

Racheli Kreisberg

# My Grandfather Simon Wiesenthal

## A Family Story to be Never Yet Told

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### Abstract

After his liberation from Mauthausen, Simon Wiesenthal, my late grandfather, was reunited with his wife Cyla Muller. They realised all too soon that all 89 of their relatives had been murdered. This is the notion we grew up with: “we have no family”. Over the years, I made multiple attempts to ask my grandparents about their family, but my notes remained almost empty. Upon the passing of Simon Wiesenthal, I renewed my efforts to explore our family roots and analysed personal letters and tombstones, as well as communicating with people sharing the name Wiesenthal and, most importantly, genealogy pals. This lecture focusses on the discovery of Simon Wiesenthal’s ancestors and their families. This search led to the establishment of a huge and robust family tree now shared with the public in various databases, and a story to tell to all those who are interested in the man who dedicated his life to bringing Nazi criminals and their collaborators to justice.

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I spent time in Vienna since I was a child and until the age of 38, until the passing of my late dear grandfather Simon Wiesenthal. I enjoyed quality time in this city with my late grandparents, Cyla and Simon, and became familiar with its cultural sites, among them the Jewish Museum of Vienna.

In 2010, I met Dr. Spera for the first time here in Vienna at the joint Austrian-Israeli inauguration of a stamp carrying Simon Wiesenthal’s picture and his famous saying: “Justice, not vengeance”.

Since the passing of my grandfather, I have been personally in touch with both Béla Rásky from the Vienna Wiesenthal Institute and with Danielle Spera from the Jewish Museum, trying to come up with ideas to commemorate the tenth anniversary of Simon Wiesenthal’s passing.

We thought that it would be a great idea if I were to share with you my painstaking discovery of Simon Wiesenthal’s genealogy, including the 89 family members murdered in the Shoah. Please bear in mind two things, one personal and emotional and the second more pragmatic:

From a personal perspective, we grew up with the clear notion that we have no family.

In genealogy, no family means ‘no one to ask’, ‘no personal letters’, ‘no graves to visit’, nothing.

## Part I: 1908–1945

### My Grandfather Simon Wiesenthal. A Family Story to be Told



13 Years Later



February 1992, Los Angeles.

February 2005, Vienna.

On the first slide, you can see a picture of me with Simon Wiesenthal at the inauguration of the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles on the left and a picture taken thirteen years later at my grandparents' residence in the nineteenth district in Vienna, seven months before his death, on the right.

### Birth in Buczacz, Galicia

Date: Born on 31 December 1908

Place: Buczacz, Galicia

Parents: Asher Hensel and Rosa Rapp

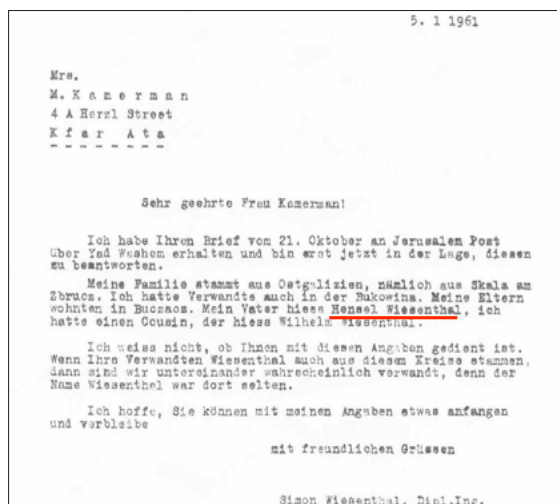
Asher Hensel Wiesenthal

Rosa Rapp

Simon

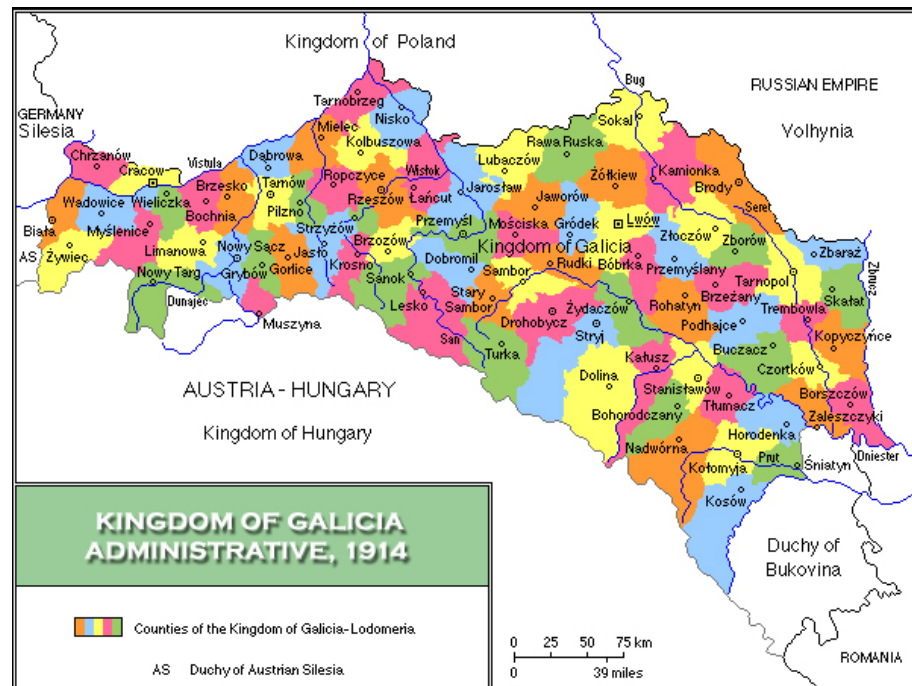
Simon Wiesenthal was born on 31 December 1908 in Buczacz, formerly Galicia, nowadays in the Ukraine, to Asher Hensel Wiesenthal and Rosa Rapp.

### Simon Wiesenthal from Buczacz



In January 1961, 55 years ago, Simon Wiesenthal wrote a letter, one of many that he wrote in his life, to Mr. Kamerman from Kfar Ata, north of Haifa in Israel, stating that his parents lived in Buczacz and that his father was named Hensel.

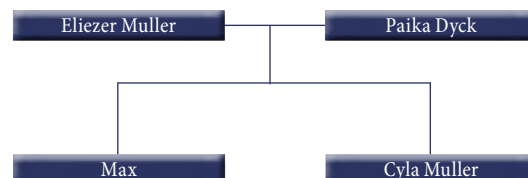
## Galicia, 1914



Galicia, officially the Kingdom of Galicia and Lodomeria, was in 1914 a part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and was bordered by the Kingdom of Poland and the Russian Empire: The town of Buczacz was located in the east of this territory, south-east of today's Lviv, the former capital of Galicia, at the time also known as Lwów in Polish and Lemberg in German.

