Collection Summary

Collection Title: Henry F. May Papers
Date (inclusive): 1940-1999
Collection Number: BANC MSS 89/61 c
Creator: May, Henry Farnham, 1915-
Extent: Number of containers: 4 boxes, 13 cartons, 1 oversize folder
Linear feet: 16.6
Repository: The Bancroft Library.
University of California, Berkeley
Berkeley, CA 94720-6000
Phone: (510) 642-6481
Fax: (510) 642-7589
Email: bancref@library.berkeley.edu
URL: http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/

Abstract: The papers deal principally with May's career as an historian and educator. Correspondence includes chronological files (1946-1983), former students, and other correspondents, colleagues, and friends. Included are working notes and drafts of his books and articles, and related correspondence and criticism; as well as records of May's teaching, with course outlines and lecture notes. There is material relating to the Berkeley Free Speech Movement. Finally, the papers include files kept by May as an active member of the History Department, University of California, Berkeley from 1952 until his retirement in 1980.

Languages Represented: Collection materials are in English

Physical Location: Many of the Bancroft Library collections are stored offsite and advance notice may be required for use. For current information on the location of these materials, please consult the library's online catalog.

Access
Collection is open for research, with the following exceptions:
Within "Series 1 Correspondence", access to sub-series, "Former Students" and "Other Correspondents, Colleagues, and Friends" is only by the written permission of Henry May during his lifetime, and of one of his literary executors for ten years after his death.

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Finding Aid to the Henry F. May Papers, 1940-1999

BANC MSS 89/61 c

with the user.

All requests to reproduce, publish, quote from, or otherwise use collection materials must be submitted in writing to the Head of Public Services, The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley 94720-6000. See: http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/reference/permissions.html.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Henry F. May papers, BANC MSS 89/61 c, The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library’s online public access catalog
University of California, Berkeley. Dept. of History
University of California, Berkeley--Students--Political activity
College teachers--California--Berkeley
Freedom of speech--California--Berkeley

Acquisition Information

The Henry F. May Papers were given to The Bancroft Library by Professor May on November 18, 1988, with additions made in May and August of 1990, and in 1999.

Processing Information

Processed by Henry F. May, with assistance from Kriss Basil and Mary Morganti.

Biography

Henry Farnham May was born in Denver, Colorado on March 27, 1915, the son of Henry F. and May (Rickard) May. He received an A.B. from the University of California, Berkeley in 1937, with his M.A. and Ph.D. from Harvard in 1938 and 1947. May worked as an instructor of history at Lawrence College from 1941 to 1942 and from 1942 to 1945, served as a lieutenant (j.g.) in the United States Navy Reserve. He returned to his teaching career as an assistant professor, and then associate professor, at Scripps College from 1947 to 1949. He was a visiting associate professor at Bowdoin College from 1950 to 1951.

May became a member of the faculty at the University of California, Berkeley, in 1952 and was made professor in 1956. From 1963 to 1980, he served as the Margaret Byrne Professor of American History and was made an emeritus professor in 1980. May served as chairman of the history department from 1964-1966 and also held many temporary assignments during his career, including Faculty Research Lecturer in 1980. He was a summer teacher at the Salzburg Seminar of American Studies and at the University of Minnesota. May was Fulbright lecturer at the Belgian Universities from 1959-1960, Pitt Professor of American History and Institutions at Cambridge University from 1971-1972, and visiting professor at the University of Leuven, Belgium, in 1980.


Throughout his career, Henry May was honored with numerous awards, including the Berkeley Citation (1980), the Beveridge Prize (1977) from the American History Association, and the Merle Curti Prize (1976) from the Organization of American Historians. In 1996, the same organization awarded him its annual citation for Distinguished Service. May has served as Fellow on the Social Science Research Council (1946-1947 and 1963-1964), on the American Council of Learned Societies (1963-1964), and as a Senior Fellow of the National Endowment for Humanities (1974-1975). He is a member of the American Historical Association, the Massachusetts Historical Society, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Henry May married Jean Louise Terrace on June 18, 1941 and has two children, Hildy May and Ann Rickard May. He lives with his wife in Kensington, California.

