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**Inventory of the Nathan
Garfinkle Papers, 1921-circa 1980**

Addlestone Library, Special Collections
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Charleston, SC 29424 USA
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Descriptive Summary

Title:	Nathan Garfinkle papers
Date(s)	1921-circa 1980
Creator:	Garfinkle, Nathan, 1921-2015
Abstract:	Photographs, photograph albums, military documents, certificates, correspondence, and other papers of Nathan Garfinkle. Materials primarily document Garfinkle's service in the United States Army during World War II, with the largest portion of items consisting of photographs and photograph albums from his military service with the Chemical Warfare Service at the Columbia Army Air Base and his deployment in the South Pacific. A smaller number of photographs feature his time as a student at Clemson University and of assorted family members. Also contains military documents including correspondence, reports, and orders, and a small number of certificates, personal correspondence, and clippings.
Extent:	3.5 linear feet (3 document boxes, 1 oversize flat box, 2 oversize folders)
Repository:	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 1138
Language of Material:	Materials in English

Biographical Note

Nathan William Garfinkle (1921-2015) was born to Annie (1895-1966) and Sam Garfinkel (1887-1970) in Brooklyn, New York. Shortly after he was born, the family moved to Charleston, South Carolina, where Nathan attended Charleston High School. After high school, Nathan attended Clemson University and graduated in 1942. He enlisted in the army the same year and joined the Chemical Warfare Service (renamed U.S. Army Chemical Corps in 1946). He was stationed at Fort Jackson in Columbia, South Carolina, and the Columbia Army Air Base, located in Lexington County, until 1944 when he was deployed to the South Pacific, where he served in the Philippines and New Guinea.

He married Frances Solomon on June 18, 1944, shortly before his deployment. The couple had four children: Alan Garfinkle, Jerry Garfinkle, Bruce Garfinkle, and Jaine Garfinkle Nelson. Nathan was honorably discharged in 1956 as a Lieutenant Colonel. He then joined his father in operating the Charleston Mattress Company, a business started by his grandfather. He later established the Garfinkle Agency in 1970.

Note: Nathan chose to spell the family name differently, with the "-le" ending rather than "-el," which is the spelling used by his parents and siblings.

Collection Overview

Photographs, photograph albums, military documents, certificates, correspondence, and other papers of Nathan Garfinkle. The largest portion of materials consists of photographs and photograph albums featuring Nathan's service with the Chemical Warfare Service, particularly at the Columbia Army Air Base and his deployment in the South Pacific, and a smaller number featuring his time at Clemson University and activities of various family members. Also contains military documents including correspondence, reports, and orders from his years of service during World War II (1942-1945), a small number of certificates (primarily military related), personal correspondence to family while serving in the Philippines and New Guinea, and ephemera such as clippings and an advertisement for the Charleston Mattress Company.

Collection Arrangement

Materials are described at 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 Sandra Garfinkel and Morton Henry Shapiro papers (Mss 1120), and oral histories with Frances Solomon and Nathan Garfinkle (Mss 1035-75), Alex Garfinkel (Mss 1035-127), Jennie and Max Garfinkel (Mss 1035-176), Helen Garfinkel Rosenshein (Mss 1035-106), Olga Garfinkel Weinstein (Mss 1035-107) and Phillip Garfinkel (MSS 1035-103).

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

- Garfinkle, Nathan 1921-2015
- Garfinkel family
- Clemson University
- United States. Army. Chemical Warfare Service

Subjects

- World War, 1939-1945--Participation, Jewish
- World War, 1939-1945--Pacific Area
- Jews--South Carolina--Charleston

Places

Columbia (S.C.)
Philippines
New Guinea

Types of Material

Black-and-white photographs
Correspondence
Military records
Certificates
Printed ephemera

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Nathan Garfinkle papers, College of Charleston Libraries, Charleston, SC, USA.

Acquisitions Information

Materials were donated in 2015 by Jerry Garfinkle.

