Descriptive Summary

Title: Zellerbach family papers

Dates: 1887-1980

Collection number: BANC MSS 2010/690

Creator: Zellerbach family

Collection Size: 5 cartons and 2 oversize boxes (6.4 linear feet)

Repository: Magnes Collection of Jewish Art and Life The Bancroft Library

Berkeley, CA 94704

Abstract: The collection consists of Zellerbach family papers, photographs, and home movies. Included are materials from Isidore and Jennie (Baruh) Zellerbach, Harold and Doris (Joseph) Zellerbach, J.D. and Hannah (Fuld) Zellerbach, Claire Zellerbach Saroni, and Stephen A. and Merla (Burstein) Zellerbach. Family papers relating to Isidore Zellerbach include files on his estate and five bound volumes: three "In Memoriam" volumes of condolence letters sent in the wake of Isidore's death in 1941; one volume of materials relating to the 1938 celebration of Isidore's 50th anniversary with Crown Zellerbach; and one volume of Christmas holiday greetings received by Isidore. Stephen A. Zellerbach's files in the collection consist of materials from his childhood, his college years, his time in the U.S. Navy, his marriage, and his tenure at the Zellerbach Paper Company. Photographs and pictorial items in the collection include images of Anthony Zellerbach, Isidore and Jennie, Harold and Doris, J.D. Zellerbach (especially in his role as Ambassador to Italy in the late 1950s), Stephen A. and Merla, and other members of the Zellerbach, Saroni, and Baruh families. In addition, the collection includes documents, blueprints, a scrapbook, photographs and a photo album relating to Isidore Zellerbach’s yacht, Janidore (and other Zellerbach family vessels), as well as Zellerbach family home movies (16mm and 8mm), dating back to the late 1920s.

Languages: Languages represented in the collection: English

Access

UNARRANGED COLLECTION. UNAVAILABLE FOR USE. Inquiries regarding these materials should be directed, in writing, to the Curator of Collections, The Magnes Collection of Jewish Art and Life, The Bancroft Library, using the Online Research Request form.

COLLECTION STORED OFF-SITE: Advance notice required for use.

Preferred Citation


Acquisition Information

Transfer; Judah L. Magnes Museum; 2010. 8mm and 16mm films (home movies), dvds, slides, and objects transferred to the museum holdings of The Magnes Collection of Jewish Art and Life for separate handling and cataloging. Formerly: Judah L. Magnes Museum Collection Number WJHC 1990.005.

Biography

Anthony Zellerbach (1832-1911) was born in Bavaria and immigrated to the United States in the mid-1840s. He initially lived in Philadelphia but came to San Francisco via the isthmus of Panama in 1856. He settled in Moores Flat, California (a Gold Rush town). In March of 1863, he married Theresa Mohr (b. 1840). The couple would have nine children (Jacob, Isadore, Henry, Edward, Eugene, Bella, Lillian, Hazel, and Arthur). Isidore Zellerbach was born in Moores Flat in 1866. In 1868, Anthony, faced with decreasing opportunities in gold mining, moved his family to San Francisco, where he began dealing in paper. Anthony founded his own paper business, A. Zellerbach & Sons, in 1876. The company changed its name to the Zellerbach Paper Company in 1907. Isadore joined his father’s company in 1888 and would be the major force behind the company until his death in 1941. Isadore married Jennie Baruh in 1891 and they had two sons, James David (J.D.) and Harold Lionel (H.L.), and one daughter, Claire (later Mrs. A.B. Saroni). After Isidore’s death, sons J.D. and Harold assumed prominent positions in the Zellerbach company. J.D. married Hannah Fuld in 1916 and Harold married Doris Joseph in 1917. Harold and Doris had three children, Rolinda (b. 1918), William J. (b. 1920), and Stephen A. (b.1927). Both William and Stephen played prominent roles in the Zellerbach Paper Company (and the Crown Zellerbach Corporation). Stephen A. Zellerbach married Merla Burstein, daughter of Rabbi Burstein of San Francisco’s Congregation Beth Israel, in 1950.

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection.

Names and Places

Zellerbach family--Archives
Zellerbach, Anthony, 1832-1911--Family
Zellerbach, Isidore. 1866-1941
Zellerbach, Jennie (Baruh). 1940-1965
Saroni, Claire (Zellerbach)
Zellerbach, James David, 1892-1963
Zellerbach, Harold
Zellerbach, Doris (Joseph)
Zellerbach, Stephen A. 1927-
Zellerbach, Merla (Burstein)
Zellerbach, Richard--Family
Zellerbach Paper Company
San Francisco (Calif.)--Social life and customs--20th century

Topics
Jews--California--San Francisco
Jews, German--California--San Francisco
Jewish businesspeople--California--San Francisco
Jewish families--California--San Francisco
Paper industry--California--San Francisco
As we were, 1923 to 1963, Richard and Jim Zellerbach and family

Genres and Forms of Materials
Photographs
Address books
Amateur films
Business records--California--San Francisco
Correspondence--California--San Francisco
Family papers--California--San Francisco
Portraits