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Abstract (for dissemination)	This report provides an overview of the work undertaken in categorizing micro archives, elaborates on linking micro-archives and the methodology chosen. Analysing the issue of Linking Micro archives by presenting different case studies.
Management Summary	This report reviews different categories of micro-archives, presents the task's work of locating cases of micro-archives which are fragmented between larger collections. Analyses the methodology chosen for linking the collections on the EHRI Portal. Presents four different case studies to illustrate challenges and examples which are unique to micro-archives. Also describes further potential case studies as well as our suggestions for prospective work when moving forward with micro-archives on EHRI's Portal.

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1 Introduction/Goal

The goal of this deliverable Create virtual connection of fragmented micro collections held in various archives, where at least one part of that collection is held in a micro-archive. To reach that goal, we had to first locate such collections which overtime have been fragmented, or which had been copied from archive to archive, or finally are related by keywords or topics. The second goal was to therefore create or find an already used methodology to link such collections on the EHRI Portal, and ensure it is personalized for this particular task.

To complete the task the first step was to identify examples of collections of originals with the same provenance in different locations, but also archives which hold copies of one or several of the original collections. To practically find ways for linking them, we worked closely with WP9 to understand how the already existing methodology for linking developed for the EHRI Portal could be used in the unique context of fragmented micro collections.

The work itself was heavily based on the engagement workshops, held in the following cities and run by the WP11 participant organizations: London, organized by the Wiener library and KCL; Amsterdam, organized by NIOD; Vienna, by the VWI; Novi Sad, by BArch; Jerusalem, by Yad Vashem; Mechelen, through KD; and Bad Arolsen, by the Arolsen archives. micro-archives were invited to the workshops to learn about EHRI, its activities and services (and primarily the EHRI Portal), and how EHRI could assist them through best practices and linking to larger archival records from which their collections might be fragmented or copied to other locations. The second goal of the workshops was to encourage the participating micro-archives to upload their data onto the Portal, and by doing so, identifying meta data from their collections that are connected to other archives already listed on the Portal. Cross referencing their meta data with others' could show us different examples.

Micro-archival collections should be integrated into the EHRI Portal by linking them to larger collections to which they have a relationship, either by theme or provenance. This task therefore aims to develop strategies and solutions to facilitate such virtual integration of micro-archival collections into the Portal via linking between them, and between them and larger archives. Some of these linking tools were already developed in WP9, therefore, within this task we cooperated with WP9 and worked in parallel with them, to adapt those existing solutions to the context of micro-archives.

1.1 Categorizing Micro-archives

D11.1 and D11.2 had already defined a micro-archive so only a brief summary will be mentioned here. A micro-archive was defined as a family archive, an association, a memorial, a grassroots initiative, a researcher's archive, or a very small archival institution, not run by local authorities, or the states, but rather by historians, relatives, engaged laypersons, survivors (or their relatives). D11.2 slightly altered such a definition to include micro-archives that rely on public funding, as some of those small initiatives received funding from a plethora of sources in order to continue their activities.

D11.3 has decided to accept those formulated boundaries and definitions of micro-archives. However, despite accepting those delineations, additional questions were raised on how the theoretical; the linking of micro-archives with other collections; could in effect be applied. This question was specific to a case study which will be discussed below, on the practicalities of considering family archives as micro-archives, especially when that household might be an elderly Holocaust survivor. D11.2 detailed the importance of family micro-archives because, although many families do not necessarily want to give away their original documents, even

as copies, it would still be important to enable some sort of access to these documents, even if that means making their presence known to researchers over the EHRI portal. That way relevant researchers could approach the family and inquire about further information or access to these original documents. In the cases which we encountered during the work in this task, many families owned personal micro-collections, which they then gave as copies to larger institutions. In our cases, these were Yad Vashem and Kazerne Dossin. As these personal collections were found for instance in the homes of elderly Holocaust survivors in Israel, the question of whether it was appropriate, and even right, to list their personal contact information on the EHRI Portal by providing an address and phone number, where they would be subject to inquiries, was put forth. This question still hasn't been answered in a full and encompassing way, and rather needs to be addressed on a one-to-one case, with the particular family in mind. This is especially relevant when that same collection has been duplicated in a larger institution and therefore there is a case to be made that there is no need to see the actual originals, when the copies are readily available.

2 Locating Cases of Micro-Archives to Link

D11.1 brought a full list of potential micro-archives for linking. The idea behind it was not to list all potential micro archival collections, but rather to find those that were not on the Portal, to find those that had shown interest in being integrated into the Portal, and which, in a further step, could be linked with other collections and institutions. Not included on that list were micro-archives already present in the EHRI Portal (with various degrees of information) as well as certain categories of micro-archives, like kibbutz archives in Israel, or Jewish community archives around the world. To continue locating the cases of micro-archives to link, the list already made in D11.1 was utilized. However, one of the difficulties that D11.2 outlined, was the big number of challenges faced when it came to work with those same micro-archives. These included: privacy fears, hesitancy regarding the larger archives taking over the smaller ones which would then disappear inside them, or the absence of willingness for that collection to be publicly available. One of the lessons learned was the value of personal connection with the micro-archive and the rights holders. Unfortunately, many of the archives listed in D11.1 did not want to continue that connection with EHRI or with any larger archives. There were a few micro-archives that did, and we followed up with them only. One particular example is the Archive of the Szeged Jewish Community, which was also used as a case study in D11.2.

The possibility of finding more cases of fragmented collections, which could then be followed up for linking was brought up several times using the EHRI micro-archival workshops, within the framework of different WP11 tasks. If one of those workshops could identify cases where a participating micro-archive had a collection which was related, in some way, to another collection, then this was an opportunity to follow up and see the possibilities for their linking. As mentioned, one of the lessons learned by the members of the work package was the invaluableness of personal connections between the EHRI representatives and the micro-archive's staff. That is to say, the key to engaging the micro-archives was through a personal connection by understanding their wants and needs. This approach was specifically reflected in the engagement workshops, where presentations by the archives themselves were prioritized to give the micro-archives their own space.

Such an approach was taken in the workshop that took place at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem in June 2024 and gathered a number of micro-archives from Israel. The workshop offered space to four different micro-archives to talk about their work and their collections. During these presentations, it became clear that there is more potential for further work on exploring additional fragmented collections as several archives appeared to be holding similar documentation. It was therefore, in this workshop that one of the case studies for future work

on fragmented archives came to be, and that is the Ringelblum collection presented by Yad Tabenkin archives. The provenance of the archival materials in this collection is leading is to the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw, Poland, which hosts the largest Ringelblum collection, and Yad Vashem archives which also has documentation from the same provenance as well as copies of the Ringelblum collection held in JHI.

3 Developing a Methodology for Virtually Linking the Fragmented Collections

The second part of the task was the development of a methodology for virtually linking the fragmented collections. can be based on much of the work and methods that were developed as part of the activities of WP9, but changing the context to acknowledge the fact that this WP11 has the micro-archives as its primary sources. The methodological framework for linking was developed already in EHRI-2, it was used for identifying relationships between descriptions of different archival units and finding a way to link them through the EHRI Portal. The work focused mainly on the original-copy relationship, giving thus a clear understanding of which one is the original holding institution and which archive holds copies of the collections described. This preliminary methodological work was continued in EHRI-3 through WP9, on how that relationship was re-contextualized in the Portal by linking copies and originals of the collection descriptions. Therefore, the technology for linking was not only already created, but further developed. It is important to note here though that the focus on WP9 in this context was mostly through the copy collections context. That is to say, when a collection was described in the Portal, and that material was copied by another archive, the linking was made to the description of the other material and links were created between them.

The challenge for this particular task was threefold: First, how to show that the linking between the collections was not simply a copy-original relationship, but rather a “fragmented collection” (which sometimes did include copy-original, but not only); second, how to use the portal as a means to re-unite archival materials that are historically connected; and third, how to show that one or two of those institutions is a micro-archive.

3.1 How to Focus on Fragmented Collections, Rather than the “Original-Copy” Dichotomy

The workgroup for this task decided that only existing technology was necessary for the task, however adapting it for the particularities it demanded. When two institutions are linked through the Portal, there already exists different types of relations that could be chosen, derived from ISAAR CPF 5.3.2[1] “Category of Relationship”. One of those types is “Associative”, defined as “a general category for relationships” not covered by the Hierarchical, Temporal, or Family types. It was decided that this language fits the particular case of fragmented collections, and that in addition to using that word, as a way to describe the goal, specific keywords could be used in the automatic description of relations, within the linking tools. These keywords could be particularized for each of the specific collections that we want to link for the task. It is additionally important to note that on the archival description page, the connection will not show “associative” connections, but only “Other Connected Items.”

