

Harold Gould Henderson Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2015

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm85083960>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms015005>

Prepared by Margaret McAleer

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2015

Collection Summary

Title: Harold Gould Henderson Papers

Span Dates: 1918-1955

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1937-1946)

ID No.: MSS83960

Creator: Henderson, Harold Gould

Extent: 500 items

Extent: 1 container

Extent: .4 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English and Japanese

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm85083960>

Summary: Author and professor of Japanese art and culture. Born 1889; died 1974. Correspondence, memoranda, reports, notes, military papers, and printed material pertaining to Henderson's service during World War II as chief of the Japanese Language Section of the Allied Forces South West Pacific Area Psychological Warfare Branch and following the war as head of the Education Division of the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers Civil Information and Education Section in occupied Japan.

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

Henderson, Harold Gould.

Organizations

Allied Forces. South West Pacific Area. Psychological Warfare Branch. Japanese Language Section.

Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers. Civil Information and Education Section. Education Division.

Subjects

Art, Japanese.

Education--Japan.

Educational change--Japan.

Emperors--Japan.

Haiku.

Japanese literature.

Psychological warfare.

World War, 1939-1945--Oceania.

World War, 1939-1945--Propaganda.

World War, 1939-1945--Psychological aspects.

Places

Japan--History--Allied occupation, 1945-1952.

Occupations

Authors.

Educators.

Provenance

The papers of Harold Gould Henderson, author and professor of Japanese art and culture, were given to the Library of Congress by his wife, Mary Benjamin Henderson, in 1985 and 1991.

Processing History

The Harold Gould Henderson Papers were processed in 1996. The finding aid was revised in 2014.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Harold Gould Henderson is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Harold Gould Henderson 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, Harold Gould Henderson Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Harold Gould Henderson (1889-1974) span the years 1918-1955, with the bulk of the material dating from 1937 to 1946. The papers consists of correspondence memoranda, military papers, reports, notes, translations, drafts of writings, and printed matter. They document Henderson's service during World War II as chief of the Japanese Language Section of the Allied Forces South West Pacific Area Psychological Warfare Branch, and later as head of the Education Division of the Civil Information and Education Section, Supreme Command for the Allied Powers, in occupied Japan. Included are reports and notes on wartime propaganda leaflets and on postwar education reform. The papers also contain Henderson's account of having drafted a clause in the imperial rescript delivered on 1 January 1946 in which the emperor renounced his divinity. The collection further consists of Henderson's writings on Japanese art and literature, some of which he wrote while teaching Japanese art and culture at Columbia University between 1935 and 1944. Included are his English translations of Japanese haiku poems, principally those of Matsuo Bashō and Yosū Buson. Henderson's several books on haiku, beginning with *The Bamboo Broom: An Introduction to Japanese Haiku* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co, 1934) popularized the poetic genre in America.

Arrangement of the Papers

The collection is organized by type of material.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Correspondence
BOX 1	General, 1945-1955, undated (2 folders)
BOX 1	Ledoux, Louis V., regarding Tōshūsai Sharaku, 1937-1938, undated
BOX 1	United States Army
BOX 1	Memoranda and orders, 1918-1920, 1943-1946, undated
BOX 1	Miscellany, 1944-1946, undated
BOX 1	Reports and translations, 1942-1945, undated (2 folders)
BOX 1	“Secret History of the Japanese Emperor’s Renunciation of Divinity,” 1947
BOX 1	Writings and translations by Henderson and others
BOX 1	Art, 1937, undated
BOX 1	Haiku, undated (2 folders)
BOX 1	Japanese grammar and dictionaries, undated
BOX 1	“Suan Ki,” astronomical instrument, undated