



Claims Conference ועידת התביעות
The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany

International Shoah Archivists Working Forum

Participant Information

General Information

Name and address of institution/archive:

Memorial Bergen-Belsen
D-29303 Lohheide
Germany

Internet address of web site, if applicable:

Internet: www.bergenbelsen.de
eMail: bergen-belsen@t-online.de

*Brief description of archival collecting scope in regard to the Holocaust
(please indicate any focus on specific geographic areas, topics, or time
periods):*

Collection of photographs
Collection of artifacts
Collection of audio and video interviews
Collection of paper documents

Microfilming and Digitization

Total estimated number of pages of Holocaust-relevant archival records (for purposes of estimating, please assume that 1 meter=10,000 pages and 1 foot=3,000 pages):

Estimated number of pages of original records:

1,000 pages

Estimated number of pages of these original records that have been microfilmed:

none

Estimated number of pages of these original records that have been digitized:

100 pages

Estimated number of pages of records microfilmed and/or duplicated from elsewhere:

70,000

Estimated number of pages of these records microfilmed and/or duplicated from elsewhere that are on microfilm:

Estimated number of pages of these records microfilmed and/or duplicated from elsewhere that have been digitized:

none

Conservation of Individual Items of Particular Significance

If there are specific original archival materials in your collection that are of major historical significance and of exceptional intrinsic value that are in urgent need of conservation, please list them:

original diaries
various artifacts

If you know of specific original archival materials in collections other than your own that are of major historical significance and of exceptional intrinsic value that are in urgent need of conservation, please list them:

None

Acquisitions

If your archive is actively acquiring Holocaust-relevant archival records, please briefly describe your acquisitions program, including an estimate of the average number of pages acquired annually and the sources for such acquisitions (private donors, other repositories, etc.):

A new exhibition is planned for 2006. That is why the Memorial is looking for exhibits concerning prisoner of war camp Bergen-Belsen, concentration camp Bergen-Belsen and DP-Camp Bergen-Belsen.

If your archive has an exchange program with other archives, please briefly describe it:

Fortunoff Archive, Yale University (video interviews with Holocaust Survivors)

Does a list of your institution's microfilming and other acquisitions projects already completed and/or currently in progress exist? If so, in what form is it and how can it be accessed?

no

Cataloging

Briefly describe your current cataloging practices:

Database software FAUST

Estimated proportion of Holocaust-related collections in your archive that are already adequately cataloged and in what language(s):

3,000 files in German (sometimes also in English)

Has your archive developed a controlled vocabulary for the cataloging of its collections? If so, please describe briefly. If not, please explain:

No. The history of Bergen-Belsen is too differentiated (POW-Camp, Concentration Camp, DP Camp). There were made summaries of the content of textual documents or descriptions of artifacts.

Are the cataloging records accessible in an electronic format? If so, are they accessible to the public (if the electronic catalog is available on the Internet, please provide the Internet address)?

Yes, but only for educational, scientific or humanitarian use. There is no catalogue available on the Internet.

Is there more detailed information such as finding aids, survey notes, or other descriptive tools available for the collections in your archive? If so, please describe (if available on the Internet, please provide the Internet address; if not available on the Internet, please attach an example). Is such more detailed information available to the public?

No.

Accessibility

Briefly describe your current policies regarding access to your collections.

Access for visitors/user to e.g. video interviews depends on permission of the interviewee.

***Does your archive duplicate archival collections for other repositories?
If so, please explain under what circumstances:***

Only in special cases for educational, scientific or humanitarian use after clearing up the copyrights.