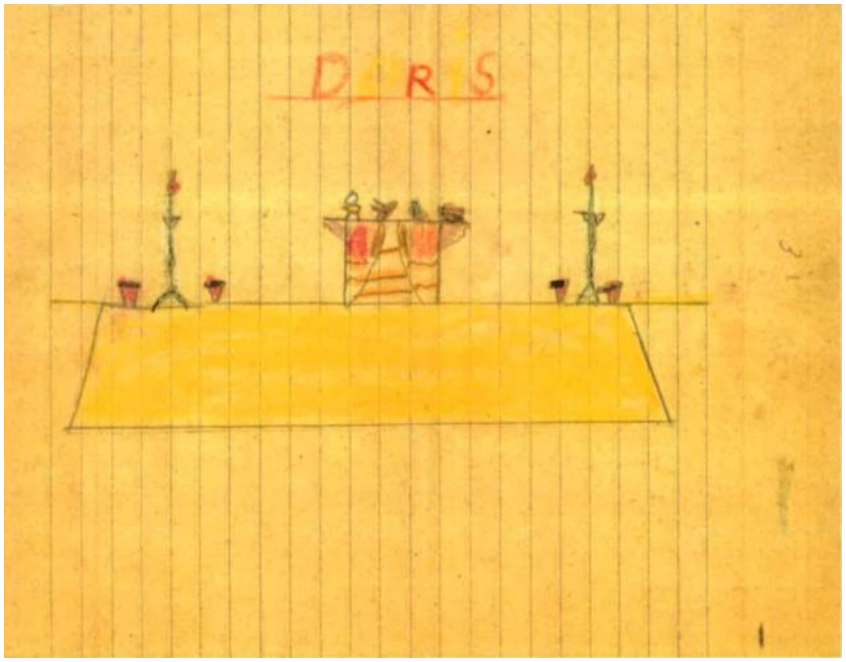


Doris Warschawski Drawing #1: Ceremonial Table Setting [FLSFF]

Paper Routes:
Conveying Doris (née Warschawski) Fogel's Messages to Future Generations

By Kevin Ostoyich, Florence and Laurence Spungen Family Foundation
October 31, 2023

<u>Note on tense</u>: The main sources for "Paper Routes" are multiple interviews with Doris Fogel that span from 1991 to 2023. Kevin Ostoyich has decided to use the present tense for Doris' statements from all the interviews except for the conversation Doris had with Danny Spungen on November 2, 2019. The dates for the statements are provided in footnotes.

Little Pieces of Paper:

On November 3, 2019, Doris Fogel and Danny Spungen passed around little pieces of paper to each other. On the paper was artwork Doris had created and school assignments she had completed as a child in Shanghai, China. Danny was excited. As he explained to Doris, he had grand plans for the little pieces of paper. He explained that in his traveling exhibit he wanted to set up a table dedicated specifically to children: "I am trying to honor the children [of the Holocaust] …. Now I am with survivors who were children, so that's why they are giving me so much stuff."

Doris noted that she had already given some of her artwork and school assignments to the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center.

As they passed around the paper, Doris remarked, "And you realize, Danny, this kind of paper is the paper that our parents made books for us. We didn't have books. We had [books] made out of this."[1]

Danny informed Doris about the effort the Florence and Laurence Spungen Family Foundation puts into preserving such items. Pointing to the pieces of paper in front of them, Danny said,

"The reason why this is yellowing is that there's carbon, and carbon destroys paper. And you have to spray it. It's very expensive, but we do it."

Doris exclaimed, "These are sixty-some-years old! These pieces of paper!"

Danny continued, "Now, once we spray it, the carbon will *stop*. It's like…the guys who take Minoxidil. It will just keep the hair I have! It's not going to bring back the white paper."

Doris responded, "Exactly. Oh yeah. I know. I know. That's terrific!"[2]

After going through the items and determining what was written on them, Danny asked Doris if she would be willing to have the pieces of paper displayed by the Florence and Laurence Spungen Family Foundation and other institutions around the world. Doris said, "Take what you want."

Danny noted, "I'm going to put everything in polyester."

Doris responded, "Decide. Whatever you want, Danny."[3]

The Long Route to Freedom:

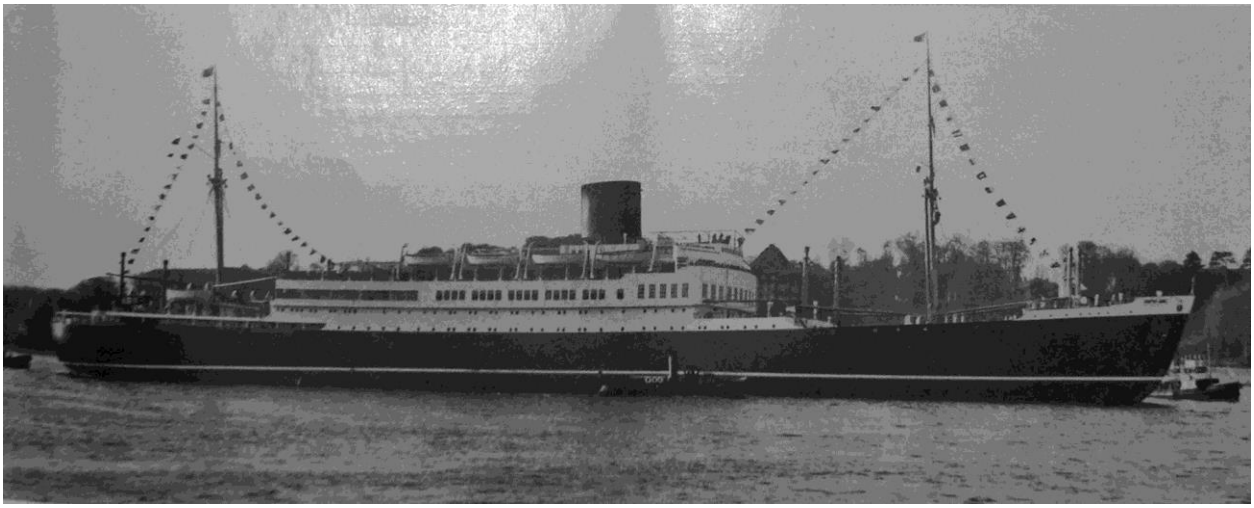
Doris Warschawski arrived in San Francisco weighing approximately 65 to 68 lbs. She had celebrated her thirteenth birthday onboard the U.S.S. *General W. H. Gordon*—a troop transporter.[4] Ahead of her was a new country, a new school, and much more food. Behind her were five years in Nazi Germany and eight years as a refugee in Shanghai, China.

Doris was born on May 3, 1934, in Berlin a little over a year after Adolf Hitler came to power as German Chancellor. When Doris was only one-and-a-half years old, her father, Alfons Warschawski, who had been a merchant in a retail business, died in 1935.[5] Her mother, Edith (née Friedmann) Warschawski, who was well-educated—she had attended Berlin University and worked as a bookkeeper in her parents' bank—became sick. Fortunately, a couple who lived in the same apartment building by the name of Basch stepped in and helped Edith and Doris. Doris explains that the Basch family, "kind of took over for my mother, because my mother became very ill when my father died."[6] Doris says, "This

[1] Doris Fogel interview conducted by Danny Spungen, November 3, 2019, Part One.
[2] Doris Fogel interview conducted by Danny Spungen, November 3, 2019, Part One.
[3] Doris Fogel interview conducted by Danny Spungen, November 3, 2019, Part Three.
[4] Doris makes the claims about weight and her thirteenth birthday in various interviews.
[5] Doris Fogel, telephone interview conducted by Kevin Ostoyich, October 16, 2023. [This interview will henceforth be referred to as "October 16, 2023 Interview" in footnotes.]
[6] USHMM, Oral history interview with Doris Fogel, Accession Number: 1991.A.0120.5, RG Number: RG-50.228.0005. https://collections.ushmm.org/search/catalog/irn512647 (Accessed September 24, 2023). Note: The interview was conducted by the Fort Wayne Jewish Federation and the United States Holocaust Memorial

family became like family to us." From that point on, Doris has referred to the members of the Basch family as her aunt, uncle, and cousin.[7] She remembers her Uncle Walter as "a very kind, gentle man."[8] She remembers her Aunt Fay as "very, very strong…like she was the head of the family….She was always looking to do some sort of business."[9] Doris says she had a very close relationship with her mother as well as with her aunt.[10] She says, "My mother was the dreamer. My aunt was the practical woman. And it's because of *her* that I was always street-smart and learned really how to take care of myself."[11]

In the period after the large-scale pogrom known as *Kristallnacht* (or "Night of Broken Glass") of November 9/10, 1938, many Jews throughout Germany tried to get out of the country. The problem that confronted them was to find somewhere in the world that would accept them. Doris says that the Basches "managed to arrange passage for us in January of 1939 on the ship *Scharnhorst* from Bremerhaven" to Shanghai, China.



***Scharnhorst* (1935) from Wikipedia:**
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SS_Scharnhorst_(1934)#/media/File:Werftprobefahrt_Scharnhorst.jpg
(Accessed September 21, 2023)

Edith's "J" Passport has a stamp to the effect that they left Bremerhaven on January 24, 1939.[12]

Museum received a copy in May 1991. [This interview will henceforth be referred to as "USHMM Interview" in footnotes.