Processing Information

Processed by Amy Lazarus, October 2015.

Encoded by Amy Lazarus, November 2015.

Reviewed and uploaded by Joshua Minor, November 2015.

Inventory

Photographs and photograph albums, 1921-1963, circa 1980

- Box 1 Folder 1 Garfinkel family and friends, c. 1921-1963
- Includes images featuring Nathan Garfinkle, his siblings Sandra, Phillip, and Helen "Elkie" Garfinkel, parents Sam and Annie Garfinkel, and his wife, Frances Solomon Garfinkle, and children, Bruce, Alan, and Jerry Garfinkle. Also includes a photograph of the Herzl Club basketball team Nathan was on as a teen.
- Oversize Box 2 Framed portrait of Sam and Annie Garfinkel (reproduction), undated
- Box 1 Folder 2 Nathan Garfinkle at Clemson, 1938-1942
- Includes informal pictures of Nathan studying, in uniform, and at his graduation in 1942.
- Box 1 Folder 3-4 Chemical Warfare Service operations at Columbia Army Air Base, 1943
- Box 1 Folder 5 Chemical Warfare Service demonstrations at Columbia Army Air Base, 1943
- Box 1 Folder 6 Incendiary demonstrations at Columbia Army Air Base, circa 1943
- Box 1 Folder 7 Decontamination at Columbia Army Air Base, 1943
- Box 1 Folder 8 Civilian Gas Mask Drills at Columbia Army Air Base, 1943
- Box 1 Folder 9 Gas dispenser at Columbia Army Air Base, 1943
- Box 1 Folder 10 Columbia Army Air Base equipment and facilities, 1943
- Box 1 Folder 11 Overseas World War II service, 1944-1945
- Box 3 Folder 1 Loose album pages, 1942-1945
- Includes photographs of Nathan at Clemson University and during his army service in Columbia, South Carolina, the Philippines, and New Guinea.
- Box 3 Folder 2 Loose album pages, 1936-1945, circa 1980
- Includes photographs of Nathan at Clemson University and during his army service in Columbia, South Carolina, the Philippines, and New Guinea. Also includes later photographs of Nathan Garfinkle traveling with family.
- Box 3 Folder 3 World War II album, 1943
- Includes photographs of Columbia Army Air Base.
- Box 3 Folder 4 World War II album, 1944-1945
- Includes photographs of Nathan with friends on the University of South Carolina campus and while serving in the Philippines and New Guinea in 1944 and 1945.
- Box 3 Folder 5 Negatives, undated

Oversize Paper Folder 1	Oversize photographs, undated	A collage of photographs featuring Nathan at Clemson, and a reproduction of the 1936 Herzl Club basketball team photograph.
Box 3 Folder 6	Miscellaneous, undated	Includes aerial images of an unidentified army base, the Charleston Mattress Company, an unidentified nurse, and the Charleston, South Carolina, Omar Temple Band.
	Military documents, 1942-1956	Correspondence, forms, and orders from Nathan Garfinkle's military service.
Box 3 Folder 7	1942-1943	
Box 4 Folder 1	1943-1944	
Box 4 Folder 2	1944-1945	
Box 4 Folder 3-4	1945-1946, 1956	
	Certificates, 1938-1952	
Box 4 Folder 5	Certificates, 1941-1946	Certificates from R.O.T.C. camp at Clemson University, the Clemson Agricultural and Mechanical College of South Carolina, Chemical Warfare School, the Commanding General of the Army Air Forces, the U.S. Army, and the Department of Health.
Oversize Paper Folder 2	Oversize certificates, 1938, 1952	Nathan's high school diploma and a certificate appointing him as a reserve commissioned officer.
Box 4 Folder 7	Correspondence, 1945, 1960, undated	
Box 4 Folder 8	Miscellaneous, 1944, undated	An advertisement for Charleston Mattress Company and a clipping reporting on the marriage of Nathan Garfinkle to Frances Solomon.