

SCHIFFERES FAMILY PAPERS, 1909-2003
2003.134

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
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Descriptive summary

Title: Schifferes family papers

Dates: 1909-2003

Accession number: 2003.134

Creator: Schifferes family

Extent: 2.0 linear feet (4 boxes)

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

Abstract: The Schifferes family papers consist of correspondence, emigration and immigration records, and subject files documenting the lives of Bertha, Liese, and Stephan Schifferes in Austria, Germany, England, and the United States and property belonging to Stephan Schifferes' relatives, the Siebenschein family, in Vienna.

Languages: German, English, Italian, French

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), Schifferes family papers, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: Judy Shiffers family donated the Schifferes family papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2003.

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, July 2013

Biographical note

Liese Strauss Schifferes (1916-1956) was born in Vienna to Dr. Hugo Strauss and Sophie Kurz Strauss. She immigrated to the United States in November 1938. Stephan Schifferes (1909-2004) was born in Vienna to Julius Schifferes (1878-1913) and Bertha Schifferes (nee Schifferes, 1885-1964). He lived and worked in Stuttgart in 1938, spent several weeks in Dachau following Kristallnacht, moved to England in 1939 on a training permit, and immigrated to the United States that August. Liese and Stephan were married immediately, changed their name to Shiffers and had two daughters, Eva and Judy. Stephan Schifferes' grandmother, Ottilie Siebenschein, belonged to a longstanding and property-owning family in Vienna.

Scope and content of collection

The Schifferes family papers consist of correspondence, emigration and immigration records, and subject files documenting the lives of Bertha, Liese, and Stephan Schifferes in Austria, Germany, England, and the United States and property belonging to Stephan Schifferes' relatives, the Siebenschein family, in Vienna.

Bertha Schifferes materials consist of correspondence with relatives, friends, and her son's family; employment records; and identification papers documenting her departure from Vienna, stay in England, and immigration to the United States.

Liese Schifferes materials consist of correspondence with her husband and other family members and friends as well as education, training, and employment records documenting her education in Austria and Italy and her immigration to the United States.

Stephan Schifferes materials include an account book; correspondence with his wife, mother, daughter, and other family members and friends; education, training, and employment records; and identification and membership papers documenting his emigration from Austria, stay in England, immigration to the United States, and efforts to find work. This series also includes Schifferes' personal narratives about his Holocaust-era experiences and records documenting his participation in and leadership of athletic activities in Vienna and his time in Stuttgart in 1938 and 1939.

Emigration and immigration records include correspondence documenting the Schifferes' interactions with government offices, aid organizations, and transportation and shipping companies as they prepared for emigration from Austria and immigrated to the United States. These files include documents from the Geheime Staatspolizei describing Stephan Schifferes' release from so-called "protective custody" in Dachau on the condition that he emigrate immediately.

Subject files include general correspondence, notes, poetry, an unidentified photograph, printed materials, and receipts further illustrating the Schifferes' experiences in Austria, England, and the United States. This series also includes files documenting two relatives of the Schiff family, Alfred and Stefanie Kurz, and research into Bloomsbury House in London.

Siebenschein family property records consist of photocopies of original records dating from 1939-1962 documenting the Nazi-era expropriation of the Siebenschein's Vienna property and the family's efforts to reclaim it and rebuild after the war. The property was referred to as parcels 36, 37, and 38 and corresponded to four addresses: Schwendergasse 25, Dadlergasse 20, Dadlergasse 22, and Schwendergasse 27. The property had been evenly shared between Raphael and Siegmund Siebenschein until Siegmund Siebenschein's half was divided among his heirs: Irma Siebenschein, Robert Siebenschein, and Rosalia Siebenschein Schneck. Records include photocopies of correspondence, court records, land registries, and forms.

System of arrangement

The Schifferes family papers are arranged as seven series:

- Series 1: Bertha Schifferes materials, 1927-1957
- Series 2: Liese Schifferes materials, 1936-1955
- Series 3: Stephan Schifferes materials, 1909-1997
- Series 4: Emigration and immigration materials, 1938-1945
- Series 5: Subject files, 1920-2001
- Series 6: Siebenschein family property records, approximately 2003

Indexing terms

Jews – Austria – Vienna.

Jewish athletes – Austria.

Jewish refugees – England.

Jewish refugees – United States.

Jewish property – Austria – Vienna.

Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945) – Reparations.

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

Vienna (Austria)

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Bertha Schifferes materials, 1927-1957

Box	Folder	Title
1	1	Correspondence, 1931-1941
1	2-3	Correspondence with Schifferes, Stephan and his family, 1940, 1947-1955 (2 folders)
1	4	Employment, 1939-1943
1	5	Identification papers, 1927, 1939
1	6	Miscellaneous, 1937-1939, 1948, 1955-1957

Series 2: Liese Schifferes materials, 1936-1955

Box	Folder	Title
1	7-10	Correspondence, 1938-1955 (4 folders)
1	11-18	Correspondence with Schifferes Stephan, 1938-1939 (8 folders)
1	19-20	Education and training, approximately 1936-1938 (2 folders)
1	21	Employment, 1937-1940
1	22	Jewelry, 1938
1	23-28	Regia Universita Italiana per Stranieri, 1936 (6 folders)

