

# **Alfred Adler Papers**

## **A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress**



**LIBRARY OF  
CONGRESS**

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

**2009**

**Revised 2010 April**

Contact information:

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

Additional search options available at:

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009144>

LC Online Catalog record:

<http://lcn.loc.gov/mm83082306>

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Revised and expanded by Margaret McAleer

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Alfred Adler Papers

**Span Dates:** 1888-1975

**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1928-1937)

**ID No.:** MSS82306

**Creator:** Adler, Alfred, 1870-1937

**Extent:** 900 items ; 5 containers plus 1 oversize ; 2.15 linear feet ; 4 microfilm reels

**Language:** Collection material in English and German

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

**Summary:** Psychologist. Chiefly letters written by Adler to his wife and children, including also drafts of a book, articles, lectures, an appointment book, notes, reports, certificates, clippings, printed matter, and photographs relating to Adler's career as a psychologist.

## 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

Adler family.

Adler, Alfred, 1870-1937.

Adler, Raissa Epstein--Correspondence.

Allen, G. Margery--Correspondence.

Einstein, Albert, 1879-1955--Correspondence.

Freud, Sigmund, 1856-1939.

### Subjects

Psychology.

### Occupations

Psychologists.

## Administrative Information

### Provenance

The papers of Alfred Adler, psychologist, were given to the Library of Congress by his son, Kurt A. Adler, and daughter, Alexandra Adler, between 1973 and 1995. Several items were purchased in 1974 and 1999.

### Processing History

The papers of Alfred Adler were arranged and described in 1984. The collection was expanded and revised in 1996 and 2001. The finding aid was revised in 2009.

### Transfers

Sigmund Freud's *Psychopathologie des Alltagslebens*, inscribed by Freud to Adler, has been transferred to the Rare Book and Special Collections Division where it is identified as part of the Alfred Adler Papers.

### Related Material

Related collections in the Manuscript Division include the Alfred Adler Papers in the Sigmund Freud Collection.

### Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Alfred Adler in these papers and in other collections in the custody of the Library of Congress is reserved. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division for further information.

## Access and Restrictions

The papers of Alfred Adler 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.

## Microfilm

A microfilm edition of part of these papers is available on four reels. Consult reference staff in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition as available.

## Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Alfred Adler Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

## Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1870, Feb. 7	Born, Vienna, Austria
1895	Graduated, University of Vienna Medical School, Vienna, Austria
1895-1897	Gained clinical experience working in the Polyclinic, Vienna, Austria
1897-1927	Private practice, Vienna, Austria
1897	Married Raissa Timofeivna Epstein
1902	Joined Sigmund Freud's Psychological Wednesday Society, Vienna, Austria
1907	Published <i>Studie über die Minderwertigkeit von Organen</i> . Berlin: Urban & Schwarzenber
1910	President, Vienna Psychoanalytic Society
1911	Resigned from the Vienna Psychoanalytic Society Founded the Society for Free Psychoanalytic Study
1912	Published <i>Über den Nervösen Charakter</i> . Wiesbaden: J. F. Bergmann
1914	Founded the Society for Individual Psychology and its journal, <i>Zeitschrift für Individualpsychologie</i> Published with Carl Furtmüller <i>Heilen und Bilden; Ärztlich-Pädagogische Arbeiten des Vereins für Individualpsychologie</i> . Munich: Ernst Reinhardt
1916-1918	Served as a physician in the Austrian army
1920	Established a network of child guidance clinics attached to public schools, Vienna, Austria Appointed director, Individual Psychological Clinic for Problem Children, Franz-Josef Ambulatorium, Vienna, Austria
1924	Published <i>Praxis und Theorie der Individualpsychologie</i> . Munich: J. F. Bergmann
1926	First American lecture tour

1927	Published <i>Menschenkenntnis</i> . Leipzig: Hirzel
1928	Conducted a course on individual psychology, New School for Social Research, New York, N.Y.
1929	Published <i>Problems of Neurosis: A Book of Case Histories</i> . London: Kegan Paul, Trench Truebner & Co.
1929-1930	Visiting Professor, University Extension, and director of child-guidance clinic, Columbia University, New York, N.Y.
1930	Resigned from Columbia University and opened the Advisory Council of Individual Psychology clinic at the Community Church, New York, N.Y. Published <i>Guiding the Children on the Principles of Individual Psychology</i> . New York: Greenberg
1932	Visiting Professor of Medical Psychology, Long Island College of Medicine, Brooklyn, N.Y. Established the Adler Medical Psychology Clinic, Brooklyn, N.Y.
1937, May 28	Died, Aberdeen, Scotland

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Alfred Adler (1870-1937) span the years 1888-1975, with the bulk of material dating from 1928 to 1937. The papers contain correspondence, lectures, articles, manuscript of a book, an appointment book, patient case studies and record books, reports, notes, photographs, certificates, clippings, and printed matter. The major part of the collection consists of letters written by Adler to his wife and children between 1897 and 1937 and drafts of lectures and articles, many of which Adler wrote while residing in the United States. Correspondence with people outside the Adler family includes a letter written by Albert Einstein in 1937 comparing the theories of Sigmund Freud and Adler.

