

Otto Fenichel and Hanna Fenichel 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.

2002

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Collection Summary

Title: Otto Fenichel and Hanna Fenichel Papers

Span Dates: 1934-1953

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1938-1945)

ID No.: MSS62100

Creator: Fenichel, Otto

Creator: Fenichel, Hanna

Extent: 1,500 items; 3 containers; 1 linear foot

Language: Collection material in English and German.

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

Abstract: Psychoanalysts. Correspondence, circular letters, minutes, reports, and writings primarily concerning Otto Fenichel's work as a psychoanalyst and his involvement in psychoanalytic organizations following his immigration to the United States in 1938. Fenichel's work as a training analyst in Oslo, Norway, and Prague, Czechoslovakia, is explored in circular letters written by him between 1934 and 1938.

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

Fenichel, Hanna. Otto Fenichel and Hanna Heilborn Fenichel papers. 1934-1953.

Fenichel, Otto.

Jones, Ernest, 1879-1958--Correspondence.

Maenchen, Anna--Correspondence.

Menninger, Karl A. (Karl Augustus), 1893-1990--Correspondence.

Reik, Theodor, 1888-1969--Correspondence.

Simmel, Ernst, 1882-1947--Correspondence.

Organizations

American Psychoanalytic Association.

Subjects

Psychoanalysis--California--Societies, etc.

Psychoanalysis--Czech Republic--Prague.

Psychoanalysis--Middle West--Societies, etc.

Psychoanalysis--Norway--Oslo.

Psychoanalysis--United States--Societies, etc.

Psychoanalysis--United States.

Occupations

Authors.

Lay analysts.

Psychoanalysts.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Otto and Hanna Fenichel, psychoanalysts, were given to the Library of Congress by the Sigmund Freud Archives in 1987.

Processing History

The papers of Otto and Hanna Fenichel were arranged and described in 1991. An article by Otto Fenichel entitled “Frühe Entwicklungsstadien des Ichs” was transferred from the Sigmund Freud Papers in 2002.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Otto and Hanna Fenichel is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Otto Fenichel and Hanna Fenichel 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, Otto Fenichel and Hanna Fenichel Papers, Sigmund Freud Collection, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Otto Fenichel

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1897, Dec. 2	Born, Vienna, Austria
1921	M.D., University of Vienna, Vienna, Austria
1922	Moved to Berlin, Germany, to complete training at the Berlin Psychoanalytic Institute
1923-1925	Assistant and training analyst at Berlin Psychoanalytic Clinic, Berlin, Germany
1926	Married Clare Nathansohn (divorced 1940)
1929	Traveled to the Soviet Union (also in 1932 and 1934)
1933	Left Berlin, Germany, because of political climate Moved to Oslo, Norway, to train psychoanalysts
1934	Published <i>The Outline of Clinical Psychoanalysis</i> (New York: Psychoanalytic Quarterly Press and W. W. Norton Co. 492 pp.)
1935	Moved to Prague, Czechoslovakia, to train psychoanalysts
1938	Immigrated to Los Angeles, Calif.
1939	Published <i>Problems of Psychoanalytic Technique</i> (Albany, New York: Psychoanalytic Quarterly Press. 130 pp.)
1940	Married Hanna Heilborn

- 1945 Published *The Psychoanalytic Theory of Neurosis* (New York: W. W. Norton & Co. 703 pp.)
- 1946, Jan. 22 Died, Los Angeles, Calif.
- 1953-1954 Posthumous publication of *Collected Papers of Otto Fenichel* (New York: W. W. Norton & Co. 2 vols.)

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Otto Fenichel (1877-1946), psychoanalyst and author, and Hanna Heilborn Fenichel (1895-1975), lay analyst, span the years 1934-1953. They consist largely of correspondence and writings by Otto Fenichel after his emigration from Central Europe to the United States in 1938. Prominent among the materials are copies of Otto Fenichel's "Rundbriefe," or circular letters sent to a small group of associates from 1934 until 1945. While incomplete (approximately 30 letters appear to be missing from the span of 119 which Fenichel enumerated), the Rundbriefe are legible in typed or carbon form, with the first 70 or so in German and the remainder in English.

Important correspondents include Ernest Jones, Anna Maenchen, Karl A. Menninger, Theodor Reik, and Ernst Simmel. Much of the correspondence and other material relates to the American Psychoanalytic Association and to various smaller psychoanalytic groups, especially in the American Midwest and in California.

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BOX 2	Circular letters ("Rundbriefe")
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