

GEORGE BARLAZ PAPERS, 1913-1951
2013.102.2

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

Title: George Barlaz papers

Dates: 1913-1951

Accession number: 2013.102.2

Creator: Barlaz, George, 1905-c.1970

Extent: 1 linear foot (2 boxes)

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

Abstract: The George Barlaz papers include photographs, immigration material, school records, and extensive correspondence relating to George Barlaz and his family's pre-war life in Russia and Poland, George's immigration to the United States, his attempts to help his family immigrate to the United States in the early 1940s, and his attempts to locate his family after the war. The collection also includes a diary kept by George from 1913-1921 which includes entries, addresses, and other notes.

Languages: Yiddish, Hebrew, Polish, Russian, French, 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), George Barlaz papers (2013.102.2), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC.

Acquisition information: The George Barlaz papers were donated to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2013 by Frederica Barlaz and in 2014 by Hinda A Barlaz. The collections numbered 2013.102.1 and 2014.136.1 have 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.

Processing history: Morgan Voth, November 2019

Biographical note

George Barlaz (born Gershon Mendel Barlaz, 1905-c.1970) was born in Szeptowka, Russia (currently Shepetivka, Ukraine) to Shmuel Barlaz (1865-1937) and Chaia (Chaya) Hinde Bailey (1869-1942) and had several brothers and sisters including Jacob, Elihu (1896-1959), Avraham (1907-1942), Dora (1894-1942), and Adela (1915-1942). George moved to Dubno, Poland (currently Dubno, Ukraine) in 1918 or 1919 and emigrated from Poland to the United States in 1923 with Jacob and Elihu. His father died of natural causes in 1937 and Chaia, Avraham, and his sisters remained in Poland. George and his family wrote many letters to each other until they stopped responding in 1941. After the war he tried to locate his family, but learned that everyone but Avraham perished in 1942. Avraham escaped with his wife, but became ill and passed away. George became a pharmacist, married Bertha Barlaz (1915-2005), and had two daughters, Frederica and Hinda.

Scope and content of collection

The George Barlaz papers include photographs, immigration material, school records, and extensive correspondence relating to George Barlaz and his family's pre-war life in Russia and Poland, George's immigration to the United States, his attempts to help his family immigrate to the United States in the early 1940s, and his attempts to locate his family after the war. The collection also includes a diary kept by George from 1913-1921 which includes entries, addresses, and other notes.

Series 1 includes pre-war photographs of the Barlaz family including Avraham, Adela, George, Shmuel, and Chaia, prescription slips for George, and a diary kept by George from 1913-1921 which includes entries, addresses, and other notes. School records include report cards, identification cards, and school notes from Russia and Poland for George. The series also includes correspondence and forms related to attempts to immigrate to Palestine, letters to the American Consulate, vaccination cards, and applications for a visa relating to George's immigration to the United States in 1923, and correspondence from the Bank of the United States and affidavits in attempts to bring his family to the United States in the early 1940s. Also included is correspondence and documents relating to George's search for his family after the war.

Correspondence includes a large amount of pre-war postcards from Shmuel and Chaia to their children in the United States. The last postcard is dated April 12, 1939. The series also includes correspondence with the Feinblüt family who assisted George in learning what happened to his family as well as extensive correspondence in, Yiddish, from 1917 through 1951.

System of arrangement

The collection is arranged as two series:

Series 1: Barlaz, George, 1913-1950

Series 2: Correspondence, 1917-1951

Indexing terms

Person:

Barlaz, George, 1905-1970.
Barlaz, Shmuel, 1865-1937.
Barlaz, Chaia, 1896-1942.

Topical Subject:

Jewish families--Poland.
Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)--Personal narratives.
Family histories.

Geographic:

Dubno (Ukraine)
United States--Emigration and immigration--History.

Genre/Form:

Correspondence.
Photographs.
Diaries.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Barlaz, George, 1913-1950

Box/Folder	Title
1.1	Barlaz family photographs, circa 1930s
1.2	Diary, 1913-1921
1.3	Immigration, circa 1919-1939
1.4	Prescription slips, 1932-1937
1.5	Search for family, 1945-1950
1.6-1.7	School records, circa 1915-1923 (2 folders)

Series 2: Correspondence, 1917-1951

Box/Folder	Title
1.8	Barlaz, Chaia, 1937-1939
1.9-1.10	Barlaz, Shmuel, 1924-1937 (2 folders)
1.11-1.13	Feinblüt family, 1947-1951 (3 folders)
1.14	Kasel, Jeger Kaserue, 1948-1951
1.15	Lerchs, Arnold, 1947-1948
1.16	Telegrams, 1925-1944
1.17	Unidentified correspondence 1, 1937-1939
2.1-2.3	Unidentified correspondence 2, 1923-1924 (3 folders)
2.4	Correspondence, 1917-1921
2.5-2.6	Correspondence, 1922-1925 (2 folders)
2.7	Correspondence, 1926

2.8-2.9	Correspondence, 1927-1929 (2 folders)
2.10-2.11	Correspondence, 1930-1932 (2 folders)
2.12	Correspondence, 1933-1935
2.13	Correspondence, 1936-1939
2.14-2.15	Correspondence, circa 1917-1939 (2 folders)
2.16	Correspondence, 1945-1949