Scope and Content

The papers of Professor Henry F. May span the years from 1940 to 1999 and primarily concern his career as a historian and educator. The collection consists of correspondence, working drafts and notes of his writings, including books, articles, essays, speeches, reviews, and related correspondence and criticism. Also included are records of May's teaching, including course outlines and his lecture notes. Finally, the collection includes files kept by May as an active member of the History Department at Berkeley from 1952 until his retirement in 1980.

The time of May's tenure at Berkeley was a period of crucial change in the University, which can be divided into two overlapping phases: first, a time of increasing growth and prosperity; second, a period of cultural upheaval, continuing through the sixties and to some extent into the seventies. During all of these years, May devoted most of his time and energy to the teaching and writing of history, especially American intellectual and religious history. He also took part
in History Department affairs during the period of expansion and the University controversies during the time of upheaval. He was also moderately active in national and international professional activities.

The arrangement of May's papers was and remains his own. From the time of his retirement, his files were kept in their original and personal form and arrangement in his department office. In 1988, since May no longer had access to office storage space, he made a gift of the papers to The Bancroft Library. To facilitate future access to his papers, Professor May himself undertook their necessary reorganization and listing in the summer of 1994. In the course of his research on a study of U.C. faculty and administration during the presidency of Benjamin Ide Wheeler (1899-1919), Professor May used the papers of faculty members of that period. It is the best of those collections that furnished him with models for organizing his own papers, with the purpose of making them approachable and usable for future historians of the University.

[Excerpted from a note by Professor Henry F. May, July 1994]

### Series 1: Correspondence, 1946-1983.

**Physical Description:** Boxes 1-2, Cartons 11-12

**Arrangement**

Divided into three sub-series: Chronological Files, 1946-1983 (arranged chronologically); Former Students; and Other Correspondents, Colleagues, and Friends (arranged alphabetically, and then chronologically). Includes both incoming and outgoing letters.

**Content/Description**

Access to subseries, "Former Students" and "Other Correspondents, Colleagues, and Friends" is only by the written permission of Henry May during his lifetime, and of one of his literary executors for ten years after his death.

### Chronological Files, 1946-1983

- Box 1, Folder 1: Correspondence 1946-49
- Box 1, Folder 2-19: Correspondence 1946-67
- Box 2, Folder 1-14: Correspondence 1968-81
- Box 2, Folder 15: Correspondence 1982-83

### Former Students [Restricted]

- Carton 11
  - Ahmed, Martin
  - Birnbaum, Lucille
  - Boles, John
  - Constantin, Charles
  - Drinnon, Richard
  - Foletta, Marshall
  - Gottschalk, Stephen
  - Hale, Nathan
  - Hannah, Tomas
  - Harper, Robert
  - Harrington, Carroll
  - Holtermann, Robert A.
  - Leonard, Thomas
  - Lundberg, David
  - Marshall, Lynn
  - Martin, Waldo
  - Mayer, Andre
  - Meyer, Donald
  - Moore, William
  - Morgan, Alda Marsh
Series 1: Correspondence, 1946-1983.
Former Students [Restricted]

- Morganti, Joseph
- Nelson, Bruce
- Noon, Rozanne Miller
- Novak, Steve
- O'Neill, William
- Phillips, Joseph
- Reinier, Jacqueline
- Reynolds, David
- Rollefson, John
- Schooley, Frank
- Scovel, Raleigh
- Shapiro, Stanley
- Slater, Peter
- Summers, Mark
- Takaki, Ronald
- Sikora, Stephen
- Veysey, Lawrence
- Wadleigh, Wells
- Wainwright, Robin
- Watt, David

carton 12

Other Correspondents, Colleagues, and Friends [Restricted]

- Boles, John
- Davies, Wally
- Davis, Hope
- Davis, R.G.
- Drinnon, Richard
- Goldberg, Harold (Hillel)
- Hofstadter, R.
- Meyer, Sheldon
- Hutchison, W.
- Levenson, Jack
- Levenson, Joe
- Mann, Golo
- Smith, Henry
- Ward, Reginald


Physical Description: Cartons 1-5, 13

Arrangement

Arranged in rough chronological order by year of publication. Divided into six sub-series:
- Miscellaneous Writings, 1940-1998;
- The End of American Innocence, 1946-1993;
- The Enlightenment in America, 1945-1988;
- Coming to Terms, 1980-1999;
- The Divided Heart, 1988-1994;

Content/Description

Includes working notes and drafts of articles, essays, speeches, and reviews, as well as May's first major books. Also includes comments and some correspondence with editors and colleagues.