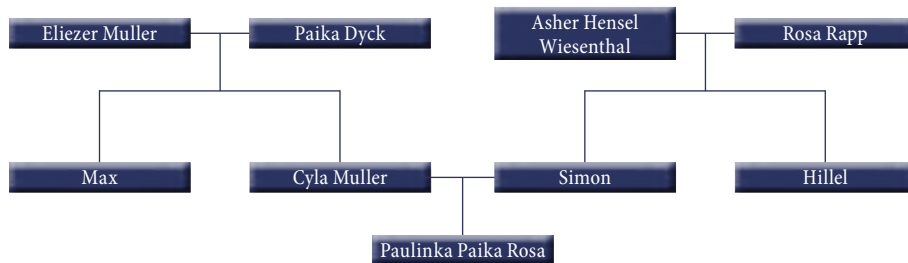
## Marriage 1936

In 1936, the 27-year-old Simon married Cyla Muller from Buczacz, born 1908  
 Simon and Cyla lived in Lemberg.



Lviv/Lemberg is the city where Simon lived with his wife Cyla Muller, also a Buczacz, born in the same year.

## Unification with Cyla, 1945



Simon and Cyla were re-united in 1945 and, a few months later, my mother Paulinka Rosa Paika was born. My mother was named after her two grandmothers, Rosa Rapp and Paika Dyck, who were both murdered in the Shoah. In my mother's naming, two of the 89 family members were commemorated.

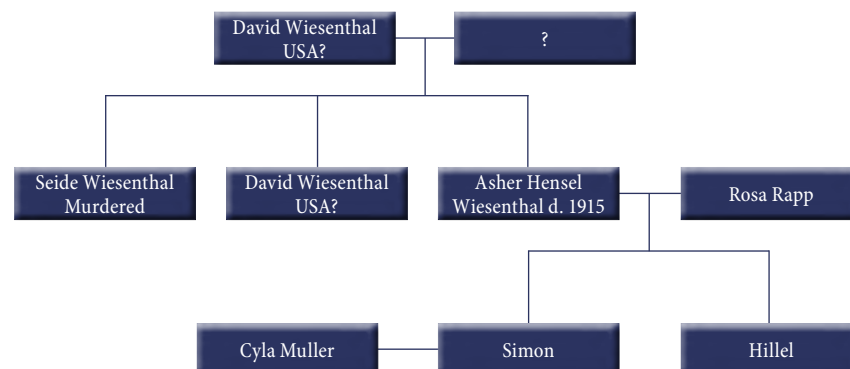
Who were Simon and Cyla's 89 family members who were murdered during the Shoah?



## Part II: 1999–2005

In 1999, when visiting Vienna with my mother, I came equipped with ninety Pages of Testimony (POT) from Yad Vashem and hoped to return there with the completed files. Unfortunately, and surprisingly, we only managed to complete a little over a dozen. Even at the age of ninety, my grandfather still had a phenomenal memory, yet there was still only very little information.

### Simon mapping his family in 1999



Simon had a brother, Hillel, who died as a child. His father died when Simon was seven years old. Simon stated that an uncle Seide was murdered in the Shoah and that an uncle or maybe a grandfather named David had emigrated to the United States.

### Simon Wiesenthal (1908–2005)

## Simon Wiesenthal (1908–2005)

”

**The only value of nearly five decades of my work is a warning to the murderers of tomorrow, that they will never rest"** (From an interview with The Jerusalem Post International Edition, February 5, 1994)

Six years later, on 20 September 2005, Simon Wiesenthal died at his residence in Vienna, leaving behind a legacy for people to study and follow.

## Statement from US President George W. Bush, 2005



For Immediate Release  
Office of the Press Secretary  
September 20, 2005

“Laura and I are saddened by the death of Simon Wiesenthal, a tireless and passionate advocate who devoted his life in tracking down Nazi killers and promoting freedom. Simon Wiesenthal lost 89 relatives in the Shoah, yet he survived the death camps himself. He gathered intelligence to be used in war crimes trials and also passed on important information that led to the conviction of Adolf Eichmann. Throughout his long career, he relentlessly pursued those responsible for some of the most horrific crimes against humanity the world has ever known. Simon Wiesenthal fought for justice, and history will always remember him.”

The eulogy of the former president of the United States, George W. Bush, mentioned Simon Wiesenthal’s work and the fact that he had lost 89 family members but survived himself.

## Brief 25. März 1963

25. März 1963

Frau  
Anne Weisenthal  
421 Clairemont Rd.  
Villanova, Penn.  
USA.

Sehr geehrte Frau Weisenthal!

Vielleicht ist es auch eine Verwandtschaft mit Euch, ich wäre glücklich darüber, denn, nachdem man uns während des Krieges alle ausgemordet hat haben wir niemanden.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen

Simon Wiesenthal, Dipl.Ing.

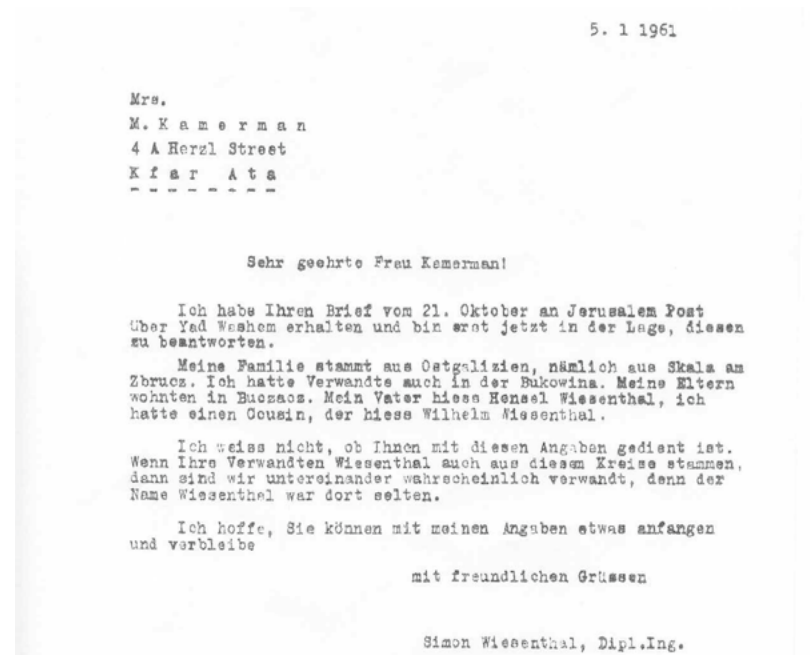
“... all our family members have been murdered and we are left with no one ...”  
(Simon Wiesenthal to Anne Weisenthal, 25 March 1963).