[7] The Basch's son was born five years before Doris was.

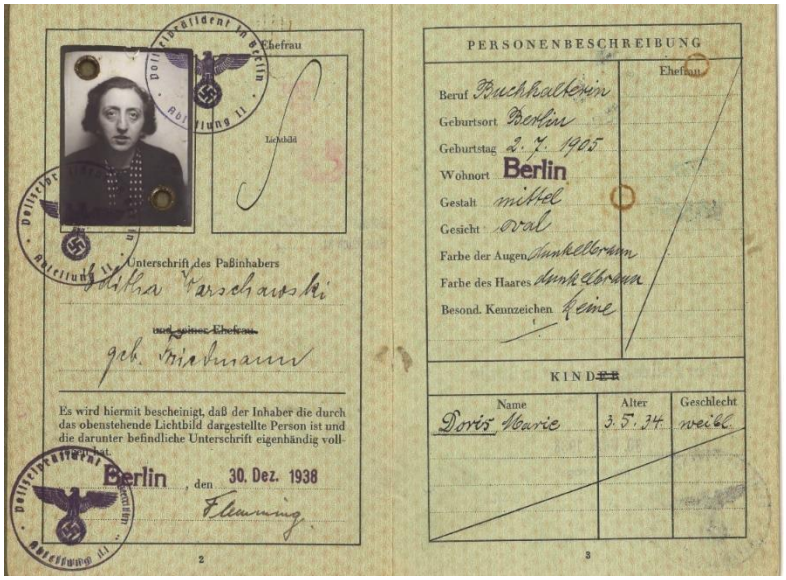
[8] October 16, 2023 Interview

[9] October 16, 2023 Interview.

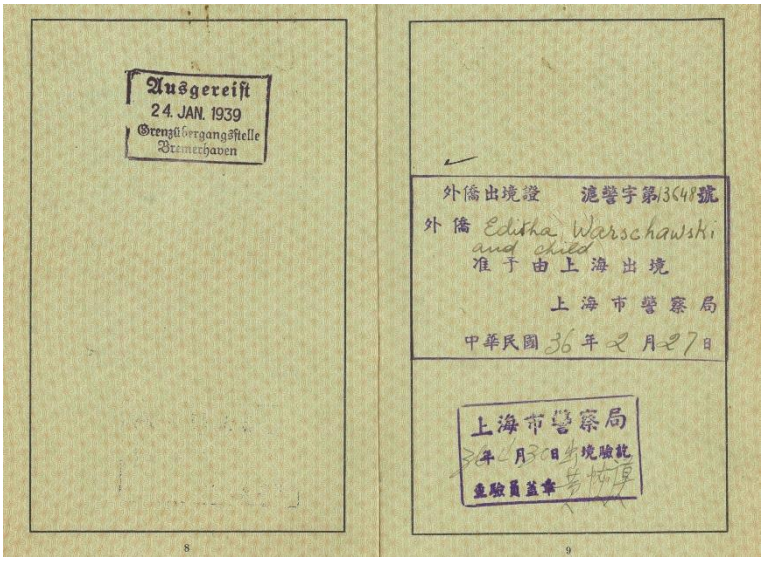
[10] Doris Fogel, interview conducted by Debbie Charen and Becca Charen, June 22, 2017, Story Corps Archive, https://archive.storycorps.org/interviews/chi002146/ (Accessed October 30, 2023). [This interview will henceforth be referred to as "Story Corps Archive Interview" in footnotes.]

[11] Story Corps Archive Interview.

[12] https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=10164228875610721&set=a.150260380720 (Accessed September 22, 2023).



Edith's "J" Passport Photo #1. The passport was issued on December 30, 1938. Doris is listed on the passport as Edith's child.
https://www.facebook.com/IHMEC/photos/a.150260380720/10164228875625721/?type=3
(Accessed September 22, 2023)



Edith's "J" Passport Photo #2. The stamp on the left notes that they left Bremerhaven on January 24, 1939. https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=10164228875610721&set=a.150260380720
(Accessed September 22, 2023)

Edith's "J" Passport Photo #3. As was the case with all Jewish females, the name "Sara" was inserted into Edith's official name. The red "J" stamped on the passport—from which the term "'J' Passport" derives—stands for "Jude" ["Jew"].
https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=10164228875500721&set=a.150260380720 (Accessed September 22, 2023)

Doris does not remember much about Germany. She left for Shanghai too early in her childhood to have formed many memories. In the interview that was conducted of Doris by the Fort Wayne Jewish Federation in 1991, Doris says, "It's as though I've shut it out completely."[13]

In Shanghai the Basches, Edith, and Doris lived in Hongkew—a rundown section located in the northeast section of the city. Doris says they were relatively lucky though: "We felt fortunate because we, at least, had one room in the compound, rather than living in a big room with fifty other people. So, we were luckier than most."[14] As she notes, many refugees had to live in much more cramped rooms—sometimes even in large halls with only blankets hung up to provide some semblance of privacy. The living conditions were far from ideal. Doris explains,

> There was no such thing as indoor plumbing—not where we lived, there weren't. You had these pots that you used, and then you put them in front of your door, and you heard the Chinese yelling in the morning when they were coming to get them. We cooked our meals on coal stoves, all within the confines of the one room where the five of us lived.[15]

[13] USHMM Interview.
[14] USHMM Interview.
[15] USHMM Interview.

Edith worked in a soup kitchen in Shanghai.[16] Doris remembers that her Uncle Walter and Aunt Fay opened a grocery store for a while in Shanghai with another family. She is not sure how long they were able to run the store.

In February 1943, the Japanese—who had occupied Shanghai on December 8, 1941—issued a proclamation regarding the creation of a "Designated Area" within the Hongkew district. The proclamation stipulated that all stateless persons who had entered the city after January 1, 1937, had to move in the confines of the Designated Area by May 1943. After the Designated Area was established, the refugees needed to acquire a pass to move in and out of the Designated Area. Doris, like many other former Shanghai refugees, refers to the Designated Area as the "ghetto." Nevertheless, as Doris clarified in her 1991 interview with the Fort Wayne Jewish Federation, the Designated Area should not be equated to a concentration camp in Germany or Poland. One of the main concerns for the refugees was food. Doris remembers food being in short supply. There were soup kitchens. Furthermore, people tried to supplement their diet by selling their belongings on the black market so they could buy more food. Another concern for the refugees was illness. Doris contracted rheumatoid arthritis in Shanghai. She says this started with what appeared to be a bite. A doctor cut into what had appeared to be a bite but quickly realized that it was not a bite. Doris was later declared to be twenty-five percent permanently disabled due to the rheumatoid arthritis, and she believes the condition to be a direct result of the compromised living conditions of Shanghai.[17]

Doris attended the Shanghai Jewish Youth Association School, also known as the Kadoorie School after the Sephardic Jewish benefactor of the school, Sir Horace Kadoorie. Primary instruction in the school was conducted in English. She says that, because of having attended the Kadoorie School, "I spoke the King's English when I came to the United States. Very British."[18] She notes that she and other children were also instructed in French in the school and that they tended to learn a smattering of Chinese and Japanese on the streets.

She says that in the school, "we had teachers from all over Europe. Educated people."[19] Doris remembers there were not any textbooks. But that the students tended to write in their notebooks what their teachers wrote on the blackboards.

Overall, her memories of the teachers are positive, particularly those pertaining to her dance teacher (Herr Epstein)[20] and her gym teacher (Leo Meyer). Regarding Principal Lucie Hartwich, Doris says, "She was *wonderful*. Her prime interest was always that every student in our school learned perfect English because the hope was always that we would end up in America."[21] Thinking back on her time in the Shanghai Jewish Youth Association School, Doris says, "We were happy. We were kids, and we didn't know any better."[22]

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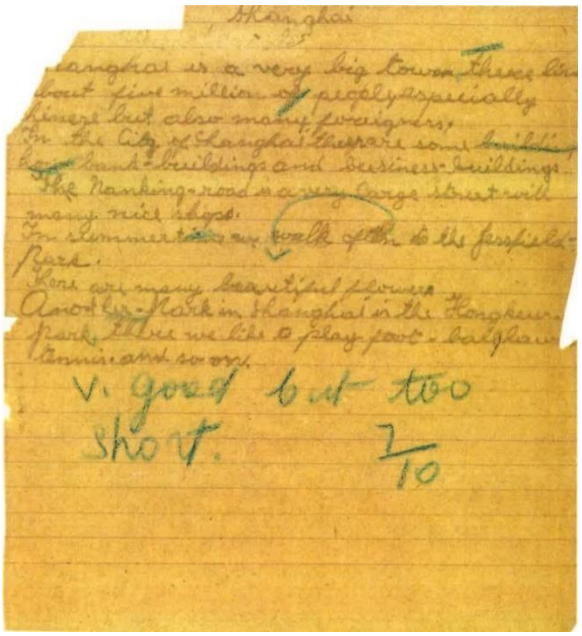
[16] The Florida Holocaust Museum event, "Virtual Lunch & Learn w/ a Holocaust Survivor feat. Doris Fogel," January 10, 2022, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cE15DO7gRoI (Accessed October 3, 2023).
[17] USHMM Interview.
[18] USHMM Interview.
[19] USHMM Interview.
[20] Doris identified Herr Epstein in Doris Fogel interview by Danny Spungen, November 3, 2019, Part Three.
[21] October 16, 2023 Interview. The last time Doris saw Lucie Hartwich was at the first Shanghai reunion in San Francisco. As she thinks of Lucie Hartwich, see says, "I can see that round face in front of me."
[22] October 16, 2023 Interview.

