

Robert Anderson papers, 1940-1990

Overview of the Collection

Creator	Anderson, Robert, 1914-
Title	Robert Anderson papers
Dates	1940-1990 (inclusive) 1940 1990
Quantity	3.5 linear feet
Collection Number	Ms0573
Summary	The Robert Anderson papers (1940-1990) contain correspondence, notebooks, research notes, maps, articles, news clippings, and manuscript drafts related to the life and work of this University of Utah Professor of Anthropology. Dr. Anderson's early research files concern the Cheyenne Indians. His later interest in psychiatry and anthropological theory culminated in the publication of his textbook <i>The Cultural Context</i> in 1976.
Repository	University of Utah Libraries, Special Collections. Special Collections, J. Willard Marriott Library University of Utah 295 South 1500 East Salt Lake City, UT 84112-0860 Telephone: 801-581-8863 SPCreference@lists.utah.edu
Access Restrictions	Twenty-four hour advanced notice encouraged. Materials must be used on-site. Access to parts of this collection may be restricted under provisions of state or federal law.
Languages	English

Historical Note

Robert Anderson was born on 17 February 1914, in Bessemer, Michigan. Growing up in Marquette, Anderson worked part-time for the Marquette Mining Journal, reporting for the daily newspaper on Saturday and over summer vacations during high school. Following graduation from Northern Michigan College in 1937, Anderson taught high school for two years and was commencing graduate work in anthropology when the Second World War began.

Anderson was drafted in 1942, and the Army took advantage of his journalism and writing experience by assigning him to the Stauffer survey of American soldiers in Alaska, a project which yielded the multi-volume *The American Soldier*. Anderson also edited *The News*, the newsletter of the Percy Jones Hospital Center at Ft. Custer, Michigan.

After his discharge from the Army in 1945, Anderson went back to school, receiving his M.A. from the University of Michigan in 1947, a year that also saw his marriage to Alma Fassett. Anderson continued his graduate work at Columbia University, but returned to Michigan in 1948 to study under

noted anthropologist Leslie White. In 1951, after extensive research that yielded a dissertation on the Cheyenne Indians, Anderson received his Ph.D. in anthropology.

Anderson began his career as a college professor in 1951 at Florida State University. Three years later he accepted the post of Assistant Professor at the University of Utah, where he would serve for the next thirty five years. In 1956, Anderson was made Associate Professor, and in 1963 he achieved the rank of Professor of Anthropology. In 1960, Anderson began lecturing in psychiatry, becoming an Adjunct Professor of Psychiatry in 1970. In 1976, Anderson published a textbook, *The Cultural Context: An Introduction to Cultural Anthropology*, noted for a mature approach in an introductory work. Having built a reputation as an excellent lecturer and erudite scholar, he received the first College of Social and Behavioral Science Superior Teaching Award in 1980.

After a distinguished career, Robert Anderson retired from the University of Utah on 1 July 1989. He died on 17 August 1989.

Content Description

The Robert Anderson papers (1940-1990) are a valuable resource for the student of anthropology, especially as that discipline relates to Indians of the North American Plains. The seven boxes that constitute the collection contain Anderson's research, a selection of his published works, and correspondence that concerns his career as an anthropologist and university professor. The materials filed in boxes one and two relate to Anderson's study of the Cheyenne culture as it appeared in the late 1940s and early 1950s. Included are the notebooks, correspondence, and writings that resulted in Anderson's dissertation, *A Study of Cheyenne Culture History, With Special Reference to the Northern Cheyenne*. The focus of box three is *The Cultural Context*, the anthropology textbook authored by Anderson. A copy of the book is included, as well as publishing and copyright materials, related correspondence, and various drafts and typescripts. General correspondence is filed in boxes four and five and illuminates Anderson's career from the late 1940s to late 1980s. Boxes six and seven hold miscellaneous materials. Photographs (P0342) and audiovisual material (A0448) have been transferred to the Multimedia Archives

Use of the Collection

Restrictions on Use

It is the responsibility of the researcher to obtain any necessary copyright clearances.

Permission to publish material from the Robert Anderson papers must be obtained from the Special Collections Manuscript Curator.