Simon Wiesenthal stated this again in a personal letter to Anne Wiesenthal in 1963, a letter that was brought to my attention when the historian Tom Segev explored my grandfather’s archive in Vienna while writing his biography. All I asked for were the personal letters my grandfather exchanged to persons he called his “cousins” and to people carrying the same last name.

### Part III: Simon's Uncles

With such sparse information, even a very simple research on ancestors and predecessors is a difficult task, but we have some hints to start a genealogical research.

#### Asher Hensel Wiesenthal from Skala, Galicia, Father of Simon Wiesenthal



We already saw this letter. The information I will add now is that the Wiesenthals were originally from Skala Podolska, a neighbouring town to Buczac. This will be important in a few slides.

#### Search for Seide Wiesenthal

#### The Central Database of Shoah Victims' Names

The Database includes data regarding Jews who were victims of persecution during the Holocaust period: those who were murdered as well as many others

Search/Home » Advanced Search » Query Results

Refine Search

Please note: There may be more than one record for the same victim, originating from one or more sources.

Results 1 - 12 of 12

Name	Year of Birth	Place of Residence	Source	Fate based on this source
Wiesenthal, Shlomo Solomon	1913	Skala, Poland	Page of Testimony	Murdered
Wiesenthal, Rivka Regina		Skala, Poland	Page of Testimony	Murdered
Wiesenthal, Zaide	1872	Skala, Poland	Page of Testimony	Murdered
Wiesenthal, Alter	1923	Skala, Poland	Page of Testimony	Murdered
Wiesenthal, Zachariah	1870	Skala, Poland	Page of Testimony	Murdered
Wiesenthal, Feibush Feivisz	1880	Skala, Poland	Page of Testimony	Murdered
Wiesenthal, Ethel	1922	Skala, Poland	Page of Testimony	Murdered
Wiesenthal, Herszl Hershel		Skala, Poland	Page of Testimony	Murdered
Wiesenthal, Zakharlahu	1872	Skala, Poland	Page of Testimony	Murdered
Wiesenthal, Tzvi Eliahu	1886	Skala Podolska, Poland	Page of Testimony	Murdered
Wiesenthal, Gershon	1870	Jagielnica, Poland	Page of Testimony	Murdered
Wiesenthal, Meir	1888	Skala Podolska, Poland	Page of Testimony	Murdered

Results 1 - 12 of 12

Search Yad Vashem Database

**YAD VASHEM**  
Gedenkstätte für den  
Holocaust und das Heldentum  
P.O.B. 3477, Jerusalem, Israel

**דף-עד**  
**GEDENKBLATT**

**יד ושם**  
ירושלים, הר הזיכרון  
ת.ד. 3477

**DAS GESETZ ZUM ANDENKEN AN DIE MÁRTYRER UND HELDEN,**  
5713 - 1953 legt in Artikel Nr. 2 fest:  
Es ist die Aufgabe von Yad Vashem, dokumentarisches Material in Israel über all die Juden zu sammeln, die ihr Leben hingaben, die gegen den Nazifeld und dessen Helfer kämpften und rebellierten, und ihren Namen und Andenken zu verewigen, wie auch das der Gemeinden, Organisationen und Institutionen, die wegen ihrer Angehörigkeit zum jüdischen Volk vernichtet wurden.  
(Gesetzbuch Nr. 132, 28.8.53)

פרטי הנספח: נא לרשום את שמו של כל ניספח על דף נפרד ולכתוב באותיות דפוס ובנקודות  
ANGABEN ZUM OFFER: BITTE FÜLLEN SIE FÜR JEDES OFFER EIN EIGENES GEDENKBLATT AUS, IN DRUCKBUCHS TABEN

תמונת הניספח (דרכון) נא לרשום את שמו של הניספח על חזר השני של התמונה  Photographie des Opfers. Bitte auf der Rückseite den Namen des Opfers vermerken	Familienname: <u>WIESENTHAL</u>		1. שם משפחה מטקד:
	Vorname: <u>ZEIDE</u>		2. שם פרטי
	Früherer Name: (bei Frauen Mädchenname) /		3. שם משפחה קודם: (אישית, לפני נישואים)
	4. מצב משפחתי: Familienstatus:	5. מין: Geschlecht:	6. תאריך לידה/גיל משוער: Geburtsdatum/ungef. Alter: <u>1872</u>
Geburtsort und Land: <u>SKALA, POLEN</u>		7. מקום לידה (וארץ)	
Mutter - Vorname: des Opfers - Mädchenname:		8. אם - שם פרטי הניספח - שם מתבית:	
Vater - Vorname: des Opfers		9. אב - שם פרטי הניספח	
Ehegatte/-in - Vorname: des Opfers - Mädchenname: <u>CHAJA SKALA</u>		10. בן-זוג - שם פרטי של הניספח - שם מתבית:	
Ständiger Wohnort und Land: <u>SKALA, BUCCACZ</u>		11. מקום מגורים קבוע וארץ:	
Wohnort und Land während des Krieges: <u>SKALA, BUCCACZ</u>		12. מקום מגורים בזמן המלחמה וארץ:	
Todesdatum und -jahr: <u>1942</u>	14. תאריך/שנת הפטירה:	Beruf des Opfers: <u>BÄCKER BESITZ</u>	13. מקצוע הניספח:
Todesumstände: <u>erschossen</u>		16. נסיבות המוות:	15. מקום המוות: <u>BUCCACZ</u>
Bericht von: <u>S. WIESENTHAL</u>			
Ich der/die Unterzeichnete <u>WIESENTHAL S, 1190 WIEN</u>			
wohnhaft in (vollständige Adresse)			
Beziehung zum Opfer (Familie/andere): <u>ONKEL</u>			
קירבה לניספח (משפחתי/אחרת):			

**יד ושם**  
ירושלים, הר הזיכרון  
ת.ד. 3477

**דף-עד**  
לרשום מילי השואה והגבורה

**יד ושם**  
ירושלים, הר הזיכרון  
ת.ד. 3477

אנא, מלאני עד כמה שידוע לך!

מס' המסד: <u>57184/3</u>	שם משפחה: <u>Wiesenthal</u>	שם פרטי: <u>Zeide</u>
מס' המסד: <u>57184/3</u>	שם משפחה: <u>Wiesenthal</u>	שם פרטי: <u>Zeide</u>

The search for Zeide Wiesenthal in the Yad Vashem database reveals the POT record we entered in 1999 as well as another POT for the same person.

## Search for David Wiesenthal

Brooklyn Jan. 14 1946

Werther Herr Simon Wiesenthal.

