

**NEY AND GRUNDMANN FAMILY PAPERS, 1867-2010  
(bulk, 1910-1950)  
2017.247.1**

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives  
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**Descriptive summary**

Title: Ney and Grundmann families papers

Dates: 1867-2010 (bulk, 1910-1950)

Accession number: 2017.247.1

Creator: Ney, Herbert; and Eleanor Ney.

Extent: 4 boxes (2.42 linear feet)

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

Abstract: Correspondence, documents, autograph books, printed material, audiovisual recordings, and other related materials, documenting the history of the families of Herbert Ney (Neu), originally of Munich, Germany, and his wife, Hannelore (née Grundmann), originally of Essen, Germany, relating to their emigration from Germany due to anti-Semitic persecution, as well as documenting their lives in pre-Holocaust era Germany, and following their immigration to the United States.

Languages: German, English, 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), Ney and Grundmann families papers (2017.247.1), United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC.

Acquisition information: Gift of Steven Ney and Michael Bournas-Ney, the sons of Herbert and Eleanor Ney, 2017.

Related archival materials: Correspondence and documents related to the immigration of the Neu/Ney family to the United States, as depicted in the documents of their sponsor, Jerome Ney, can be found in the Jerome Ney papers (IRN 558347).

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

Processing history: Processed by Brad Bauer and Adam Fielding, June 2017.

### **Biographical note**

Herbert Ney (1913-1999) was born Herbert Neu, the son of Sigmund (1875-1949) and Carola (née Charlotte Gutmann, 1884-1988) Neu, in Metz, Alsace-Lorraine, on 24 June 1913. Herbert was one of three children, his siblings included Walter (born 1909) and Eleanor (1920-1996). Sigmund and Carola had married in Augsburg, Germany on 15 December 1908, and but returned to Metz, where Sigmund worked as a lawyer. Sigmund served in the Germany Army during World War I, and at the end of the war, when Alsace-Lorraine was ceded to France, the family returned to Augsburg and lived there a number of years before relocating to Munich, where Herbert finished his secondary schooling and began university. His studies were interrupted when the Nazis came to power in 1933, and he was forced to flee to France, where he lived for a while before continuing onward to Portugal, where he remained, working in a variety of businesses until he was able to immigrate to the United States in 1939. A distant relative in Fort Smith, Arkansas, Jerome Ney, provided affidavits and support for Herbert to immigrate, followed by his parents, who arrived in the U.S. by way of Japan, and his sister, who had immigrated via Britain and South America. Walter Neu immigrated to mandate Palestine, and lived the remainder of his life in Israel. After arrival in the United States, Herbert changed his last name from Neu to Ney, and in 1944, Herbert married Hannelore Grundmann in 1944 and became a United States citizen. He died in New York on 15 June 1999.

Eleanor Ney (1920-2015) was born Hannelore Grundmann, the daughter of Otto (1882-1972) and Hedwig (also known as Hete, née Meyer, 1891-1949), in Essen, Germany, on 11 February 1920. She had a sister, Liselotte (later known as Lee), as well as a brother, Ralph (later Ralph Grant). As a young woman, Hannelore, who was later nicknamed Honey, was forced to terminate her schooling early, in 1934, due to the anti-Semitic policies of the Nazi regime. She then started vocational training, and moved to Offenbach am Main to apprentice at a purse and handbag factory. Her sister, meanwhile, had moved to Berlin to study fashion, and later met Fredy Mayer, a native of Luxembourg, who she married in London in 1933. Liselotte and Fredy remained in London for several years, where their son, Peter was born, before immigrating to the United States in 1939 and settling in New York. In 1938, warned by her father that she needed to flee Germany as soon as possible, she left Offenbach for Switzerland in 1938, living with an aunt and uncle in Basel, until her immigration to Britain in January 1939. Her father, who was imprisoned after Kristallnacht, and her mother, soon joined her in England as well. Following her internment by the British as an enemy alien, Hannelore left Britain for the United States in 1940, and worked in a succession of jobs in factories that produced leather goods and purses. Her parents eventually followed her to the United States, settling in New York, and Hannelore soon met another émigré from Germany, Herbert Neu, and the two married on 11 June 1944. By this time, Hannelore had

anglicized her name to Eleanor, and Herbert had changed his last name to Ney. The Ney family settled in New York, and raised two sons, Steven and Michael. Eleanor Ney died in New York on 27 April 2015.

### **Scope and content of collection**

The Ney and Grundmann families collection consists of correspondence, documents, autograph books, printed material, audiovisual recordings, and other related materials, documenting the history of the families of Herbert Ney (Neu), originally of Munich, Germany, and his wife, Hannelore (née Grundmann), originally of Essen, Germany, relating to their emigration from Germany due to anti-Semitic persecution, as well as documenting their lives in pre-Holocaust era Germany, and following their immigration to the United States.

The Biographical series includes identification, education, immigration and other related documents for Sigmund and Carola Neu, and their family members, including their son Herbert and daughter-in-law Eleanor Ney (Hannelore Grundmann). Genealogical materials for the Neu and Grundmann families are included, as is a file labeled "Sigmund Neu—Military Service," but which also contains correspondence sent to Neu while he was in the Germany Army during World War I, as well as postcards sent to his family during this period.