Preferred Citation

Initial Citation: Robert Anderson papers, Ms 573, Box []. Special Collections and Archives. University of Utah, J. Willard Marriott. Salt Lake City, Utah.

*Following Citations:*Ms 573.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Gift of Alma Anderson in 1990.

Processing Note

Processed by Ian Craig Breaden in 1990.

Separated Materials

Photographs (P0342), motion pictures, and sound recordings transferred to the Multimedia Section of the Manuscripts Division.

Detailed Description of the Collection

Research Files, 1952

Box1

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box		
<hr/>		
1		
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Volume		
<hr/>		
1-2	Notebook	1952
<hr/>		
Folder		
<hr/>		
1	Notes Some notes are in shorthand.	
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2	Buffalo Ceremony	
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3	Interviews	
<hr/>		
4	<i>The Yellowstone News</i> Article describing a contemporary Medicine Lodge ceremony.	1952
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Research Files, 1949-1979

Box2

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box		
2		
Volume		
1	Notebook, Cheyenne Indians	1949
Folder		
1	Thematic Apperception Tests, Cheyenne Children	
2	"Distribution of Indian Ceremonial Rattles North of the Rio Grande"	
3	"Distribution of some Tupes of Indian Rattles in Middle and South America"	
4	Interview, Dan Old Bull Contains a typescript of a three-hour conversation between Dan Old Bull and John Stands In Timber which took place near the Sun Dance encampment west of Lame Deer, Montana. Dan Old Bull recalls his childhood when the Cheyenne still lived in the old ways. He describes an attack on his village by the U.S. Army in conjunction with Crows, Pawnees, Shoshones, and Utes. Other topics covered include the creation of reservations and the enlistment of various people as army scouts. Old Bull also relates his genealogy (14 pages).	
5	Interview, John Sandcrane John Sandcrane (1871-1950), Keeper of the Sacred Buffalo Hat of the Northern Cheyenne, relates "The Story of Custer Made Mistake by Indian Law Over at Southern Cheyennes" to his grandson, Edward Sandcrane (6 pages). He also relates "The Life of Medicine Man Made by John Sandrane who Keep the Sacred Head for Cheyennes," in which he discusses the beginnings of the Cheyenne and their relationship to Sweet Medicine (7 pages).	1950
6	Correspondence	1949-1979
7	Lame Deer, Montana	1950s-1960s

The Cultural Context, 1971-1977

Box3

This box contains correspondence, typescript drafts, and other materials related to the introductory text written by Robert Anderson.

Correspondence, 1948-1967

Box4

Correspondence, 1940-1988

Box5

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box		
5		
Folder		
1	Notes of Appreciation	
2-4	General Correspondence	
5	David Kaplan	
6	Robert Carneiro	
7	Jack Kelso	
8	Students	

Subject Files

Box6

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box		
6		
Folder		
1	Olivia de Havilland	

Container(s)	Description	Dates
2	Map, Alaska	
3	<i>The News</i> Newsletter of the Percy James Hospital.	1945
4-5	Surveys, Alaska Soldiers	1944
6	Talks and Interviews Contains correspondence, notes, summaries, and pamphlets related to talks given by Anderson. Complete transcripts include "Anthropology and Archaeology," "Marriage Customs Around the World," "Social and Economic Aspects of Northern Cheyenne Ceremonialism," and "What We Can Learn from Studying Primitive Societies."	1950s
7	Aesthetics, Art in Anthropology	1960s-1980s
8	Marshall Sahlins	

Career

Box7

Container(s)	Description	Dates
Box		
7		
Folder		
1	Papers and Articles	
2	Transcripts and Grants	
3	Vitae Material	
4	Appointments, Promotions, and Pay	
5-6	AAA-NSF Visiting Lecturer Program	1961-1963
7	University of Colorado Materials	

Container(s)	Description	Dates
8	Biographical Information and Obituaries	1989-1990
9	Correspondence, Navajo Tribal Council	1971

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Cheyenne Indians

Ethnology

Personal Names :

Anderson, Robert, 1914- --Archives

Corporate Names :

University of Utah--Faculty

Form or Genre Terms :

Correspondence

Drafts (documents)

Notes

Finding aid created by Ian Craig Breaden
1990



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