



The Rosenthal Experiment: shooting from the hip digitization

*Choose Your Own Arrangement:
Using large-scale digitization to process
image and audiovisual collections*

2012 Annual Meeting of the
Society of American Archivists

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Digital Projects Manager
University of Kentucky Libraries



JUIF D'ALGER

COLLEGE of
CHARLESTON
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

UK
UNIVERSITY OF
KENTUCKY



Rosenthal donation

66 linear feet of
personal and
professional papers

100 linear feet of
Judaica

rare books
fine art
postcards
illustrated journals
greeting cards
pamphlets
broad­sides
newspapers

sheet music
cartoons
etchings
chromo-lithographs
watercolors
medallions
stamps
textiles







NORTH-צפון



די סטייטס, די הויפט שטעט,
טייכען, און רעס, ים, און פער,
און די יוניטעד סטייטס.

SOUTH-דרום



Judge



SHE KNEW HIM BY HIS NOSE.

Mr. GELFISH (who has been forced to cut his nose to make room for his nose)—"I vunder eef mein wife vill know me in dis disguise? Der gostumer sedt I chesht look like Heisey de Eight."



WHERE HE ERRED.

Mrs. COHEN—"Vy are you licking leedle Shakoy?"
 Mr. COHEN—"He vas lighting matches out in der back yard."
 Mrs. COHEN—"But dere vas nothing out dere dot he could set on fire."
 Mr. COHEN—"No, of course nod—dot's der reason of id. Vat's der use of dot foolsh poy wasting matches?"



considerations



Large amount of material
Varied levels of organization
No inventory or search mechanism
Several arrangement options





Location

Format

Date

Subject





considerations



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No inventory or search mechanism
Several arrangement options
Other priorities



considerations



- Large amount of material
- Varied levels of organization
- No inventory or search mechanism
- Several arrangement options
- Other priorities

- Support of donor
- Abundance of interns
- Online presentation mechanism
(Lowcountry Digital Library)
- Basic imaging equipment available



we went to work



- descriptive, preservation, and structural metadata
- NARA guidelines for digitizing archival material
- EPSON Expression photo scanner
- 400 – 800 ppi
- 24 bit color
- .tiff preservation and .jpg access copies
- Drobo storage array



The background of the entire image is a historical map of the United States, likely from the 19th century. It shows state boundaries and names in English. Overlaid on the map is Hebrew text. At the top left, there is a small yellow icon of a synagogue. At the bottom, there is a large block of Hebrew text, possibly a title or a quote, which appears to be a transcription of the map's content or a related document. The text is written in a stylized, calligraphic font. The map itself is a sepia-toned print, showing details like rivers, lakes, and city names. The Hebrew text is integrated into the map's layout, with some parts appearing as if they are part of the original map's design.

Field

Example

Title

Paradesi Synagogue, Cochin, India, circa 1958

Alternate title
(optional)

Die Sinagoge zu Dresden

Source publication
(optional)

Harper's Weekly, October 5, 1872

Creator

Levine, Jack, 1915-2010

Date original

1850-11-23

Note (optional)

Rosenthal purchased this print in New York City in 1970 for \$3.00.

Topical subject
(LCTGM)

Synagogues; Cityscapes

Geographic subject

Europe -- Germany -- Dresden

Type (DCMI)

Still image

Type (AAT)

Prints (visual works); Lithographs

Type (IMT)

image/jpeg

The background of the entire image is a historical map of the Eastern United States, showing states like Nevada, Utah, Arizona, and Georgia. Overlaid on this map is Hebrew text. At the top left, there is a small yellow icon of a building. At the bottom, there is a large line of Hebrew text: "אין דיינעם שטיט" (In your town).

Field

Example

Latitude (optional)

41.657627

Longitude (optional)

-91.524022

Contributing institution

College of Charleston Libraries

Source

William A. Rosenthal Judaica Collection-
Prints and Photographs

Physical location

Box 2, Folder 10

Height (cm)

10

Width (cm)

5.5

Digitization
specifications

Scanned with Epson Expression 10000 XL,
800 ppi, 24-bit color. Archival tiff image
available

Date digital

2012-01

Scanner / metadata

J. Knight

Resource identifier

war00054

Object filename

war00054.jpg

SUCCESS

Provide
internship
experience

Better handle on
contents of collection

Provide online access
to portion of the
collection

Reach larger audience
through partnerships
with other institutions



rethinking Rosenthal

Access vs. preservation

- lower resolution
(300 ppi)
- access copies only
(jpeg2000, LZW tiff)

Capturing devices

- I2s CopiBook
- 7 seconds! Autocrop!

