

# Phyllis Greenacre Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the  
Library of Congress

Prepared by Margaret McAleer and Brian  
McGuire



Manuscript Division, Library of  
Congress

Washington, D.C.

2003

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Gardner, 2011

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## Collection Summary

Title: Phyllis Greenacre Papers

Span Dates: 1903-1999

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1955-1985)

ID No.: MSS84906

Creator: Greenacre, Phyllis

Extent: 3,000 items; 12 containers; 4.8 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

Abstract: Psychoanalyst, psychiatrist, educator, and author. Correspondence, writings, and other material relating to Greenacre's psychoanalytic career and to her role in the New York Psychoanalytic Institute.

## 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

Andersen, H. C. (Hans Christian), 1805-1875.

Greenacre, Phyllis.

Grolnick, Simon A., 1930- --Correspondence.

Harley, Marjorie--Correspondence.

Kramer, Selma--Correspondence.

Kris, Ernst, 1900-1957--Correspondence.

Masson, J. Moussaieff (Jeffrey Moussaieff), 1941- --Correspondence.

Oremland, Jerome D.--Correspondence.

Solnit, Albert J.--Correspondence.

### Organizations

American Psychoanalytic Association.

International Psycho-Analytical Association.

New York Psychoanalytic Institute.

### Subjects

Psychoanalysis--Societies, etc.

Psychoanalysis.

### Occupations

Authors.

Educators.

Psychiatrists.

Psychoanalysts.

## Administrative Information

### Provenance

The papers of Phyllis Greenacre, psychoanalyst, psychiatrist, educator, and author, were bequeathed by her to the Library of Congress in 1989. The Library received the papers via her son, Peter Richter, in 2002.

## Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Phyllis Greenacre is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

## Access and Restrictions

Restrictions apply governing the use, photoduplication, or publication of items in this collection. Consult reference staff in the Manuscript Division for information concerning these restrictions. In addition, 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, Phyllis Greenacre Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1894, May 3	Born, Chicago, Ill.
1913	B.S., University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.
1916	M.D., Rush Medical College, Chicago, Ill.
1917-1928	Faculty member, Johns Hopkins University Medical School, Baltimore, Md.
1919	Married Curt Paul Richter (divorced 1930)
1925-1926	Assistant psychiatrist, New Jersey State Hospital, Trenton, N.J.
1927-1932	Consulting psychiatrist, Child Care Division, Department of Public Welfare, Westchester County, N.Y.
1933	Began personal analysis
1933-1959	Attending psychiatrist, New York Hospital, New York, N.Y.
1934-1965	Professor of Clinical Psychiatry, Cornell Medical College, Ithaca, N.Y.
1937	Completed psychoanalytic training, New York Psychoanalytic Institute, New York, N.Y.
1942	Became a training analyst, New York Psychoanalytic Institute, New York, N.Y.
1945	Joined editorial board, <i>Psychoanalytic Study of the Child</i>
1946	Established private psychoanalytic and psychiatric practice, New York, N.Y.
1948-1950	President, New York Psychoanalytic Institute, New York, N.Y.
1951-1967	Member, American Psychological Association

1952	Published <i>Trauma, Growth and Personality</i> . New York: Norton
1953	Delivered Freud Anniversary Lecture, New York Psychoanalytic Institute, New York, N.Y.
1955	Published <i>Swift and Carroll</i> . New York: International Universities Press
1956-1957	President, New York Psychoanalytic Society, New York, N.Y.
1965-1967	President, International Psychoanalytic Association
1971	Published <i>Emotional Growth</i> . New York: International Universities Press
1989, Oct. 24	Died, Ossining, N.Y.

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Phyllis Greenacre (1894-1989) span the years 1903-1999, with the bulk of the material dating from 1955 to 1985. The collection documents Greenacre's career as a psychoanalyst, educator, and author. The papers are organized in four series: [Correspondence](#), [Subject File](#), [Writings](#), and [Closed](#) material.

The [Correspondence](#) series features Greenacre's professional correspondence. Although many of these letters are requests for reprints of Greenacre's articles, a significant portion of the correspondence consists of substantive exchanges with professional colleagues concerning psychoanalytic theory and practice and the affairs of various psychoanalytic organizations. Frequently found in Greenacre's letters are critical assessments of colleagues' work, updates concerning her own research and writing, and reflections on her early training and career. Included among Greenacre's correspondents are Simon A. Grolnick, Marjorie Harley, Selma Kramer, Ernst Kris, J. Moussaieff Masson, Jerome D. Oremland, and Albert J. Solnit. The series contains a small amount of personal correspondence.

The [Subject File](#) centers on Greenacre's participation in several psychoanalytic organizations including the American Psychoanalytic Association, the International Psycho-Analytical Association, and the New York Psychoanalytic Institute. Among material relating to the latter is correspondence concerning controversial plans to establish a fund-raising foundation. Also featured are files regarding many of Greenacre's research interests including the creative process.

The [Writings](#) series contains articles and professional papers, book reviews, memorials, tributes, and critiques written by Greenacre. Also included are drafts of her unpublished study of H. C. Anderson. A small group of articles and papers written by others is also featured.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in four series:

- [Correspondence, 1954-1986](#)
- [Subject File, 1903-1999](#)
- [Writings, 1938-1985](#)
- [Closed, 1963-1985](#)

## Description of Series

<i>Container</i>	<i>Series</i>
BOX 1-3	<u>Correspondence, 1954-1986</u> Letters to and from Greenacre. Arranged into personal and professional correspondence. Personal correspondence is arranged chronologically. Professional correspondence is arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent and chronologically therein.
BOX 3-7	<u>Subject File, 1903-1999</u> Correspondence, awards, biographical material, condolences, financial records, interviews, patient files, photographs, press releases, printed matter, publication lists, research files, and wills. Arranged alphabetically by subject or type of material and chronologically therein.
BOX 7-11	<u>Writings, 1938-1985</u> Articles and professional papers, book reviews, drafts of books and related material, critiques of papers, memorials, and tributes. Arranged into writings by Greenacre and others. Greenacre's writings are arranged alphabetically by type of material. Writings by others are arranged alphabetically by author.
BOX X 1	<u>Closed, 1963-1985</u> Correspondence, appointments, interviews, and billing records relating to patients. Arranged and described according to the series from which they were removed.

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## Correspondence, 1954-1986

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