Men hat mir gelast wien das ihr sucht Asriel Wiesenthal David Wiesenthal und Gerschon Wiesenthal. Ich bin David Wiesenthal ich wolt welen wissen wer ihr sent wer euer Father is gewesen wi er hat geheisen,

Schreibt mir alles genau wer euer ganze familie ist, schreibt mir auch ob ihr weist wegen andere mitglieder fon der familie, und wie sei gefinen sich.

Antwortet mir so schnell wi moglich and ob ihr sent fon unser familie welen mir tuhn alles moglich euch zu helfen.

Aber lost unz wissen sofort,

Schreibt auch ob ihr weist etwas fon Skala wer es ist dort geblieben und wie sei gefinen sich.

Gerschon und Asriel Wiesenthal senen schon beide tot ich bin der einziger geblieben.

Schreibt mir auch wer es ist der Hersch Wiesenthal fon Skala wie auch der Maurice Rapp fon Buczac.

Mit beste gruse erwartendig schnellen antwort.

David Wiesenthal  
 134 E. 35th Str.  
 Brooklyn N.Y.  
 U.S.A.

A letter to Simon.

14 January 1946

"... we learned that you are looking for David, Gershom and Asriel are dead ... tell me about Morris Rapp from Skala."

David Wiesenthal  
 134, N. 35th Street  
 Brooklyn, NY  
 USA

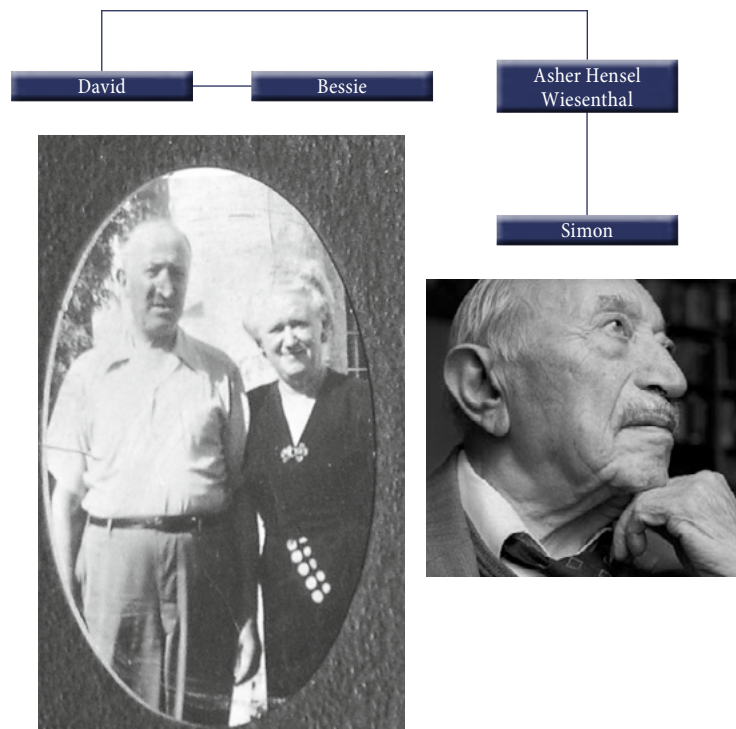
42	127	4942	Wiesenthal David	info		F W 31 M
43		433	Gerschon	son		M W 10 S
44			Asriel	son		M W 7 S
45			Maurice	son		F W 40 S
46			Shagun	son		F W 12 S
47			Jacob	son		M W 37 M
48	127	4942	Shagun Jacob	son	R	M W 37 M

Census matches address of letter.

Immediately after the war, on 14 January 1946, seventy years ago, Simon Wiesenthal communicated with David Wiesenthal from Brooklyn, New York, whom I mentioned earlier. David wrote that Simon Wiesenthal was looking for David, Gershom and Asriel. He stated that he was the David that Simon Wiesenthal was looking for, and that Gershom and Asriel were both dead. He asked Simon Wiesenthal to tell him more about Morris Rapp, who was from Simon Wiesenthal's maternal side related to his mother Rosa Rapp.

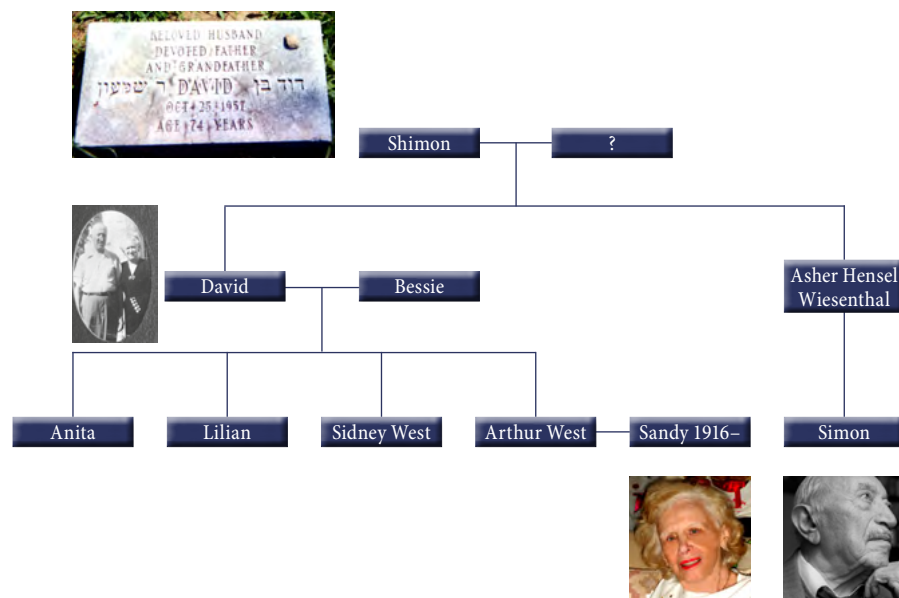


### David and Simon Wiesenthal (Skala)



David Wiesenthal is Simon Wiesenthal's uncle. The picture demonstrates that they shared a lot of similarities. Over the years, Simon Wiesenthal was in close contact with David and his family in the United States. A few years ago, I met David's daughter-in-law, Sandy West, in Florida.

### Uncle David Wiesenthal



From David's epitaph we learned that his father was named Shimon and thus Simon Wiesenthal, born in 1908, and was named after his late grandfather Shimon who passed away in 1906.