Series 3: Stephan Schifferes materials, 1909-1997

Box	Folder	Title
2	1	Account book, 1939-1941
2	2	Athletics, 1925-1939
2	3-7	Correspondence, 1930-1941, 1955, 1997 (5 folders)
2	8	Correspondence with Allina, Rosa Schifferes, 1938
2	9	Correspondence with Schifferes, Bertha, 1939-1940
2	10	Correspondence with Schifferes, Liese, 1938-1939
2	11	Correspondence with Shiffers, Judy, 1963
2	12	Education and training, 1928-1942
2	13	Employment, 1929, approximately 1936-1940
2	14	Identification papers, 1909, 1916, 1932-1940
2	15	Income tax, 1942-1944
2	16	Interview questions by grandchild, approximately 1990s
2	17	Membership papers, 1928-1933, 1944
2	18	Personal narratives, approximately 1990s
2	19-20	"Stephan Shiffers Story," approximately 1990s (2 folders)
2	21	Stuttgart, 1938-1939
2	22	Miscellaneous, 1928-1939, 1955

Series 4: Emigration and immigration materials, 1938-1945

Box	Folder	Title
2	23	Affidavits, 1938-1941
2	24	American Consulate, London, 1938-1940
2	25	American Consulate, Vienna, 1938-1939
2	26	B'nai B'rith, 1938-1940
2	27	Children and Youth Aliyah, 1939
2	28	Council for German Jewry Agricultural Committee, 1939
2	29	Cunard White Star, 1940
2	30	Department of State, 1939-1942
2	31	Furness, Withy & Co. Limited, 1940
2	32	Geheime Staatspolizei, 1939

2	33	German Jewish Aid Committee, 1939
2	34	Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society of America, 1938-1940
2	35	Immigration and Naturalization Service, 1939-1945
2	36	Jewish Refugees Committee, 1940-1941
2	37	Jüdische Zentralstelle, 1938-1939
2	38	Palästina-Amt Berlin, 1939
2	39	Shipping, 1939
2	40	Miscellaneous, 1938-1941

Series 5: Subject files, 1920-2001

Box	Folder	Title
3	1	Correspondence, 1930, 1939-1950, 2001
3	2	Kurz, Alfred, 2001
3	3	Kurz, Stefanie, approximately 1940s
3	4	Notes, approximately 1938-2001
3	5	Photograph, approximately 1930s
3	6	Poetry, approximately 1920-1945
3	7	Printed materials, approximately 1936-1945
3	8	Receipts, 1930s
3	9	Research into Bloomsbury House, 2001
3	10	Miscellaneous, approximately 1935, 1954

Series 6: Siebenschein family property records, approximately 2003

Box	Folder	Title
3	11	Bauer, Gustav, approximately 2003
3	12	Bundesministerium für Finanzen, approximately 2003
3	13	Finanzamt Fünfhaus, approximately 2003
3	14	Finanzlandesdirektion für Wien, Land Register entries, approximately 2003
3	15	Finanzlandesdirektion für Wien, Notices, approximately 2003
3	16	Finanzlandesdirektion für Wien, Resolutions, approximately 2003
3	17	Finanzlandesdirektion für Wien, Piterka, Otto, approximately 2003
3	18	Finanzlandesdirektion für Wien, Notifications of receipt of payment, approximately 2003
3	19	Finanzlandesdirektion für Wien, Orders for payment, approximately 2003
3	20-21	Finanzlandesdirektion für Wien, Miscellaneous, approximately 2003 (2 folders)
3	22	Geheime Staatspolizei, approximately 2003
3	23	Gröger, Otto, approximately 2003
3	24	Land Registry excerpts and copies, approximately 2003
3	25	Oberfinanzpräsident Wien, approximately 2003
3	26-31	Piterka, Otto, Dienststelle für Vermögenssicherung, approximately 2003 (6 folders)
3	32-34	Piterka, Otto, Finanzlandesdirektion für Wien, approximately 2003 (3 folders)
3	35	Piterka, Otto, Interest lists, approximately 2003

4	1-3	Piterka, Otto, Rents, approximately 2003 (3 folders)
4	4	Piterka, Otto, Miscellaneous, approximately 2003
4	5	Rückstellungen, approximately 2003
4	6	Schneider, Fritz Hannes, approximately 2003
4	7	Thanhofer, Hans, Accounts, approximately 2003
4	8-9	Thanhofer, Hans, Billing, approximately 2003 (2 folders)
4	10	Thanhofer, Hans, Finanzlandesdirektion, approximately 2003
4	11	Thanhofer, Hans, Interest lists, approximately 2003
4	12	Thanhofer, Hans, Oberfinanzpräsident Wien, approximately 2003
4	13	Wiener Magistrat, Abteilungen 2a, 5, and 6, approximately 2003
4	14	Wiener Magistrat, Abteilung 25, approximately 2003
4	15-16	Wiener Magistrat, Abteilung 37, approximately 2003 (2 folders)
4	17	Wiener Magistrat, Abteilung 64, approximately 2003
4	18	Wiener Magistrat, Abteilung 65, approximately 2003
4	19	Wirtschaftsbuchhaltung des Bundseministeriums für Finanzen, Vermögenssicherung, approximately 2003
4	20-29	Miscellaneous, approximately 2003 (10 folders)