

ANNEMARIE WARSCHAUER PAPERS, 1896-2003
2012.244.1

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

Title: Annemarie Warschauer papers

Dates: 1896-2003 (bulk 1912-1952)

Accession number: 2012.244.1

Creator: Warschauer, Anne (Berlin :Germany)

Extent: 1 linear foot (3 boxes, 1 oversize folder)

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

Abstract: The Annemarie Warschauer papers document the pre-war lives of the Israelski, Munter, and Warschauer families in Berlin, Germany and as refugees in Shanghai, China during the Holocaust. The collection includes biographical material, immigration papers, a small amount of correspondence, restitution papers, and photographs. Materials include passports, birth and marriage certificates, Yahrzeit memorial books, forced labor documents, restitution paperwork, dental profession papers, immigration and naturalization papers, and family photographs.

Languages: German, English, Polish

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), Annemarie Warschauer papers, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: The Annemarie Warschauer papers were donated by Annemarie Warschauer to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2012. Two accretions of additional materials were donated in 2015 and 2016 by the estate of Annemarie Warschauer.

Related archival materials: There are two related artifacts in the Annemarie Warschauer collection. They are a wallet and a passport cover. There is also an autobiography of Annemarie Warschauer, *Annemarie: A Biography*, DS134.42 W37 H57 2011.

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

Processing history: Adam Fielding, December 2015

Biographical note

Annemarie Alexander (1920-2015, later Annemarie Warschauer), born in Berlin, Germany, was the daughter of Anna Hirschensohn Alexander (1890-1992) and wealthy businessman Isodore Alexander (1876-1936). The Alexanders lived on a large estate called Rittergut Starpel located approximately 2 hours away from Berlin, and also owned an apartment in the city. Her father, Isodore, was murdered by the Nazis in 1936. Her mother, Anna, would marry Leo Munter soon after.

Egon Israelski (1912-1987) was the son of Anna Fränkel Israelski (1889-1969) and businessman Hugo Israelski (1882-1950). Egon and Annemarie married in 1938. Shortly after their marriage, Egon and Annemarie were sent to a forced labor camp in Neuendorf, Germany, where Egon had to dig potatoes and Annemarie had to cook. Egon was able to stop working due to a bad back, but Annemarie was sent to work in a Siemens factory in Gartenfeld, Germany. She was released from forced labor after she and Egon applied to emigrate. She was allowed to leave on the condition that she signed a document stating that she wouldn't reveal what she did there, and could be shot if she did so. Annemarie and Egon, along with her mother Anna and her new husband Leo Munter, wanted to go to the United States, but the quotas were filled. Leaving all their possessions behind, they took the train through Russia to Shanghai, China. They lived in the Japanese-controlled International Settlement in cramped and unsanitary conditions. They received food aid from the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, and were also able to find work. Egon and Annemarie's son, Gary, was born there in 1946, and the three of them immigrated to the United States in 1947. They settled in Allentown, Pennsylvania where some of Annemarie's cousins lived. Due to Polish quotas, Anna and Leo Munter remained in Shanghai, eventually moving to Brazil in 1951 with Anna's brother Richard Hirschensohn, and then immigrating to the United States. Egon's parents, Hugo and Anna Israelski, remained in hiding in Berlin during the war. They immigrated to the United States in 1947, and settled in Baltimore, Maryland.

After immigrating to the United States, Annemarie and Egon changed their last name to Werner. Egon's mother, Anna, changed her name to Evelyn Werner. After Egon's death in 1987, Annemarie reconnected with Erwin Warschauer (b. 1904), a dentist from Berlin who also went to Shanghai during the war. While there, he joined the United States Army in a civilian medical capacity, and immigrated to the United States in 1947, where he joined the National Guard and then resumed his dentistry career. He and Annemarie eventually married, and he died a year later.

Scope and content of collection

The Annemarie Warschauer papers document the pre-war lives of the Israelski, Munter, and Warschauer families in Berlin, Germany and as refugees in Shanghai, China during the Holocaust. The collection includes biographical material, immigration papers, a small amount of correspondence, restitution papers, and photographs. Materials include passports, birth and marriage certificates, Yahrzeit memorial books, forced labor documents, restitution paperwork, dental profession papers, immigration and naturalization papers, and family photographs.