## 1967 Wiesenthal New York Gathering

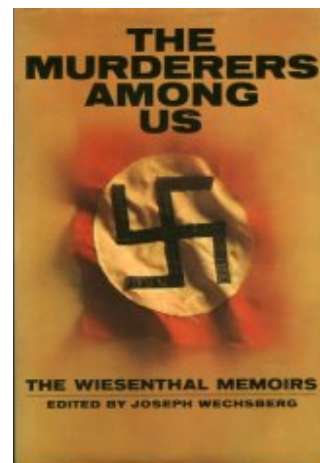
Gathering at the house of Arthur and Sandy West.  
Helene collected names and took pictures.



Front row (left to right): Samuel Wiesenthal (my great-uncle), Simon Wiesenthal, Jacob Wiesenthal (my grandfather; brother of Samuel). Back row (left to right): Benjamin (Boruch Kalman) and Edward Wiesenthal (sons of Samuel). Photograph taken at Wiesenthal family party in honor of Simon Wiesenthal (New York, 1967).



Front row (left to right): Ida Wiesenthal (wife of Jacob; my grandmother), Andrea Wiesenthal (granddaughter of Samuel; your grandpa; me (39 years ago!)), Ethel Wiesenthal Schwartz (my mother). Back: Melvin Schwartz (my dad); Jeanette Wiesenthal (wife of Edward); Rose Wiesenthal (wife of Benjamin); Jacob Wiesenthal (my grandpa, directly behind yours). (New York, 1967).



Sandy used to host family gatherings in her house in New Jersey. My genealogy friend Helene Kenvin-Schwartz took the pictures.

There was an extraordinary similarity between Simon and Helen's grandfather and grand-uncle. So far, however, we have not managed to prove the family relationship between these three men.



## Search for Gershom Wiesenthal

### A letter to Simon

Brooklyn Jan.14 1946  
 Werther Herr Simon Wiesenthal.  
 Men hat mir gelast wisen das ihr sucht Asriel Wiesenthal David  
 Wiesenthal und Gerschon Wiesenthal. Ich bin David Wiesenthal  
 ich wolt welen wissen wer ihr sent wer euer Father is gewesen  
 wi er hat geheisen,  
 Schreibt mir alles genau wer euer ganze familie ist, schreibt mir  
 auch ob ihr weist wegen andere mitglieder fon der familie, und wie  
 sei gefinen sich.  
 Antwortet mir so schnell wi moglich and ob ihr sent fon unser familie  
 welen mir tuhn alles moglich euch zu helfen.  
 Aber lost unz wissen sofort,  
 Schreibt auch ob ihr weist etwas fon Skala wer es ist dort geblieben  
 und wie sei gefinen sich.  
 Gerschon und Asriel Wiesenthal senen schon beide tot ich bin der  
 einziger geblieben.  
 Schreibt mir auch wer es ist der Hersch Wiesenthal fon Skala  
 wie auch der Maurice Rapp fon Buczacz.  
 Mit beste gruse erwartendig schnellen antwort.  
 David Wiesenthal  
 134 E.35th.Str.  
 Brooklyn N.Y.  
 U.S.A.

14 January 1946

"... we learned that you are looking for David, Gershom and Asriel. I am David. Gershom and Asriel are dead ... tell me about Morris Rapp from Skala."

David Wiesenthal  
 134, N. 35th Street  
 Brooklyn, NY  
 USA

## Gershom Wiesenthal (Skala)

Tombstone of Gershom ben Shimon at Skala plot at Mount Hebron Cemetery, New York.



Both Gershom and Asriel are buried at the Skala Podolska Wiesenthal family plot at the Mount Hebron Cemetery in New York.

## Asriel Wiesenthal (Skala)

First Name	Last Name	Date of Death (Month / Year)
<input type="text"/>	wiesenthal	<input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/>
Block	Reference	Society
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	skalar
<input type="button" value="Search"/>		

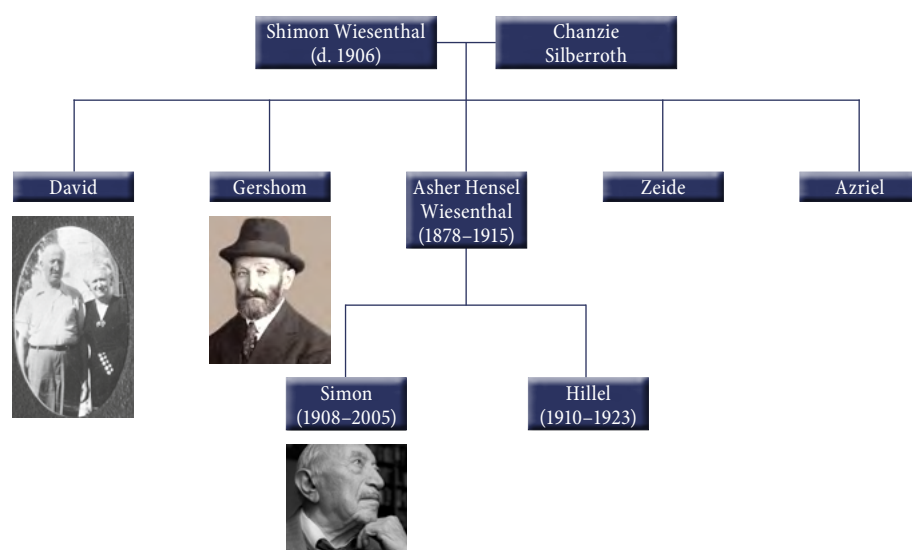
**Search Results - Found 16 matches.**

Last Name, First Name	Location	Society	Date of Death
WIESENTHAL, HORTENSE	9-22-1-PP6-4	SKALAR UV	7/16/1987
WIESENTHAL, DAVID	9-22-1-PP15-10	SKALAR UV	10/25/1957
WIESENTHAL, MILDRED	9-22-1-2-26	SKALAR UV	11/27/1951
WIESENTHAL, NATHAN	9-22-1-2-27	SKALAR UV	10/11/1951
WIESENTHAL, GUSSIE	9-22-1-1-2	SKALAR UV	7/6/1936
WIESENTHAL, ISRAEL	9-22-1-PP6-10	SKALAR UV	6/22/1933
WIESENTHAL, STELLA	9-22-1-5-29	SKALAR UV	9/8/1955
WIESENTHAL, BESSIE	9-22-1-PP15-9	SKALAR UV	10/8/1955
WIESENTHAL, HYMAN	9-22-1-4-21	SKALAR UV	8/26/1932
WIESENTHAL, MAX	9-22-1-5-20	SKALAR UV	2/7/1945
WIESENTHAL, GERSHON	9-22-1-5-14	SKALAR UV	12/10/1939
WIESENTHAL, ANNIE	9-22-1-PP6-9	SKALAR UV	9/15/1950
WIESENTHAL, JOSEPH	9-22-1-5-30	SKALAR UV	3/14/1947
WIESENTHAL, HUDIA	9-22-1-5-13	SKALAR UV	1/13/1933
WIESENTHAL, CLARA	9-22-1-2-3	SKALAR UV	3/5/1931
WIESENTHAL, FRANK	9-22-1-4-7	SKALAR UV	11/11/1919



