



# ArchivesSpace

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## Eitel Frederick Proelss papers12176405

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This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on January 14, 2025.

Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary

3041 Broadway

New York, NY 10027

Telephone: (212) 851-5606

[burke@library.columbia.edu](mailto:burke@library.columbia.edu)

URL: <https://library.columbia.edu/locations/burke.html>

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary
<b>Creator:</b>	Proelss, Eitel Frederick, 1906-1996
<b>Title:</b>	Eitel Frederick Proelss papers
<b>ID:</b>	12176405
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1951 -- 1984
<b>Physical Description:</b>	1 box 1 box; 0.5 linear feet
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English .
<b>Abstract:</b>	Eitel Frederick George Proelss (1906-1996), born in Germany, Union Theological Seminary class of 1953, Episcopal priest in the Diocese of New York, and senior chaplain of Riker's Island Prison in New York. The collection contains writings by Proelss and others in the form of note cards, jottings, clippings, and one annotated manuscript, used to help Proelss gain an understanding of criminality so as to better assist the incarcerated people whom he served.

### Preferred Citation

Item description, UTS1: Eitel Frederick Proelss papers, 1951-1984, series #, box #, and folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

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## Biographical / Historical

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Reverend Dr. Eitel Frederick Proelss was born in Posen, Germany on May 27, 1906. Educated as a lawyer, he received his degree from the Friedrich Wilhelm University in Breslau in 1933. While in Germany, he joined the WWII-era Confessing Church, whose best known member was Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and which resisted the Nazi regime. Because of his views, Proelss was sentenced to hard labor by the Nazi regime. After the war, Proelss left Germany and attended Union Theological Seminary, where he received his Bachelor of Divinity in 1953. He was ordained in the Episcopal Diocese of New York in 1955. He became a member of

the Episcopal Missionary Society in New York City, and was senior chaplain of Rikers Island during this period. As a clinical associate of Union Theological Seminary from 1951 to 1971, Proelss helped to develop academic programs in psychiatry and religion. Proelss's interests were centered on pastoral counseling. Proelss retired from Union Theological Seminary in 1971 and died on February 16, 1997.

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## Scope and Contents

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This collection contains writings by Proelss and others in the form of note cards, jottings, clippings, and one annotated manuscript, used to help Proelss gain an understanding of criminality so as to better assist the incarcerated people whom he served.

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## Arrangement

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This collection is arranged in one series in original order.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

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### Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

## Conditions Governing Access

The following boxes are located offsite: Box 1. Please note that requests for use of boxes held in offsite storage must be made three business days in advance.

## Immediate Source of Acquisition

The Proelss collection was donated in 2016 by Rev. Peter Elvin of St. John's Episcopal Church on behalf of the heirs of E. Frederick Proelss, Delphine Proelss Lowe and Sibylee Proelss Baughan.

## Processing Information

The Proelss papers were among a large group of unprocessed material that was organized in 2016-2017 with the support of the Henry Luce Foundation and the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation; materials were placed in new acid-free folders, acidic items were separated by interleaving with acid-free paper, and materials that were folded within the manuscript were removed and flattened before refolding. The finding aid was created by Paul Paulson in 2016 and edited by Leah Edelman in 2020.

## Conditions Governing Use

Some material in this collection may be protected by copyright and other rights. Information concerning copyright, fair use, and reproduction requests can be consulted at Columbia's Copyright Advisory Office.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Prison chaplains
- Clergy
- Proelss, Eitel Frederick, 1906-1996 -- : Archives

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## Burke Library record group:

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Union Theological Seminary Archives: UTS 1, papers of faculty and students

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## Collection Inventory

### Eitel Frederick Proelss papers, 1951 -- 1984

Physical Description: 1 boxes

Conditions Governing Access:  
**Conditions Governing Access**

This series is open for research.

#### Arrangement

This series is arranged in original order.

#### Scope and Contents

This series contains writings by Proelss and others in the form of note cards, jottings, clippings, and one annotated manuscript, used to help Proelss gain an understanding of criminality so as to better assist the incarcerated people whom he served.

Title/Description	Instances	
Gnosticism, manuscript, notes, newspaper clippings, 1980 -- 1984 <u>Physical Description</u> : 1 folders	box 1	folder 1
M. Buber: "For the Sake of Heaven," Kilin, 1969 <u>Physical Description</u> : 1 folders	box 1	folder 2
J.W. Goethe: "Faust," Kilin, 1967 <u>Physical Description</u> : 1 folders	box 1	folder 3
S. Freud, Kilin, 1963 <u>Physical Description</u> : 1 folders	box 1	folder 4
Rudolph Bultmann, 1957 <u>Physical Description</u> : 1 folders	box 1	folder 5
E. H. Erikson: "Ghandi's Truth," Kilin, 1971 <u>Physical Description</u> : 1 folders	box 1	folder 6
"Reflections on the Nature of Crime and the Criminal", 1958 -- 1968 <u>Physical Description</u> : 1 folders	box 1	folder 7
Essay on St. Augustine, 1958 <u>Physical Description</u> : 1 folders	box 1	folder 8
Freud (Fred Wood), 1951 -- 1962	box 1	folder 9

Physical Description: 1 folders

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Drew lectures, psychology and pastoral care, 1959 -- 1961      box 1      folder 10

Physical Description: 1 folders

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