Doris and two other children with their dance teacher, Herr Epstein. Doris is holding the sign with the number 4 on it. The Photo is dated June 1, 1940. Screenshot from Doris Fogel interview conducted by Danny Spungen, November 3, 2019, Part Three.

The little pieces of paper that Doris leafed through with Danny Spungen and later donated to the Florence and Laurence Spungen Family Foundation document Doris' days as a student at the Shanghai Jewish Youth Association/Kadoorie School.


Shanghai

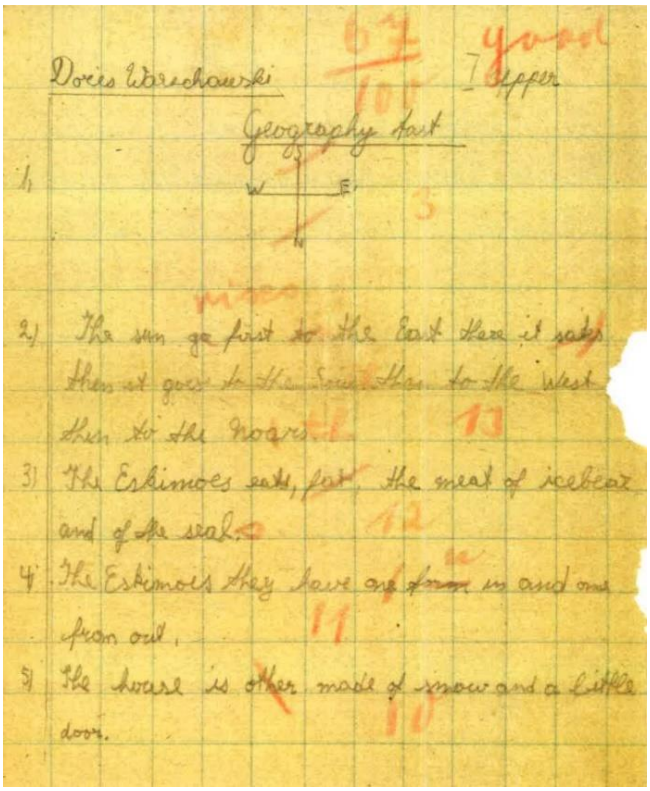
Shanghai is a very big town. There live about five million of people especially chinese but also many foreigners.
In the City of Shanghai there are some [illegible] bank-buildings and business-buildings.
The Nanking-road is a very large street with many nice shops.
In summertime we walk often to the Jessfield-Park.
There are many beautiful flowers.
Another park in Shanghai is the Hongkew-Park. There we like to play foot-ball and tennis and so on.

v. good but too short.

7/10

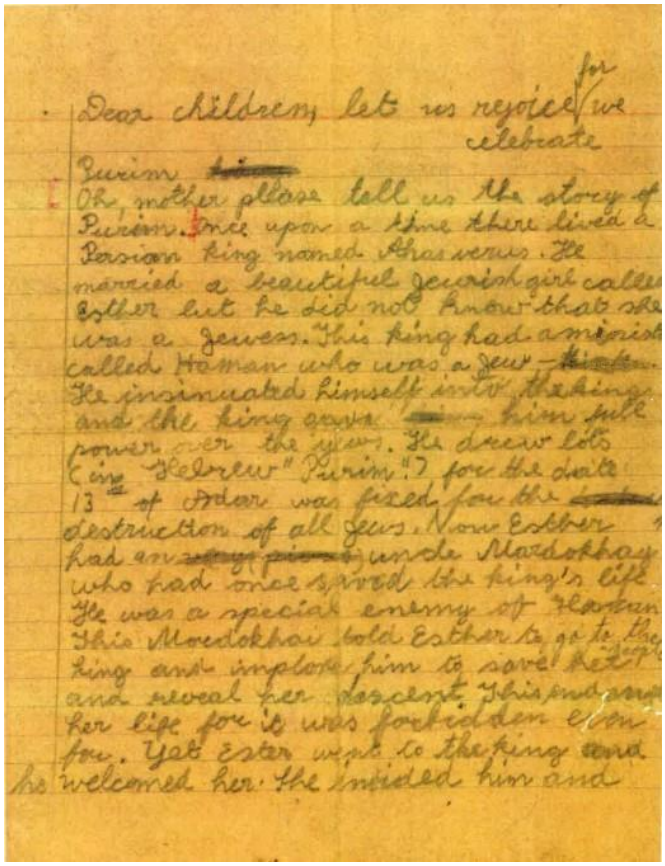
Doris Warschawski Graded Schoolwork #1: Essay about Shanghai [FLSFF] Uncorrected Text: Shanghai. Shanghai is a very big town there live about five million of people especially Chinese but also many foreigners. In the City of Shanghai there are some buildings [illegible word] bank-buildings and business-buildings. The Nanking-road is a very large street with many nice shops. In summertime we walk often to the Jessfield-Park. There are many beautiful flowers. Another park in Shanghai is the Hongkew-Park. There we like to play foot-ball and tennis and so on. Teacher comments: v. good but too short 7/10. When reviewing this item with Danny Spungen, Doris guessed that the essay dated from 1945.[23]

[23] Doris Fogel interview by Danny Spungen, November 3, 2019, Part Two.



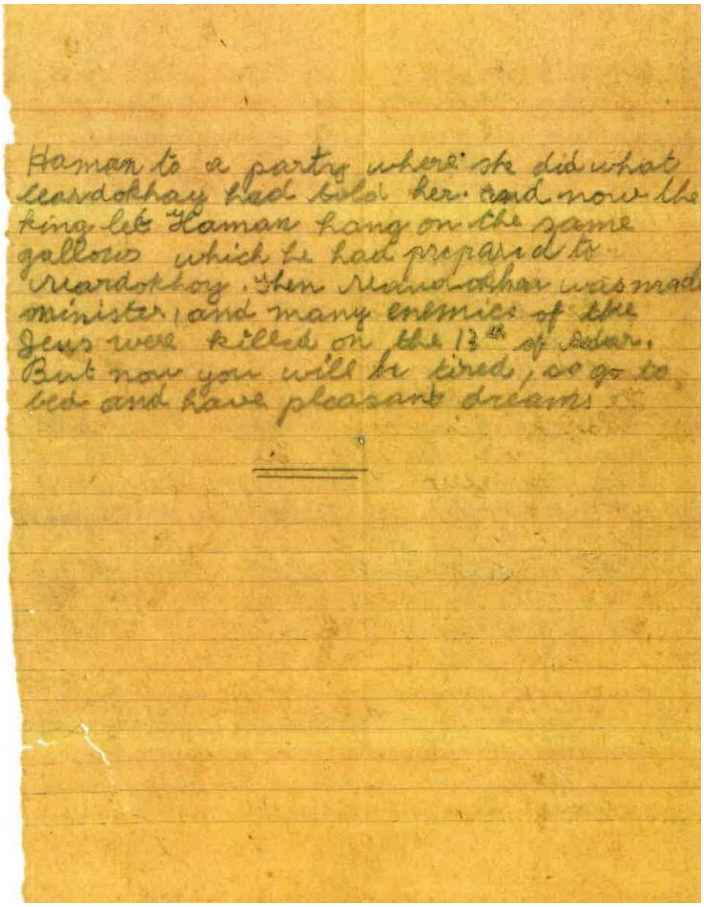
Doris Warschawski
Geography test
1) W E N S
2) The sun go first to the East then it sets Then it goes to the South then to the West then to the North.
3) The Eskimoes eats, fish, the meat of icebear and of the seal.
4) The Eskimoes they have one door in and one from out.
5) The house is often made of snow and a little door.

