

ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

A Guide to the Marwill Family Collection

Collection Summary

Collection Title: Marwill Family Collection

Call Number: MG 50

Creator: Janine Moon

Inclusive Dates: 1935-1974

Bulk Dates: Louise Marwill material 1940-1960, Henry Perle material 1940's

Abstract: The collection includes an extensive genealogical study of the Falk, Herschowitz and Rosenfeld families done by Louise Marwill. The study follows the family from Germany to Albany and is comprised of families stories and photographs. There is an extensive section on the family escaping Germany during the Holocaust which includes Kathe Mueller Slonim's first hand account of what she witnessed in Germany and letters written by Gottlieb Rosenfeld about what he witnessed in Frankfurt and his desperation to get his family safely to the United States. There is a small collection of post cards sent by Henry Perle during World War II. There are several pieces of school material for Louise Marwill including school programs, certificates and photographs. There is also material from Louise's marriage to Lawrence Marwill on June 19, 1960.

Quantity: (2) 15 X 10 Document Boxes and (1) 21 X 17 OV Box

Administrative Information

Custodial History: Donated by Louise Marwill

Preferred Citation: MG 50, Albany Institute of History & Art Library, New York.

Acquisition Information:

Accession #: 2006.80- Albany High School Reunion, 1950

2006.99- Marwill Family Collection

2009.20- Copies of Family Documents (genealogical information)

2010.202- Certificate of Appointment as Reserve Commissioned Officer in the Grade of Second Lieutenant in the Army of the United States for Lawrence

Accession Date:

Processing Information:

Processed by Janine Moon; completed on May 4, 2013.

Restrictions

Restrictions on Access: None

Restrictions on Use: Permission to publish material must be obtained in writing prior to publication from the Chief Librarian & Archivist, Albany Institute of History & Art, 125 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12210.

Index Term

Persons

Rosenfeld, Gottlieb, 5/9/1839-1/25/1943, lived in Frankfurt Germany, worked at the Philip Simon and Sohn Millinery House. Gottlieb worked with Julius Falk to get his two sons Walter and Kurt to the United States during the 1930's during Nazi occupation. Gottlieb's name is enshrined at the "Neuer Borne Platz" Memorial in Frankfurt Germany.

Falk, Julius, 8/5/1897-9/27/1988, married Minnie Herschowitz November 30, 1933, born in Germany. Julius was the apprentice of Gottlieb Rosenfeld when he was thirteen in Frankfurt at the Philip Simon and Sohn Millinery House. He left on August 24, 1913 on the Manchuria; first job in the United States was at a wholesale millinery. Julius moved to Albany in the 1920's to sell cotton waste for fabric. During the depression he sold insurance and opened the Madison Liquor and Wine in 1933.

Falk, Minnie H., 12/12/1895-4/17/1995, moved to St. Petersburg Florida in the 1920's and sold real estate along the water. In 1929 she moved to Albany and opened a millinery where she met Julius. After prohibition, Julius and Minnie got a liquor license and opened Madison Liquor and Wine.

Perle, Henry, Active service during World War II

Kathe Mueller Slonim, b. 1926, moved to Albany in 1941 and lived above the Madison Liquor and Wine Store at 1078 Madison Avenue owned by Julius Falk

Marwill, Louise Bertha Falk- 4/9/1937-, Married Lawrence Marwill 6/19/1960

Organizations**Subjects**

Albany Boys Academy
Albany High School

Business- Breslaw Bros. (furniture)
 Business- Madison Liquor and Wine
 Camp Orinsekwa
 Holocaust
 World War II

Places

Albany, New York
 England
 Frankfurt, Germany

Document Types

Letters, photographs, newspaper articles, post cards, legal documents, secondary genealogical research, school certificates/diplomas

Biography/History of

Julius and Minnie Falk moved to the United States from Germany. Once in Albany, they met in a millinery and married. After prohibition ended, they obtained a liquor license and opened Madison Liquor and Wine. The first location of Madison Liquor and Wine was at 1060 Madison Avenue from 1933 to 1942. A building with a store front and two apartments was purchased at 1078 Madison Avenue. The store front was the new location for the Madison Liquor and Wine. The apartments upstairs were rented out. The first apartment housed family members Adolf and Betty Mueller and their three year old daughter Kathe. Julius Falk helped the family escape Germany during the Holocaust. The second apartment was rented to another German Jewish family. Julius and Minnie had one child, Louise Bertha Marwill (Falk) on April 6, 1937 who married Lawrence Marwill on June 19, 1960.