[1]https://www.ica.org/resource/isaar-cpf-international-standard-archival-authority-record-for-corporate-bodies-persons-and-families-2nd-edition/

Image 1: Screenshot of how the "Category of Relationship" is listed on EHRI's Portal, highlighting the associative connection

3.2 Virtual Collections, or Linking as a Way to Showcase an Autochthonous Collection

This challenge is central to EHRI's mission as a whole: Holocaust documents are scattered all around the world, across many different countries and archives. Researchers trying to navigate through the plethora of collections could have a hard time trying to contextualize all this information together and make sense out of it. This led to a methodological framework, developed in EHRI-2, for identifying relationships between descriptions of different archival units and finding a way to link them within the EHRI Portal. D9.4 set out a methodological re-contextualization of archival materials in the Portal by linking copies and originals. This linking methodology sparked a theoretical discussion within the working groups of a theory that was discussed in EHRI-2: virtual collections. The discussion weighed if this theoretical methodology would be appropriate for this task, rather than the re-conceptualization that was laid down in D9.4.[2]

3.2.1 Virtual Collections

In addition to the general linking framework outlined above, the EHRI Portal incorporates a more direct mechanism for aggregating material from distinct collections/fonds, known as "Virtual Collections". Developed in EHRI-1, Virtual Collections (VCs) allow for creating hierarchical descriptive units that — unlike typical archival descriptions in the EHRI Portal — do not represent the physical organization of material, but rather can be arbitrarily based on theme or provenance. The EHRI Portal contains several thematic VCs, including those developed originally for the Jewish Communities and Terezin research guides.

[2] See Deliverable D9.4 on Linking.

VCs have some distinct advantages over associative linking when it comes to navigation of the interconnected descriptions, since they can be browsed or searched in the EHRI Portal in the same manner as non-virtual collections, presenting a more coherent facade to the user. From an administrative point-of-view, however, they are more complex to manage and require the creation of container descriptions under which physical units (such as micro-archives) must be nested. For this iteration of the task, therefore, we have focused on associative linking, although the creation of VCs remains a possibility for the future given a compelling use-case.

3.3 Micro-archives

The next question relevant for this task was how can we show, within the Portal, that this is part of EHRI's efforts to track micro-archives. One example that was considered was using a special symbol beside the institution that reflected that it is a micro-archive. This however, comes with its own challenges: how do micro-archives differ from regular archives in the EHRI Portal. Some of those micro-archives are parts of large institutions which only have a small Holocaust-related collection, and do not, in general, have a Holocaust focal point in their mission. Within this task, this exact issue came with the example of Yad Tabenkin in Israel. Yad Tabenkin is a research and documentation center of the Kibbutz movement in Israel, which aims to preserve the history of the Kibbutz movement, Zionist youth movements and key aspects of the history of the pre state of Israel and the modern State of Israel. Their archives, research and documentation center cover the entirety of the Kibbutz movement, and their documentation range from key aspects of the Yishuv's history as well as the modern State of Israel, up to the present day. In addition, the archives also hold a reference and research library, which engages in research, and publishing, holds conferences and seminars. This example, therefore matches the above definition: it is a larger institution, which has, by connection to its goal, a Holocaust archive. Known as the "Ringelblum collection", this specific collection nestled into the larger institution, but not its focal point, looks at the letters and documents sent by Emmanuel Ringelblum, himself a Zionist in Poland, to the Zionist leaders living in Mandate Palestine.

It was decided that with this context, we cannot have a way to "flag" a micro-archive. Since micro-archives are diverse and come in many forms, a single label flagging them as such has the potential to raise more questions — and cause more confusion to end-users — than was considered desirable. In contrast, we see this work developing in the context of broader efforts within WP9 and other data-centered work packages to categorize institutions and archival descriptions based on more fine-grained taxonomies, that work at EHRI's broad-based scale and are compatible with those used by EHRI's data providers.

In other words, in the long run, whether or not a particular collection is deemed a micro-archive or not, should be a function of more detailed information about its holding context, the physical characteristics of the material, the basis on which it has been accumulated and so on. This may be called the algorithmic approach, but should be fully transparent and based on straightforward criteria that can be made clear to the user. Doing so will mitigate the possibility of users or custodians asking "why is this/my collection called a 'micro' archive?"

4 Case Studies

The following case studies point out those fragmented collections that we located through the task activities, and summarize and explain the specific challenges we faced with each example. The case studies also show the journey taken to link them within the Portal, using the previously described methodology.

4.1 Case Study 1: The Szeged Jewish Community Collection (The Archive of the Szeged Jewish Community, Yad Vashem and CAHJP)

The first case study, that of the Szeged Jewish Community's collection was already mentioned in D11.1, in the list of potential micro-archives for linking. More progress was made with this archive in the course of preparing D11.2 and it was therefore decided to follow up with it, and to link it with other institutions holding related collections such as Yad Vashem and the Arolsen archives. In addition, through EHRI's field work it was discovered that an additional archive is holding original materials with the same provenance: the Central Archives for the History of the Jewish People (CAHJP) and therefore it was decided to add the CAHJP to the list of archives which could be linked.

4.1.1 The Archive of the Szeged Jewish Community

The Archive of the Szeged Jewish community contains interesting records and historical documents from the Neolog Jewish community of Szeged. The documents chronicle the largely destroyed Szeged Jewish community and provide an important window into the historically important cultures of central European Jewish communities that were lost in the Shoah. These archives are currently being processed, catalogued, indexed and digitized as a whole, independently from EHRI. With a grant from the Rothschild Foundation, Dora Pataricza along with Vera Ábrahám are in the process of digitizing the documents, and reorganizing them.

The documents at the Archive of the Szeged Jewish community consists of vital registers, school records, burial records, board minutes, requests, correspondences, architectural plans, music scores, photos, and paintings. Out of the 25 linear meters of documents at the Archive of the Community, four linear meters are related to the Holocaust in Szeged.

The archives of the Szeged community can be found on the EHRI Portal under "Szegedi Zsidó Hitközség" or "the Jewish Community of Szeged."[3] D11.2 set out a task to update this information, writing that the next step was to update the listing entry. To this end, Dr. Dora Patrisza, EHRI's contact person at the Archives of the community, who is also a postdoctoral researcher, was contacted. Dr. Patrisza agreed to cooperate with us with two specific tasks in mind: first, to upload the page of the Archives on EHRI Portal, and second to upload onto the Portal details of the specific collection, which she has helped research. Those details are currently uploaded on the community's archival website.[4] Extra details on the community itself can also be found on the community's website.[5]

4.1.2 The Central Archives for the History of the Jewish People (CAHJP)

An additional archive holding a collection with material originating from the Jewish community of Szeged is the CAHJP, located in Jerusalem. CAHJP was established in 1939, and currently holds the archives of hundreds of Jewish communities, as well as local, national and international Jewish organizations and private collections of many outstanding Jewish personalities.

Although the CAHJP was not originally listed in D11.2 as a possible archive for linking, it was discovered during the work for the task that it also holds both original materials and copies from the community's documentation collection in Szeged.

[3] https://portal.ehri-project.eu/institutions/hu-002765

[4] https://szegedjewisharchive.org/en/the-archive-of-the-szeged-jewish-community

[5] https://szzsh4.wixsite.com/szzsh

The CAHJP holds 2.9 running meters of original documents of the Szeged Jewish Community. The Szeged collection includes 1,079 files within the date range of 1879 and 1949. The collection includes correspondence with individuals, other Jewish communities and the authorities, documents related to cultural life, the Rabbinate, Jewish organization and their relations with the authorities, certificates and reports of board meetings. It also includes financial reports, bills and receipts, documents on the budget and taxes, documents related to synagogue seats and the building of the new synagogue, the Chevra Kadisha and the cemetery and documents on charity and welfare issues. From the Holocaust period, the CAHJP holds original documents related to forced labor in Hungary and correspondence between the Jewish community of Szeged and the authorities during the war years, including correspondence with army officers concerning the issues of forced laborers. There are also documents related to the work of Jewish charity organizations during the Holocaust. These documents were all received via a dealer in the early 2000s. As these are original documents in the CAHJP, the necessary linking that we will make on the EHRI Portal will be that of associative, since they will be connected to other original materials in different locations.

