

WORCESTER HISTORICAL MUSEUM

30 Elm Street
Worcester, Massachusetts

ARCHIVES

Leavitt Family
Papers

2000.27

Processed by William F. Carroll, C.A.
May 2000

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Collection Information

Abstract : The Leavitt (originally Schnaper) family was an Eastern European Jewish family that settled in Worcester in the 1890s. The family was connected with the Asher family, another Worcester family originally from Eastern Europe, and with Congregation Shaarai Torah.

Finding Aid : Finding Aid in print form is available in the Repository.

Preferred Citation : Worcester Historical Museum, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Provenance : Gift of Marion L. Stone, New York, N.Y., April 18, 2000.

MARC Access : Collection is cataloged in MARC under the following subject headings (lcsh, aat, tgm, gmgcp)

Schnaper, Barnet, b. ca. 1871.
Leavitt, Barney, b. ca. 1871.
Asher, Rosa, b. ca. 1876.
Leavitt family.
Asher family.
Leavitt, Joseph, b. 1897.
Leavitt, Ashley, b. ca. 1902.
Leavitt, Samuel, b. ca. 1900.
Leavitt, Ruth, b. ca. 1909.
Congregation Shaarai Torah (Worcester, Mass.)
Jews – Massachusetts – Worcester.
Immigrants – Massachusetts – Worcester.
Census records – Massachusetts. (aat)
Citizenship papers – United States. (aat)
Marriage records – Massachusetts – Worcester. (aat)
Jewish community in Worcester. (local)

Historical/Biographical Notes

Barnet Schnaper was born in Russia Poland [sic] about 1871, and emigrated to the United States probably in the 1880s. He became an American citizen November 15, 1891. Within the next five years he changed his name to Barney Leavitt. In 1896 he married Rosa (Rose) Asher, also a native of Russia Poland, in the horticultural hall in Worcester. Rose appears to have been daughter to Abraham Isaac Asher, who emigrated from Poland to the United States during the same period. Four children were born to the couple: Joseph, 1897; Samuel, ca.1900; Ashley, ca. 1902; and Ruth, ca. 1909. Joseph Leavitt was a graduate of Clark University ca. 1917. A.I. Asher, father-in-law to Barney Leavitt was instrumental in the establishment of Congregation Shaarai Torah in Worcester.

Scope and Content

The collection includes census records from 1900 and 1920 with information of Asher and Leavitt families, marriage record of Barney Leavitt and Rosa Asher, and citizenship papers of Barnet Schnaper. Included also are the original Agreement to establish Congregation Shaarai Torah, and clippings of the Leavitt Asher wedding, 1896, and Joseph Leavitt's yearbook entry from Clark University, ca. 1917. All records were photocopied from the originals, owned by Ms Stone, in April 2000.

Series Description

Series 1: Family records. Includes census records, marriage records, citizenship papers. (5 items)

Series 2: Shaarai Torah records. Includes Articles of Agreement, to establish Congregation Shaarai Torah, 1904. (1 item)

Series 3: Clippings. Includes Clark University yearbook entry of Joseph Leavitt, ca. 1917, and clippings relating to wedding of Barney Leavitt and Rose Asher. (2 items)

Leavitt Family Papers
2000.27
Series 1, Family Records

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1		2000.27.1.1	Citizenship papers, Barnet Schnaper, born at Russia Poland [sic], naturalized citizen November 15, 1891. Aqp.
1		2000.27.1.2	Marriage record, Barney Leavitt and Rosa Asher, married in Worcester, Mass., October 6, 1896. Aqp.
1		2000.27.1.3	Census record, Worcester, Mass., January 1, 1920; listings for Asher and Leavitt families, et al. Aqp.
1		2000.27.1.4	Census record, Worcester, Mass., 1920. Leavitt family detail. Enlargement. Aqp.
1		2000.27.1.5	Census record, Worcester, Mass., 1900; listing for Asher family. Aqp.

Leavitt Family Papers
2000.27
Series 2, Shaarai Torah Records

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1		2000.27.2.1	Articles of Agreement, for establishment of Congregation Shaarai Torah, Worcester, Mass., January 1, 1904; signed by A.I. Asher ... [et al.]. Manuscript. Aqp.

Leavitt Family Papers
2000.27
Series 3, Clippings

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1		2000.27.3.1	Joseph Leavitt. Clark University yearbook, ca. 1917. Aqp.
1		2000.27.3.2	“A Jewish wedding”: announcement of wedding of Barney Leavitt and Rose Asher, October 6, 1896, in Horticultural Hall, Worcester, Mass. / Worcester Evening Gazette, October 6, 1896. 2 c. Aqp.