

**ERNST AND JOHANNA WEIHS COLLECTION, 1945-1949**  
**1988.43.1**

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives  
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW  
Washington, DC 20024-2126  
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**Descriptive summary**

Title: Ernst and Johanna Weihs collection

Dates: 1945-1949

Accession number: 1988.43.1 (RG-10.272)

Creator: Weihs, Ernst, 1908-1995.

Additional creator: Weihs, Johanna, 1917-2007.

Extent: 1 folder

Repository: United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW, Washington, DC 20024-2126

Abstract: The collection documents the Holocaust-era experiences of Ernst and Johanna Weihs, both originally of Vienna, Austria. Included are identification documents of Ernst and Johanna, certificates of Ernst and Johanna certifying that they were prisoners of Auschwitz and eligible for benefits in Vienna, and an identification document certifying that Ernst was a prisoner at Dachau.

Languages: English, French, German, Russian

**Administrative Information**

Access: Collection is open for use.

Reproduction and use: Collection is available for use. Material may be protected by copyright. Please contact reference staff for further information.

Preferred citation: (Identification of item), Ernst and Johanna Weihs collection (1988.43.1), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: The collection was donated to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum by Ernst and Johanna Weihs in 1988.

Separated material: Two pieces of script from Theresienstadt were also donated (1988.43.7, 1988.43.8)

Accruals: Accruals may have been received since this collection was first processed, see archives catalog at [collections.ushmm.org](http://collections.ushmm.org) for further information.

Processing history: Updated by Adam Fielding, April 2020

### **Biographical note**

Ernst Weihs (1908-1995) was born on 8 November 1908 in Vienna, Austria to Hugo Weiss (d. 1937) and Sidonie Gans. He had one sister. His father served in World War I and his parents divorced after the end of the war. Hugo remarried to a Lutheran woman, and subsequently converted to Lutheranism. Ernst converted as well. Prior to the start of World War II, Ernst worked as a gardener in Vienna. He met Johanna Bergmann while working at a Swedish home for the elderly and they got engaged. In October 1942 he was deported to the Theresienstadt concentration camp. He and Johanna unofficially married after he was deported. He was transferred to Auschwitz in October 1944 and then to Dachau and finally the Dachau subcamp of Kaufering. He was sent on a death march from Kaufering in April 1945 when he was liberated by the United States Army. Ernst and Johanna officially married after the war and their daughter was born in 1947. The family immigrated to the United States in 1951.

Johanna Weihs (1917-2007) was born Johanna Bergmann on 22 May 1917 in Vienna, Austria to Karl and Anna Bergmann. Her father was a banker. Johanna met Ernst Weihs prior to World War II while working at a Swedish home for the elderly in Vienna. In October 1942 Ernst was deported to Theresienstadt, and Johanna was deported there in November 1943. They were unofficially married in 1943. She was transferred to Auschwitz in October 1944 and then the Gross-Rosen concentration camp. She was liberated by the Soviet Red Army and returned to Vienna. She and Ernst were reunited after the war. They officially married and their daughter was born in 1947. In 1951 the family immigrated to the United States.

### **Scope and content of collection**

The collection documents the Holocaust-era experiences of Ernst and Johanna Weihs, both originally of Vienna, Austria. Included are identification documents of Ernst and Johanna, certificates of Ernst and Johanna certifying that they were prisoners of Auschwitz and eligible for benefits in Vienna, and an identification document certifying that Ernst was a prisoner at Dachau.

### **System of arrangement**

The collection is arranged as a single series.

### **Indexing terms**

Person:

Weihs, Ernst, 1908-

Weihs, Johanna.

Corporate:

Dachau (Concentration camp)

Auschwitz (Concentration camp)

Theresienstadt (Concentration camp)

Topical Subject:  
Jews--Austria--Vienna.  
Holocaust survivors--Austria.

Geography:  
Vienna (Austria)  
Dachau (Germany : Refugee camp)

Genre/Form:  
Identification cards.  
Certificates.

### CONTAINER LIST

Folder	Title
1	Certificate of incarceration for Ernst Weisz (Weihs), 1945 June 28
1	Certificate of registration with Jewish community of Vienna for Johanna Weihs, 1945 July 12
1	Certificate of incarceration for Johanna Weihs, circa 1945
1	UNRRA identification card for Ernst Weihs, circa 1945
1	Certificate of registration with Jewish community of Vienna for Ernst Weihs, 1945 Nov. 13
1	Certificate of eligibility for benefits for Ernst Weihs, 1949 May 20