

COLLEGE *of*
CHARLESTON

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

**Inventory of the Renata Somers
Collection of Holocaust Photographs, 1941**

Addlestone Library, Special Collections
College of Charleston
66 George Street
Charleston, SC 29424 USA
<http://archives.library.cofc.edu>
Phone: (843) 953-8016 | Fax: (843) 953-6319

Table of Contents

Descriptive Summary.....	3
Biographical Note.....	3
Collection Overview.....	3
Restrictions.....	4
Search Terms.....	4
Related Material.....	4
Administrative Information.....	4
Inventory.....	6

Descriptive Summary

Title:	Renata Somers collection of Holocaust photographs
Date(s)	1941
Creator:	Somers, Renata
Abstract:	The collection consists of copy negatives, contact sheets, and digital images of the destruction of the synagogue in Holešov, Czechoslovakia, in 1941, by the Nazis. Also included are images of photographs, postcards, and letters relating to Renata Somers's grandfather, Jakub Michalowski, cantor of the Holešov Jewish community, who was killed at Auschwitz in 1944.
Extent:	0.1 linear feet (1 folder)
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 1065-044
Language of Material:	Materials in Czech and German

Biographical Note

In 1939, Leo Michalowski, a young physician, his wife, Emillia Stadler, and their daughter, Jeanette, emigrated from Holešov, Czechoslovakia, to Canada to escape escalating persecution. In exchange for permission to immigrate to Canada, Michalowski agreed to farm for five years, after which he resumed his medical practice and settled with his family in Toronto. After settling in Toronto, Leo Michalowski received an unmarked envelope in the mail which contained photographs of the destruction of the synagogue in Holešov. The identity of the sender of the photographs remains unknown.

Collection Overview

The collection consists of copy negatives, contact sheets, and digital images of the destruction of the synagogue in Holešov, Slovakia, in 1941 by the Nazis. Also included are images of photographs, postcards, and letters relating to Renata Somers's grandfather, Jakub Michalowski, cantor of the Holešov Jewish community, who was killed in Auschwitz in 1944.

Collection Arrangement

Materials are described at the folder level.

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research.

Copyright Notice

The nature of the College of Charleston's archival holdings means that copyright or other information about restrictions may be difficult or even impossible to determine despite reasonable efforts. Special Collections claims only physical ownership of most archival materials.

The materials from our collections are made available for use in research, teaching, and private study, pursuant to U.S. copyright law. The user must assume full responsibility for any use of the materials, including but not limited to, infringement of copyright and publication rights of reproduced materials. Any materials used for academic research or otherwise should be fully credited with the source.

Related Material

Related materials in College of Charleston Special Collections include the Anita Abeles Freilich papers (Mss 1065-005). Freilich's parents, Walter and Zdenka Stadler Abeles, emigrated from Czechoslovakia to Canada in 1939 with Leo and Emillia Stadler Michalowski, the parents of Renata Somers.

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

Michalowski, Jakub

Subjects

Antisemitism--Czechoslovakia
Holocaust, Jewish (1939-1945)
Holocaust survivors--Czechoslovakia
Jews--Persecutions--Czechoslovakia
World War, 1939-1945--Atrocities

Places

Holešov (Czech Republic)

Types of Material

Black-and-white negatives
Contact sheets
Digital images
DVDs

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Renata Somers collection of Holocaust photographs, College of Charleston Libraries, Charleston, SC, USA.

Acquisitions Information

Materials were lent for copying in 2005 by Renata Somers.

Processing Information

Processed by Rebecca McClure, May 2012.

Encoded by Rebecca McClure, July 2012.

Reviewed and uploaded by Martha McTear, July 2012.

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

Inventory

Folder 1

Negatives and contact sheets, 1941, undated

Included are digital images on three DVDs.