Miscellaneous Writings, 1940-1998

carton 1

- Publishers undated
  - Miscellaneous early correspondence
  - Harpers article 1946
  - Protestant Churches and Industrial America
Paperback 1962-76
Octagon edition, second 1976-77
Reviews, letters, etc.
Publication 1947-79

_Protestant Churches and Industrial America 1967_
New introduction, notes
New introduction, text, corrections, criticism

_Isolationism article, never published_

_Radicalism essay 1950_
Original version
Criticism

_Kennan article 1952_

_Leopold and Link 1952_
Later eds. 1955

_Intellectuals in Contemporary America 1953_

_The Rebellion of the Intellectuals 1952_
Old Version
Second Version

_Paper for American History Association, "Shifting Interpretations of the 1920s" 1956_
Text
Earlier Version
Preliminary Correspondence
Publication in _Mississippi Valley History Review_

_MVHA Dewey Centennial 1959_

_Eglises Protestantes 1960_

_Fulbright article 1960_
Notes
First version 1960
Political interview 1960

_AHA, Papers and comments 1961_

_Unmanifest Destiny 1961_
Material
Comment
Copy and corrections

_Critique of Hofstadter 1961_

_Education lecture, Minneapolis 1962_

_Discontent of Intellectuals 1962_
Draft
Corrections

_Ghent piece 1962_

_Draft_

_Comment_

_Publication_


_A Synopsis of American History 1963-82_
1983 comments
General
Maps
Houghton Mifflin synopsis 1981
McMillan revision 1977
Rand McNally
Inserts
Chapter 31
Revision and other

_Lectures on Communism 1962-63_
Comments, possible revision
Publication
Old texts
Documents and Outlines
Old drafts and extra pages
Publication

Religious History article 1964
  Final version
  Criticism, etc.
  Early versions, notes
Pacific School of Religion 1965
  Talk, comment

Student Crisis article 1966
  Final version
  Reactions

Stowe essay
  Final version
  Comment
  Corrections
  Proofreading matter
  Semifinal
  Documents and notes

Miller article 1966
  Text
  Comment
  Miscellaneous material

Reply to Feuer comment 1966
Scripps talk
Hobart talk May 1967
A Meditation on an Unpopular Book, with comments, published and unpublished 1968

Letters to Christianity in Crisis 1967-68
Living with Crisis, Second Student Article 1969
  Final version
  Reactions
  Second version
  First version
  Corrections and mistakes

The Problem of the American Enlightenment
  Final version
  First version
  Comments and correspondence 1967-76
  Outlines

Gay critique 1970

Berkeley in the Sixties, Moses Lecture 1970
  Text
  Miscellaneous material

Recovery article, Oxford, Edinburgh 1971-2
After Recovery 1974
Mead Festschrift, correspondence

Planned talk on Niebuhr for Pacific School of Religion 1973
Moscow paper
  Original
  Moscow paper 1972
  Comment

Enlightened Reader
  Comment
  Final
  American Quarterly article, corrections and miscellaneous
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Correspondence
History Teaching Alliance
Correspondence
Talk Dec. 3, 1986
Religion and American Intellectual History 1987
For publication
Wilson Center Conference, Washington March 3, 1986
Spoken version, Washington
Correspondence 1987
HNS-Chapman Project 1988
After the Enlightenment 1988
Criticism
First Version 1988
Hutchison Review 1987
Constitution and the Enlightenment 1987
Oregon State, miscellaneous notes 1985-88
Electa Press 1987
The Enlightenment and Franklin’s America 1987
Commentary for Tocqueville meeting Oct. 1986
Review manuscripts
Georgetown lecture 1989
1-2
Correspondence 1987-90
Manuscript of talk
Niebuhr session commentary Dec. 3, 1991
Review of *The American Religion: The Emergence of the Post-Christian Nation* by Harold Bloom, 1992
Enola Gay 1995
Commentary
Correspondence
Clippings
"The History of History or Play it Again, Sam"
Symposium talk March 4, 1996
*Intellectual History Newsletter* June-Sept. 1996
Contribution
*History at Berkeley: a Dialog in Three Parts* 1998
Gene A. Bruckner, Henry F. May, David A. Hollinger