The Photograph series contains photographs of both Sigmund and Carola Neu's families, as well as photographs of their own three children—Herbert, Walter, and Eleanor—and photographs of the family of Eleanor Grundmann Ney as well. The photographs are divided by families, family members, and time periods. These include late 19<sup>th</sup> century and early 20<sup>th</sup> century photographs of Sigmund Neu and his siblings in Metz and Augsburg; and photographs of the Gutmann family, including many of Carola as a child and young woman, and of her father, Emil Gutmann. Photographs of Sigmund and Carola Neu's family include numerous pictures of their three children from between 1910 and 1940, as well as later pictures after their immigration to New York. Most of Herbert Neu's pictures are from his childhood and early adulthood, and later pictures, following his immigration to the United States, are filed under his American name, Herbert Ney. The same is true for photographs of Hannelore Grundmann / Eleanor Ney, in which earlier, childhood photographs are under her German name, and later photographs, including those following her marriage to Herbert, are under her American name. Assorted photographs of members of the Neu, Gutmann, and Grundmann families are filed by family member, or family name, and there are a number of unidentified photographs as well.

The Restitution series consists largely of documents filed and received by Herbert Ney, initially representing claims related to the estate of his father, Sigmund, after the latter's death in 1949, but also including material about his own claims, related largely to his inability to continue his university education in Germany as a result of Nazi policies, as well as later pension claims he filed with the West German government. Other documents include Eleanor Ney's claims, primarily relating to pension benefits received from the German government following her husband's death, and newspaper articles about restitution, from German-language newspapers in the U.S. (such as *Aufbau*).

The collection also contains two autograph books kept by Carola Neu as a child, in Germany, between approximately 1892 and 1907, and a video program compiled by the Ney family, consisting of interviews with Herbert and Eleanor Ney.

### **System of arrangement**

The Ney and Grundmann families papers are arranged in the following series: I. Biographical, II. Photographs, III. Restitution, IV. Other. Files are arranged in alphabetical order within each series.

### **Indexing terms**

#### *Personal names*

Neu, Carola.  
Neu, Sigmund.  
Neu, Walter.  
Neu, Eleanor.  
Gutmann, Emil.  
Grundmann, Otto.

#### *Topical terms*

Germany--Emigration and immigration.  
Jews--Germany--Augsburg.  
Jews--Germany--Munich.  
Jews--France--Metz.  
Jewish refugees--New York (State)--New York.

#### *Geographic terms*

Augsburg (Germany)  
Metz (France)  
Munich (Germany),

## **CONTAINER LIST**

### **Box    Folder    File name**

#### **I. Biographical, 1867-2010, and undated**

1	1	Genealogy: Ney family, charts
1	2	Genealogy: Ney and Grundmann family, narrative excerpts
1	3	Genealogy: Rindskopf family, charts Grundmann, Hannelore
1	4	Educational and professional, 1938-1959
1	5	General, includes booklet from her 90 <sup>th</sup> birthday, 1987-2010
1	6	Immigration and travel, 1939-2004
1	7	Marriage certificates, 1944
1	8	Grundmann, Lieselotte (Lee Mayer), 1993-2000
1	9	Grundmann, Otto, 1972 and undated
1	10	Gutmann, Emil, 1867-1929, and undated
1	11	Gutmann family, 1914-1980
1	12	Mayer, Peter, 1972-2007, and undated
1	13	Neu, Carola (nee Charlotte Gutmann), 1892-1988
1	14	Neu, Eleanor (later Eleanor Wark), 1939-1996 Neu, Herbert
1	15	Birth records, 1913

1	16	Education, primary and secondary, 1919-1932
1	17	Education, university, 1932-1933
1	18	General, 1922-1999
1	19	Immigration and travel, 1938-1944
1	20	Portugal, 1934-1938
		Neu, Sigmund
1	21	Emigration and travel (Germany), 1938-1939
1	22	Citizenship and identification documents (United States), 1944-1946
1	23	General, 1933-1949
1	24	Military service, 1914-1919

## II. Photographs,

1	25	Grundmann family
1	26	Grundmann, Hannelore, circa 1920-1940
1	27	Gutmann, Carola, circa 1890-1909
2	1	Gutmann, Emil, circa 1900-1925
2	2	Gutmann family, 1905-1962, and undated
2	3	Neu, Carola, 1919-1972, and undated
2	4	Neu, Eleanor (Wark), 1937-1960, and undated
2	5	Neu family: family of Sigmund (in Metz and Augsburg), circa 1895-1915
2	6	Neu family: children of Sigmund and Carola, circa 1910-1920
2	7	Neu, Herbert, 1913-1935
2	8	Neu, Sigmund, ca. 1885-1949
2	9	Neu, Sigmund and Carola, circa 1908-1936

### Box Folder File name

2	10	Neu, Sigmund and Carola: with family and home, circa 1910-1957
2	11	Neu, Walter, circa 1910-1960s
2	12	Ney, Eleanor (Grundmann), circa 1940s-2000s
2	13	Ney, Herbert, circa 1947-1955
2	14	Ney, Herbert and Eleanor, circa 1940s-1990s
2	15	Ney, Stephen and Michael, circa 1940s-1960s
3	1	Unidentified

## III. Restitution, 1953-1987

3	2	Neu, Sigmund, 1953-1961
3	3	Newspaper articles about,
3	4	Ney, Eleanor, 1952-2009
		Ney, Herbert
3	5	1953-1965
3	6	1971-1979
3	7	1980-1987

## IV. Other

- 4 1 Autograph book with lock, Carola Gutmann
- 4 2 Autograph book, Carola Gutmann