Doris Warschawski Graded Schoolwork #2: Geography Test, Page One [FLSFF]



Dear Childrens, let us rejoice for we celebrate
Purim
Oh, mother please tell us the story of Purim. Once upon a time there lived a Persian king named Ahasuerus. He married a beautiful Jewish girl called Esther but he did not know that she was a Jewess. This king had a minister called Haman who was a Jew. He insinuated himself into the king and the king gave him full power over the Jews. He drew lots (the "Hebrew" Purim!) for the date 13th of Adar was fixed for the destruction of all Jews. Now Esther had an uncle Mordokhai who had once saved the king's life. He was a special enemy of Haman. This Mordokhai told Esther to go to the king and implore him to save her people and reveal her descent. This endangered her life for it was forbidden even for you. Yet Ester went to the king and he welcomed her. She invited him and

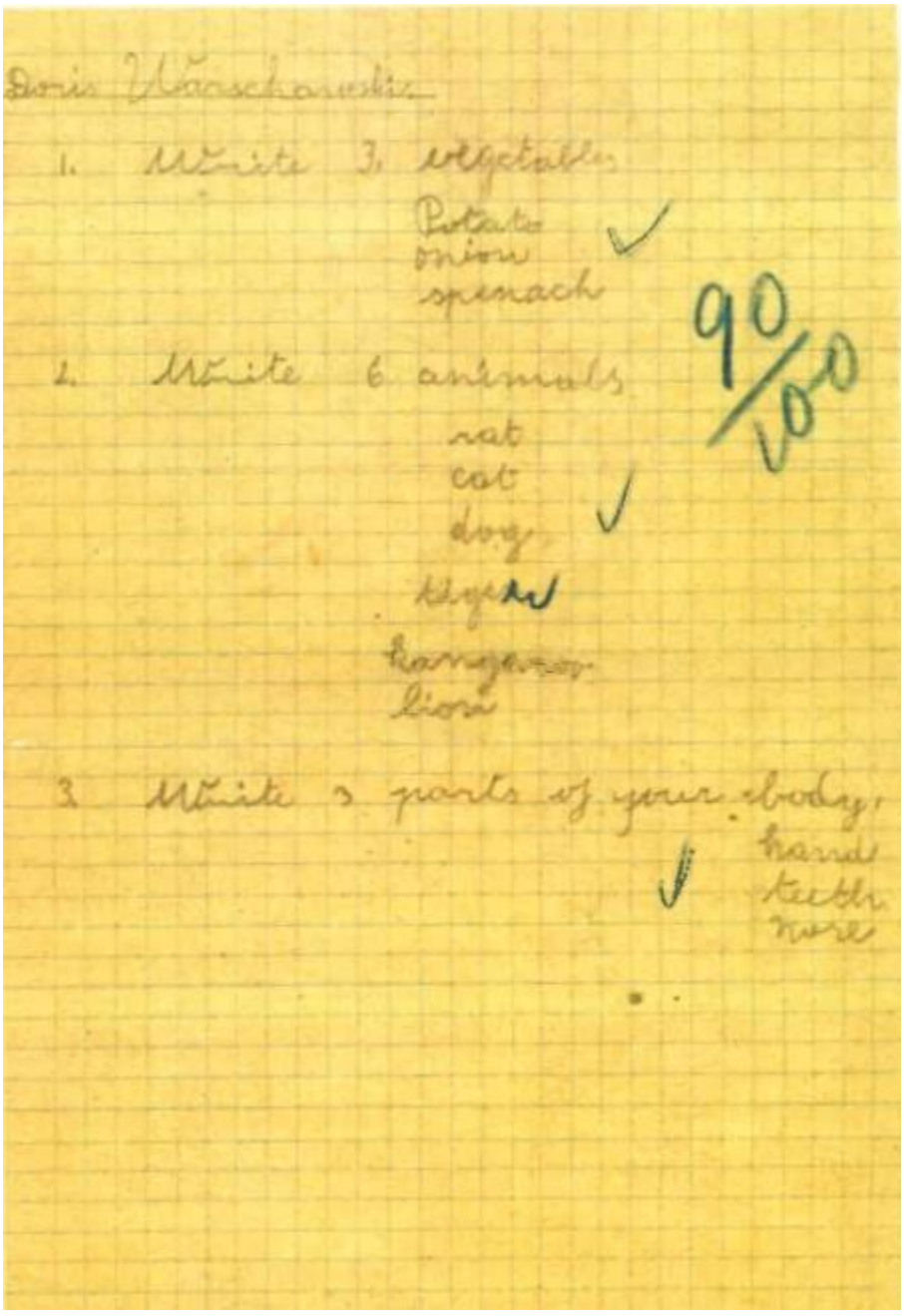
Doris Warschawski Purim Essay, Page One [FLSFF]


Haman to a party where she did what
Mordokhay had told her. and now the
king let Haman hang on the same
gallows which he had prepared to
Mordokhay. Then Mordokhai was made
minister, and many enemies of the
Jews were killed on the 13th of Adar.
But now you will be tired, so go to
bed and have pleasant dreams

Doris Warschawski Purim Essay, Page Two [FLSFF]

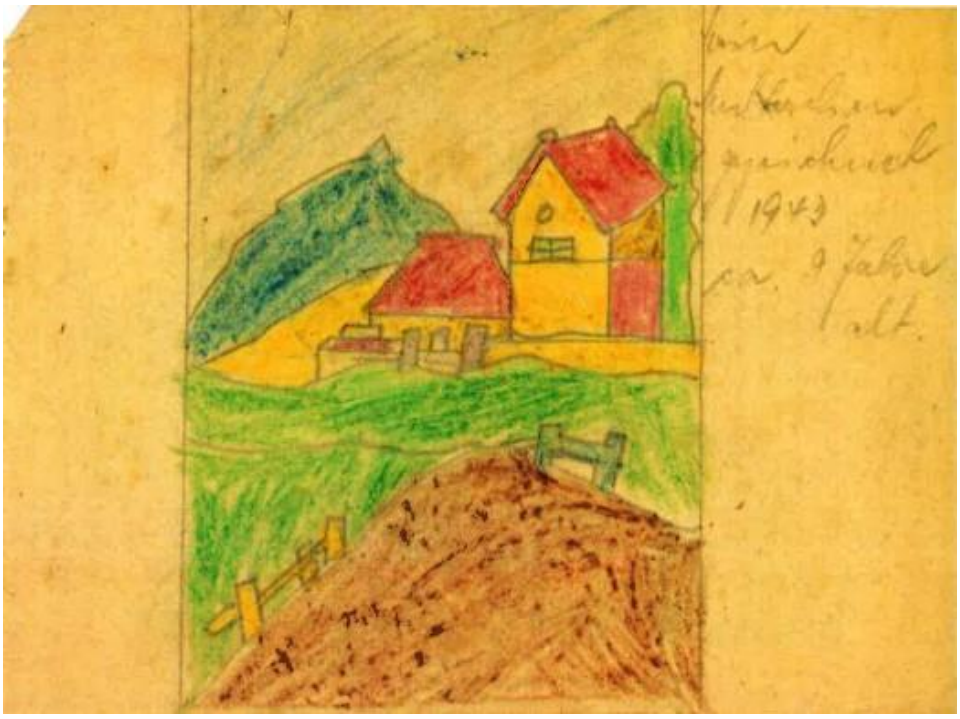
Text of Doris' Purim Essay:

Dear children, let us rejoice we celebrate Purim. Oh, mother please tell us the story of Purim. Once upon a time there lived a Persian king named Ahasuerus. He married a beautiful Jewish girl called Ester but he did not know that she was a Jewess. This king had a minister called Haman who was a Jew. He insinuated himself into the king and the king gave him full power over the Jews. He drew lots (in Hebrew "Purim") for the date 13th of Adar was fixed for the destruction of all Jews. Now Ester had an uncle Mordokhay [Mordechai] who had once saved the king's life. He was a special enemy of Haman. This Mordokhai [Mordechai] told Ester to go to the king and implore him to save her people and reveal her descent. This endangered her life for it was forbidden even for [her]. Yet Ester went to the king and he welcomed her. She invited him and Haman to a party where she did what Mordokhay [Mordechai] had told her and now the king let Haman hang on the same gallows which he had prepared to Mordokhay [Mordechai]. Then Mordokhai [Mordechai] was made minister, and many enemies of the Jews were killed on the 13th of Adar. But now you will be tired, so go to bed and have pleasant dreams.



