

EVA HIRSCHEL FAMILY PAPERS, 1914-2006
2016.351.1

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

Title: Eva Hirschel family papers

Dates: 1914-2006 (bulk 1914-1975)

Accession number: 2016.351.1

Creator: Hirschel family,

Extent: .5 linear feet (1 box, 2 oversize folders)

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

Abstract: The collection documents the pre-war and Holocaust-era experiences of Hedwig, her daughter Eva, her husband Max, and his son Horst in Breslau, Germany (present-day Wrocław, Poland) until 1940 and Shanghai, China from 1940-1947. Included are identification and employment documents, testimonies, and photographs. Immigration papers primarily document Eva and Hedwig's immigration to the United States in 1947.

Languages: 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), Eva Hirschel family papers (2016.351.1), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC

Acquisition information: The collection was donated to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum by Sabrina and Richard Kahn on behalf of the Estate of Eva Hirschel in 2016.

Related materials: 2016.351.2 Cloth rectangle painted with four national flags; owned by Eva Hirschel.

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, June 2017

Biographical note

Hedwig Hirschel (born Hedwig K uchler) was born on 28 May 1902 in Glogau Schlesien, Germany (present-day G og w, Poland) to Hirsch Leib and Elise (n e Loebel) K uchler. She had at least two brothers, Theo (d. 1954) and Salo (1896-1939), and one sister, Felice (later Felice Jakob, 1891-1958). She became a typist in Glogau, and by 1923 had moved to Breslau, Germany (present-day Wroc aw, Poland). Her daughter, Eva (1927-2015) was born in Breslau on 31 December 1927. Hedwig married Max Hirschel in 1939.

Max Hirschel was born on 16 July 1906 in K epno, Province of Posen (Present-day K epno, Poland) to Bernhard and Ernestine (n e Lewkowitz) Hirschel. He worked as a butcher and farmer with his father and lived in Breslau by 1922. His son, Horst, was born on 17 December 1930. Horst's mother, Margarete Schild (b. 1908) also lived in Breslau. From 19 February-23 October 1935 Max was imprisoned in a prison in Breslau and the Lichtenburg concentration camp. He was imprisoned again from 9 November-22 December 1938 in the Buchenwald concentration camp.

In May 1940 Hedwig, Max, Eva, and Horst fled Germany to Shanghai, China on the Italian ship the *SS Conte Verde*. While in Shanghai, Max worked in several butchers shops. Hedwig was sick during much of the war. Eva worked first as a governess for a French family, and then had several jobs in offices and factories. In October 1947 Eva and Hedwig immigrated to the United States on the *SS General Gordon* and settled in San Francisco, California. Max left Shanghai in 1948 and went back to Germany. He stayed in the Wildflecken, F hrenwald, and Camp Grohn displaced persons camps until August 1951 when he immigrated to the United States to join Hedwig and Eva.

Hedwig's brother, Salo, was sent to the Sachsenhausen concentration camp in 1939 and perished shortly after being released. Her sister Felice was a survivor of the Theresienstadt concentration camp.

Scope and content of collection

The collection documents the pre-war and Holocaust-era experiences of Hedwig, her daughter Eva, her husband Max, and his son Horst in Breslau, Germany (present-day Wroc aw, Poland) until 1940 and Shanghai, China from 1940-1947. Included are identification and employment documents, testimonies, and photographs. Immigration papers primarily document Eva and Hedwig's immigration to the United States in 1947.

System of arrangement

The collection is arranged as two series:

Series 1: Biographical materials, 1914-2006

Series 2: Photographs, 1915-1956

Folders are arranged alphabetically and documents are arranged chronologically. Photographs were removed from two albums for conservation reasons.

Indexing terms

Person:

Hirschel, Hedwig, 1902-
Hirschel, Eva, 1927-2015.
Hirschel, Max, 1906-
Hirschel, Horst, 1930-
Jakob, Felice, 1891-1958.
Küchler, Salo, 1896-1939.

Topical Subject:

Emigration & immigration--United States--1940-1950.
Jewish refugees--China--Shanghai.
Testimonies.
Jewish families--Germany--Breslau.

Geography:

Shanghai (China)--Jewish refugees.
Breslau (Germany)

Genre/Form:

Photographs.

CONTAINER LIST

Series 1: Biographical materials, 1914-2006

Box	Folder	Title
		Hirschel, Eva:
1	1	Employment, China, 1943-1947
1	2	Identification papers, China, 1943-1947
OS	1	
1	3	Identification papers, Germany, 1928-1947
1	4	Memoirs, 1997-2006
1	5	Naturalization certificate, 1953
1	6	Testimonies, 1953-1971
1	7	Textbook: Wood, Stanley and Reverend F. Marshall. <i>Shakespeare's Richard II</i> , circa 1928 with Shanghai Jewish School stamp
		Hirschel, Hedwig:
1	8	Correspondence: Hirschel, Max, 1914-1915
1	9	Correspondence: Jakob, Felice, 1954-1967
1	10	Correspondence: Kutner, Adolf, 1950
1	11	Employment, Germany, 1921-1933
1	12	Identification papers, Germany, 1929-1940
1	13	Immigration, United States, 1947-1961

1	14	Marriage and divorce papers, 1939-1960
1	15	Passport, Germany, 1940
1	16	Testimony, 1956
1	17	United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration displaced person document, 1947
1	18	Hirschel, Horst: Identification papers, Germany, 1937-1940
		Hirschel, Max:
1	19	Identification papers, China, 1950
1	20	Identification papers, Germany, 1939
1	21	International Tracing Service, 1950-1954
1	22	Notebook, circa 1950-circa 1972
1	23	Testimonies, 1950-1975
1	24	Jakob, Felice: Power of attorney, 1952-1957
1	25	Küchler, Salo: Death certificate, 1939

Series 2: Photographs, 1915-1956

Box	Folder	Title
1	26	Hirschel and Küchler families, Germany, 1915-circa 1939
		Hirschel, Eva:
1	27	Germany, 1937-1939
1	28	Shanghai, China, 1946
1	29	United States, circa 1947-1956
1	30	Hirschel family and friends, China, circa 1942-1948
1	31	Hirschel family on <i>SS General Gordon</i> , 1947
1	32	Hirschel, Max, circa 1930s-circa 1950s
1	33	Küchler family, 1950-1954
1	34	Küchler, Salo, circa 1930s