The biographical material includes passports, driver's licenses, birth, marriage, and death certificates. The immigration papers primarily contain ship tickets and naturalization papers. The correspondence includes a letter from Egon's parents in 1943, and a letter from Egon to the AUFBAU newspaper regarding his parents in 1945. The restitution papers include some testimonial documents about Annemarie's time in forced labor camps and numerous photocopies of identification papers. The photographs include photos of Anna Munter's relatives in the Hirschensohn family, Egon and Annemarie's wedding, the Alexanders' Rittergut Starpel estate, and a group photograph with Erwin Warschauer in it.

System of arrangement

The Annemarie Warschauer papers are arranged as six series. All series arranged alphabetically except series 4, which is arranged chronologically.

- Series 1. Biographical material, 1909-1984
- Series 2: Immigration papers, 1939-1957
- Series 3: Correspondence, 1939-1946
- Series 4: Restitution papers, 1954-2003
- Series 5: Photographs, circa 1900s-circa 1940s
- Series 6: Printed material, 1929

Indexing terms

Person:

Warschauer, Annemarie, 1920-2015

Israelski, Egon, 1912-1987

Topical subject:

Jews--Germany--Berlin.

Jewish refugees--China--Shanghai.

Forced labor--Germany--Berlin.

Emigration & immigration--United States--1940-1950.

Geography:

Berlin (Germany)

Shanghai (China)

Hongkou Qu (Shanghai, China)

Genre:

Photographs.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Biographical material, 1896-1984

Box	Folder	Title
1	1	Fränkel family, 1929-1938
1	2	Hirschensohn, Julie: Yahrzeit memorial book, 1939
1	3	Israelski, Anna: Identification papers, circa 1939
		Israelski, Egon:
1	4	Employment papers, 1935-1941
1	5	Forced labor document, 1939
1	6 OS 1	Identification papers, 1912-1947 <i>Shanghai census document in OS1</i>
1	7	<i>Understanding the New Citizen</i> manuscript, circa 1960s
1	8	Israelski family, 1918-1940
1	9	Israelski family genealogy book, circa 1912
1	10	Israelski, Fritze: Yahrzeit memorial book, 1909
1	11	Israelski, Gary: Health certificate, 1947
1	12	Israelski, George: Yahrzeit memorial book, 1932
1	13 OS 1	Israelski, Hugo: Identification papers, 1896-1951 <i>School certificate in OS1</i>
1	14	Munter, Anna: Identification papers, 1938-1957
1	15	Munter, Gabriel: Identification papers, 1930
1	16-17	Munter, Leo: Identification papers, 1917-1964
		Warschauer, Annemarie:
1	18	Autograph book, 1933-1938
2	1	Forced labor documents, 1939-1984
2	2 OS 1	Identification papers, 1922-1947 <i>Marriage certificate in OS1</i>
		Warschauer, Erwin:
2	3	Dental profession, 1921-1947
2	4-5 OS 1	Identification papers, 1924-1938 <i>Chinese identification document in OS1</i>
2	6	Wedding invitation, 1948

Series 2: Immigration papers, 1939-1957

Box	Folder	Title
2	7	Israelski, Egon, 1939-1952
2	8	Israelski, Hugo, 1950
2	9	Munter, Anna and Leo, 1949; 1957
2	10	Warschauer, Annemarie, 1947; 1952
2	11	Warschauer, Erwin, 1948-1952

Series 3: Correspondence, 1939-1946

Box	Folder	Title
2	12	Israelski, Anna, 1939; 1941
2	13	Israelski, Egon, 1943-1946

Series 4: Restitution papers, 1954-2003

Box	Folder	Title
2	14	1954-circa 1980
2	15	1998-2003

Series 5: Photographs, circa 1900s-circa 1940s

Box	Folder	Title
2	16	Family and friends, circa 1920s-circa 1930s
2	17	Hirschensohn family, circa 1910s-circa 1920s
2	18	Hirschensohn, Julie and Josef, circa 1900s; circa 1930s
2	19	Israelski, Egon, circa 1940s
2	20	Israelski, Egon and Annemarie (Warschauer): Wedding, 1938
2	21	Munter, Anna, circa 1900s-circa 1930s
2	22	Munter, Gabriel, circa 1920s
2	23	Rittergut Starpel estate, Germany, circa 1920s
2	24	Warschauer, Annemarie, circa 1922
2	25	Warschauer, Erwin, 1939

Series 6: Printed material, 1929

Box	Title
3	German-English dictionary with enclosed business cards, 1929