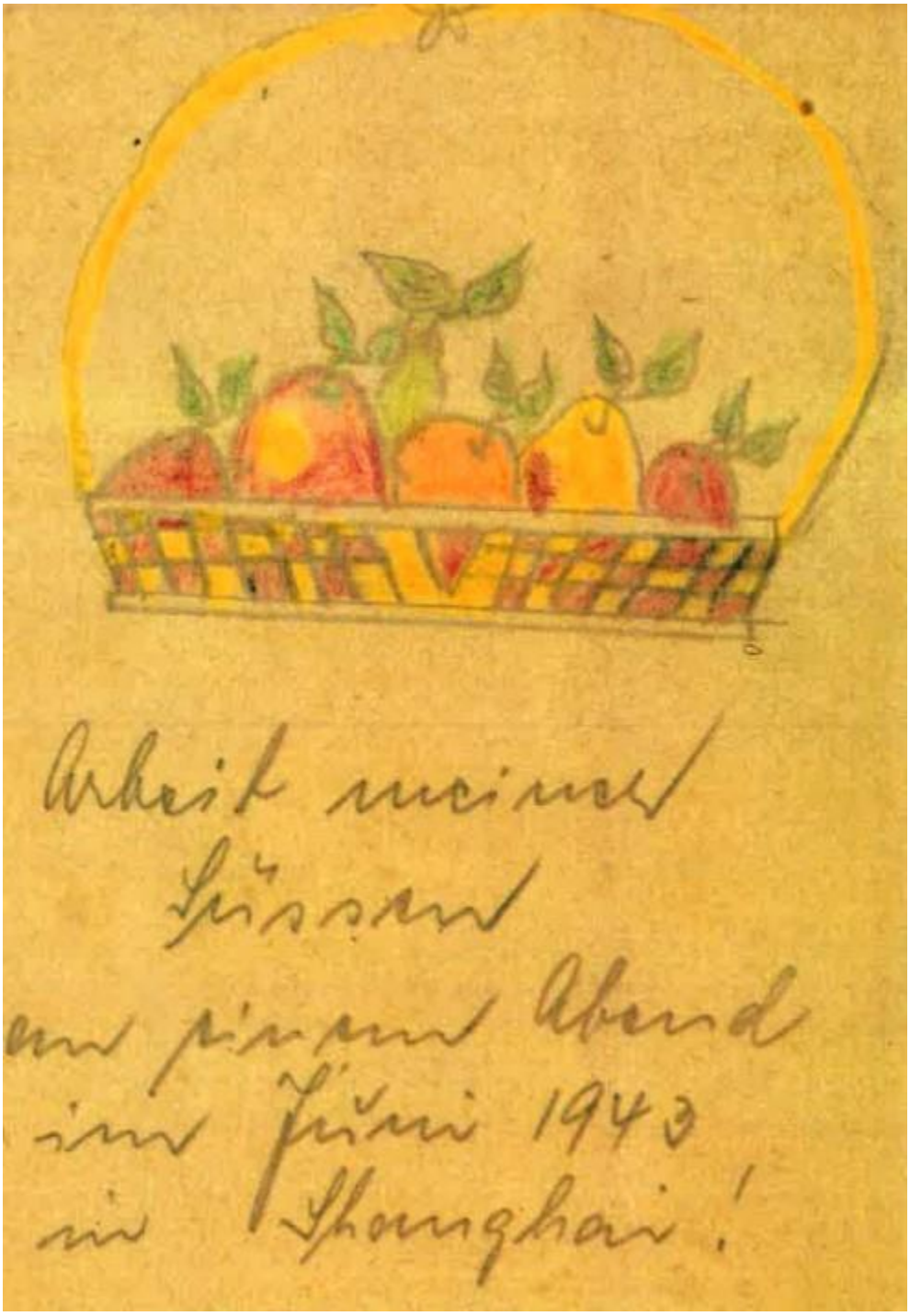
Doris Warschawski Graded Schoolwork #3: English Test [FLSFF]
(Gifted to the Shanghai Jewish Refugees Museum in Shanghai, China)

In addition to the graded school assignments, Doris donated many pieces of artwork that she created in Shanghai to the Florence and Laurence Spungen Family Foundation.

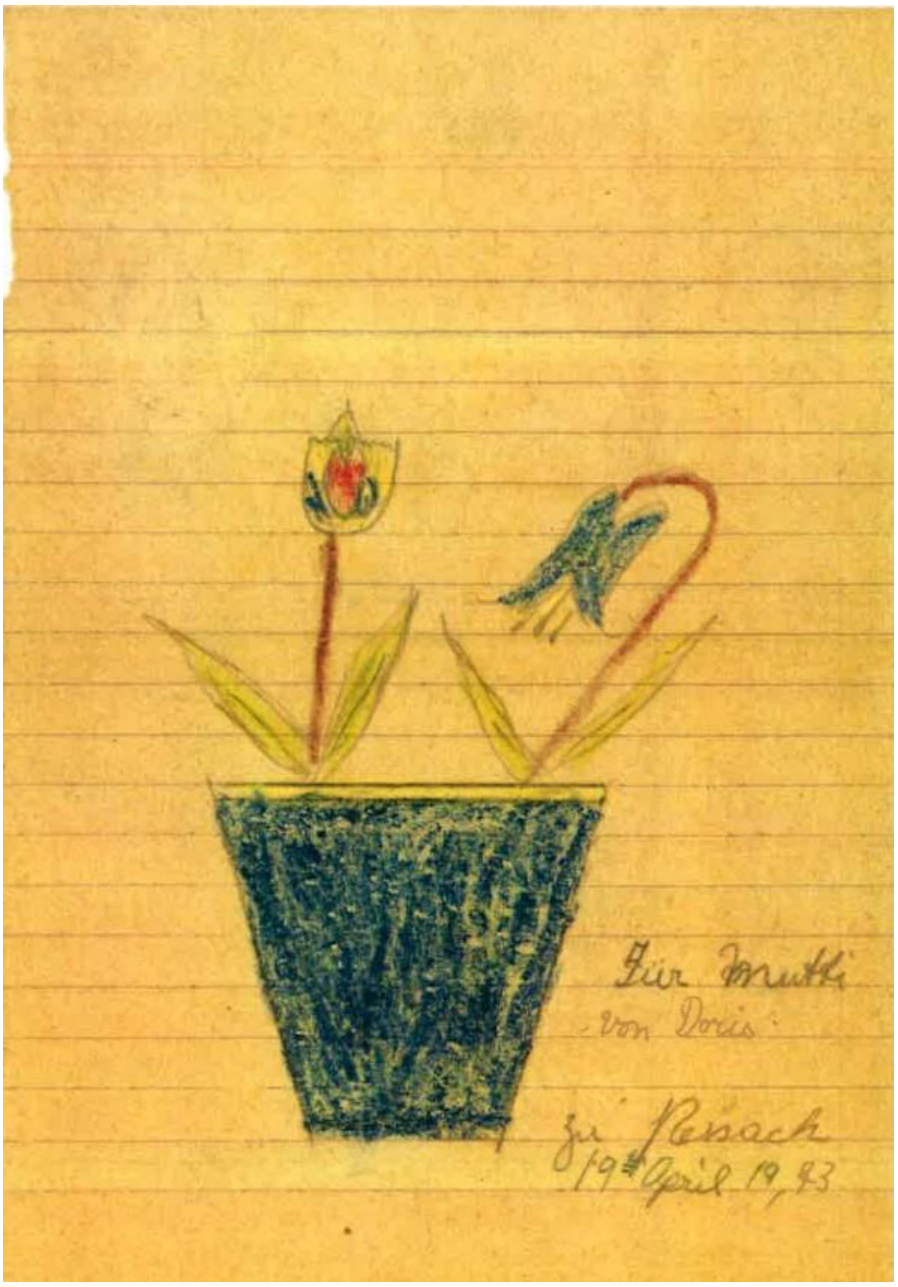


Doris Warschawski Drawing #2: Countryside Scene with Buildings.
Edith wrote that it was made in 1943 when Doris was ca. 9 years old. [FLSFF]

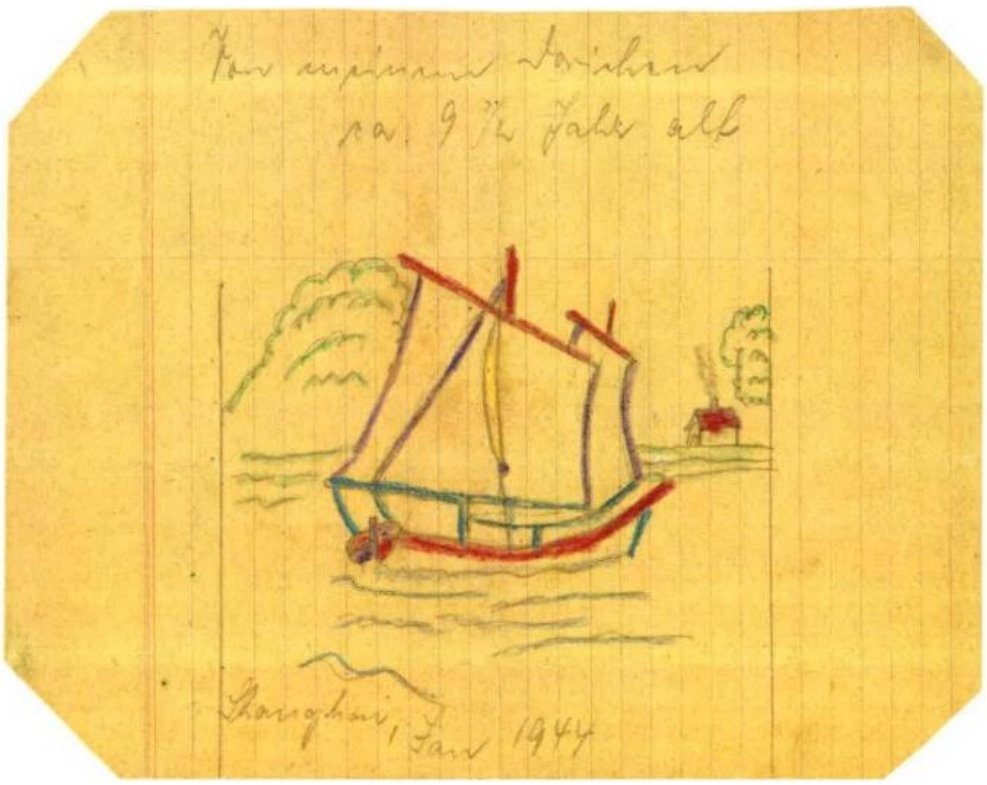
Doris Warschawski Drawing #3: Countryside with Barn.
Edith wrote, "My sweetie, April 1943, almost 9 years old!" [FLSFF]