In addition to the original documents, the CAHJP had received copies (in forms of scans) of some of the original documents in the Szeged Archive, and these include the Szeged ghettoization list, the index cards of the survivors etc. These are currently being cataloged in the CAHJP archive and will therefore receive a catalog number in their archives.

4.1.3 Yad Vashem

Yad Vashem has also acquired copies of the Szeged Jewish Community documents.

In 2007, the Yad Vashem team visited the archive in Szeged. The team found the archives in extremely poor condition. With additional help from students, the Yad Vashem researchers cleaned out the archives: sorting the documents, cleaning from dust and dirt, and then placing them in boxes of suitable quality. They then proceeded to microfilm the documents which were related to the Holocaust. They were aided in their task by Vera Ábrahám; the religious community's retired librarian. Today 27 microfilms (containing more than 2,000 pages each one and available in a digital format) can be found in Yad Vashem's archives. These copied materials include correspondence of the Szeged Jewish Community beginning in WW2 and immediately after it, as well as files of claims by Szeged Holocaust survivors.

The microfilmed materials from the Jewish community of Szeged are registered in Yad Vashem's internal database as a separate collection, yet there are still certain challenges before it can be linked to EHRI Portal. For internal reasons, the collection is only accessible through Yad Vashem's intranet catalogue and not online which prevents its export to the Portal. At the moment, Yad Vashem's cataloguing team is working on having the collection also available online which will allow its presence on the Portal and its further linking to the other collections from the Szeged Jewish community, already described in this chapter.

4.1.4 Conclusions and Future Work for Linking the Collection in the EHRI Portal

The Szeged Community Archive was the first case study to be taken on in this deliverable. Following up from previous deliverables, it was thought that in addition to CAHJP and Yad Vashem, USHMM also held copies of the Community's Deportation and Survivors list. This information is confirmed on their website.[6] However, that collection was not listed on EHRI's Portal under the Archival Collections of USHMM. Upon contacting USHMM, it was discovered that they are actually not a copy-holder of the collection, rather they have only indexed it. This explains why the collection was not listed on their EHRI Portal archival collection page.

[6] https://www.ushmm.org/online/hsv/source_view.php?SourceId=49351

However, USHMM does hold a few other entries on EHRI's Portal that are related to Szeged and the Jewish population in the city. Here, we have an example of the potential for a "related" collection: different and related collections, which could help a researcher build a bigger picture of the Szeged Community. These include, as a few examples: films of leisure activities in prewar Szeged like tennis matches, swimming, soccer matches, men boating and fishing, sleigh rides on snowy sidewalks and theater. There is a film of a Jewish wedding in Szeged, and a film of family activities before the Holocaust.

This, therefore, would be interesting for a researcher who wants to understand cultural activities in Szeged prior to the war, but as many of these films include names of Jews from Szeged, those names could be cross-referenced to the deportation lists that the Archives of the Szeged Jewish Community has already labored over. The use of keywords for linking would also be helpful in this situation, as it would allow for the understanding of wider related collections.

In connection to linking, the first step in this case would be to have USHMM upload on their archival listing page the Szeged collection they possess, in order to link that to the CAHJP, YV and of course, the Jewish Community Archive.

Therefore, this specific collection has proved to be a valuable example of not only a fragmented collection, but also the potential of a 'related collection', which is split amongst different archives, including micro-archives. This task did not have time to explore more potential related archives, such as those that were listed in D11.4, as potentials for linkings. These include the USC Shoah Foundation, the JDC Archive, the Arolsen Archives, the Hungarian Jewish Archive and Museum or also the Csongrad County Archive. Further work on linking would be required to assure that archival collection descriptions are uploaded onto the EHRI Portal and that the appropriate methodology is applied to link them together. This collection therefore highlights how important it would be to clearly discern and link the different collections, so as to make the connections visible, to increase visibility and discoverability of non-Western (European) CHI's in the EHRI Portal, and to improve access to the collections for research.

Unfortunately, during the timeline of this deliverable, both CAHJP and YV were unable to export their collection's metadata onto the EHRI Portal. Therefore, this significant and pertinent case study currently only exists on the theoretical level; without being able to be used as an example of linking. Once both institutions upload the relevant information onto the Portal, the work on this task will be done, and the examples linked together.

4.2 Case Study 2: The Filderman-Carp Collection (The 'Wilhelm Filderman' Center for the Study of the History of the Jews in Romania [CSIER], The Federation of Jewish Communities in Romania [FCER], the Ghetto Fighters' Museum's Archives, USHMM, Yad Vashem)

The second case study is the Filderman-Carp Collection, which we have assessed to be located across four different archives. This collection consists of the collections of Dr. Wilhelm Filderman and Matatias Carp, two important figures of the Romanian Jewish community who were intrinsically linked throughout the war. Dr. Wilhelm Filderman, born in 1882 in Bucharest, Filderman went on to serve in the Romanian parliament in 1927, and then became the chairman for some of the most important Jewish organizations in Romania. Filderman became the representative of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) in Romania in 1920, and was elected president of the Union of Romanian Jews in 1923. In addition, he was the president of the Jewish community of Bucharest between 1931 and 1933, and in the early 1930s, he became president of the Federation of Jewish Communities.

As part of his many public duties, he struggled hard to secure citizenship for the Jews of Romania after World War I, while working on behalf of the Jewish refugees from Ukraine, preserving the rights of the Jews of Romania and combating antisemitism. Dr. Filderman continued his struggle even during the Iron Guard terror and Antonescu's fascist regime, 1940-1944, including dissolution of the traditional Jewish organizations by the Romanian authorities and the establishment of a "Jewish Center" based on the German model in their place, 1942-1944. For these activities, and his resistance to the forced contribution of four billion lei that was levied on the Jews, Dr. Filderman was deported to Transnistria for a short time in 1943. Throughout the war, Dr. Filderman maintained contact with senior officials and ministers, and even with Ion Antonescu and his deputy, Mihai Antonescu. He succeeded in preventing the deportation of all the Jews of Romania to Poland, and prevented the deportation of the Jewish refugees who had escaped to Romania from other countries under Nazi occupation; thanks to his intervention, the decree imposing the wearing of the yellow badge was repealed shortly after his introduction in 1941, and deportees to Transnistria were repatriated. During the war, he cooperated with the Zionist Federation as part of the underground Jewish Committee.

Due to persecution by the Communists, Dr. Filderman had to leave Romania secretly in 1948. His archive was smuggled out of Romania with the help of Matatias Carp and the Israeli Legation in Bucharest. Until his death in 1963, he lived in Paris and devoted himself to writing his memoirs.

Most of his personal documentation, called ‘The Filderman Collection’, is located at Yad Vashem archives[7], and a copy of it can be found in the USHMM under the same name.[8] The collection contains the papers of Dr. Wilhelm Filderman, who was active in the rescue of his country’s Jews during the Holocaust and spans the years 1922-1951. It includes Dr. Filderman’s memoirs and books as well as articles, reports, appeals, newspaper clippings and correspondence relating to the persecution of Jews during the fascist regime, on the activity of prewar and postwar Jewish organizations in Romania and the situation of Romanian Jewry after war. Some of the reports from the Collection were co-signed or written by Filderman's secretaries and collaborators: Matatias Carp, David Rosenkranz, Elias Costiner, Arnold Schwefelberg, Solomon Gruber, Louis Ozias, Iacob Bacalu, Emil Focșăneanu etc. One of the most important parts of the collection consists of addresses, reports, communiqués, memoranda, and protest notes sent by Filderman on behalf of the organizations he led, with the countersignature of Matatias Carp or his other secretaries, to the Romanian authorities, each time when measures were taken against the Jews in Romania. Several hundred such messages were sent during the Holocaust, most of them being now in the ‘The Filderman Collection’ at Yad Vashem, and a few in the ‘Wilhelm Filderman’ Center for the Study of the History of the Jews in Romania (CSIER), in Bucharest. In addition, some of those same documents are located in the Romanian Collection (O.11) at Yad Vashem, and were donated by a third party as explained below in section 4.2.3 of this deliverable. These files are a mix of personal documents and such belonging to organizations where Carp worked together with Filderman. Most of the collection consists of documents issued by Filderman, with the countersignature of his secretaries, on behalf of The Union of Romanian Jews and The Federation of Unions of Jewish Communities in Romania. An important part of the collection is represented by manuscripts, reports and letters authored by Matatias Carp. Manuscripts belonging to Carp can also be found in the Filderman Collection at Yad Vashem, in the Ghetto Fighters’ Museum’s archives, in the CSIER archive, as well as in the archive of the National Council for the Study of the Securitate Archives in Bucharest, after being confiscated by the communist political police.

