

# Guide to the Erwin Ramsdell Goodenough Papers

MS 723



compiled by staff of Manuscripts and Archives

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
(203) 432-7441  
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<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 723

**CREATOR:** Goodenough, Erwin Ramsdell, 1893-1965

**TITLE:** Erwin Ramsdell Goodenough papers

**DATES:** 1896-1969

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 25.75 linear feet (38 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** Materials in English and Greek.

**SUMMARY:** The papers consist of correspondence, writings, lectures, research notes, correspondence, personal papers and photographs possibly used in some of his publications. The largest part of the papers is comprised of research materials and manuscript drafts for Erwin Goodenough's major work, *Jewish Symbols in the Greco-Roman Period* (published 1953-1965), as well as materials relating to *The Politics of Philo Judaeus: Practice and Theory*.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0723>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0723>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Erwin Ramsdell Goodenough, 1961; Cynthia G. Goodenough, 1975, 1978, 1995; Thomas Kraabel, 2003, and John D. Gordan, III, 2010, 2012; Semitic Museum, Harvard University, 2012.

## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

Erwin Ramsdell Goodenough Papers (MS 723). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Erwin R. Goodenough, educator, received a B.A. degree from Hamilton College in 1915. He was a student at Drew Theological Seminary from 1915 to 1916, and received his S.T.B. from Garrett Biblical Institute in 1917. Goodenough studied at Harvard for three years until 1920, and received a D.Phil. degree from Oxford University in 1923. He was an instructor of history at Yale, 1923-1926; assistant professor, 1926-1931; associate professor, 1931-1934; professor of history of religion, 1934-1959; the John A. Hooper professor of religion, 1959-1962; and professor emeritus, 1962-1965.

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## Scope and Contents

The papers consist of correspondence, writings, lectures, research notes, correspondence, personal papers and photographs possibly used in some of his publications. The largest part of the papers is comprised of research materials and manuscript drafts for Erwin Goodenough's major work, *Jewish Symbols in the Greco-Roman Period* (published 1953-1965), as well as materials relating to *The Politics of Philo Judaeus: Practice and Theory*.

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## Collection Contents

### Original accession

#### 1961 Accession

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| b. 1         | <i>Jewish Symbols in the Greco-Roman Period</i> [manuscript]<br>English                 |
| b. 1A        | <i>Jewish Symbols in the Greco-Roman Period</i> [manuscript]<br>English                 |
| b. 2         | Manuscripts and writings  |
| b. 2A        | Short manuscripts and lectures  |
| b. 3         | Short manuscripts and lectures  |
| b. 4         | Short manuscripts and lectures  |
| b. 5         | Short manuscripts and lectures  |
| b. 6         | Manuscripts and notes for <i>Jewish Symbols in the Greco-Roman Period</i>               |
| b. 7         | Manuscripts and notes for <i>Jewish Symbols in the Greco-Roman Period</i>               |
| b. 7A        | Manuscripts and notes for <i>Jewish Symbols in the Greco-Roman Period</i>               |
| b. 8, f. 1-8 | Manuscripts and notes for <i>Jewish Symbols in the Greco-Roman Period</i> , volumes 4-7 |
| b. 9         | Correspondence, 1930s-1960s   |

#### 1974 & 1978 Accessions

##### Correspondence, 1951-1969

|       |   |
|-------|---|
| b. 10 | A-B   |
| b. 11 | C-P   |
| b. 12 | Q-Z   |
| b. 13 | Miscellaneous papers, including chapters of book on <i>Jewish Symbols in the Greco-Roman Period</i> |
| b. 14 | Legal, financial and personal papers  |
| b. 15 | Legal, financial and personal papers  |

**Accession 1995-M-215: Additional Material, 1959-1966**

|                  |   |                       |
|------------------|---|-----------------------|
| b. 1, f. 1       | <i>Religious Perspective</i> [Harper & Brothers, Publishers]                                  | 1959-1963             |
| b. 1, f. 2       | Reviews of books written by Goodenough  | 1965-1966,<br>undated |
| b. 1, f. 3 - 4   | Speeches/lectures [mostly arrangements materials]   | 1959-1964             |
|                  | Writings  |                       |
| b. 1, f. 5       | "Agnostic Religion": Introduction<br>English  | undated               |
| b. 1, f. 6       | Autobiography [notes]   | undated               |
| b. 1, f. 7       | "The Bible as Product of The Ancient World"<br>English  | undated               |
| b. 1, f. 8 - 13  | Chapter drafts  | undated               |
| b. 1, f. 14      | "An Early Christian Bread Stamp" [includes correspondence about the<br>article]<br>English    | 1963-1964             |
| b. 1, f. 15      | <i>Encyclopaedia Judaica</i><br>English   | undated               |
| b. 2, f. 16      | "Evolutionary Ethics"<br>English  | 1964                  |
| b. 2, f. 17      | "Galatians"<br>English  | undated               |
| b. 2, f. 18      | "Greek Garments on Jewish Heroes in the Dura Synagogue [Lown Institute<br>lecture]<br>English | undated               |
| b. 2, f. 19      | "Judaism of the Dura Synagogue"<br>English  | 1961                  |
| b. 2, f. 20      | "The Nature of Love in Plato and Freud"<br>English  | undated               |
| b. 2, f. 21      | "The Perspective of Acts" [for Schubert Festschrift]<br>English                               | 1963, undated         |
| b. 2, f. 22      | "Socrates of History and the Socratic Tradition"<br>English                                   | undated               |
| b. 2, f. 23      | "The State of Israel"<br>English  | 1959                  |
| b. 2, f. 24      | "Symbols of the Future: the Question Mark"<br>English   | undated               |
| b. 2, f. 25 - 27 | "Types of Religious Experiences"<br>English   | undated               |
| b. 2, f. 28 - 29 | Unidentified  | undated               |

