

**ROSE SILBERBERG SKIER PAPERS, 1929-1999 (bulk 1929-1958)
1999.A.0121**

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

Title: Rose Silberberg Skier papers

Dates: 1929-1999 (bulk 1929-1958)

Accession number: 1999.A.0121

Creator: Skier, Rose Silberberg

Extent: 0.5 linear foot (14 folders)

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

Abstract: The Rose Silberberg Skier papers include a diary, photographs, and materials related to Silberberg's time at the Convent of the Gray Sisters in Neisse and at the Zeilsheim displaced persons camp documenting the Silberberg family in Jaworzno, Poland, Silberberg's wartime experiences in hiding, and her post-war experiences at Zeilsheim.

Languages: Polish, Hebrew, German, English

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), Rose Silberberg Skier papers, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Rose Silberberg Skier donated the Rose Silberberg Skier papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 1999.

Related material: An oral history interview with Rose Silberberg Skier dated September 11, 1997, which forms part of the USC Shoah Foundation Institute Visual History Archive, can be accessed onsite at the Museum. The library at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum also holds a copy of Maxine B. Rosenberg's *Hiding to Survive: Stories of Jewish Children Rescued from the Holocaust*, which contains a chapter telling Rose Silberberg Skier's story.

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

Processing history: Julie Schweitzer, January 2013

Biographical note

Rose Silberberg Skier (1934-) was born Rozia Silberberg in Jaworzno, Poland, to Mojżesz (Mosche) Silberberg (1903-1944) and Felicia (Faigel) Klapholz Silberberg (1913-1943). Her family was relocated to the Srodula-Sosnowiec ghetto after the German invasion, but her father found a Polish woman, Stanisława Cicha, who let the family live in the chicken coop in the back of her house in Sosnowiec. When their hiding place was found in February 1944, Silberberg traveled to Neisse, Germany posing as the daughter of her aunt Sara Wachsman, both passing as Gentiles. They lived in a convent where Wachsman found work. After liberation, they found no relatives with whom to stay in Poland, so they returned to Germany to the Zeilsheim displaced persons camp. Before leaving Poland, Silberberg learned from Cicha that her parents and sister Mala (1939-1943) had been killed at Auschwitz. She immigrated to the United States in 1951, married Lester Skier, and lived in Queens.

Scope and content of collection

The Rose Silberberg Skier papers include a diary, photographs, and materials related to Silberberg's time at the Convent of the Gray Sisters in Neisse and at the Zeilsheim displaced persons camp documenting the Silberberg family in Jaworzno, Poland, Silberberg's wartime experiences in hiding, and her post-war experiences at Zeilsheim.

The diary records Silberberg's wartime memories and her daily life in the Zeilsheim displaced persons camp.

The photographs include copy prints of Rose Silberberg with her family and acquaintances before and during the war and original prints and copy prints of the Zeilsheim camp after the war. There is also a copy print of a pre-war postcard from Silberberg's grandfather Abraham Silberberg and a copy print of a note Silberberg and her sister wrote to their parents while in hiding.

Materials related to Silberberg's time at the Convent of the Gray Sisters include a badge Silberberg wore bearing the letter "P" and a letter describes Silberberg and her aunt Sara Wachsman's experiences hiding as Gentiles in a German convent under the names Marie and Rozia Mazur.

Materials related to Silberberg's time at the Zeilsheim displaced persons camp include an autograph booklet containing poems and autographs from Silberberg's friends at the camp and a reading list enumerating the German books Silberberg read in the camp and the English books she read after immigrating to the United States.

The collection also includes German banknotes, an International Refugee Organization tag given to Silberberg on her arrival in the United States in 1951, and a photocopy of a photograph that appeared in a 1928 Polish newspapers depicting Silberberg's great-grandfather, Abraham Klapholz, greeting Polish President Mościcki.

System of arrangement

The Rose Silberberg Skier papers are arranged as five series:

- Series 1: Diary, 1950-1951
- Series 2: Photographs, approximately 1945-1999 (bulk approximately 1945-1951)
- Series 3: Convent of the Gray Sisters materials, 1944-1945
- Series 4: Zeilsheim materials, 1947-1958
- Series 5: Miscellaneous materials, 1929-1999 (bulk 1929-1951)

Indexing terms

Zeilsheim (Displaced persons camp)

Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945) – Children.

Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945) – Personal narratives.

Holocaust survivors.

Jewish ghettos – Poland – Sosnowiec (Województwo Śląskie).

Hidden children (Holocaust).

Jewish refugees – Germany.

Jewish refugees – Poland.

Jews – Poland – History – 20th century.

Jews – Germany – History – 1933-1945.

Poland – History – Occupation, 1939-1945.

Jaworzno (Poland)

Sosnowiec (Województwo Śląskie, Poland)

Neisse (Germany)

Frankfurt am Main (Germany)

Diaries

Photographs

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Diary, 1950-1951

Box	Folder	
1	1	Diary, 1950-1951

Series 2: Photographs, approximately 1945-1999 (bulk approximately 1945-1951)

Box	Folder	
1	2	Copy Prints of Correspondence, approximately 1999
1	3	Copy Prints of Rose Silberberg and her Family, approximately 1999
1	4	Copy Prints of Rose Silberberg in Zeilsheim, approximately 1999
1	5-7	Zeilsheim, approximately 1945-1951 (3 folders)

Series 3: Convent of the Gray Sisters materials, 1944-1945

Box	Folder	
1	8	Badge, 1944
1	9	Letter, 1945

Series 4: Zeilsheim materials, 1947-1958

Box	Folder	
1	10	Autograph Booklet, 1947
1	11	Reading List, 1949-1958

Series 5: Miscellaneous materials, 1929-1999 (bulk 1929-1951)

Box	Folder	
1	12	German Banknotes, 1929, 1937, 1942
1	13	International Refugee Organization Tag, 1951
1	14	Newspaper Clipping, approximately 1999