



Smithsonian
National Museum of American History
Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Cayton Family Papers

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Cayton Family Papers
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0780
Date:	1892-1992. 1892-1992
Extent:	2.5 Cubic feet (6 boxes)
Creator:	Union Transfer and Storage Co. Cayton, Rosa Cayton, Max Cayton Family
Language:	English
Summary:	Correspondence, photographs, business documents, certificates and advertising materials from the family of Max and Rose Cayton, 1890-1993.

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

The collection was donated by Hannah E. Cayton, widow of Howard Cayton on July 20, 1993.

Provenance

The collection was transferred from the Division of Cultural history to the Archives Center in 2000.

Processing Information

Collection processed by Angela Sidman, 2002.

Preferred Citation

Cayton Family Papers, 1892-1992, Archives Center, National Museum of American History.

Restrictions on Access

Collection is open for research and access on site by appointment. Unprotected photographs must be handled with gloves.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Biographical Note

Max Chayuta (See Series 1: Biographical/Background Information for name change from Chayuta to Cayton) emigrated to the United States from Russia in the early 1890s to work in the cotton mills of the American South. While traveling, Max met Rosa Yoffie, also a Russian immigrant. Max and Rosa married in 1897 and moved to Washington, DC to open Union Storage and Transfer Company. They raised five sons: Albert, Harry, Howard, Leon, and Nathan.

Scope and Contents

The collection consists of personal family and business materials that document the family of Max Chayuta, 1890s-1970s.

The correspondence, 1892-1972, is further divided into three subseries: Subseries 1: Max Chayuta and Rosa Yoffie (research copies); Subseries 2: Max Chayuta and Rosa Yoffie (original copies); and Subseries 3: General. The correspondence between Max and Rosa is written in Yiddish and Russian and forms the earliest part of the collection; many illustrated with letterhead stationery from small town dry goods stores. All correspondence has been translated into English. Together, these letters chronicle the assimilation of a Russian-Jewish family in twentieth-century America. The Union Storage and Transfer Company Records, 1899-1963, include records of incorporation, correspondence, receipts, time books, cash books, and photographs documenting the company's activities in Washington, DC. The photographs, 1895-1983, depict family members from different time periods.

Arrangement

Collection is divided into four series.

Series 1: Biographical/Background information, 1925-1992 Series 2: Correspondence, 1892-1972 Series 3: Union Transfer and Storage Company Records, 1899-1963 Series 4: Photographs, 1895-1983

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Family-owned business enterprises
Immigrants
Jews -- United States

Types of Materials:

Advertisements

Business records

Certificates

Correspondence -- 20th century

Family papers

Photographs -- Black-and-white photoprints -- Silver gelatin -- 19th-20th century

Container Listing

Biographical/Background information, 1925-1992

Box 1, Folder 1 Biographical/background information, 1953, 1975, 1976

Box 1, Folder 2 Estate Settlement, 1925, 1953, 1954

Box 1, Folder 3 Genealogical Information, 1975-1992

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Correspondence, 1892-1972

Subseries 2.1: Max Chayuta and Rosa Yoffie (research copies), 1893-1947

- Box 1, Folder 4 1893-1895 (research copies, translation #1-25)
- Box 1, Folder 5 July 1895-December 1895 (research copies, translation #26-50)
- Box 1, Folder 6 December 1895-May 1896 (research copies, translation #51-70)
- Box 1, Folder 7 (research copies, translation #71-102)

Subseries 2.2: Max Chayuta and Rosa Yoffie Original Correspondence and Translations, 1893-1947

- Box 1, Folder 8 Original Correspondence and Translations, (#1-10), January 9, 1893-May 28, 1893
- Box 1, Folder 9 Original Correspondence and Translations, (#11-20), June 9, 1893-July 8, 1895
- Box 1, Folder 10 Original Correspondence and Translations, (#21-30), July 9, 1895-July 23, 1895
- Box 1, Folder 11 Original Correspondence and Translations, (#31-40), July 24, 1895-August 2, 1895
- Box 1, Folder 12 Original Correspondence and Translations, (#41-50), September 8, 1895-November 28, 1895
- Box 2, Folder 1 Original Correspondence and Translations, (#51-60), December 24, 1895-January 16, 1896
- Box 2, Folder 2 Original Correspondence and Translations, (#71-80), January 17, 1896-May 20, 1896
- Box 2, Folder 3 Original Correspondence and Translations, (#71-80), 1895 and undated
- Box 2, Folder 4 Original Correspondence and Translations, (#81-90), undated
- Box 2, Folder 5 Original Correspondence and Translations, (#91-102), 1896 and undated

Subseries 2.3: General, 1892-1972

- Box 2, Folder 6 Correspondence, 1892-1939

Box 2, Folder 7	Correspondence, 1940-1972
Box 2, Folder 8	Correspondence, undated
Box 3, Folder 1	Correspondence, undated
Box 3, Folder 2	Correspondence, undated
Box 3, Folder 3	Correspondence, undated

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Union Transfer and Storage Company Records, 1899-1963

Box 3, Folder 4	Incorporation and trustee meetings, 1907-1909
Box 3, Folder 5	Stock certificates, 1907-1908, 1917, 1955
Box 3, Folder 6	Correspondence, 1900-1963
Box 3, Folder 7	Operation and ownership, 1917-1963
Box 3, Folder 8	Storage hiring contracts, 1905-1928
Box 3, Folder 9	Receipts, 1899-1926
Box 4, Folder 1	Ledger, 1903
Box 4, Folder 2	Ledger, 1920
Box 4, Folder 3	Timebook, 1919-1920
Box 4, Folder 4	Timebook, 1920
Box 4, Folder 5	Timebook, 1922
Box 4, Folder 6	Timebook, 1924
Box 4, Folder 7	Cashbook, 1942
Box 4, Folder 8	Advertisements, undated

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Photographs, 1895-1983

Box 5, Folder 1	Cayton Family, 1912-1970
Box 5, Folder 2	Max Chayuta and Rosa Yoffie, 1895, 1920s-1930s
Box 5, Folder 3	Rosa Yoffie, 1939, 1950
Box 5, Folder 4	Max Chayuta, 1890, 1900, undated
Box 5, Folder 5	Harry Cayton, 1930s
Box 5, Folder 6	Nathan Cayton, 1927, 1935
Box 5, Folder 7	Leon Cayton, 1950, undated Includes photographs of unidentified women
Box 6, Folder 1	Howard Cayton, 1972-1973, 1983
Box 6, Folder 2	Howard Cayton's yearbook, <i>The Brecky</i> , 1928
Box 6, Folder 3	Other family members (unidentified), undated
Box 6, Folder 4	Union Transfer and Storage Company, undated
Box 6, Folder 5	Negatives (unidentified), undated

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