Skala plot at Mount Hebron Cemetery, New York. [www.mounthebroncemetery.com](http://www.mounthebroncemetery.com)

## Family of Simon Wiesenthal

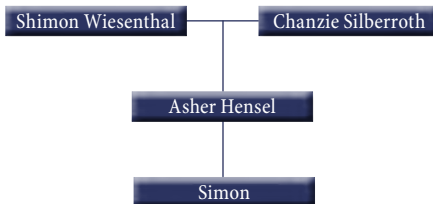


To sum up thus far, Simon, son of Asher, had four uncles (David, Gershom, Azriel and Zeide), only one of whom was still alive in 1946. He was the grandson of Shimon and Chanzie Wiesenthal.

## Part IV: Simon's Grandparents and Great-Uncles

### Marriage record of Shimon and Chanzie

Surname	Givenname	Year	Type	Akt	Page	Event	Signature	Age	Sex
WIESENTHAL	Simon	1858	M		1		28	1841	M
SILBEROTH	Chanze	1858	M		1		28	1841	F



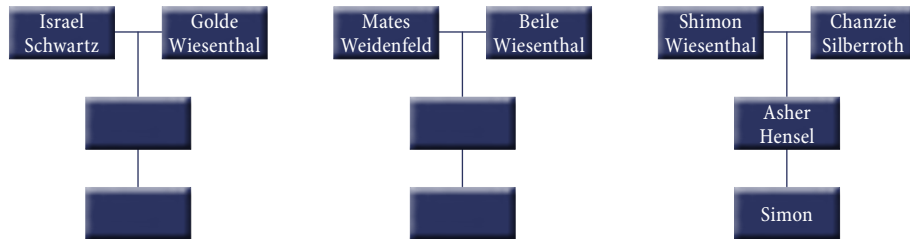
The marriage record of Shimon and Chanzie Wiesenthal reveals that they lived in Skala in house number 27. But the house had other tenants, too.

This is a typical marriage record recording the house numbers of the bride and the groom.

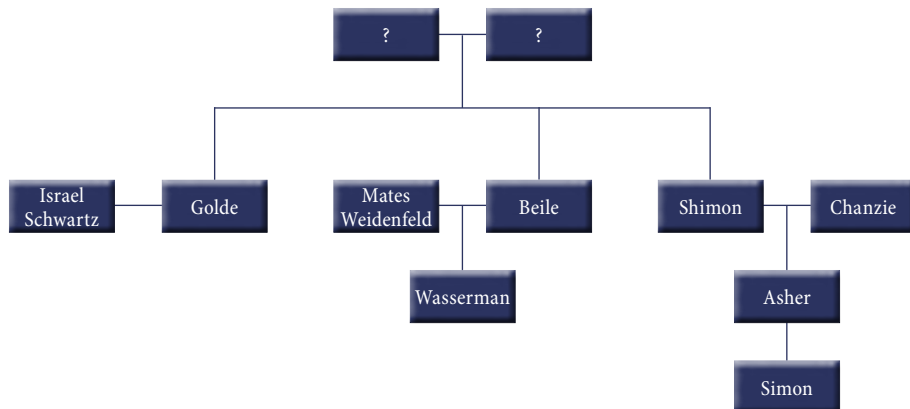
29	448	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
85	27	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
10	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
22	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
3	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
36	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
37	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
38	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
39	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
40	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
41	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
42	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
43	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
44	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
45	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
46	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
47	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
48	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
49	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
50	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
51	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
52	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
53	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
54	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
55	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
56	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
57	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
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61	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
62	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
63	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
64	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
65	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
66	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
67	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
68	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
69	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
70	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
71	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
72	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
73	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
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79	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
80	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
81	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
82	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
83	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
84	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
85	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
86	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
87	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
88	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
89	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
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92	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
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94	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
95	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
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98	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
99	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F
100	37	Shimon Wiesenthal	1858	1	Chanze Silberroth	1858	1	28	1841	M	F

### Who else lived in house 27?

Golde and Beile Wiesenthal also lived in house number 27. Golde married Israel Schwartz; Beile married Mates Weidenfeld.



### How did I detect Mates Weidenfeld & Beile Wiesenthal



Kudrynce bei Mielnica. So weit ich mich erinnern kann, war noch ein Cousin Weidenfeld in Trembowla und Wassermann in Skala. in Buczacz selbst lebte ausser mir noch ein Bruder meines Vaters. Beide Wiesenthal, der Inhaber einer Bäckerei war. Ich war bis zum Jahre 1944 in Polen.

“As far as I can remember, there was another cousin Weidenfeld from Trembowla and Wasserman from Skala.”

(Simon Wiesenthal to Herman Wiesenthal, Ramat Gan, 1954)

I know so from personal letters. Simon wrote to Herman Wiesenthal about his cousin Weidenfeld from Skala.

The search for Weidenfeld was easy. Many Weidenfelds were murdered in the Shoah and their records can be found in the Yad Vashem database. On the left is a picture of Shlomo Weidenfeld near the grave of his mother, Beile Wiesenthal, the great-aunt of Simon Wiesenthal.



Shlomo Weidenfeld near grave of his mother Beile Wiesenthal.

Application of Moses Leiser Wasserman.

#### How did I detect Schwartz?

ABRAHAM J. SCHWARTZ  
85-80 SOMERSET STREET  
JAMAICA, N. Y. 11432  
AETEL 1-0620

EINGELANGT  
20. Mai 1965  
Erl. ....

