



History of Anthropology Newsletter

Volume 1
Issue 1 1973

Article 3

1-1-1973

Notes on Manuscript Sources in British Anthropology

George W. Stocking Jr.

SOURCES FOR THE HISTORY OF ANTHROPOLOGY

(As a regular feature we hope to include information on manuscript and other primary sources for the history of anthropology. This may take the form of listings of recent acquisitions, reviews of source materials in specific areas, more extended comments on specific bodies of source materials, etc. Readers are urged to contribute.)

NOTES ON MANUSCRIPT SOURCES IN BRITISH ANTHROPOLOGY

George W. Stocking, Jr.

The following notes are based on two six month periods of research into manuscript sources for a general history of British social anthropology from 1850 to 1950. Although hopefully adequate to the purposes of that research, they are certainly limited from the point of view of those pursuing more highly focused projects. Some specific limits may be noted: with several exceptions, these notes reflect research only in London, Oxford, and Cambridge; more specifically, they include no repositories in Scotland or Australia; they do not include living or recently deceased anthropologists; and they do not reflect research I did in the archives of missionary societies. Although my listing is alphabetical by individual or institutional subject rather than repository, I have included brief comments which may help to characterize certain collections as such. I have attempted only minimal cross-reference. Major bodies of manuscript material such as the papers of Haddon and Malinowski or the Royal Anthropological Institute Archives contain materials by many other anthropologists than those listed here. From all of this, it should be clear that omission of a name does not imply the non-existence of manuscript materials. However, in several cases where my efforts seemed to establish such non-existence, I have noted this fact. Those pursuing specific projects should of course consult the National Register of Archives in Chancery Lane, London, and the microfiche Archives of British Men of Science, edited by Roy M. MacLeod (London: Mansell, 1972). In relation to figures of concern to me, the present list is better than either of these, but both contain various references marginal to my own interests that I did not follow up.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON (1863-1871).

The Archives of the Royal Anthropological Institute contain minutes, membership ledgers, some letters, and some referee's reports.

BEDDOE, John (1826-1911). The University of Bristol has 11 boxes of letters and notes, 11 notebooks, and 3 parcels of miscellanea (all uncatalogued in 1969), including a diary (1848), lecture notes on comparative anatomy (1851), physical anthropological data collected in the 1860's, and letters relating to the Anthropological Society of London (1869-70).

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY, Board of Anthropological Studies (1905-).

The Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, Cambridge, has minutes, unfortunately incomplete, as well as materials relating to the Museum itself, and to several individuals associated with the Museum or the Department.

- CODRINGTON, Robert (1830-1922). Rhodes House, Oxford, has journals and letters from the Melanesian Mission period, and sermons from Codrington's later life, though little specifically anthropological material.
- DAVIS, Joseph (1801-1881). The Royal Anthropological Institute has a small collection, including five antiquarian/ethnological journals covering the period 1845-60.
- ETHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON (1842-1871). The Royal Anthropological Institute has minutes and membership ledgers.
- FISON, Lorimer (1832-1907). See Tylor.
- FRAZER, James (1854-1941). Trinity College, Cambridge, has numerous original letters, a long series of copies made by Angus Downie, and other materials which in 1969 were still uncatalogued. (See also MacMillan).
- GALTON, Francis (1822-1911). University College, London, has a large body of papers, fairly well catalogued, which include correspondence with various anthropologists, the journal of Galton's trip to Africa in 1850, and various anthropometric materials.
- GILLEN, F.J. See Spencer.
- GRATTAN, John. See Haddon.
- HADDON, Alfred (1855-1940). The Haddon papers in the Cambridge University Library are the most important single body of materials for the period between 1890 and 1925. Moderately well catalogued, they include numerous diaries, complete records of the Torres Straits Expedition, and a large body of correspondence with anthropologists from all over the world. There are several important sub-collections associated with specific individuals, including W.H.R. Rivers and the mid-nineteenth century Irish ethnologist John Grattan. (See also MacMillan).
- HODGKIN, Thomas (1798-1866). The papers of the Aborigines Protection Society at Rhodes House, Oxford, include some material, as do the Hodgkin family papers in the Durham County Record Office.
- HOWITT, A.W. (1830-1908). See Tylor.
- HUXLEY, Thomas (1825-1895). The Imperial College of Science and Technology has a large collection which is described in detail in Warren Dawson, The Huxley Papers (London, 1946).
- JENNESS, Diamond (1886-1969). See Oxford.
- KEITH, Arthur (1866-1955). The Royal College of Surgeons has a body of uncatalogued manuscripts, diaries, and letters.
- LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS. The School archives include materials relating to the development of anthropology at L.S.E.