There are also documents and photographs about the Breslaw Furniture store opening in 1948. Samuel and Jacob Breslaw opened Breslaw Bros. in 1907 as a small stove store at the Glen Falls Post Company at 80 Glen Street. The store moved to 65 Glen Street until August 8, 1935. The Breslaw Bros. branches out into other lines of household furnishings so a bigger building was acquired. In 1948, Breslaw Bros. was housed in a five story building located at 333 River Street. In 1921, Breslaw turned into a chain store with a location opened in Saratoga Springs. The business expanded further with stores in Schenectady in 1924, Albany in 1930, Amsterdam in 1934 and Cohoes in 1937.

Scope and Contents of the Records/Papers/Collection

There is extensive genealogical material compiled by Louise Marwill in the collection. It is a collection of family stories and photographs tracing the family from Germany and Russia. There are letters and personal essays written by Holocaust survivors, post cards from World War II, Louise's school certificates and photographs from Albany High School 1953-1955, newspaper articles about Albany in the 1950's, photographs and documents from Lawrence and Louise's wedding in 1960, photographs and newspaper

articles about the grand opening of a new Breslaw Bros. Furniture Store in 1948, photographs, programs and newspaper articles about Lawrence Marwill graduating from Albany Boys Academy.

Organization of the Records/Papers/Collection

The programs and the administration papers are organized alphabetically by family history and chronologically by year.

Related Material

MG 161-Madison Liquor and Wine Store

1996.21.1-Velvet hat with pink roses and leaves owned by Minnie Falk

1996.21.2-Red velvet hat owned by Minnie Falk

1998.21.1-.6- Memorabilia from Albany High School, belonged to Louise Marwill

2003.10.1- For rent sign

2003.10.2- Madison Liquor and Wine Seal

2003.10.3- Madison Liquor and Wine Matchbooks

2003.42.1-38- Collection of clothes given by Louise Marwill

2004.41.1&.2- Burgundy silk ties

2005.3.1-.3-Navy blue wool pea coat and accessories, belonged to Louise Marwill, worn in the 1950's

2006.25.1- Jug by Harris Marwill & Son, wholesale Liquor Dealers, Schenectady New York

2009.30.1-.10- Articles of clothing worn by Louise Marwill including her wedding dress, wedding gloves, and bonnet and lithograph plates for her wedding invitations

Separated Materials

See library and curatorial list above

Other Finding Aids

Madison Liquor and Wine Finding Aid, MG 161

Detailed Description of the Records/Papers/Collection

The following section contains a detailed listing of the materials in the collection.

Series # MG 50 **Series Title** Marwill Family Collection

Box #	Folder #	Item #. Title / Description
1	1	Finding Aid
1	2	Accession records for other Marwill gifts
1	3	"Julius Falk Recalls," old version of the Falk Genealogy
1	4	Updated Falk Genealogy

1	5	Herschowitz-Rosenfeld Genealogy
1	6	Falk Holocaust Information
1	7	Henry Perle Material; post cards from World War II and photographs
1	8	Louise's Albany High School Material; programs, certificates and letters
1	9	Louise's photographs; from the 1950's
1	10	Newspaper Articles; Albany from the 1950's
1	11	Lawrence and Louise's Wedding; June 19,1960, invitations, letters, and photographs
1	12	Congratulation Letters; folder 1 of 3
1	13	Congratulation Letters; folder 2 of 3
1	14	Congratulation Letters; folder 3 of 3
2	1	Breslaw Bros. Family Information; legal documentation, articles, and photographs
2	2	Breslaw Store Opening Photographs; 1948
2	3	Marwill Albany Academy; programs, newspaper articles, and photographs, 1954
2	4	Albany High School Reunion; class of 1955 program
2	5	Chips & Putts; baby photograph book
3 (OV Box)	1	Certificate of Appointment as Reserve Commissioned Officer in the Grade of Second Lieutenant in the Army of the United States for Lawrence
3 (OV Box)	2	Photograph from Breslaw Bros. Opening; 1948