5/14/65

Dear Cousin:

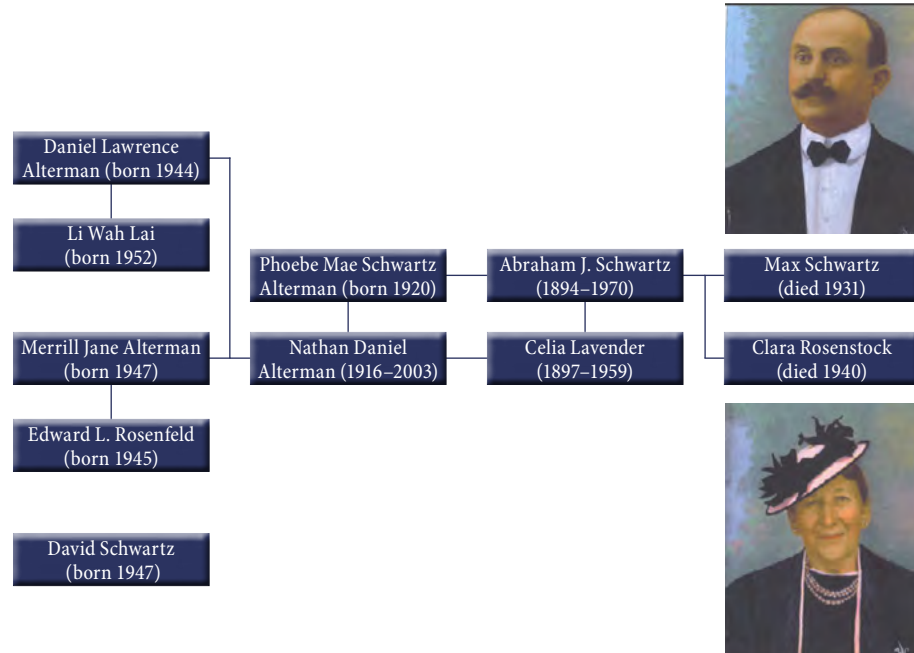
I have kept in touch with some of the Wiesenthals - I think Israel Wiesenthal's sons - Jack Wiesenthal who lives in Boston - and I am writing to him today- and Max Wiesenthal - whom I am told moved to Texas. I know I will get some interesting information from Jack Wiesenthal, and when I hear from him, will certainly convey the information to you.

Abraham J. Schwartz wrote a letter to his cousin Simon Wiesenthal in which he stated that he kept in contact with some of the Wiesenthals.



### From A.J. Schwartz to Alterman

Was Max Schwartz the son of Golde Wiesenthal and Israel Schwartz?



A family tree of Abraham Schwartz shows that Max Schwarz was his grandfather.

### Max Meshulam bar Israel Schwart

When Merry and Danny went to the cemetery, they found Max Meshulam's tombstone on which it states that he is the son of Israel Schwartz.

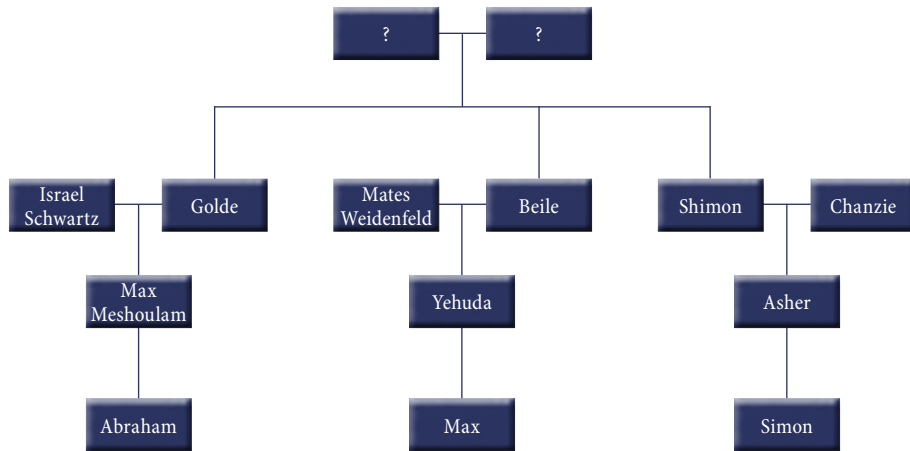


## Mount Lebanon Cemetery

*Glendale - Queens County - New York*  
*A Place to Remember and Be Remembered*



Simon Wiesenthal and his second cousins



Abraham Schwartz and Simon Wiesenthal were thus second cousins, related through their grandparents Golde and Shimon Wiesenthal, and so were Simon and Max Mermelstein, the grandson of Mates Weidenfeld.

They survived and they kept in touch!



## Part V: Simon's Murdered Family

1942

- Birth of Jeffrey Allen Frant<sup>195</sup> on 29 March, in New York, New York County, New York, USA.
- Death of Chaim Wiesenthal<sup>498</sup>.
- Death of Regine Ebner [Wiesenthal]<sup>496</sup> in Buczac, Poland.
- Death of Yehudit Ida Geller<sup>624</sup> in Chelmo, Poland.
- Death of Henryk Ebner<sup>497</sup> in Belzec camp.
- Birth of David Weidenfeld<sup>402</sup>.
- Death of Wilhelm Ebner<sup>531</sup> in Belzec camp.
- Death of Artur Ebner<sup>532</sup> in Belzec camp.
- Death of Yehuda Weidenfeld<sup>623</sup> on 30 June.
- Death of Zaide Wiesenthal<sup>593</sup> in Buchach, Ukraine.
- Birth of Etta Schwartzbach<sup>433</sup>.
- Death of Malke Wiesenthal [Brounstein]<sup>650</sup> on 11 July.
- Death of Rosa Rapp<sup>601</sup> on 23 August, in Belzec camp.
- Birth of Carol (Chaye Rachel) Zauderer<sup>440</sup> on 23 September, in Brooklyn, Kings, New York.
- Birth of Phyllis Pessia Lea Zauderer<sup>437</sup> on 23 September, in Brooklyn, Kings, New York.

1943

- Death of Shyfra Weidenfeld [Stock]<sup>627</sup> on 5 February, in Borschiv Ghetto.
- Death of Solomon (Shlomo) Weidenfeld<sup>626</sup> on 5 June, in Borschiv Ghetto.
- Death of Matel Mathilda Weidenfeld<sup>583</sup> on 6 June, in Ghetto of Borschow, 15 km form SKala.
- Death of Hinde Weidenfeld<sup>582</sup> on 6 June, in Ghetto of Borschow, 15 km form SKala.
- Death of Fidusia Weidenfeld<sup>581</sup> on 6 June, in Ghetto of Borschow, 15 km form SKala.
- Death of Dvora Doba Weidenfeld [Pilatkowcer]<sup>532</sup> in June, in Ghetto of Borschow, 15 km form SKala.
- Death of Baruch Moshe Weidenfeld<sup>531</sup> in June, in Ghetto of Borschow, 15 km form SKala.
- Death of Ciriel Wasserman [Weidenfeld]<sup>620</sup>.
- Death of Leisor Eliezer Wasserman<sup>558</sup>.
- Death of Nusia Wasserman<sup>455</sup> in Skala-Podil's'ka, Ukraine.
- Death of Regina Wasserman [Klinger]<sup>559</sup> in Skala Podolska.
- Death of Max Wasserman<sup>434</sup> in Skala-Podil's'ka, Ukraine.
- Death of Mechel Wasserman<sup>509</sup> in Skala-Podil's'ka, Ukraine.
- Death of Pesia Wasserman [Yusem]<sup>561</sup> in Skala-Podil's'ka, Ukraine.
- Birth of Leslie Unknown<sup>545</sup> on 2 August, in New York.
- Birth of Stephen Carl Klass<sup>503</sup> on 13 December, in Brooklyn, Kings, New York.
- Death of Rachel Weidenfeld [Kliegler]<sup>619</sup> in about June, in Skala, Galicia.
- Death of Etta Schwartzbach<sup>432</sup> in about June.
- Death of Yeghiel Schwartzbach<sup>557</sup> in about June.
- Death of Max Schwartzbach<sup>431</sup> in about June.
- Death of Rebecca Ryvtzia Schwartzbach [Weidenfeld]<sup>550</sup> in about June.
- Death of Shyke Oziash Yehoshua Weidenfeld<sup>507</sup> in about 1943, in German POW camp in Chelm, Poland.

