

GERTRUDE JORISCH PAPERS, approximately 1945-2007
2000.529.1

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

Title: Gertrude Jorisch papers

Dates: approximately 1945-2007

Accession number: 2000.529.1

Creator: Jorisch, Gertrude, 1923-

Extent: 0.3 linear foot (3 folders)

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

Abstract: The Gertrude Jorisch papers consist of a partial list of victims from Skala, Poland (now Skalat, Ukraine); Gertrude Jorisch's 13 page memoir about her prewar life in Skala, the deportation of her family to Belzec, her time in the Skala ghetto and labor camp and hiding in the forest, and postwar antisemitism in Skala; and photographs of herself, her father, her husband, her oldest son, and other Holocaust survivors at the displaced persons camp at Deggendorf.

Languages: English, Hebrew

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), Gertrude Jorisch papers, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Gertrude Jorisch donated the Gertrude Jorisch papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2000 and 2007. The accession formerly cataloged as 2007.75 has been incorporated into this collection.

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

Related materials: The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum also holds a video oral history conducted with Gertrude Jorisch on May 22, 1998. Another oral history conducted with Jorisch on October 29, 1995 that forms part of the USC Shoah Foundation Institute Visual History Archive can be accessed onsite at the Museum.

Processing history: Julie Schweitzer, October 2014

Biographical note

Gertrude (Gussie) Jorisch (1923-) was born Gusta Wechsler in Skałat, Poland (now Skalat, Ukraine) to Joseph and Pepa Wechsler. In October 1942, most of her family was rounded up, deported to Belzec and killed. Gertrude escaped deportation by hiding in a closet. She was forced into the Skałat ghetto and ended up in the Skałat labor camp with her boyfriend, Martin Jorisch, and her father. They escaped the labor camp and survived in the forest until liberation. Gertrude and Martin were married in Skałat and hitchhiked to the displaced persons camp at Deggendorf with Joseph, who later moved to Canada. The couple had their first child, Henry, at Deggendorf and immigrated to the United States in 1949.

Scope and content of collection

The Gertrude Jorisch papers consist of a partial list of victims from Skałat, Poland (now Skalat, Ukraine); Gertrude Jorisch's 13 page memoir about her prewar life in Skałat, the deportation of her family to Belzec, her time in the Skałat ghetto and labor camp and hiding in the forest, and postwar antisemitism in Skałat; and photographs of herself, her father, her husband, her oldest son, and other Holocaust survivors at the displaced persons camp at Deggendorf.

System of arrangement

The Gertrude Jorisch papers are arranged as a single series:

- Series 1: Gertrude Jorisch papers, approximately 1945-2007

Indexing terms

Deggendorf (Displaced persons camp)

Jews--Ukraine--Skalat.

Jewish ghettos--Ukraine--Skalat.

Forced labor--Ukraine--Skalat.

Hiding places--Ukraine--Skalat.

Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)--Ukraine--Skalat--Personal narratives.

Holocaust survivors--Germany--Deggendorf.

Skalat (Ukraine)
Deggendorf (Germany)

Photographs

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Gertrude Jorisch papers, approximately 1945-2007

Folder	Title
1	List of victims from Skalat, approximately 1945
2	Memoir, approximately 2007
3	Photographs, approximately 1945-1948
	1. Alte Kaserne celebration for the birth of the State of Israel
	2. Alte Kaserne celebration for the birth of the State of Israel
	3. Joseph Wechsler
	4. Gertrude Jorisch is the second woman from the left on the front row holding her son
	5. Gertrude Jorisch is third from right
	6. Joseph Wechsler is in dark suit and seated at top center
	7. Joseph Wechsler
	8. Martin Jorisch is fourth from left
	9. Joseph Wechsler in white with bride and groom
	10. Joseph Wechsler is standing removed from group
	11. Gertrude and Martin Jorisch are standing second and third from left in back row
	12. Joseph Wechsler is seated second from the right wearing yarmulke
	13. Joseph Wechsler is seated second from right
	14. Wedding meal
	15. Joseph Wechsler sits fifth from left
	16. Joseph Wechsler is seated fourth from left
	17. Joseph Wechsler is standing in front row third from left
	18. Joseph Wechsler