Doris Warschawski Drawing #4: Fruit in a Basket.
Edith wrote, "Work of my Sweetie on an evening in June 1943 in Shanghai!" [FLSFF]



Doris Warschawski Drawing #5: Flowers in a Pot.
Doris wrote, "For Mommy from Doris on Passover 19th April 1943." [FLSFF]

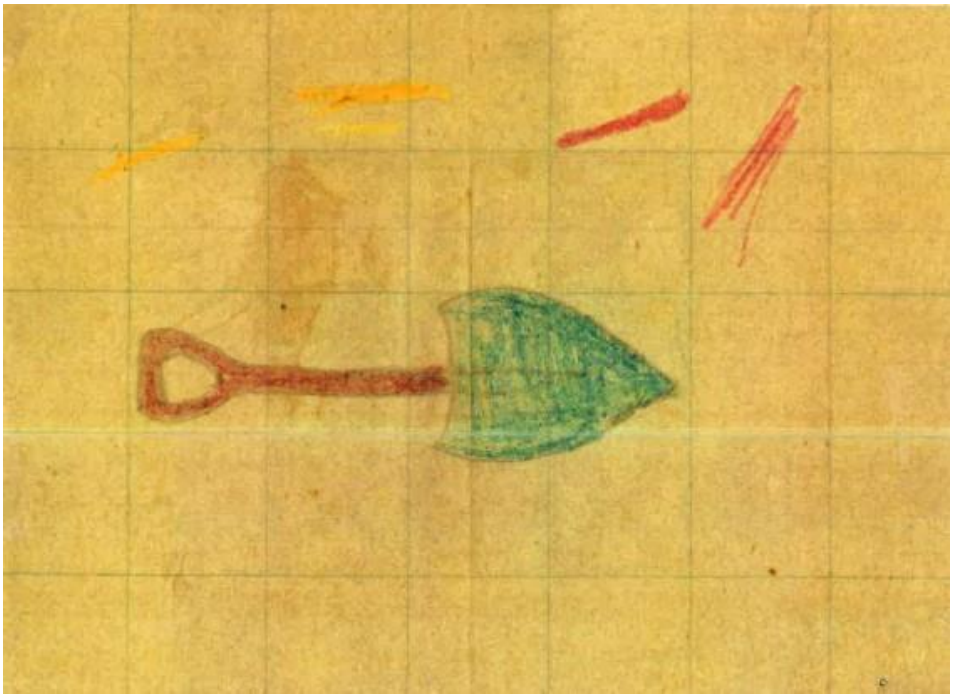


Doris Warschawski Drawing #6: Ship with House in Background.
Edith wrote, "By my Little Doris ca. 9 ½ years old. Shanghai, January 1, 1944." [FLSFF]

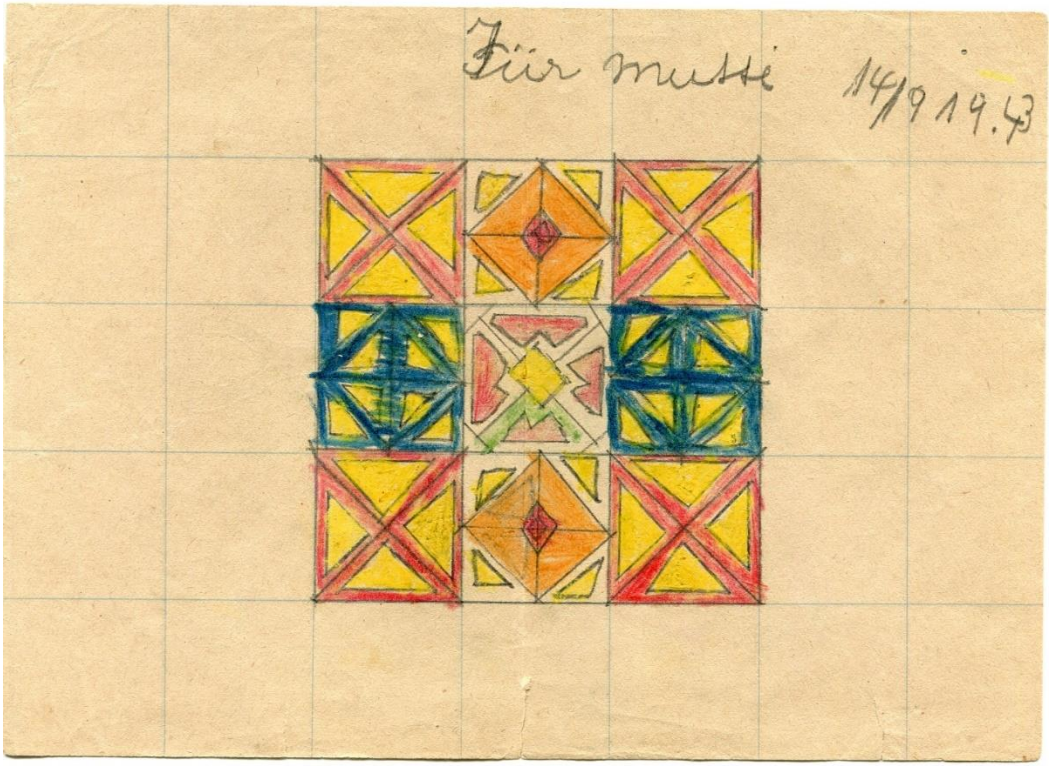
Doris Warschawski Drawing #7: Two Ships. [FLSFF]

Doris Warschawski Drawing #8: Ship, Houses, and Mountains. [FLSFF]

Back of Drawing #8. Doris found a way to draw on any available paper during the war years.



Doris Warschawski Drawing #9: Shovel [FLSFF]
(Gifted to the Holocaust Learning and Education Fund, Inc. Florida)



Doris Warschawski Drawing #10: Geometric Shapes in Squares.
Doris wrote, "For Mommy" Date: September 14, 1943] [FLSFF]

Doris Warschawski Painting: Vase with Flowers. Edith wrote, "The work of Dorischen [term of endearment for Doris] on a rainy day June 13, 1944 with a schoolmate." [FLSFF]
(Gifted to the Shanghai Jewish Refugees Museum in Shanghai, China)

Doris Warschawski Decorative Object with String (Front and Back). When asked by Danny Spungen what it was for, Doris responded, "I have no idea.
Do you know how many years ago that was?" and laughed.[24] [FLSFF]

[24] Doris Fogel interview by Danny Spungen, November 3, 2019, Part One.

In addition to doing her schoolwork and making art, Doris was very active in sports. She says, "If it had something to do with athletics, I was involved, otherwise no."[25] She was particularly involved in gymnastics and dance. Doris says, "I have been an athlete all my life."[26] She notes that this affinity for sports has been passed down in her family. She says, "Everyone in my family. We're athletes."[27]

Doris says that they did not really have toys in Shanghai, but children always found something to do regardless. She particularly remembers "running around with the Chinese kids and balls. Kick ball."[28]

Conditions in the Designated Area worsened as the war continued. Doris remembers the worst day occurred about a month before the Japanese surrendered:

> July 17, 1945 was *the* worst day for all of us in Shanghai, because that was *the* worst bombardment that the Americans inflicted upon Shanghai. And I remember it as though it was yesterday. We were at school. And, we hid—we had no time to get out even—we hid under our desks. And, then we were kept at the school. And for two days, we did not know—I did not know if my mother was living nor did she know if I was….We lost a lot of people. That was really *the* worst of it.[29]

Doris remembers the Americans arriving in Shanghai immediately after the war. She exclaims, "Oh, my goodness! We raced down to the docks to meet the American ships!"[30] She says, "We were down at the docks and getting the rations that the Americans were tired of eating."[31]

The refugees in Shanghai started to look for a way out of Shanghai. The Basch family had family in Peoria, Illinois. They would not go to the United States without Edith and Doris, however. The Basches were able to secure sponsors for themselves and Edith and Doris.