[7] This collection comprises a separate record group at the archives under the P.6 number.

[8] https://collections.ushmm.org/search/catalog/irn41855

Matatias Carp was born in 1904 in Bucharest, Romania. Carp received his law degree in 1930 and subsequently established a private legal practice in Bucharest. In 1940, he was appointed one of the three chief secretaries of the Federation of Unions of Jewish Communities in Romania (Federația Uniunilor de Comunități Evreiești din România), an organization led by Dr. Filderman. In this role, Carp began collecting documents concerning the plight of the Romanian Jews. Filderman used his connections to different politicians to send protest memorandum against official decisions and antisemitic incidents. The memoranda were well documented and included concrete data in an attempt to "reason" against antisemitism and discriminatory decisions. Most likely, some materials collected by Carp were proof bases for the memoranda. Moreover, in the aftermath of the Bucharest pogrom, in January 1941, a commission of 30 Jewish lawyers was appointed by the Federation to document the event. Those materials were kept in the Federation's archive. When the Federation was closed in December 1941 and replaced by the “Jewish Center” (Centrala Evreilor), an institution modeled after the Judenrat, Matatias Carp left his position, took part of the Federation’s archive and hid it. Carp decided to continue the documentary work and gathered additional materials concerning the situation of the Romanian Jews throughout the war. These materials were collected from various sources: German officials (through bribery); Romanian friends; the Jewish community; the Romanian Ministry of Interior - with the help of an acquaintance of Carp who worked there and allowed him to copy official documents.

Between 1946 and 1948, Matatias Carp published three volumes of “The Black Book - The Sufferings of Romanian Jews during 1940-1944” (Cartea Neagra. Suferintele evreilor din Romania 1940 - 1944). His work was based on material he collected during and immediately after the war, including materials from the Federation’s Archive and Wilhelm Filderman's Office. Carp’s wife, Ella Carp, also gave video testimony to Yad Vashem, which documents her own story, as well as that of her husbands, and is part of Yad Vashem’s Testimonies collection. Much of the documents relating to Matatias Carp are also located at the Ghetto Fighters Museum’s archive.

Both the “Carp Collection” and the “Filderman Collection”, are intricately connected. Carp, acting as Filderman’s secretary, adds depth and context to some of the documents in the Filderman Collection. In addition, there are overlapping documents to attest their connection. Therefore, it was decided to see the two collections, really as one: the Filderman-Carp Collection. As a case study, it was decided to link these two collections together through the portal, in order to reflect this interconnectedness between them.

4.2.1 The ‘Wilhelm Filderman’ Center for the Study of the History of the Jews in Romania (CSIER), The Federation of Jewish Communities in Romania (FCER)

The Center for the Study of the History of the Jews in Romania (CSIER) was established in May 1977 as a research structure within the Federation of Jewish Communities in Romania (FCER), with the purpose of studying the history of Jews in Romania and preserving the documentary heritage of the Federation. CSIER holds the historical archive of FCER, including documents created by Wilhelm Filderman and Matatias Carp on behalf of The Federation of Unions of Jewish Communities in Romania or The Union of Romanian Jews. The CSIER is considered a micro-archive.

Most of the documents in the CSIER archive were issued by the Union of Romanian Jews during the interwar period, by the Federation of Unions of Jewish Communities in Romania at the end of the cohabitation between Ion Antonescu and the Legionary Movement in January 1941 or by Wilhelm Filderman in 1943. Several files include protest memoranda sent by

Filderman, sometimes countersigned by Carp, to the Antonescu regime. Some are originals, while others are copies of documents found in the Filderman and Carp Collections at Yad Vashem. Details on CSIER can be found on the EHRI Portal.[9] The Filderman collection is not yet described separately, but is currently being worked on.

4.2.2 The Ghetto Fighters' House Archives

The Ghetto Fighters' House Archives were established along with the founding of Kibbutz Lohamei HaGhetaot (Kibbutz of the Ghetto Fighters') in April 1949, by a group of Holocaust survivors who were all members of the "Dror" Zionist Movement. GFH Archives hold a wide range of materials which deal with the documentation of three main periods of the Jewish People: the interwar years, WWII and the post-war period in Europe.

Only part of the Carp's personal archive is found at GFH. The materials were brought to the Archive in 1951. It remains uncertain whether they were donated by Matatias Carp himself (who moved to Israel in 1951) or if they were smuggled from Romania to Israel through the Israeli Delegation to Bucharest in 1951. The main corpus of the collection includes summaries and factual reports written by Carp for the "Black Book". The original materials are typewritten and mostly in Romanian (over 400 pages), with one report translated to French. File 3091 contains in addition to the summaries some annexes of the "Black Book", namely: transcriptions of Romanian official documents, documentary photographs of the Iasi and Bucharest pogroms and of the killings in Bessarabia. The materials were identified as being part of Carp's collection only in 2023 during the digitizing process of the documents. These findings were confirmed by the researcher Adrian Cioflanca[10] as well. A fourth file was also identified by Adrian Cioflanca as part of the same collection. It contains one original handwritten document: a note of the 89th Infantry Division of the Romanian Army concerning a group of 14 Jews sent to forced labor. As Cioflanca revealed, the document was published in the Jewish newspaper "Curierul Israelit" on March 18, 1945, and it was in Carp's possession while he was in Bucharest.

The archive is currently in the process of uploading the metadata of the Carp Collection as an archival description on the Portal, alongside their other collections which can be seen and consulted on GFH's page on the Portal.[11]

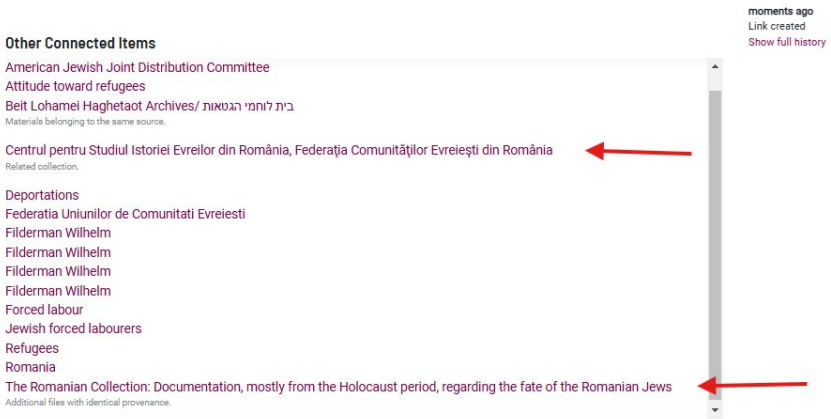


Image 2: Screenshot from Yad Vashem's P.6 Collection, linked to CSIER and The Ghetto Fighter's House Archive

[9] https://portal.ehri-project.eu/institutions/ro-003169.

[10] Adrian Cioflâncă is an historian. Director of the „Wilhelm Filderman" Center for the Study of Jewish History in Romania and a member of the Collegium of the National Council for the Study of the Securitate Archives.

[11] https://portal.ehri-project.eu/institutions/il-002806

4.2.3 Yad Vashem

As previously mentioned in this chapter, in addition to CSIER and GFH, Yad Vashem holds the largest portion of Dr. Wilhelm Filderman's personal and official collection. The P.6 record group includes 119 bound sets of documents which were submitted to Yad Vashem in 1967.