End of American Innocence, ca. 1946-1993

Final version, original, Parts I-IV
Draft, Part I
Bib. essay, acknowledgements
Index
Corrected pages, re-typed
Miscellaneous corrections before publication
List, Minnesota microfilm source, collected for earlier version of book
Outlines of Book
Used Notes, Parts I-III
Miscellaneous material for Part IV; used
Documents for 1918 ff (not used)
Knopf
Granger Seminar, University of Oklahoma
Letters
Reviews
EAI paperback, Quadrangle 1964
End of American Innocence, ca. 1946-1993

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<td>OAH Newsletter discussion 1989-90</td>
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**Enlightenment in America, ca. 1966-1988**

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Folder 20-21

**Part I: Introduction, Chapters One - Four**

**Part I: Notes, One - Four**

**Part I: Five, with notes**

**Part II: Chapters One - Three**

**Part III: Chapters One - Five**

**Part III: Chapter Six (notes only)**

**Part IV: Chapters One - Three**

Folder 22

**Alternative versions, introduction**

Folder 23

**Chapter One, extra material (not used in earlier version)**

Folder 24-30

**Footnotes**

**Part II, Chapters One & Two, notes**

**Part III, Chapter One, notes**

**Part III, Chapter Four**

**Part III, Chapter Five, notes, reactions**

**Part III, Chapter Six**

**Part IV, Chapters One - Two, notes**

Folder 31-85

**Sources (photocopies)**

**Barlow**

**Belsham, Lindsey**

**Bishop**

**Bland**

**Breck**

**Buckminster**

**Campbell**
Channing, Henry (New London)
Dwight
Ely
Emmons
Everett
Ferguson
Gallatin
Grant
Griswold
Holmes
Kemp
Madison
Manning
Mason
Maury
Miller, Samuel
Morris
Morse
Nisbet
Norwood
Ogden
Osborn
Paine, R. T.
Pickering
Owen
Portfolio
Priestly
Sanders
Smith, S. S.
Spring
Stillman
Strong
Summary State of American Religion (Vaughan)
Tappan
Tracy
Tuckers: Chron Order
Vaughan
Walker, John William to Newby, Larkin
Warren, Mercy
Watson
Webster
Wells
White
Wilberforce
Winchester
Winthrop
Wright, G. F.
Young and Minns

Coming to Terms, 1980-1999

carton 13, folder 18-34

Correspondence

Potential publishers 1984-86
U.C. Press 1985-94
Miscellaneous, before publication 1986
Miscellaneous, after publication 1987-95
Criticisms 1980-84
<table>
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<th>Series 2: Writings, 1940-1999</th>
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<td><strong>Coming to Terms, 1980-1999</strong></td>
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| Later criticisms, before publication 1985-86 |
| Books for autobiography undated |
| Illustrations 1986-87 |
| Bibliographic note undated |
| Wilder and May notes undated |
| Publicity 1987 |
| Reviews 1987-89 |
| Reading Sept. 2, 1987 |
| Paperback question 1989-91 |
| Popkin, Jeremy D. |
| Paper and correspondence 1996 1999 |
| Excerpt published in *California Monthly* 1998 |
| With correspondence |

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<td>Criticism after revision, before publication 1991</td>
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**Series 3: Extra-University Matters, 1949-1985.**

Physical Description: Cartons 6-7, Oversize folder 1 A

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<td>Salzburg Seminar in American Civilization 1949</td>
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<td>PCB Convention 1952</td>
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<td>Guggenheim application (rejected) 1954</td>
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<td>Princeton Conference on Education in American History 1958</td>
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<td>Fulbright and related matters in U.S. 1959</td>
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<td>Correspondence</td>
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<td>Minneapolis lecture on education 1962</td>
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<td>Paris 1962</td>
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<td>Cuba letter 1962</td>
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