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SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Inventory of the Goldberg Family Papers, 1902-1953

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Descriptive Summary

Title:	Goldberg family papers
Date(s)	1902-1953
Creator:	Goldberg family
Abstract:	Papers of the Goldberg (a.k.a. Gelbart or Geldbart) family of Mogielnica, Poland, and Charleston, South Carolina. The collection includes photographs of family members in Poland and South Carolina; a brief family history; and correspondence (1920s-1930s) between family members in Mogielnica and brothers Gershon (George Goldberg) and Yisroel (Israel Geldbart) in Charleston. Also included are two memorial photograph albums that chronicle Moshe Yidel Gelbart's funeral procession in Mogielnica (1935).
Extent:	0.2 linear feet (1 slim document box)
Repository:	Jewish Heritage Collection, Special Collections, College of Charleston Libraries 66 George Street Charleston, SC 29424 Phone: (843) 953-8016 Fax: (843) 953-6319 URL: http://archives.library.cofc.edu
Call Number:	Mss 1051
Language of Material:	Materials in English, Hebrew, and Yiddish

Biographical Note

Chaim and Tobe Mindel Gelbart lived in Mogielnica, Poland, and had two daughters: Sore Rivkah and Shafa, and five sons: Yisroel, Moshe Yidel, Fishl, Ruven, and Gershon. All but Yisroel, Gershon, and Moshe Yidel, who died as a result of appendicitis in 1935, perished during the Holocaust.

Yisroel Gelbart and his wife, Rebecca (Rivkah Rochel), immigrated to the United States in the early 1900s and settled in Charleston, South Carolina. Upon his arrival, Yisroel changed his name to Israel Goldberg, but in the 1950s changed his last name back to Geldbart (slightly different than the original "Gelbart"). The couple had four children: Sylvia (Khana Sorele) Geldbart Wolper, Helen (Hene Sheyndelev) Geldbart Feinstein, Ralph (Rakhmiel) Geldbart, and Jack (Yankev Osef) Geldbart.

Gershon Gelbart arrived in the United States in 1928 and changed his name to George Goldberg. He worked in the garment district of New York and later joined his brother in Charleston, where he owned and operated Goldberg's Men's Store on King Street. Goldberg married Jeanette (Charna Brindle) Altman in 1933, and they had three children: Charles (Yekhiel) Goldberg, Faye Goldberg Miller, and Helene Goldberg Scharff.

Collection Overview

Papers of the Goldberg (a.k.a. Gelbart or Geldbart) family of Mogielnica, Poland, and Charleston, South Carolina. The collection includes photographs of family members in Poland; a brief family history; and correspondence (1920s-1930s) between family members in Mogielnica and brothers Gershon (George Goldberg) and Yisroel (Israel Geldbart) in Charleston. Also included are two memorial photograph albums that chronicle Moshe Yidel Gelbart's funeral procession in Mogielnica (1935).

Collection Arrangement

Materials are described at the folder level.

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research.

Copyright Notice

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Related Material

Related materials in Special Collections include a 2000 oral history interview with Ralph Geldbart (Mss 1035-248) and a copy of *Three Mogelnitzer* by Louis Markowitz (1950).

Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person, family, or organization, by topical subject, by place, and by types of material.

Names

- Gelbart family
- Geldbart family
- Goldberg family
- Gelbart, Moshe Yidel, 1897-1935
- Geldbart, Israel
- Goldberg, George, 1906-1978

Subjects

- Jewish families--South Carolina
- Jewish families--Poland
- Jewish funeral rites and ceremonies--Poland--Mogielnica

Places

Mogielnica (Warsaw, Poland)--Social life and customs
Charleston (S.C.)

Types of Material

Correspondence
Photographs
Photograph albums

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Goldberg family papers, College of Charleston Libraries, Charleston, SC, USA.

Acquisitions Information

Materials were donated in 2008 and 2011 by Ralph Geldbart, Charles and Harriet Goldberg, and Helene Goldberg Scharff.

Alternate Form of Materials

Digital reproduction available online in the **Lowcountry Digital Library**.

Processing Information

Processed by Sarah Dorpinghaus, September 2011.

Encoded by Sarah Dorpinghaus, September 2011.

Funding from the Council on Library and Information Resources supported the processing of this collection and encoding of the finding aid.

Inventory

Folder 1

General, 1947, undated

Includes an invitation to Charles Goldberg's Bar Mitzvah celebration at the Charleston Jewish Community Center and a brief history of Goldberg family.

Correspondence

Folder 2

Postcards, 1920s-1930s

Includes five postcards written in Yiddish and Hebrew. The postcards were likely sent to George Goldberg from family and friends in Poland. Also included is a postcard addressed to Goldberg from Ware Shoals, South Carolina.

Folder 3-18

Letters, 1928-1939

Includes sixteen handwritten letters between family members in Poland and the United States. Most correspondence is to George Goldberg from his mother, Tobe Mindel Gelbart. Also included are a few letters from friends, including Sora Natar, Goldberg's girlfriend in Poland. The letters are written in Yiddish and typed English translations are included. Correspondence contains general news about family members in Mogielnica and inquiries about Goldberg's progress in the United States. Some letters reference the growing threat of Hitler in Poland.

Photographs

Folder 19

Gelbart family, circa 1902, 1920s

Includes original and reprints of photographs of the Gelbart family in Mogielnica, Poland. Chaim, Ruven, Shafa, and Gershon (George Goldberg) Gelbart are pictured in the images. Also included are photographs of Sora Natar, Sylvia Wolper, and the Rudich-Lauper family of Romania.

Folder 20

Moshe Yidel Gelbart funeral memorial albums, 1935

Two memorial photograph albums documenting the funeral of Moshe Yidel Gelbart. The albums were sent to his two brothers in South Carolina. Gelbart died of appendicitis on February 25, 1935, in Mogielnica, Poland. The albums, made of fabric and paper, contain black and white photographs that chronicle Gelbart's funeral procession, his casket, mourners, and gravesite, including an image of Gelbart with his wife and son eight days before his death. Each page includes decorative labels in Hebrew that describe the photographs. Translations are included. The albums have been digitized and are available on the **Lowcountry Digital Library**.

Folder 21

Goldberg family, circa 1950-1953

Includes black and white photographs of children celebrating Purim at the JCC, Young Judea at the JCC, and an interior shot of Goldberg's Men's Store. Helene, Faye, Joanie, Jeanette, and George Goldberg are pictured.