

GREENFIELD FAMILY PAPERS, 1945-1949
1999.A.0029; RG-19.059

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW
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Descriptive summary

Title: Greenfield family papers

Dates: 1945-1949

Accession number: 1999.A.0029; RG-19.059

Creator: Greenfield family.

Extent: .5 linear feet (1 box)

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

Abstract: The collection contains 118 black-and-white photographs relating to the experiences of Joseph Greenfield, his wife, Rachel Bunis, and his son, David S. Greenfield, after liberation in several displaced persons camps in Austria, including Braunau am Inn, Ebelsberg, Ranshofen, Bindermichl, and Münchenholz, from 1945 to 1949.

Languages: English, German, Hebrew, Yiddish

Administrative Information

Access: Collection is open for use, but is stored offsite. Please contact the Reference Desk more than seven days prior to visit in order to request access.

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), Greenfield family papers (1999.A.0029), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: The collection was donated to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum by David S. Greenfield acting as the agent of Joseph Greenfield in February 1999.

Custodial history: Joseph Greenfield took the majority of the photographs during his time working with several divisions of the United States Army after liberation in 1945, and during his time in several displaced persons camps in Austria after World War II. His son, David S. Greenfield, obtained the photographs and other materials from his parents, and arranged and described them.

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

Processing history: C. Jerry Simmons, 1999; updated by Adam Fielding, January 2017

Biographical note

Joseph Greenfield (b. Josef Grünfeld, 13 February 1919, Dabie, Poland) was a Jewish survivor of several concentration camps including Mauthausen in Austria. He had at least one brother, Martin (b. Mendush Grünfeld). After liberation by the Allies, he worked for the 331st U.S. Infantry Division performing various tasks, among them photography. Greenfield took photographs in displaced persons camps in Steyr, Braunau am Inn, Linz, Landsberg am Lech, and Mauthausen. In 1946, he met and married Rachel Bunis (b. Kowal, Poland, present day Kovel, Ukraine) in the Braunau displaced persons camp. Rachel had at least one sister, Phyllis Bunis. Joseph and Rachel's first child, David Schlama Greenfield, was born on February 3, 1947. The family immigrated to the United States via New York City in February 1949.

Scope and content of collection

The collection contains 118 black-and-white photographs relating to the experiences of Joseph Greenfield, his wife, Rachel Bunis, and his son, David S. Greenfield, after liberation in several displaced persons camps in Austria, including Braunau am Inn, Ebelsberg, Ranshofen, Bindermichl, and Münchenholz, from 1945 to 1949.

Among the photographs in the collection there are scenes of Joseph Greenfield and his friends from the 331st and 222nd Infantry Division and the 42nd Tank Battalion of the United States Army working in Steyr, Austria, and vicinity after liberation; the wedding of Joseph and Rachel Grünfeld; the wedding of Mendush (Martin) Grünfeld (Josef Grünfeld's brother) and Helen Grünfeld; the exhumation and reburial of Mauthausen concentration camp victims in a cemetery at Münchenholtz near Linz, Austria; sports events and childrens' groups in the displaced persons camps; parties; DP meetings to discuss Aliyah (immigration) to Israel; Israel Independence Day celebrations in 1948; rededication of the synagogue in Steyr, Austria, during Pesach (Passover) in 1946; the staff of ORT Magazine; and ORT training classes in Ebelsberg displaced persons camp. Additionally, there is a small amount of documents that include certificates, identification papers, and camp passes of Joseph and a birth certificate of David.

System of arrangement

The collection is arranged as two series. Series 2: Photographs has been arranged as three subseries. The folders are arranged alphabetically.

Series 1: Biographical materials, 1945-1948

Series 2: Photographs, 1949-circa 1949

The collection was originally arranged as four series according to an arrangement by the donor and described at the item level by the captions on the verso of the photographs. Captions were likely written by donor. The arrangement was updated in 2017. The changes include rehousing of collection,

separating documents out from photographs, grouping related material together while still maintaining the basic outline established by the donor, and describing the content at the folder rather than item level.

Indexing terms

Person:

Greenfield family.
Greenfield, Joseph, 1919-
Greenfield, Rachel Bunis.
Greenfield, David Schlama, 1947-
Grünfeld, Mendush.
Grünfeld, Helen.

Corporate:

Mauthausen (Concentration camp)
United States. Army. Infantry Division, 331st.
United States. Army. Infantry Division, 222nd.
United States. Army. Tank Battalion, 42nd.
World ORT Union.
Ebelsberg (Displaced persons camp)
BinderMichl (Displaced persons camp)

Topical Subject:

Refugees--Austria--Braunau am Inn.
Refugee camps--Austria--Braunau am Inn.
Refugees--Austria--Ranshofen.
Refugee camps--Austria--Ranshofen.
Refugees--Austria--Münichholz.
Refugee camps--Austria--Münichholz.
Refugees--Austria--BinderMichl.
Refugee camps--Austria--BinderMichl.
Jews--Austria--Steyr.
Weddings.
Synagogues--Austria--Steyr.
Cemeteries--Austria.
Exhumation--Austria.
Burial--Austria.
Passover.
Jewish children--Austria.
Entertaining--Austria.
Independence Day (Israel)

Geography:

Austria--Emigration and immigration--History--20th century.
Israel--Emigration and immigration--History--20th century.

Genre/Form:

Photographs.
Identification cards.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Biographical materials, 1945-1948

Folder	Title
1	Greenfield, David, 1947-1948
2	Greenfield, Joseph, 1945-1946 and undated

Series 2: Photographs, 1949-circa 1949

Subseries 2.1: Displaced persons camps, 1945-1947

Folder	Title
3	Braunau am Inn, 1946-1947
4	Linz, circa 1946-1947
5	Mauthausen concentration camp, 1945
	Steyer:
6	1945-1946
7	United States Army, 1945

Subseries 2.2: Displaced persons camp activities, circa 1945-circa 1949

Folder	Title
8	Aliyah meeting, 1948
9	Independence day, 1948
10	ORT magazine, circa 1947
11	Reburial ceremony of Mauthausen concentration camp victims, 1946
12	Shabbat protest, circa 1948
13	Synagogue rededication, circa 1946
14	Various activities, circa 1945-circa 1948

Subseries 2.3: Greenfield family, 1945-circa 1949.

Folder	Title
15	Greenfield, David, circa 1947-circa 1949
	Greenfield family:
16	circa 1946-1948
17	Braunau am Inn, 1946-1947
18	Landsberg am Lech, 1946-1947
19	Linz, 1948
	Greenfield, Joseph:,
20	circa 1945-circa 1948
21	with Leo Adler, circa 1945
22	with Martin Greenfield, circa 1945
23	Greenfield, Martin and Helen: Wedding, circa 1947
24	Greenfield, Rachele and Phyllis Bunis, 1945-circa 1947