

ACKNER AND GELLER FAMILIES PAPERS, 1901-1981
2019.611.1

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

Title: Ackner and Geller families papers

Dates: 1901-1981

Accession number: 2019.611.1

Creator: Ackner family

Additional Creator: Geller family

Extent: 0.8 linear foot (1 box, 3 oversize folders, 1 book enclosure)

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

Abstract: The Ackner and Geller families papers include birth, marriage, and death certificates; school and military records; immigration papers; photographs; and printed materials documenting the Ackner and Geller families from Vienna, Austria, their lives before the Holocaust, their immigration to the United States, and Sheldon Geller's World War II service.

Language: English, German, French, Polish

Administrative Information

Access: There are no known restrictions on access to this material.

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Preferred citation: (Identification of item), Ackner and Geller families papers (2019.611.1) United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC.

Acquisition information: Suzanne Strauss donated the Ackner and Geller families papers to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2019. Suzanne Strauss is the daughter of Sheldon and Martha Geller.

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

Related material: Suzanne Strauss also donated a 1996 oral history interview with Martha Ackner Geller (RG-90.224.0001) and several books (2019.611.3 through 2019.611.11) to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Processing history: Julie Schweitzer, March 2023

Biographical note

Martha Geller (1921-2001) was born Martha Ackner on April 23, 1921 in Vienna, Austria, to Sidney (Sindel) Ackner and Sabina (Sheve) Ackner. She and her parents relocated to Belgium and then immigrated to the United States, departing Liverpool, England and arriving in New York on February 6, 1940 aboard the *Lancastria*. She married Sheldon Geller on November 30, 1941, and the couple had two daughters: Suzanne and Annette.

Sheldon Geller (1919-1981) was born Sigmund Geller in Vienna, Austria, on February 26, 1919 to Chaskel and Mathilde Geller. His father was a World War I veteran. Sheldon and his parents relocated to Riga before Kristallnacht in November 1938. He immigrated to the United States, sailing from Gothenburg, Sweden and arriving in New York on December 6, 1939. He married Martha Ackner on November 30, 1941, and the couple had two daughters: Suzanne and Annette. He served in the US Army from 1943-1946. During the Holocaust, his parents were deported to Siberia, where his mother died. His father returned to Vienna, married Josefina Brull in 1947, and later immigrated to the United States.

Scope and content of collection

The Ackner and Geller families papers include birth, marriage, and death certificates; school and military records; immigration papers; photographs; and printed materials documenting the Ackner and Geller families from Vienna, Austria, their lives before the Holocaust, their immigration to the United States, and Sheldon Geller's World War II service.

System of arrangement

The Ackner and Geller families papers are arranged by subject.

Indexing terms

Jews--Austria--Vienna.

Jewish refugees--United States.

Vienna (Austria)

United States--Emigration and immigration--History--20th century.

Photographs.

Cookbooks.

CONTAINER LIST

Box/Folder	Title
1.1	Ackner, Sidney/Sindel, 1923-1945
1.2, OS 1	Ackner, Sabine, 1918-1945
1.3	Ackner marriage, 1920
1.4	Ackner, Martha, 1938-1945, 1981
1.5	Geller, Charles, 1901-1965
1.6, OS 2	Geller, Sheldon, 1919-1946
1.7	Geller, Sheldon and Martha, 1941-1945, circa 1981
BE 1	Recipe book, circa 1936-1940
1.8	Recipe book, loose items, circa 1936-1940
OS 3	Wiener Morgenzeitung, April 27, 1921