

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
Finding Aid
RG-17
Austria

RG-17.006
Acc. 2005.158

Title: Records Pertaining to the expropriation of property belonging to Sigmund Freud's sisters, 1938-1972 (bulk 1938-1942).

Extent: 2 CD-ROMs; 4 ¾ in.
3,746 digital images: JPEG; 1.26 GB.

Provenance: The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives received the collection from the Sigmund Freud Museum Wien via the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum International Archives Program Division in April 2005.

Historical/Biographical note: When Sigmund Freud left Vienna on June 4, 1938 to escape Nazi persecution, he left behind four elderly sisters, Esther Adolfine Freud, Maria (Mitzi) Freud, Rosa Graf (nee Regina Debora Freud), and Pauline Winternitz (nee Pauline Regina Freud) (a fifth sister, Anna Freud, had emigrated to the U.S. in 1892). Most of the archival records in this collection were compiled by the Nazi authorities and their appointee, the lawyer Erich Führer, during the time 1938-1942 and document the systematic expropriation of the Freud sisters' assets, including the plundering of a trust fund set up for the sisters' benefit by their brother, Alexander Freud. The documents also feature letters by the Freud sisters in which they describe their living conditions after the Nazis turned their apartment into a so-called "Sammelwohnung" for Jews and plead with Nazi authorities not to force them out of their longtime apartment. Their pleas were ignored - all four sisters, who were in their seventies and eighties at the time, were subsequently deported and murdered in different camps, i.e. Maly Trostinets, Theresienstadt, and Treblinka.

Restrictions of access: No restrictions on access.

Restriction on use: Restrictions on use. Publication of original documents (incl. on the Internet/World Wide Web), reproduction of documents for commercial use, the making of duplicate CDs for third parties require the permission of the Sigmund Freud Museum.

Organization and arrangement: Arranged thematically.

Language: German.

Preferred citation: Standard citation for the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Collections Division, Archives branch.

Scope and content: Contains documents pertaining to the systematic expropriation of Sigmund Freud's sisters' assets by the Nazis, including the plundering of a trust fund set up for the sisters' benefit by their brother, Alexander Freud. Also includes documents from the 1960's and 70's related to a restitution effort.

General use note: Disc one contains item level descriptions for the documents in the collection. The documents were saved as individual jpeg files.

Indexing terms:

Sigmund Freud Museum (Vienna, Austria)

Freud, Sigmund, 1856-1939--Friends and associates.

World War, 1939-1945--Austria.

World War, 1939-1945--Confiscations and contributions--Austria.

Jews--Intellectual life--History.

Jewish property--Austria.

War victims--Legal status, laws, etc.--Austria.

Jews--Austria--History--20th century.

Psychoanalysts--Austria.

Jews--Austria--History.

National socialism--Austria--History.