Washington Psychoanalytic Society Records
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2022

Contact information: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact

Catalog Record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm2021086452

Additional search options available at: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms022013

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

Finding aid encoded by Manuscript Division staff, 2022
Collection Summary

Title: Washington Psychoanalytic Society Records
Inclusive Dates: 1914-2013
Bulk Dates: 1973-1988
ID No.: MSS86452
Extent: 550 items
Extent: 3 containers
Extent: 1.2 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English, with German
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm2021086452
Summary: Professional membership organization for psychiatrists and other practitioners of psychoanalysis in the Washington, D.C., area. Directories, course materials, minute book, newsletters, photographs, book drafts, and research materials related to the activities of the organization and several of its members.

Acquisition Information

The records of the Washington Psychoanalytic Society were given to the Library of Congress by Richard Waugaman in 2021.

Processing History

The records of the Washington Psychoanalytic Society were arranged and described by Joanne Archer in 2022.

Related Material

Related collections in the Manuscript Division include the papers of Smith Ely Jelliffe (see https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms012007).

Copyright Status


Access and Restrictions

The records of the Washington Psychoanalytic Society are open to research. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Washington Psychoanalytic Society Records, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Administrative History

The Washington Psychoanalytic Society was founded in 1914 at the Government Hospital for the Insane in Washington, D.C. (later Saint Elizabeth’s Hospital) with William A. White serving as the first chairman of the organization. After World War I, the society disbanded but re-formed in 1924 as the Washington Psychoanalytic Association. In 1930 the Washington Baltimore Psychoanalytic Society formed and received provisional status as a training program by the American Psychoanalytic Association (APsaA). The organization was renamed the Washington Baltimore Psychoanalytic Institute in 1940 and granted full status as a training program by the APsaA. Throughout the 1940s a theoretical divide emerged between the Washington and Baltimore practitioners resulting in the institute splitting in two in 1952 with the Washington Psychoanalytic Society emerging from the breakup. In the 1980s, the society began creating programs to train practitioners beyond physicians. In 2000 the society became the Washington Center for Psychoanalysis.

Scope and Content Note

The records of the Washington Psychoanalytic Society span the years 1914-2013, with the bulk of the material dating from 1973 to 1988. The collection highlights several periods in the organization’s history, including its founding in 1914 and its evolution to train a broader group of practitioners in the 1980s and 1990s. Also documented are the research interests of members associated with the organization related to publications on William A. White and Smith Ely Jelliffe. The papers are primarily in English, with some German found in the research materials.

The collection documents the founding of the Washington Psychoanalytic Society in 1914 at the Government Hospital for the Insane (later Saint Elizabeth's Hospital) in Washington, D.C. A minute book spans the first meeting in 1914 through 1928 and sheds light on the membership, topics of discussion, and the finances of the organization during this early period. Also documented are activities of the Education Committee in the 1980s and 1990s, including some courses taught during this period. A significant portion of material relates to a symposium held by the organization in 1973 titled “William Alanson White, the Washington Years: 1903-1937.” The symposium was organized as a joint meeting of the Washington Psychoanalytic Society and the Washington Psychiatric Society. The collection contains planning and research material as well as drafts of papers given at the symposium that resulted in William Alanson White, the Washington Years, 1903-1937, a publication edited by Arcangelo R. T. D’Amore. Also included is research material on Smith Ely Jelliffe for John C. Burnham's 1983 publication, Jelliffe, American Psychoanalyst and Physician, including book drafts and copies of correspondence between Smith Ely Jelliffe and Sigmund Freud.

Arrangement of the Collection

This collection is arranged alphabetically by material type.

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
Freud, Sigmund, 1856-1939--Correspondence.
Jelliffe, Smith Ely, 1866-1945--Correspondence.
Jelliffe, Smith Ely, 1866-1945.

Organizations
Washington Center for Psychoanalysis, Inc. Washington Center for Psychoanalysis, Inc., records.
Subjects
Psychoanalysis--Study and teaching.
Psychoanalysis--Washington (D.C.)--Societies, etc.
Psychoanalysis.
Psychoanalysts--Training of.
**Container List**

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