Doris remembers preparing to go to the United States. She says in school they learned *America the Beautiful* and *The Star-Spangled Banner*: "We rehearsed on that over and over again."[32] She also remembers having her long pigtails cut, because the thought was that American girls did not have long pigtails.[33]

Doris details one of her most vivid memories of that time: "The day that we left Shanghai, I thought my bed was going to walk out by itself because it was so infested with bedbugs. You know, I wondered would the day ever *come* that I would have a bed of my *own*."[34]

Edith, Doris, and the Basches journeyed to the United States on the S.S. *General Gordon*. Reflecting on their arrival in the United States, Doris says, "It was difficult for my mother and I when we first came here."[35] They arrived in San Francisco. She remembers looking for small, thick chocolate Hershey bars

[25] October 16, 2023 Interview.
[26] October 16, 2023 Interview.
[27] October 16, 2023 Interview.
[28] October 16, 2023 Interview.
[29] USHMM Interview.
[30] Story Corps Archive Interview.
[31] USHMM Interview.
[32] October 16, 2023 Interview.
[33] USHMM Interview.
[34] Story Corps Archive Interview.
[35] USHMM Interview.

like the ones the Americans had in Shanghai, but then realizing that those were special chocolate bars found only in Army rations. From San Francisco they journeyed on to Peoria, Illinois.[36]

In Peoria, Edith and Doris moved into a one-room apartment. Doris says, "You know, at age thirteen, fourteen, that's very difficult." She explains she could not have friends over. "You ate there, you slept there, and you went down the hall to take a bath, and it was difficult."[37] As had been the case in Shanghai, Edith and Doris slept together in one bed. With few possessions, they both started to earn money. Doris says, "First job my mother had—here's a college-educated woman—she welded cans in a factory until she passed out, because she had a daughter to support. I had a newspaper route a month after I came to the states, because I wanted some money in my pocket. So, that part of our life was pretty difficult, but you know what? We survived."[38]

Meanwhile, the Basches opened a laundry in Peoria.[39]

Doris believes the instruction she received in the Shanghai Jewish Youth Association School was excellent. Evidence of this is that when she was to start school in the United States, her placement tests indicated that she should start as a sophomore (tenth grade) in high school. Her mother inquired though what the normal grade for a thirteen-year-old was. When she was told the eighth grade, she insisted that Doris be placed in the eighth grade.[40]

Doris' goal was to lose her accent. She remembers a certain teacher named Mr. Wagner who had complemented her for her beautiful accent when she had him for civics class her freshman year in high school. When she had Mr. Wagner again for history during her senior year, he was disappointed that she had lost her accent. Doris, meanwhile, was proud of this.[41] It was important to her that she be accepted as an American. Doris explains, "When I came to America, you would have thought that I was British, because I had a *very*, very British accent. That's what we learned. But I worked very hard to *lose* it, because I never wanted anybody [to ask] 'Where are you from?' That I'd have to go into a *long* explanation of 'Where are you from?' That's just not me."[42]

Doris and Edith were both granted American citizenship in 1954.

[36] USHMM Interview.
[37] Story Corps Archive Interview.
[38] Story Corps Archive Interview.
[39] October 16, 2023 Interview.
[40] USHMM Interview.
[41] USHMM Interview.
[42] The Florida Holocaust Museum event, "Virtual Lunch & Learn w/ a Holocaust Survivor feat. Doris Fogel," January 10, 2022, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cE15DO7gRoI (Accessed October 3, 2023).

Edith Warschawski Certificate of Naturalization issued on January 6, 1954. The Florida Holocaust Museum event, "Virtual Lunch & Learn w/ a Holocaust Survivor feat. Doris Fogel" https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cE15DO7gRoI, timestamp 32:22 (Accessed October 28, 2023)

Edith eventually got a job at a dress factory called Princess Peggy. Doris explains that at Princess Peggy, her mother started out in piece work but then "worked her way up." Doris got a scholarship and attended Bradley University.[43]

Doris eventually moved to Chicago. She says, "Most kids who lived in Peoria moved to Chicago." Doris worked as a legal secretary.[44] In 1960 at a lecture at JUF (Jewish United Fund) in Chicago, she met Sam Fogel, who was an attorney in Fort Wayne, Indiana. She believes this was in the early part of December. They got married in July 1961. After she married Sam, she ran his office.[45] Doris and Sam lived in Fort Wayne and would have two sons and one daughter together.[46]

When her daughter was a junior in high school, Doris chaperoned a trip of her daughter's German language class to Germany, Switzerland, and Austria. Doris explains that, up until this time, she "had a hard time speaking German to a non-Jew" despite being "pretty fluent in German." Doris says, "When I saw the itinerary of the trip, and I knew we were going to Munich, I said to the teacher… 'There's only one way that I will go to Munich; this whole bus has to go to Dachau.' And she said, 'Well, if you can

[43] USHMM Interview.
[44] October 16, 2023 Interview.
[45] October 16, 2023 Interview.
[46] Story Corps Archive Interview and The Florida Holocaust Museum event, "Virtual Lunch & Learn w/ a Holocaust Survivor feat. Doris Fogel," January 10, 2022, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cE15DO7gRoI (Accessed October 3, 2023).

arrange it.' And I said, 'Well, watch me!' And I did. So, the whole bus went to Dachau." Doris says of all the people on the bus only she, her daughter, and two others were Jewish. She says that many of the high school students—young people she had known since they were second or third graders—came up to her afterwards saying that they had not known about this. Doris says, "I came home, and I said to my husband—who was born and raised in Indiana— 'You know what? It's time. It's time that I start speaking.'" Since then, she says, "it's been my life work" to speak about the Holocaust throughout the country.[47]

She served concurrently as president of her temple in Fort Wayne and president as the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne. She then served as the executive director of the Jewish Federation of Fort Wayne for eight years. She says the challenges she encountered heading the institution "were to fundraise and get money for people who needed it around the world and at home."[48] She says the institution's main goal was to make children aware of the Holocaust. She says this was attempted not simply with books and speaking events but also by encouraging students to write essays about the Holocaust.[49]

Doris became very active as a speaker. She spoke about her experience in Shanghai to schools all over Indiana and beyond. The students would often ask her questions about her refugee experience. Of all the questions she has received over the years, one question really struck home: "How big was your bed in Shanghai?"[50]

For eight years in Shanghai Doris slept with her mother. Then, after they arrived in the United States, Doris continued to sleep in a bed with her mother. Doris explains, "To this day, when I go to bed at night, whether it is a single bed, a big bed, or no matter what, I sleep on the edge of my bed." Doris says she had not given the matter much thought until the student asked her the question about the size of her bed in Shanghai. She then realized that her bed in Shanghai was very small, "and that's why I sleep the way I do."[51]

Doris and her mother survived the Holocaust because they had fled to Shanghai. Other members of their family were not as fortunate. Three of Doris' grandparents were killed. Doris says, "My mother's father, who, by then, had married a second time, and was married to a non-Jewish woman, had decided that he would stay in Germany."[52] For many years, Doris thought that "My grandfather on my mother's side committed suicide when the Nazis came. He knew that he would never let himself be taken alive." This was her belief at the time of the 1991 interview conducted by the Fort Wayne Jewish Federation. In the "Coffee with a Survivor: Doris Fogel" event of May 6, 2020, Doris revealed that she later found out that her maternal grandfather was killed in Sachsenhausen concentration camp.[53] She learned many

[47] The Florida Holocaust Museum event, "Virtual Lunch & Learn w/ a Holocaust Survivor feat. Doris Fogel," January 10, 2022, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cE15DO7gRoI (Accessed October 3, 2023).
[48] Doris Fogel, telephone interview conducted by Kevin Ostoyich, October 26, 2023. [This interview will henceforth be referred to as "October 26, 2023 Interview" in footnotes.]
[49] October 26, 2023 Interview.
[50] Story Corps Archive Interview.
[51] Story Corps Archive Interview.
[52] USHMM Interview.
[53] Coffee with a Survivor: Doris Fogel, Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center, Recorded Live on Facebook, May 6, 2020. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NFnKZaA_2zo (Accessed September 26, 2023).

decades after the conclusion of the Second World War that "My grandparents on my father's side died at Dachau."[54]

As Doris reflects on the Holocaust, she notes that most people are not aware of the history of displaced persons such as she and her mother:

> Mine is a different story…. There were some of us that went through the Holocaust without being in an actual concentration camp. We were displaced persons. We lost everything because we happened to have been born in Germany and were Jews. And I think that the world ought to know what happened. You know, it isn't only the people that died at Auschwitz, and Dachau, and Bergen-Belsen, but it is the rest of us too. You know, we had to start all over again. And we went through hardships. Again, not the devastation that the people, you know, that died in the camps, but, to a certain extent, ours was, you know, was bad too. I mean, we are displaced persons. And we came to the United States, and we were ever so grateful to be given the opportunity to be here and to become what we are today.[55]

Doris notes that the history of the Shanghai Jewish refugees is still relatively unknown. She says, "Ninety-nine percent of the people that I come into contact with never knew that there were twenty-thousand Jews interned in Shanghai."[56] Whereas the Holocaust claimed millions of lives, she and her mother were two of those fortunate twenty thousand.

On March 13, 1996, Doris lost the woman who had accompanied her on the long journey from Berlin to Shanghai to Indiana. Edith Warschawski now rests in Lindenwood Cemetery in Fort Wayne, Indiana.[57]

Edith Warschawski's Gravestone. https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/51302095/edith-warschawski#view-photo=27486832 (Accessed September 22, 2023)

[54] USHMM Interview.
[55] USHMM Interview.
[56] October 26, 2023 Interview.
[57] Information from https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/51302095/edith-warschawski (Accessed September 22, 2023).