A small amount of material was added to the collection in 1996 and 2001. The addition includes, among other items, letters from Adler to a former student, G. Margery Allen, a letter from John Haynes Holmes concerning the relocation of Adler's clinic to the Community Church in New York City, congratulatory letters on Adler's sixtieth birthday, drafts of six lectures, and correspondence concerning Adler's death. An undated note by Adler concerning a patient and a photograph of Adler were added in 2001.

A microfilm edition of the first three containers is available. Patient record books and material added to the collection in 1996 and 2001 have not been filmed.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged by type of material.

# Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 20,322

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1 REEL 1	Appointment book, 1937
BOX 1 REEL 1	General correspondence, 1891-1970, undated
	(10 folders)
BOX 1 REEL 1	Lectures
BOX 1 REEL 1	1921
BOX 1 REEL 2	1928-1930
	(2 folders)
BOX 2 REEL 2	1931-1936, undated
	(4 folders)
BOX 2 REEL 2	"Any Marriage Can Succeed: An Interview with Dr. Alfred Adler," by Helena Huntington Smith, undated
BOX 2 REEL 2	"Aerztekursus im Urbankrankenhaus," undated
BOX 2 REEL 2	Writings file
BOX 2 REEL 2	Book, <i>The General System of Individual Psychology</i> , undated
BOX 2 REEL 2	Chapters 1-7
BOX 2 REEL 3	Chapters 8-13
BOX 2 REEL 3	Articles in English
BOX 2 REEL 3	Bashfulness, undated
BOX 2 REEL 3	"A Brief Comparison of Individual Psychology and Psycho-Analysis," undated
BOX 2 REEL 3	Childhood and youth, undated
BOX 2 REEL 3	Courage, undated
BOX 2 REEL 3	"Fortunetelling," undated
BOX 2 REEL 3	"Fortunetelling," undated
BOX 2 REEL 3	"Homosexuality," undated
BOX 2	Neurosis, undated

## Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
REEL 3	
BOX 3	"Preface" for Waslaw Nijinsky's autobiography, undated (not used)
REEL 3	
BOX 3	"The Problem of Crime," undated
REEL 3	
BOX 3	"Psychiatric Aspects Regarding Individual and Social Disorganization," 1936
REEL 3	
BOX 3	"The Technique of Treatment," undated
REEL 3	
BOX 3	"Psychological Aspects in a Time of Economic Crisis," 1934
REEL 3	
BOX 3	"Seven Men and a House, A Study of the Inferiority Complex," undated
REEL 3	
BOX 3	Articles and lectures in German, undated
REEL 3	
	(2 folders)
BOX 3	Patient case studies, 1928-1935, undated
REEL 3	
	(2 folders)
BOX 3	Reports of medical meetings, 1928-1932, undated
REEL 3	
BOX 3	Miscellany
REEL 3	
BOX 3	Certificates, passport, photographs, naturalization papers, etc., 1888-1937, 1950, undated
REEL 3	
BOX 3	Notes and memoranda, 1897-1938, 1975, undated
REEL 3	
BOX 3	Printed matter, 1933-1937, undated
REEL 3	
BOX 3	Clippings, 1930-1937, 1970, undated
REEL 4	
BOX 4	Patient record books, 1903-1907
not filmed	
	(2 vols.)
BOX 5	Addition
not filmed	
BOX 5	Allen, G. Margery, 1930-1937
BOX 5	Death of Adler, 1937
BOX 5	General correspondence, 1930-1938, undated
BOX 5	Lectures, undated
BOX 5	"Advice to the Teacher"
BOX 5	"Children's Case-Histories and Their Interpretation"
BOX 5	"Compulsion Neurosis"
BOX 5	"Drunkards and Drug-Addicts"
BOX 5	"How the Child Selects His Symptoms"
BOX 5	"The Structure of Neurosis"
BOX 5	Medical licenses, 1934-1937
BOX 5	Note by Adler concerning a patient, undated
BOX 5	Photograph of Adler, undated

## Container List

### *Container*

### *Contents*

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BOX 5	Printed matter, 1966, undated
BOX 5	Sixtieth birthday, 1930
BOX 5	Certificate of honorary citizenship, Vienna, Austria <i>See <u>OverSIZE</u></i>
BOX 5	Congratulatory letters (3 folders)
BOX 5	Stoker, Richard, String Quartet No. 3, Op. 36 "Adlerian," 1967-1970
BOX OV 1 not filmed	Oversize
BOX OV 1	Addition
BOX OV 1	Sixtieth birthday
BOX OV 1	Certificate of honorary citizenship, Vienna, Austria, 1930 (Container 5)