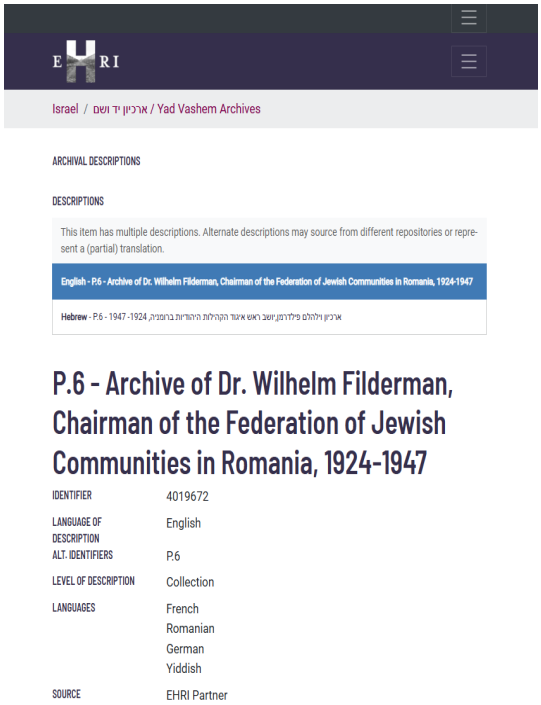
With the agreement of his family, Dr. Filderman's archive was transferred to Yad Vashem from Paris in 1967 by Dr. Charles (Solomon) Gruber, Filderman's former personal secretary and his testament executor. The collection is arranged for the most part in chronological order between the years 1924-1947. The documents include correspondence with Romanian government institutions and Jewish institutions, collections of laws, memoirs, memoranda, notes, newspaper clippings, and reports regarding Jewish life in Romania and Dr. Filderman's activities for the rights of the Romanian Jews. 79 volumes include documentation regarding the period between World War I and World War II, and especially the years 1933-1944; 33 volumes include documentation regarding the period from 1944-1947 and 7 volumes include Dr. Filderman's memoirs. Two additional volumes, which were found in Israel and contributed to Yad Vashem, have been later added to the archive. Presumably, not all the original material is in the archive, and some documents are still in the possession of the Filderman family in Paris and London. During the registration and arrangement process, a number of difficulties arose due to the multiplicity of copies and translations of the documents from Romanian to French interspersed within all the volumes and disrupting the chronological order.

In addition to this, Yad Vashem is a holder of additional nine files containing original documents and connected to Matatias Carp. Again, for reasons connected to Yad Vashem's cataloguing process, these are included in a separate record group, O.11 (the Romanian collection), which collects various documents related to the fate of the Jews in Romania. Apparently, these specific files were received to YV in 1984. As far as the available information reveals, they were brought to Israel by Matatias Carp with the intention of writing a general history of the Holocaust in Romania. Because of Carp's untimely death shortly after his arrival to Israel, his family sold the documentation to a private association, called Beit Bessarabia. From there, it was later recovered by Yad Vashem and integrated into the O.11 record group without clearly signaling in the inventory that it belonged to Matatias Carp and created by the Federation of the Union of Jewish Communities in Romania under the supervision of Filderman and without separating them in a dedicated collection.

The Filderman collection is available on Yad Vashem's website[12], as well as on EHRI's Portal.[13] Those links only relate to the private Filderman collection and not those files listed under O.11. When the linking was done between Yad Vashem's P.6, and O.11 collections, as seen in image 3 and 4, the associative linking was simply listed under "Other Connections." This presents an additional challenge, as it does not seem clear that these are associative links. Future work should include thinking of a way to organize associative links, as to make it clear they are not copies nor simply other connections.

[12] https://collections.yadvashem.org/en/documents/4019672

[13] https://portal.ehri-project.eu/units/il-002798-4019672?dlid=eng-4019672_eng



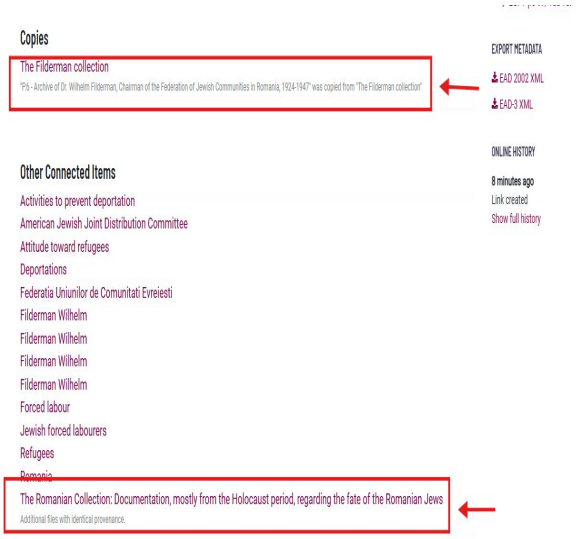


Image 3 and Image 4: Screenshot of the Associative linking for the Filderman-Carp Case Study

4.2.4 USHMM

In 2010 USHMM acquired from Yad Vashem the P.6 record group, thus becoming a copy holder of the Filderman collection. USHMM has 219 digital files, and 5 DVS-ROMs. The collection can be found on their website[14] and on the EHRI Portal[15], where the process of original-copy linking was already done through the work of WP9.

4.2.5 Conclusions and Future Work

The Filderman-Carp Collections are a significant archival resource that sheds light on the experiences and resilience of the Romanian Jewish community during the Holocaust. Comprising the personal and organizational documents of Dr. Wilhelm Filderman and Matatias Carp, two pivotal figures in Romanian Jewish history, these collections offer invaluable insights into the Jewish struggle against persecution in Romania during World War II. The collection is dispersed across several major archives, including Yad Vashem, the Ghetto Fighters' House Lohamei HaGeta'ot, and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM), as well as the Center for the Study of the History of the Jews in Romania (CSIER) which we have defined as a micro-archive; each housing unique parts of the collection that together provide a comprehensive view of the wartime efforts to document and resist the atrocities committed against Romanian Jews. The overlap of documents between the collections further emphasizes their interconnectedness and the collective efforts to preserve the history of this community.

Further research on the Filderman-Carp Collections could focus on the continued exploration of the archival materials held at various institutions, particularly with regard to the untranslated documents and those not yet digitized. An interesting follow up to the work already done, could explore the personal correspondence and unpublished writings of Dr. Wilhelm Filderman and

[14] https://collections.ushmm.org/search/catalog/irn41855
[15] https://portal.ehri-project.eu/units/us-005578-irn41855

Carp, which may provide deeper understanding into their personal experiences and the broader Jewish resistance movements in Romania. This would essentially include efforts to identify and preserve any remaining materials in private hands, particularly those held by the Filderman family, and would further enrich the historical narrative provided by this collection. Of course, once those documents are located, and it could be that the private family holdings would be considered as additional micro-archives, they should be uploaded on EHRI's Portal and then linked with the rest of the collection.

4.3 Case Study 3: The Gross Family Collection (Feibush family collection, Kazerne Dossin, Yad Vashem)

The third case study is much smaller in scope than the previous two collections, but exhibits potential for linking smaller, family related collections, as well as highlighting certain challenges that are unique to micro-archives. The Feibush-Gross Collection consists of personal documents and testimonies (both oral and written) of the née Gross family, originally from Belgium. The collection first began when members of KD met the youngest Gross sister in 2023, in New York for KD's exhibition at UN Headquarters. Following the meeting, interviews with the two other sisters were recorded by KD's staff. Following the tip from KD who had visited Mrs Denise Feibush, in November 2024, staff members of Yad Vashem's "Gathering the Fragments" project, visited the home of Denise Feibush (née Gross), in Modiin, Israel. This micro-archive is situated in the private home of Mrs. Feibush, a Holocaust survivor from Belgium. Mrs. Feibush agreed to allow Yad Vashem's team to digitize a large portion of her private collection, for the benefit of greater availability and accessibility at both KD and Yad Vashem.

This particular example exemplifies one of the challenges of the task, which is how to deal with a collection, situated in the house of an individual, rather than an official archive. This challenge was first approached in D11.2, in the definition of an archive. The first decision that was made was regarding collections held by researchers; and whether those should be considered micro-archives. This question was later extensively discussed in WP11. As a result, it was agreed that those collections were to be counted as micro-archives, and therefore a similar paradigm was established between researchers' collections and those of families. One of the biggest challenges though was that not all families want to give away their original documents to an archive, as is the case of the Feibush-Gross collections. Therefore, it was concluded that it would be important to enable some sort of access to these documents, even if it is only by making the micro- collections' existence visible in the EHRI portal, so that researchers can approach the family and inquire about further information or access to these original documents albeit via the institutions which hold the digital representations of the originals.

4.3.1 Kazerne Dossin

During their 2023 exhibition, #FakeImages, which went on display at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City, the KD staff met with the youngest Gross sister, Rosette (née Gross) Becker. Subsequently, Mrs. Becker was interviewed by KD staff in March 2023, and then both her sisters; Denise (née Gross) Feibush and Monique (née Gross) Banne were interviewed in May 2023. All the interviews took place over Zoom.

Kazerne Dossin also has in its possession an original collection, titled the "Gross-Limonik family Collection." which can be found on their website.[16] This collection contains a written

[16] https://beeldbank.kazernedossin.eu/portal/media/c3ebaa55e61549c1931e31b99a75fa37ad4378cfc6134e5180b50b58bb6b6b72f562d5b2058a4dbba454848b4669724b/details.

testimony drafted by Rosette Gross-Becker, entitled, “Tu n’as pas souffert” (You did not suffer) on the history of the Gross-Limonik family in Belgium before, during, and after the Holocaust; as well as both Zoom interviews mentioned above. In the interviews, the sisters address the life of their family before the war, their story during the war, including that of both their parents, their hiding in Belgium, and finally their life after the war. KD has also made the collection available on their EHRI Portal page.[17] Following an agreement Yad Vashem, the scanned originals will also be added to KD’s collection, and will be made available on EHRI’s Portal.

