Inventory of the Esther Libby Surasky Persky Scrapbook And Photograph Albums, 1912-circa 1925
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### Descriptive Summary

| **Title:** | Esther Libby Surasky Persky scrapbook and photograph albums |
| **Date(s):** | 1912-circa 1925 |
| **Creator:** | Persky, Esther Libby Surasky, 1899-1985 |
| **Abstract:** | Scrapbook and photograph albums assembled by Esther Libby Surasky Persky of Aiken, South Carolina, containing images and memorabilia of the Surasky family, assorted relatives, and friends. |
| **Extent:** | 1.0 linear feet  
(2 document boxes) |
| **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 1106 |
| **Language of Material:** | Materials in English |

### Biographical Note

Esther Surasky Persky (1899-1985), daughter of Hiram (Chaim) Charles Surasky (1870-1932) and Freidel Surasky (1876-1956), emigrated from Knyszyn, Poland, to Aiken, South Carolina, in 1902. Her father, operator of H. C. Surasky’s, a dry goods store, was a prominent town merchant. She attended the Aiken Institute and in 1918 graduated from Winthrop University. In 1925 she married Nathan Persky (1888-1965), a merchant and lay leader, from 1934 to 1965, of the then Orthodox Adath Yeshurun congregation.

### Collection Overview

Scrapbook and family photograph albums assembled by Esther Libby Surasky Persky of Aiken, South Carolina. The scrapbook contains photographs, clippings, school papers, report cards, and letters related to her high school and college education. Photograph albums primarily consist of images of the Surasky family: Esther’s father, Hiram (Chaim) Charles Surasky; mother Freidel Surasky; older sister, Mina Surasky; younger sister, Dora Surasky; and younger brother, Ralph Surasky; and her husband, Nathan Persky. The albums also include assorted photographs of relatives and friends. The scrapbook and several of the photograph albums contain handwritten annotations by Persky, including short biographies of her parents and siblings as well as identifications of assorted relatives, friends, and locations. The collection also includes photocopied reproductions of each book with additional information provided by the donor, Mordecai Persky, and his cousin Sophie "Skip" Persky Sindler.

### Collection Arrangement

Materials are described at the folder level.
Restrictions

Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research.

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Related Material

Related materials in Special Collections include an oral history interview with Mordecai Persky (Mss 1035-228).

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
Persky, Esther Libby Surasky, 1899-1985
Surasky family

Subjects
Photograph albums--South Carolina--Aiken
Scrapbooks--South Carolina

Places
Aiken (S.C.)

Types of Material
Photograph albums
Scrapbooks

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Esther Libby Surasky Persky scrapbook and photograph albums, College of Charleston Libraries, Charleston, SC, USA.

Acquisitions Information

Materials were donated in 2004 by Mordecai Persky.
Processing Information

Processed by Joshua Minor, September 2012.

Encoded by Joshua Minor, September 2012.

Reviewed and uploaded by Martha McTear, October 2012.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1    | 1      | Scrapbook, 1912-1918  
|      |        | Book contains photographs, clippings, school papers, report cards, letters and other assorted materials collected by Persky during her time at the Aiken Institute and Winthrop University. Includes handwritten annotations by Persky. |
| 1    | 2      | Photograph album, circa 1922  
|      |        | Album contains images of Surasky family members and friends with the occasional handwritten annotation by Persky identifying individuals. |
| 1    | 3      | Photograph album, 1922  
|      |        | Album contains images of Surasky family members and friends with the occasional handwritten annotation by Persky identifying individuals. Also includes short handwritten biographies of Persky's parents and siblings. |
| 1    | 4      | Photograph album, circa 1925  
|      |        | Album contains images of Surasky family members and friends. |