Writings (continued)

|             |                               |           |
|-------------|-------------------------------|-----------|
| b. 2, f. 30 | Unpublished                   | undated   |
| b. 2, f. 31 | Photocopy of handwritten will | 1962-1963 |

## **Accession 2003-M-078: Additional Material**

b.1

*Philo of Alexandria* [seven volumes; work text of Goodenough]

1896-1930

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**Accession 2011-M-015: Additional Material, Circa 1928-1939**

This accession consists of eleven bound volumes of material, titled *Philo*, relating to Goodenough's book *The Politics of Philo Judaeus: Practice and Theory* and two bound volumes containing the original handwritten manuscript and the typescript of *Jurisprudence of the Jewish Courts of Egypt*, done in collaboration with Howard Lehman Goodhart.

This accession includes volumes II-XII of *Philo*. Volume I is included in accession 2013-M-019. Volumes II-V, VIII-X contain book by book bibliographical information with occasional photographs of a page; volumes III and V also have some correspondence concerning acquisition of information interspersed. Volume VII consists of correspondence with Dr. Foakes-Jackson, a collaborator who withdrew from the project, and some bibliographical essays (one of which appears twice in other volumes). Volume VI contains the corrected page proofs and Volume XI is the typescript of the book. Volume XII contains post-publication correspondence, primarily addressed to Howard Goodhart, concerning things such as reviews, book distribution, and appreciation.

|              |  |                 |
|--------------|--|-----------------|
| b. 1, f. 1-3 | <i>Philo</i> , volumes II-IV   | Circa 1935      |
| b. 2, f. 1-2 | <i>Philo</i> , volumes V-VI  | 1935-1937       |
| b. 3, f. 1-2 | <i>Philo</i> , volumes VII-VIII  | Circa 1935-1938 |
| b. 4, f. 1-2 | <i>Philo</i> , volumes IX-X  | 1938            |
| b. 5, f. 1-2 | <i>Philo</i> , volumes XI-XII  | 1939            |
|              | <i>The Jurisprudence of the Jewish Courts in Egypt at the Time of the Early Roman Empire as Described by Philo Judaeus</i> | Circa 1928      |
| b. 6, f. 1   | Original manuscript  |                 |
| b. 6, f. 2   | Typescript   |                 |

**Accession 2012-M-047: Additional Material**

This accession consists of nine boxes of brief, general lecture notes hand-written on 3x5 index cards. Topics include: church and state, philosophy, psychology of religion, Justin Martyr and the Reformation. Box 10 consists of one folder of correspondence (two letters and a postcard), one folder of negatives and three folders of photographs with notes.

| Lectures      |                            |           |
|---------------|----------------------------|-----------|
| General       |                            |           |
| b. 1          | C                          | Undated   |
| b. 2          | C-G                        | Undated   |
| b. 3          | G-P                        | Undated   |
| b. 4          | P [philosophy]             | Undated   |
| b. 5          | P [psychology of religion] | Undated   |
| b. 6          | P-Q                        | Undated   |
| Topical       |                            |           |
| b. 7          | Justin Martyr              | Undated   |
| b. 8          | Justin Martyr              | Undated   |
| b. 9          | Reformation                | Undated   |
| b. 10, f. 1   | Correspondence             | 1945-1962 |
| b. 10, f. 2   | Negatives                  | Undated   |
| b. 10, f. 3-5 | Photographs                | Undated   |

**Accession 2013-M-019: Additional Material, 1935**

Materials in English and Greek.

This accession consists volume I of *Philo*, which gathers together material related to Goodenough's book *The Politics of Philo Judaeus: Practice and Theory*. Volumes II-XII of *Philo* form part of the materials included in accession 2011-M-015. Volume I consists of a typewritten bibliography of manuscripts, books, and articles related to the work of the Philo Judaeus. Many entries in the bibliography include detailed physical descriptions of individual works. The volume also includes an alphabetized index. Handwritten notes in Greek appear throughout the volume.

b. 1, b. *Philo*, volume I  
system\_indicator\_99fe9ab7545f32606778a2da7f65464a

1935

## **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.

### **Subjects**

Clergy  
Historians  
Jews -- History -- 168 B.C.-135 A.D  
Judaism -- History -- Post-exilic period, 586  
B.C.-210 A.D

### **Names**

Goodenough, Erwin Ramsdell, 1893-1965

### **Corporate Bodies**

Yale University. Department of History  
Yale University. Department of Religious  
Studies  
Yale University -- Faculty