4.3.2 Yad Vashem

Yad Vashem also has in its possession, materials acquired from Mrs. Feibush, during a collection at her home. The documents that were scanned and uploaded onto Yad Vashem’s website include children’s drawing by Denise at the Vanden Abeeles in Brussels, Denise’s school chart from the Institut Imelda in Ixelles, post cards sent by Bernard and Bronia to each other while they were in hiding, cards sent by the Vanden Abeele family to Denise, drawings by Vanden Abeele family members in Denise’s poetry book, photo of the Resistance fighter Mrs. Vyghe at Denise’s wedding after the war, a prayer book that Bernard received from a fellow prisoner in the deportation train which he escaped. The book has an inscription of the name to whom the book belonged, to which was most likely Naftali Reinhold.

In addition to the scanned copies, Yad Vashem has an original testimony, filmed in 2014 at the home of Denise Esther Feibush, where she speaks about her experiences as a girl in a convent in the area of Sint-Jans-Molenbeek, and in addition to her life before the war, the experience under German occupation and her liberation and family reunification after the war. Currently, only the filmed testimony is available online.[18]

The materials received from the Feibush family are registered and catalogued within Yad Vashem’s larger personal collections. This therefore presents another challenge associated with this case study: the integration of mirco-archival collections or small holdings within larger institutions. This is particularly challenging in the example of Yad Vashem. When private collections or holdings are donated to Yad Vashem (or scanned, as in this particular case), especially when the collection is relatively small, those collections are catalogued as “files”, rather than private collections (the record group at Yad Vashem for private collections, which are larger or relatively significant collections, are put in the record group ‘P’, for private) Therefore, while the collection is separated in the KD catalogue as a separate collection, it is not so in Yad Vashem’s records. This presents an issue with the linking: we cannot link all three collections as such because in one of the holdings, YV, it is not catalogued as a separate collection, but rather a file within a larger collection.

Yad Vashem, as a center for Holocaust documentation in Israel, focused on collecting documents, testimonies, photos, and other materials from survivors across Israel, in addition to the institutional acquisition team, which sought documents from other institutions around the world. With the high number of survivors (or second-generation survivors) in Israel, this collection has been very successful. This has resulted in a high frequency of submissions. Therefore, while other institutions, even larger ones, may have been able to catalogue family or small holders as separate collections, Yad Vashem instead sorted their private collections according to their relevant record group; such as testimony, country of origin, and photographic documents, to avoid an overwhelming amount of private collections, categorized by family. Therefore, when the Feibush-Gross archival material was collected, it was not catalogued into its own separate collection, as was done at KD, but rather, the testimony was put in the

[17] https://portal.ehri-project.eu/units/be-002157-kd_00968.

[18] The testimony can be found online at the following link: https://collections.yadvashem.org/en/documents/10981987.

testimony record group, the photos in the photo record group and the documents under the record group for Belgium's private collections. This means that the collection, under Yad Vashem, is itself fragmented. The fragmentation of the collection in Yad Vashem, presents yet another challenge in the linking process. The simple collection to collection dichotomy, established in previous case studies, was not relevant in this case.

The solution that we are proposing to this problem is to link the other two collections that exist, with the larger collection registered on EHRI's portal: Personal Documentation on Jewish Life in Belgium during the Holocaust. (O.29.3)[19] The linking will then have a description of where the specific files can be found, within the larger collection. The same will be done with regards to the testimony, which is sorted in O.3, or testimonies gathered by Yad Vashem. Once again, the linking will explain that this is part of the Feibush Gross collection.[20]

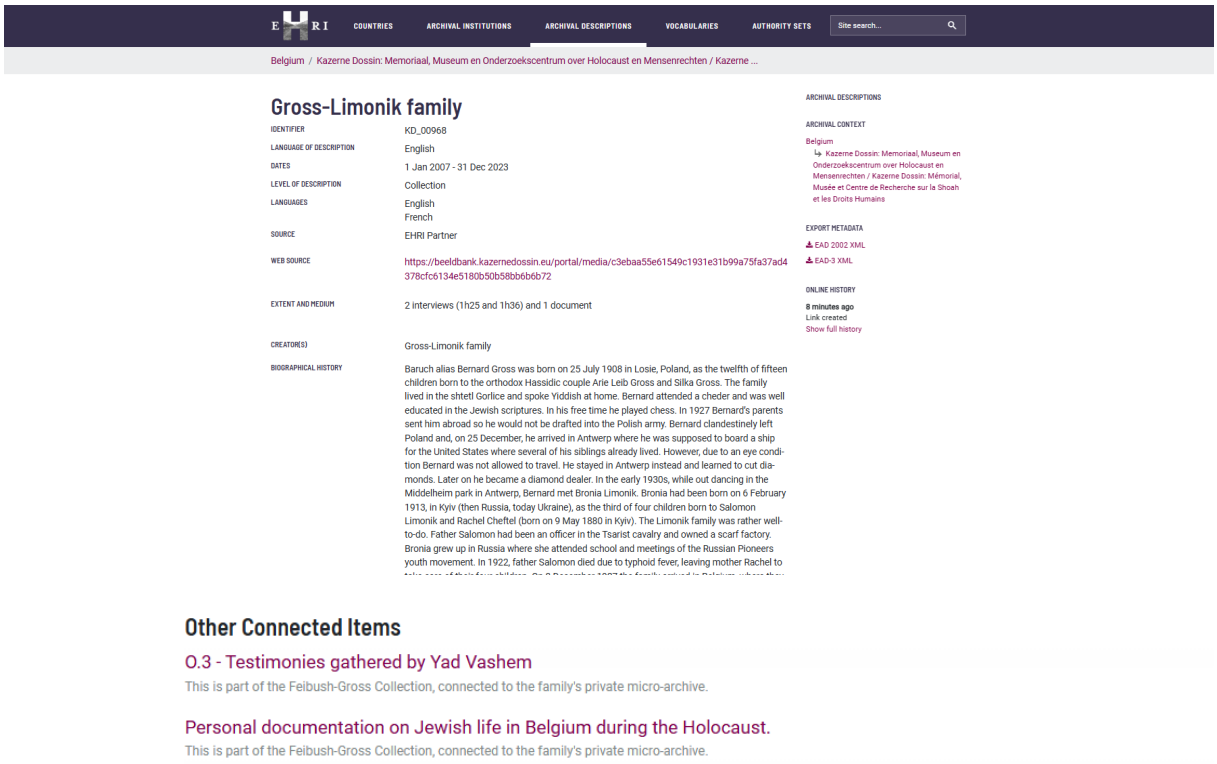


Image 5: Screenshot of the linking between the Gross-Limonik family collection at KZ and Yad Vashem's O.3 Testimony collection, and the "Personal Documentation on Jewish life in Belgium during the Holocaust" collection where the Feibush Gross Collection is catalogued.

4.3.3 Feibush family collection

The scanned copies which Yad Vashem is a copy holder of, originate with Denise Feibush. Mrs. Feibush has a small micro-archive in her home which includes the originals of all the scanned documents listed above. In addition to what had been scanned by Yad Vashem, the

[19] https://portal.ehri-project.eu/units/il-002798-o_29_3?dlid=eng-il_002798_o_29_1_il_yad_vashem_o_29_3_test_eng

[20] https://portal.ehri-project.eu/units/il-002798-4019579?dlid=eng-4019579_eng

collection also includes additional family photos taken before and after the war, as well as a yellow star badge with the word *Juif* in the middle.

As this is a small collection held by Mrs Feibush herself, it has no online presence on the internet. Researchers wishing to view the documentation would be directed to KD or Yad Vashem as holders of the digital copies. However, it was considered that it still would be beneficial for this micro-archival collection to be linked to both Yad Vashem and Kazerne Dossin on the EHRI Portal. First of all, as the institutions only hold digital copies, it is important for the copy/original linking to be done with descriptions of the source material. While digital copies are critical for the future of archives, original documents hold high importance as well; knowing where those are located therefore is significant for scholars and future Holocaust research. The link between the Feibush collection, KD and YV's digital holdings should be done to indicate that this is all interlinked.