Metadata



Field	Example
Title	Lift captions directly off object
Alternate title	Die Synagoge zu Dresden
Source Publication	Harper's Weekly, October 5, 1872
Creator	Rosenthal (collector)
Date original	1850
Note	Rosenthal purchased this in 1970 for \$3.00.
Topical subject (LCTGM)	Further in-house control: Synagogues; Clothing & dress; Cemeteries; Rites and ceremonies
Geographic subject	Europe -- Germany -- Dresden
Type (DCMI)	Still image
Type (AAT)	Further in-house control: Prints (visual works); Postcards; Photographs; Drawings (visual works); Sheet music
Type (IMT)	image/jpeg
Latitude / Longitude	41.657627 / -91.524022
Contributing institution	College of Charleston Libraries
Source	William A. Rosenthal Judaica Collection- Prints and Photographs
Physical location	Portfolio 001
Rights	Digital image copyright 2012...
Height (cm) / Width (cm)	10 / 5.5
Digitization specifications	Scanned with Epson Expression 10000 XL, 800 ppi, 24-bit color. Archival tiff image available
Date digital	2012-01
Resource identifier	war00054
Object filename	war00054.jpg



rethinking Rosenthal

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Capturing devices



I2s CopiBook

Metadata

Finding aid



rethinking the inventory



SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

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Search Tips

Inventory of the William A. Rosenthal Papers, 1791-2008

Descriptive Summary

Abstract: Biographical files, sermons, correspondence, articles, photographs, and other paper and collector of Judaica. Materials document Rosenthal's rabbinates, particularly his Kadosh Beth Elohim, and involvement in the World Union for Progressive Judaism, H art-based organizations. Also included are Rosenthal's expansive topical files on Jew Rosenthal's sermons and files vary widely and include Israel and the Arab-Israeli cor beliefs, Jewish communities located around the world, Jewish history and individuals and religious populations, anti-Semitism, women and gender equality, and Jews in m

Title: William A. Rosenthal papers

Creator: Rosenthal, William A.

Date(s): 1791-2008 (bulk 1930-2000)

Extent: 18 linear feet
(45 document boxes, 1 oversize folder)

Repository: Jewish Heritage Collection, Special Collections, College of Charleston Libraries
66 George Street
Charleston, SC 29424
Phone: (843) 953-8016
Fax: (843) 953-6319
URL: <http://archives.library.cofc.edu>

Call Number: Mss 1087


Language of Material: Materials in English, Hebrew, Yiddish, German, and Spanish

Lowcountry Digital Library

[Lowcountry Digital Library](#)[Browse Other Collections](#)[About](#)[SC Digital Library](#)

William A. Rosenthal Judaica Collection - Prints and Photographs

What's Inside



Explore Collection

SEARCH

Current Collection: [search](#)

Lowcountry Digital Library: [search](#)

More Options: [Advanced Search](#) [View All Items](#) [Our Collections](#)

BROWSE BY SUBJECT

By Subject

BROWSE BY LOCATION

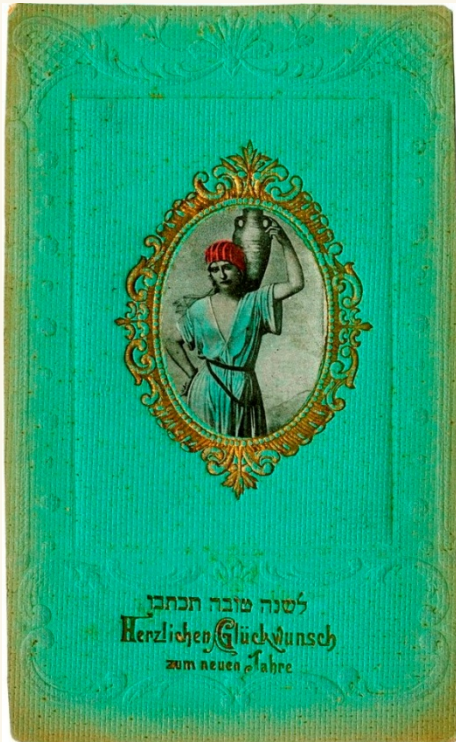
By Location

About the Collection

William A. Rosenthal Judaica Collection - Prints and Photographs

Rabbi William A. Rosenthal's collection of Judaica prints and photographs. These images document the Jewish people: their lives, history, religious ceremonies, dress, and customs. Also included are Jewish New Year cards, caricatures, and clippings from Jewish journals and publications. Rosenthal was the rabbi at Charleston's Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim Synagogue from 1976 to 1992. He traveled extensively during his life and collected items related to Jewish life and culture.

more information



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Rosenthal project website

rosenthal.library.cofc.edu

Lowcountry Digital Library

lowcountrydigital.library.cofc.edu

A Synagogue A Day

asynagogueaday.tumblr.com

UK Digital Library Services

libraries.uky.edu/dls

Kentucky Digital Library beta

eris.uky.edu

ExploreUK

exploreuk.uky.edu

Thank you!