness Marie Ernestine Howard von Recum (daughter), 1880-1921  
(2 vols.) |
| BOX 24    | Howard, Cecilia Riggs, Lady  
To Sir Henry Howard  
1883  
(1 vol.) |
| BOX 25    | 1883-1884, 1895-1897  
(2 vols.)  
To Baroness Marie Ernestine Howard von Recum and Riggs uncles, 1881, 1894-1896, 1902-1907 |
| BOX 26    | Letters of condolence on deaths of Lady Cecilia Riggs Howard and Sir Henry Howard, 1907, 1921  
Letters of condolence to Baroness Marie Ernestine Howard von Recum and letters of George Howard and Henry Mowbray Howard (sons of Sir Henry Howard and Lady Cecilia Riggs Howard), 1895-1919 |
| BOX 27    | Howard, Janet Madeleine Cecilia  
To Baroness Marie Ernestine Howard von Recum  
1895-1915  
(3 vols.)  
1916-1920  
(3 vols.) |
| BOX 28    | 1920-1922, 1936-1942  
(3 vols.)  
1942-1948  
(2 vols.) |

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| BOX 31    | 1948-1951
           | (2 vols.) |
| BOX 32    | 1952-1954
           | (2 vols.) |
| BOX 33    | To Franz von Recum |
| BOX 33    | 1915-1938
           | (2 vols.) |
| BOX 34    | 1939-1953
           | (2 vols.) |
| BOX 35    | 1954-1958
           | (3 vols.) |
| BOX 36    | To Sir Henry Howard, 1915-1916 |
| BOX 36    | Howard, Alice Lawrason and Janet Madeleine Cecilia Howard (daughters of Sir Henry Howard and Lady Cecilia Riggs Howard), 1914-1917 |
| BOX 37    | Howard, Janet Madeleine Cecilia |
| BOX 37    | Letters to Franz von Recum regarding her illness and death, 1958-1960
           | (2 vols.) |
| BOX 37    | From Baroness Marie Ernestine Howard von Recum and letters of condolence, 1953-1954 |
| BOX 38    | Howard, Alice Lawrason, 1902-1942 |
| BOX 38    | Howard, Marie Ernestine von der Schulenburg, and Sir Henry Howard, 1857, 1876-1896 |
| BOX 39    | Recum, Marie Ernestine Howard, Baroness von |
| BOX 39    | To Franz von Recum |
| BOX 39    | 1921-1932
           | (3 vols.) |
| BOX 40    | 1933-1934
           | (2 vols.) |
| BOX 41    | 1934-1935
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| BOX 42    | 1935-1937
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| BOX 43    | 1937-1939
           | (2 vols.) |
| BOX 44    | 1939-1945
           | (2 vols.) |
| BOX 45    | 1946-1954
           | (2 vols.) |
| BOX 46    | War years, 1914-1918, 1939-1940
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| BOX 47    | Letters received |
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| BOX 48    | 1910-1942, 1950 |
| BOX 48    | Eightieth birthday and Christmas, 1948-1953 |
| BOX 49    | Riggs family, 1881, 1888 |
| BOX 50    | Riggs, Alice L. and Jane Agnes, 1890-1921
<pre><code>       | (3 vols.) |
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| BOX 51    | **Addition, 1873-1934**  
Sermon and printed matter.  
Arranged by type of material. |
| BOX 51    | Printed matter |
| BOX 51    | *List of Claims of British Subjects against the United States, and American Citizens against Great Britain*, 1873 |
| BOX 51    | *Royal Commission on Fugitive Slaves: Memorandum on the Treaties Concluded by Great Britain with Powers Still Owning Slaves for the Suppression of the Slave Trade, and on the Status of Slavery in Those Countries*, 1876 |
| BOX 51    | Sermon at consecration of Chapel of Our Lady and St. Teresa on Friday Street built by Alice Lawrason Howard, Painswick, Gloucestershire, England, photocopy, circa 1934 |