There remains one other challenge in relation to this micro-archive, and that is how EHRI should go about listing micro-archives in family homes on their Portal. EHRI's Portal is more or less designed to accommodate institutions, whereas a private home is not necessarily so, even if it is considered a private archive. Currently, representatives from YV have been trying to contact Mrs. Feibush in order to receive her permission to list her house as an archival institution. However, there are certain challenges to that, and the first is privacy. Currently, it is mandatory on the institutions' pages to provide an address for such an institution, which makes sense for most archives, but not if that archive is in fact a private home. Of course, in this particular case, we could make an exception. If it is decided that micro-archives should be placed under the institutions however, exceptions will no longer be exceptions, but become the rule. Therefore, in the future we need to decide if addresses will be shown as mandatory fields or a new way to list private homes will be created, so that they are marked differently and no longer require an address. Furthermore, when listing it as an institution under a country, users might be surprised, not only on the little information we offer on it, but also that there is no differentiation on why that information is not displayed. Another theoretical solution which was suggested, is that on the EHRI Portal, we could rename "Institutions," to "Collection Holders." This in any case is closer to the general terminology used elsewhere, since all institutions are after all collection holders. This however, would require a large turnover of currently used terminology.

To bypass this problem, it was suggested that private homes and families could be added to the Authority Set, where the model is less strict. While this would make the problem easier, it was ultimately rejected, as the Feibush family are not known as "personalities" Alternatively, including them as "corporate bodies" would seem a better fit but in general the Authority Sets have a rather weak link to the archival descriptions (mainly using the creator, people or organizations attributes). Ultimately, this would mean relegating those micro-archives to a less prominent position on the EHRI Portal, and limiting, thereby, the possible original-copy links that could be made to and from them. Suggestions to solve this problem, in the future, include the creation of a more permanent specificity for these institutions, that can be later filtered by type, or make them first-class citizens in the Portal, side by side with the archival institutions. In future work with linking these small family micro-archives, all these potentials should be weighed for their benefits and drawbacks.

Another solution, which was suggested, is that the private home of an individual shouldn't be listed on the EHRI Portal at all. That is to say, it should be sufficient for a researcher who encounters this collection, to ask the larger institutions, in this case KD and Yad Vashem, for the private copy holders' information. The Portal can list that the originals reside in the private micro-archive of The Feibush family; and that should be sufficient. This is the best way to safeguard the privacy of private people.

4.3.4 Conclusions

The Gross Family Collection exemplifies both the rich potential and the unique challenges of working with micro-archives, particularly those situated in private family homes. This case study highlights the value of integrating smaller, fragmented collections, into broader archival networks like the EHRI Portal. The collection's contents (including personal testimonies, correspondence, and artifacts) serve as a critical resource for Holocaust studies and underline the necessity of preserving such materials for future research.

However, this case study also underscores key logistical and ethical challenges, such as maintaining privacy for private individuals, providing appropriate linking from copies to original sources, and establishing a framework to include non-institutional archives in systems designed primarily for legally-established institutions. The need to balance accessibility, privacy, and the distinct identity of private collections is evident. Potential solutions include creating new categorizations within the EHRI Portal or refining existing methodologies to appropriately distinguish family micro-archives from institutional collections.

Ultimately, the Gross Family Collection not only offers a significant contribution to Holocaust research but also provides a roadmap for addressing the complexities of integrating private micro-archives into larger archival networks, ensuring their visibility, accessibility, and integrity for future generations.

4.4 Case Study 4: Leipzig Jewish Community Document Collection (Leipzig Jewish Community, Arolsen, USHMM, Yad Vashem, Bundesarchiv, City Archive Leipzig)

The last case study in this deliverable is related to the Leipzig Jewish Community archives, which has been defined as a micro-archive.

Modern Jewish life in Leipzig began in 1710, prior to that, only a few Jews lived in Leipzig during the Middle Ages. What is relevant for EHRI, are those documents that were housed in the Leipzig Jewish community's archive, and that include: documents pertaining to Jews leaving and joining the community in Leipzig, Jewish-owned property, and foundations, census figures, publications of laws, personal papers, questionnaires filled out by Jews seeking to emigrate, deportation lists, and lists of deaths and weddings. In addition, the collection contains records relating to the Reichsvereinigung der Juden in Deutschland, real estate documentation, captured documents of the Saxony Gauleitung, and missing person reports. In addition, there are deportation lists, general correspondence of the community, questionnaires filled out by survivors, and documents pertaining to reparations and recovery of property. During the war, the Nazi imposed representative body of the Jews of Germany, the Zentralrat der Juden, also had documents, many of which are also available in the Leipzig archive. The archive spans between the years 1933 and 1950.

4.4.1 Leipzig Jewish Community Archive

As foundational documents for the Jewish community, the originals are located in the Leipzig Jewish Community archive. The Archive however is going through a digitization and indexing period, and the entire archive is being moved to the Stadtarchiv to facilitate this process. Currently, the institution does have a page on the portal.[21] According to our definitions, we have considered the Jewish Community archive as a micro-archive.

[21] https://portal.ehri-project.eu/institutions/de-002593

4.4.2 USHMM

USHMM is copy holder of the Leipzig Community records, holding 43 microfilm reels, 35 mm. USHMM acquired the microfilm from the Leipzig Jewish Community in June June 2001, and then more later in August of the same year. The copy held by the USHMM is not available online and can be used in the reading room.[22]

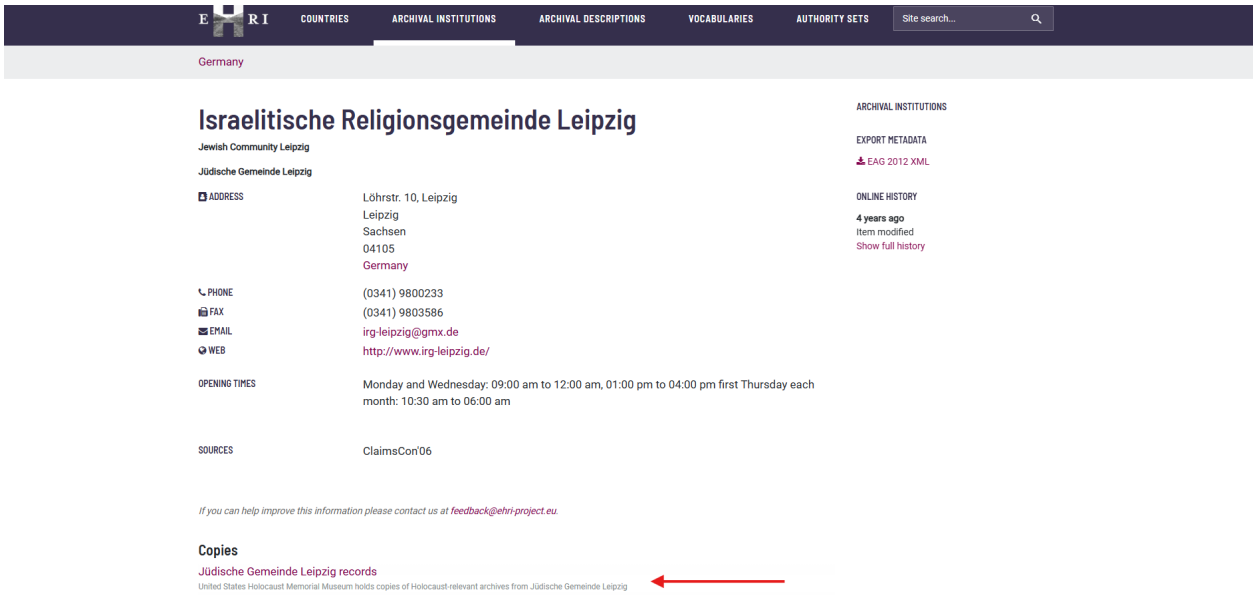


Image 6: Screenshot of the Jewish Community of Leipzig on EHRI, linked the the USHMM collection

4.4.3 Arolsen Archives

The Arolsen Archives re-digitized the collection in its entirety between 2019-2022. While the USHMM copy is restricted, the Arolsen copy is available on the Arolsen Archives website. The collection has been catalogued and indexed, and name search is possible online. Due to technical issues, the collection is not yet listed in the Arolsen section at EHRI, this issue will be resolved by the next update of the Arolsen Database.[23]In addition to being a copy holder, Arolsen also has lists of people who were registered with the Jewish Community in Leipzig. Some of those on the lists are former concentration camp inmates, and in some cases, names appear twice, which is on the EHRI's Portal.[24] As well as an additional list of the members of the Jewish Community in Leipzig, from January 1946, also on EHRI's Portal.[25] Both of these archival descriptions will be linked to Leipzig Jewish Community Collection.