1944

- Birth of Betty Weidenfeld [Jane]<sup>224</sup> on 23 March.
- Birth of Daniel Lawrence Alterman<sup>201</sup>.
- Birth of Jeffrey Weidenfeld<sup>240</sup>.

1945

- Birth of Edward Ed L. Rosenfeld<sup>204</sup>.
- Birth of Howard Rothberg<sup>219</sup> on 28 July.
- Death of Fanny Goltzman<sup>544</sup> in October.

1939

- Birth of Gerard Jitzhak Kreisberg<sup>17</sup> on 9 August, in Rotterdam, Holland.
- Death of Sigmund (Sigismund Schlomo) Freud<sup>117</sup> on 23 September, in London, UK.

1940

- Death of Berish Dov Kanner<sup>100</sup> on 15 February, in Buchenwald, Germany.

1942

- Death of Freida Kanner [Stern]<sup>99</sup> on 9 June.
- Death of Paika Muller [Dyck]<sup>12</sup> in Buchach, Ukraine.
- Death of Linka Silberschlag [Dyck]<sup>40</sup> in Belzec, Poland.
- Death of Israel Moses Dyck<sup>44</sup>.
- Death of Aba Stern<sup>105</sup> in Buchach, Ukraine.
- Death of Meir Chaim Stern<sup>101</sup>.
- Death of Feibish Dyck<sup>36</sup> in Belzec, Poland.
- Death of Amali Malcia Weiss [Dyck]<sup>38</sup> in Belzec, Poland.
- Death of Sara Yetti Hirshhorn [Stern]<sup>107</sup> in about 1942.

1943

- Death of Israel Hirshhorn<sup>108</sup>.

1944

- Death of Zofia Stern [Segal]<sup>106</sup> in Monasterzyska, Poland.

1939

- Death of Eisig Halpern<sup>76</sup> in Soviet prison.
- Birth of Gerard Jitzhak Kreisberg<sup>42</sup> on 9 August, in Rotterdam, Holland.

1940

- Census of Moses Maurice Rapp<sup>71</sup> in Selwyn Ave, Bronx, New York, USA.
- Census of Anna Rapp<sup>72</sup> in Selwyn Ave, Bronx, New York, USA.

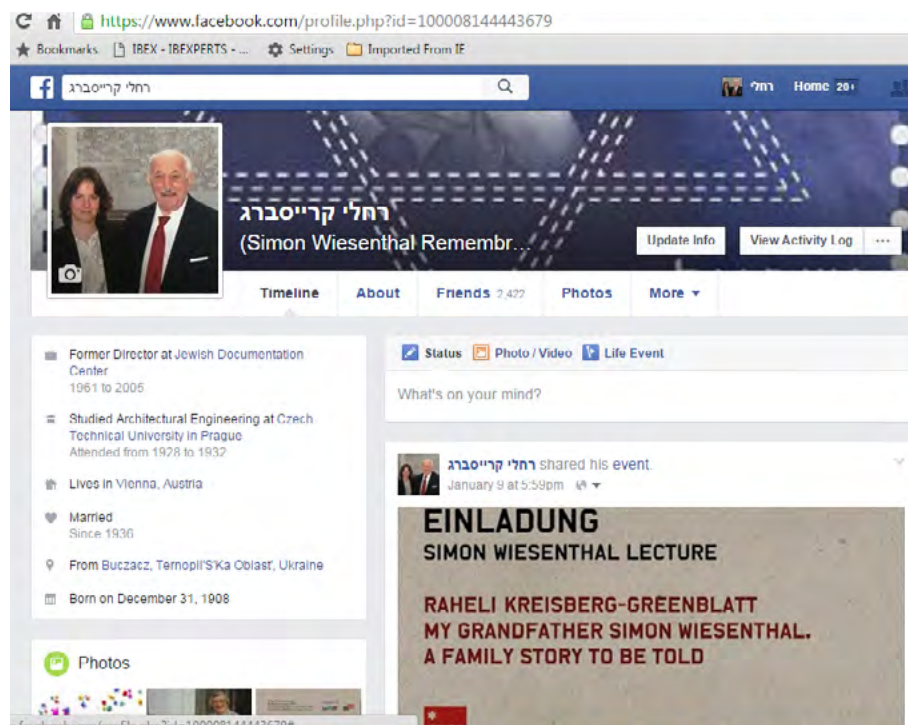
1942

- Death of Rosa Horowitz<sup>51</sup> in Belzec camp.
- Death of Abraham Horowitz<sup>52</sup> in Belzec camp.
- Death of Mendel Horowitz<sup>50</sup> in Belzec camp.
- Death of Sosia Horowitz [Rapp]<sup>49</sup> on 23 August, in Belzec camp.
- Death of Rosa Rapp<sup>74</sup> on 23 August, in Belzec camp.

**42 Murdered!**

The information I have shared with you is accessible through the family tree I created with the use of the MyHeritage software. I currently have 42 records of murdered family members stemming from both families: Wiesenthal and Muller.

## Part VI: Simon Wiesenthal Remembrance Wall



<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100008144443679>

Raheli Kreisberg  
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[racheli@ibexperts.com](mailto:racheli@ibexperts.com)

Quotation: Raheli Kreisberg, My Grandfather Simon Wiesenthal. A Family Story to be Told,  
in: S:I.M.O.N. – Shoah: Intervention. Methods. DocumentatiON. 3 (2017) 1, 146-166.

[http://simon.vwi.ac.at/images/Documents/Coming-to-Terms/2017-1/2017-1\\_Coming-to-Terms\\_Kreisberg/CTT\\_Kreisberg01.pdf](http://simon.vwi.ac.at/images/Documents/Coming-to-Terms/2017-1/2017-1_Coming-to-Terms_Kreisberg/CTT_Kreisberg01.pdf)

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