As Doris reflects on those who have shaped her to be the woman she is today, she thinks of her mother: "She was a single mom working, went from…job to job until she finally got something in her field, because she was in accounting." She also thinks of Aunt Fay: "because she was so *strong*." She also thinks about a woman she met later in life after getting married and moved to Fort Wayne: Betty Stein. Doris says Stein pushed Doris to be the best she could be.[58]

Doris knows that she has received help from many people in her life. She says that it is "because of the people who were good to my mom and me" that she was inspired "to volunteer for many organizations." She has wanted to do good for the community. She explains, "I was hungry once. And it hurts me deeply to see people who are hungry, who can't afford the basic things of things. And I've always tried…in my ability…to be as generous as I can be."[59]

Doris retired shortly before turning eighty years old. Just before she retired, Doris was bestowed the Sagamore of the Wabash Award from the governor of Indiana for her volunteer work and all the speaking she has done about the Holocaust.[60] On the day after she retired, Doris moved from Fort Wayne to Chicago to be closer to family.[61] Although her husband passed away on January 25, 2008,[62] Doris takes comfort in being around her children and grandchildren. In an interview with her daughter and one of her granddaughters, Doris says, "I'm just happy to be here. And to have a family that I know cares about me. I had no family."[63]

Paper Routes:

Doris Fogel looking at artwork she created in Shanghai (Screenshot from Doris Fogel interview conducted by Danny Spungen, November 3, 2019, Part One.) [FLSFF]

[58] Story Corps Archive Interview.
[59] Story Corps Archive Interview.
[60] October 16, 2023 interview and Story Corps Archive Interview. https://archive.storycorps.org/interviews/chi002146/ (Accessed October 30, 2023).
[61] Story Corps Archive Interview.
[62] Sam Fogel's obituary: https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/fortwayne/name/sam-fogel-obituary?id=25363527 (Accessed October 30, 2023).
[63] Story Corps Archive Interview.

Looking to the future, Doris thinks Holocaust educators need to focus their efforts on figuring out what kids know and what they learn. She thinks they also need to make sure that Holocaust education is mandatory in every state of the Union.[64]

Doris participated in a new way to teach students of the future about the Holocaust: virtual reality. In 2023 the Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center and East City Films released *Escape to Shanghai*. For information about the film, see Virtual Reality: Escape to Shanghai - Illinois Holocaust Museum (ilholocaustmuseum.org) and Escape to Shanghai: Bringing Doris Fogel's Holocaust Journey to Life Through VR — East City Films. Regarding the film, Doris exclaims, "It was amazing! It was amazing!" She is particularly struck by how the producers were able to locate a park bench that she and her mother were pictured sitting on in Berlin as well as the house in which they lived. She says, "We filmed in the house that we left in 1939. Amazing! You know? I was four years old then."[65]

After *Escape to Shanghai* was released, Doris sat down with her grandchildren to talk about the film. She told them what she has told children countless times in her talks at schools: "You all are the last generation to hear it firsthand [from survivors]."[66] Doris knows that when all the survivors of the Holocaust are gone, it will be up to Holocaust educators to come up with effective ways to communicate the history to young people. Virtual reality films such as *Escape to Shanghai* will be one way to do so. The Florence and Laurence Spungen Foundation will offer a different way, a paper route to the past; the idea is for young people to engage directly with Doris' schoolwork and artwork from Shanghai.

As Doris thinks about the schoolwork and artwork she and Danny Spungen went through together in November 2019, she says the pieces of paper make her "look back at the school I went to in Shanghai." They trigger memories particularly of the principal of the school, Lucie Hartwich.[67] She says, though, that the artwork is just the normal stuff a child would make in school, and she was "never an artist."[68]

Although the pieces of paper from Shanghai are interesting, Doris believes there are more important pieces to her life story. She believes that to truly convey her message, the focus cannot remain fixed on Shanghai; rather, it needs to move on across the Pacific Ocean to the United States. To Doris, the most meaningful *paper route* with respect to her story is the one she started shortly after arriving in Peoria.

At sixty-some pounds and thirteen-years old, Doris started to embrace the opportunities presented by her new homeland. As she reflects on this, Doris explains that America means "Freedom. Freedom and the opportunity, if I work hard, to do good. Which I did. I had a couple different venues in my life. And the opportunity is here, if you are willing to work, there's work for you." Herein lies the message Doris believes is to be conveyed to children:

> How a thirteen-year-old, who came to America with nothing, who lived with her mother in one room, went out and delivered newspapers just to have a few bucks in her pocket, and who just

[64] October 26, 2023 Interview.
[65] October 26, 2023 Interview.
[66] Clip "Doris discusses her film with her family" at https://www.ilholocaustmuseum.org/exhibitions/virtual-reality-film-experience-escape-to-shanghai/ (Accessed September 22, 2023).
[67] October 26, 2023 Interview.
[68] October 26, 2023 Interview.

continued to go from one job to another to better herself, and who ended up with a scholarship to Bradley University, and then went on her own and worked very hard.[69]

The most important piece of paper pertaining to Doris' life is not something housed at the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center or displayed by the Florence and Laurence Spungen Family Foundation. No museum or foundation will ever have it. Given her route to becoming U.S. citizen was so long and her love of America is so strong, Doris wants to be buried with her United States Certification of Naturalization. Whereas the other pieces of paper will help convey messages to future generations about the country that granted her haven from the Holocaust, this piece of paper will accompany her as she continues her journey in the land that has granted her so much freedom and opportunity.

Doris Fogel passed away on December 13, 2024, surrounded by family.

Items Pertaining to Doris Fogel in the Florence and Laurence Spungen Family Foundation Collection:

Artwork from Shanghai:
Doris Warschawski Decorative Object with String
Doris Warschawski Drawing: Ceremonial Table Setting
Doris Warschawski Drawing: Countryside Scene with Buildings
Doris Warschawski Drawing: Countryside with Barn
Doris Warschawski Drawing: Flowers in a Pot
Doris Warschawski Drawing: Fruit in a Basket
Doris Warschawski Drawing: Geometric Shapes in Squares
Doris Warschawski Drawing: Ship, Houses, and Mountains
Doris Warschawski Drawing: Ship with House in Background
Doris Warschawski Drawing: Shovel
Doris Warschawski Drawing: Two Ships
Doris Warschawski Painting: Vase with Flowers

Interviews:
Doris Fogel interview conducted by Danny Spungen, November 3, 2019, Parts One, Two, and Three
Doris Fogel, telephone interview conducted by Kevin Ostoyich, October 16, 2023.
Doris Fogel, telephone interview conducted by Kevin Ostoyich, October 26, 2023.

Schoolwork from Shanghai:
Doris Warschawski Graded Schoolwork: English Test
Doris Warschawski Graded Schoolwork: Essay about Shanghai
Doris Warschawski Graded Schoolwork: Geography Test
Doris Warschawski Purim Essay

[69] October 26, 2023 Interview.

About the Author

Kevin Ostoyich is a professor of history at Valparaiso University. Kevin and his students at Valparaiso began partnering with the Florence and Laurence Spungen Foundation in 2013. The Foundation provided artifacts (mostly documents & postal history) to the students from Holocaust survivors who were in the Shanghai ghetto, "Shanghailanders," for archival studies and the curation of temporary exhibitions at the university. In 2021, he collaborated with the Foundation to author the preface and two additional chapters in the Foundation's book, *Forging Secrets: Faces and Facts Inside the Nazi Operation Bernhard Scheme,* published in 2022. In July 2023, he joined the Foundation staff as a researcher, writer, and interviewer, focusing on artifacts from the Spungen Foundation collection. He has interviewed and written stories about Shanghailanders on the Foundation's behalf.

At Valparaiso, he served as chair of the Department of History from 2015 to 2019, was the recipient of the Dixon W. and Herta E. Benz Fund for Faculty Support (an endowed position) from 2020 – 2022, and was bestowed the Excellence in Teaching Award for 2017-2018. He holds his B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania and his A.M. and Ph.D. from Harvard University. He is currently an associate fellow at the Käte Hamburger Kolleg (global dis:connect) at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München.

Additionally, he is a board member of CANDLES Holocaust Museum, the Sino-Judaic Institute, the Shanghai Jewish Refugees Museum, and a non-resident fellow of the American-German Institute of Johns Hopkins University. Kevin has served as a fellow and guest professor at multiple institutions and universities; has written many articles and book chapters; has co-edited *The History of the Shanghai Jews: New Pathways of Research* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2022) and authored *The German Society of Pennsylvania: A Guide to Its Book and Manuscript Collections* (German Historical Institute, 2006); interviews Holocaust survivors; gives lectures about the Holocaust worldwide; and creates historical theatrical plays about Shanghai Jewish refugees with students.

The Spungen Foundation can devote many pages honoring Kevin's work, so let's just say he keeps very, very busy teaching, writing, conducting interviews, and working on documentaries.

About the Florence and Laurence Spungen Family Foundation

The Spungen Foundation was established in 2006 by Florence Spungen and reflects the individual and collective philanthropy of the founders, their children, and their grandchildren. The Foundation focuses its grantmaking typically in Santa Barbara, CA and Lake County, IL. One of the Foundation's strategic areas concentrates on the Holocaust and genocide education. The Spungen Family Foundation has one of the largest collections of Holocaust artifacts in private hands, mainly consisting of postal history, such as letters, post cards, stamps, along with money, children's artwork, and more. The collection has been used for Holocaust education all around the world.

The mission of the Foundation is to improve the quality of life of individuals and families facing health challenges, and to address issues that particularly affect the Jewish community.

Visit us at: www.spungenfoundation.org

Florence and Laurence Spungen Family Foundation