4.4.4 Yad Vashem

The collection is available as part of the full copy of the Arolsen archives collection in the reading room at the Arolsen Archives.

4.4.5 Leipzig City Archives (Stadtarchiv)

The original documentation held by the Jewish community in Leipzig is to be deposited at the Leipzig city archive. While an agreement was signed, the collection is still not integrated into the database as of 2024.

[22] https://collections.ushmm.org/search/catalog/irn508845

[23] https://collections.arolsen-archives.org/en/archive/7-5-4

[24] https://portal.ehri-project.eu/units/de-002409-de_its_3_1_1-3-de-8802130

[25] https://portal.ehri-project.eu/units/de-002409-de_its_3_1_1-3-de-563000

4.4.6 Bundesarchiv

The Bundesarchiv holds documentation concerning the *Reichsvereinigung der Juden*, which is the creator of many of the documents comprising the collection of the Jewish community in Leipzig.

4.4.7 Conclusions

As is often the case with Holocaust related documentation, we can see that in addition to the fragmented nature of the documentation, the issue of copies and usage rights is extremely complex. The EHRI Portal is effectively the single place in which the complex archival history and the various copies of this collection are found side by side, making the archival history somewhat clearer.

5 Further Potential Case Studies

Throughout this deliverable, additional case studies beyond those mentioned above emerged as having potential for linking. Future efforts focused on micro-archives and connecting their collections could begin by exploring these cases further.

5.1 Ringelblum Collection (Yad Tabenkin, Jewish Historical Archives, Yad Vashem)

During Yad Vashem's user workshop for micro-archives, it was discovered that the Kibbutz archive Yad Tabenkin, also housed a micro-archive based on letters sent by Emmanuel Ringelblum in Poland to the Zionist youth movement in Mandate Palestine. This archival collection is called "Poalei Zion Ringelblum Institute." During the workshop held at Yad Vashem the history and the work of the Ringelblum Institute, established in 1949 and operated until the end of the last century, was presented. The institute was founded on the initiative to commemorate Emanuel Ringelblum, one of the prominent leaders of the Zionist Left wing workers movement in Poland. This unique archive holds original materials from the 1920s onward, including correspondence, newspapers and other materials and documents from the youth movement. Amongst the most exciting items in the archive is handwritten protocol books, written in Yiddish by 8 survivors of a forced work camp in Germany. This collection, connected to both Emmanuel Ringelblum personally and the Poalei Zion movement, has the potential of being linked to the JHI Oneg Shabbat collection as well as to the copies of this collection preserved at Yad Vashem Archives. Work to move this forward would include helping Yad Tabenkin to upload on EHRI's portal their collections, and then linking them to the larger collections held at JHI and to YV.

5.2 Cooperation with the EHRI Podcast, For the Living and the Dead: Traces of the Holocaust

While much work was made with micro-archival engagement through WP11, there was also work engaging with micro-archives through WP3. A practical outcome of the Innovation package was the advanced creation of a podcast series called *For the Dead and for the Living: Traces of the Holocaust.* During the third season, six episodes were released that dealt with objects found in micro-archives and with the challenges of the work identifying micro-archives. This of course was based on the work rooted in this work package that aimed to locate and integrate micro-archival collections in the EHRI Portal.

From this podcast, there are several fascinating micro-archival collections which could provide rich opportunities for research and engagement with lesser-known aspects of history; and of course, could present possibilities to see if those collections are fragmented and connected to other archives. Here is a summary of some of those archives.

The first is the life stories and memories of Austrians in diaspora, while indirectly represented through the Leo Baeck Collection in the Portal[26], highlight untapped narratives such as the letters of Norbert Abeles, which are yet to be integrated into the portal. The second example is a collection of books housed in the National Library of Serbia donated by a Jewish lawyer following the library's destruction. Ongoing research by a dedicated librarian into figures like Samuilo Demajo offers the promise of deeper insights, with forthcoming articles set to broaden access to this history.[27]

The Lake District Holocaust Project[28] provides another unique repository, documenting the experiences of Jewish children who found refuge in England during the Holocaust, contributing valuable perspectives to the broader historical tapestry. Further, the Truus Wijsmuller Archives (TWA) showcase an evolving digital archive of documents, testimonies, and photos related to the children saved by the courageous efforts of Truus Wijsmuller, presenting an ongoing opportunity for digital preservation and storytelling[29]. In this case discussions have taken place on integrating the TWA into the portal in the future. Lastly, a connection was established via the work of WP11 followed up by WP3 for the podcast over the lost manuscript of David Vogel, preserved at "The Gnazim Institute of the Hebrew Writers Association", represents a treasure for literary scholars, offering a lens into pre-war Jewish literary expression and creativity. Each of these collections, with their unique focus and scope, holds immense potential for further research, preservation, and educational initiatives to illuminate untold stories of cultural and historical significance. Yet, what is most relevant for us in this task is that these are all examples of micro-archives. As the connections with those archives have already been fostered in the context of the podcast, they would all make excellent starting points to see if there are potentials to link them to other related or fractured collections which are already in the EHRI Portal.

6 General Conclusions and Future Work

The goal of linking fragmented collections, especially those housed in micro-archives, to larger archival holdings on the EHRI Portal has been successfully advanced through a multi-faceted approach. This task involved identifying collections that had been split and/or copied, and ensuring their integration into a broader archival network. Through workshops, personal engagement with micro-archives and collaboration with WP9, a methodology for linking these collections was developed. The use of the EHRI Portal's existing framework, such as associative relationships and virtual collections, allowed for a nuanced connection of these micro-archives to larger archives, preserving their individual significance while recognizing their fragmentary nature.

A central challenge faced during this work was the diversity of micro-archives, which presented unique issues in categorization and linking. While the EHRI Portal provided tools for linking collections based on provenance or thematic relationships, the complexities of defining and representing micro-archives required careful consideration. The decision not to use a singular "micro-archive" flag, but instead to categorize them through a more detailed and transparent taxonomy, allows for greater flexibility in representing the wide variety of micro-archives in the system.

Ultimately, the project has contributed to a deeper understanding of how to engage with small, personal or specialized archives, fostering a more inclusive approach to Holocaust documentation. The lessons learned regarding privacy concerns, the challenges of working

[26] https://www.ehri-project.eu/ehri-joins-centropa-their-teacher-seminar-sarajevo/

[27] https://jevrejskadigitalnabiblioteka.rs/handle/123456789/2627

[28] http://ldhp.org.uk/?page_id=1573

[29] https://www.truus-children.com/why-truus-wijsmuller-archives

with non-institutional archives and the importance of personal relationships have been integral to this success.

Yet, there is a lot of potential for further work. First, we will continue to refine our linking methodologies, e.g. the development of more granular and context-sensitive linking tools that will allow for the representation of increasingly complex archival relationships, especially for fragmented collections that do not fit neatly into the traditional original-copy paradigm. This methodology was of course expanded in this deliverable, essentially advancing a methodology after consultation with WP9, but as it has been pointed out in the report, still has potential for further refinement.

Another future goal would be the expansion of micro-archival engagement. The ongoing engagement with micro-archives should continue, with particular attention paid to the concerns of privacy, ownership and the autonomy of smaller archives. Strengthening relationships with micro-archive custodians and expanding the network of participating institutions will allow for more comprehensive integration into the EHRI Portal. In addition to this, as micro-archival engagement grows and more of these archives are integrated into the portal, it will require a further development of a fine-grained taxonomy for micro-archives to better represent their diversity. This taxonomy could help provide clarity for users while maintaining the flexibility needed to represent different types of micro-archives. As more such archives and fragmented collections are integrated into the Portal, improvements to the user interface and search capabilities will be essential to ensure that researchers can easily navigate and discover relevant archival materials. This may include the development of new search filters based on the specific characteristics of micro-archives and their linked collections.

Finally, one additional task for future work would be to expand what we mean by ‘fragmented archives’. Could related collections also count? Although thematically based collections are linked by the Thesaurus, linking the micro-archives to larger “related” collections, as described in the case study with USHMM, could provide future work. This would expand the possibility of linking between collections and provide researchers with a broader understanding of collections, and how they are related.

By addressing these areas, future work can build on the foundational steps taken in this task and continue to improve the integration of fragmented collections and micro-archives into the global archival ecosystem, supporting the continued advancement of Holocaust research.