Guide to the Cayton Family Papers

NMAH.AC.0780
Angela Sidman
2002
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**Collection Overview**

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


**Restrictions on Access**

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


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
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

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<td>Stock certificates, 1907-1908, 1917, 1955</td>
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<td>Box 4, Folder 2</td>
<td>Ledger, 1920</td>
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<td>Box 4, Folder 3</td>
<td>Timebook, 1919-1920</td>
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<td>Box 4, Folder 4</td>
<td>Timebook, 1920</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 5</td>
<td>Timebook, 1922</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 6</td>
<td>Timebook, 1924</td>
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<tr>
<td>Box 4, Folder 7</td>
<td>Cashbook, 1942</td>
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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, *The Brecky*, 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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