- LUBBOCK, John (1834-1913). The British Museum has a collection of Lubbock (Lord Avebury) papers, and there are some letters in the Darwin papers at Cambridge. (See also MacMillan).
- MACMILLAN ARCHIVES. The British Museum has a large body of correspondence from various scientists to the publishing house of MacMillan, including series from Frazer, Haddon, and Lubbock.
- MAINE, Henry (1822-1888). There is a small collection in the London School of Economics. (Cf. the sources listed in the biography by George Feaver).
- MALINOWSKI, Bronislaw (1884-1942). The collection at the London School of Economics, although inadequately catalogued, is the richest source for the history of British anthropology between the wars. In addition to a large body of field materials, it is especially good for institutional context, and for the early careers of his students. There is also a smaller (but very well organized) collection at Yale University, which is particularly good for aspects of his theoretical development.
- MARETT, Robert (1866-1943). No large body of anthropological papers seems to have survived, although there are family papers on the Isle of Jersey.
- MCLENNAN, John (1827-1881). Although I could locate no major body of papers, there are letters in the Lubbock and W.R. Smith papers.
- MULLER, F. Max (1823-1900). The papers in the Bodleian Library, Oxford, include the notes for Muller's first series of lectures on comparative philology given at Oxford in the 1850's.
- MYERS, Charles (1873-1946). Myers' Torres Straits diary is in the hands of his son, Brigadier General Edmund Myers.
- MYRES, John (1869-1954). Although still dusty and uncatalogued, the Myres papers in the Bodleian, Oxford, contain some interesting material.
- NADEL, S.F. (1903-1956). The London School of Economics has a series of field diaries and field notes.
- OXFORD UNIVERSITY, Committee for Anthropology (1905-1938). The University Archives in the Bodleian contain six packets of material, including diaries and letters of Diamond Jenness, as well as minutes and publications of the Committee.
- PERRY, William (1887-1949). Perry's daughter informed me that his papers had been destroyed, although there are letters here and there in other archives.
- PITT RIVERS MUSEUM. The Museum has some materials pertaining to its founding and early years.
- RADCLIFFE-BROWN, A.R. (1881-1955). Although there is no single body of manuscripts, there are materials in several repositories: the Rivers papers, the Malinowski papers, and the Rockefeller Foundation, as well as a set of lecture notes taken by I. Schapera in the 1920's deposited at the Institute of Social Anthropology, Oxford.

RIVERS, W.H.R. (1864-1922). There is a considerable body of research materials in the Haddon papers, but relatively little correspondence seems to have survived.

ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION. The Archives of the Foundation in New York are an important source for the funding of British anthropological research prior to World War II.

ROYAL ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE (1871-1943). The archives of the Institute contain a variety of materials for this period, as well as papers of various anthropologists not included on this list: Im Thurn, Rattray, E.H. Man, etc.

SELIGMAN, Charles (1873-1940). Seligman's psychological papers, along with some genealogical data collected by Brenda Seligman, are at the Royal Anthropological Institute. Their field diaries and other materials are in the possession of Professor Meyer Fortes.

SMITH, G. Elliot (1871-1937). No major body of papers seems to have survived.

SMITH, W. Robertson (1846-1894). The Cambridge University Library has a well catalogued collection, including numerous letters and diaries of Smith's middle eastern excursions.

SPENCER, Baldwin (1860-1929). The Balfour Library at the Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford, has 7 boxes of manuscripts, including numerous letters from Spencer's colleague, F.J. Gillen.

TYLOR, E.B. (1832-1917). The Balfour Library has a large collection, including correspondence with Lorimer Fison and F.W. Howitt, and Tylor's reading notebooks over a fifty year period. The British Museum also has a small body of correspondence, and there are some materials in the hands of the family in Devonshire.

RESEARCH MATERIALS IN THE BANCROFT LIBRARY

Timothy Thoresen

The Bancroft Library is a research library owned and administered by the University of California, and specializing in Western Americana. In addition to various rare books, maps, and periodicals, the Library houses the professional and sometimes personal papers of numerous individuals either important in California history or formerly connected with the University. Of specific relevance to the history of anthropology are the professional papers of A.L. Kroeber (1876-1960), Robert H. Lowie (1883-1957), and E.W. Gifford (1887-1959). These papers are organized into two major categories, correspondence and other materials. Correspondence is subdivided into "outgoing" (in chronological order) and "incoming" (filed alphabetically and then chronologically by sender). For each of the collections there is a key that lists (nearly completely) correspondence by sender, plus the contents of the boxes of non-correspondence material. The range of the Kroeber Papers, for example, is from original field notebooks, to handwritten drafts of books, to reprints