The Hungarian
Archives

Preserving your stories.

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Purpose & Objective

The Hungarian Archives is a free digital and online archive created by the American Hungarian Library and Historical Society for the purpose of collecting amateur pre-digital era photos, documents, and other materials of interest to record the histories and lives of Hungarians living around the globe, their communities and their organizations.

The objective is to create a searchable digital online archive accessible for research and general interest purposes, with the ability to crowd-source information where it is missing. The content will be freely available to the public for review.

WHO SHOULD SUBMIT MATERIALS?

We are seeking submissions from all families and individuals with Hungarian roots or connections who would like to preserve their legacy and share their memories in a publicly available digital archive.

We also welcome submissions from Hungarian organizations, and are keen to collect documents and photographs related to those organizations and businesses that are no longer in existence.

WHAT SHOULD YOU SUBMIT?

We are inviting you to submit in the following three categories:

- Pre-digital amateur photography.
- Documents (letters, correspondence, official documents, family trees, etc.).
- Digital photography that is historically significant.

For more details, see next page.

FROM WHERE SHOULD YOU SUBMIT?

While we will consider submissions from anywhere, initially, we will focus on collecting materials from individuals with Hungarian ancestry living in the United States, especially in the New York area; and Hungarian organizations that are still operating – or were active in the past – in the United States and would like to contribute to the archive with their stories.

We will continuously expand the scope of our collection to include other regions and countries such as the wider United States, Canada, Latin America, Australia, etc.

2.5m
Estimated number of people with Hungarian ancestry outside of Hungary and its neighboring countries.

1.4m
Hungarians living in the United States.

1.1m
Hungarians living in other parts of the world.

SCOPE AND TYPE OF CONTENT

The Society seeks to collect mainly pre-digital era photographs, however, digital photos with historical value are also accepted. Submissions are welcomed in the following three categories:

1. **Pre-digital amateur photography** (such as photos of Hungarian neighborhoods, events and gatherings, holidays, public figures, historical events, family memorabilia, art collections, etc.).
2. **Digital photography** (such as major Hungarian community events with notable people, no longer existing Hungarian locales, historically significant moments that have a Hungarian context).
3. **Documents** (such as old family documents, family trees, immigration documents, significant letters, postcards, documents relating to Hungarian organizations no longer in existence).

HOW CAN YOU SUBMIT?

Scan your materials at home and submit via this form:
To scan photos and documents, use a printer-scanner capable of scanning with the following resolution:

- Paper photos: 300-600 dpi
- Film (color, black & white, negatives, slides): 1,200-3,200
- Paper documents: 300 dpi
- For video and audio files, please use mp3/mp4 formatting

You can also use a scanning app on your smart phone that guides you through the process to ensure proper scanning.

You can also upload your materials to Google Drive and share the public URL by clicking on "Get shareable link".

Third-party scanning service:
Alternatively, you can also use a third party scanning service and have the digital content sent to the Society on a USB or SD memory stick (see our website for address, or contact us by email) and yourself. We have entered into a partnership with DiJiFi in New York offering up to 20% discount on orders. Once they have scanned your photos or documents you will receive the originals back and the digital copy of any document. For further details, please visit their website and use the following code: HUNGARIANARCHIVE

File names and index
All images and files need to be named in the following way: files should start with your family name and a number, e.g.: FAMILYNAME_01.jpg, or if submitting material about an organization, ORGNAME_01.jpg or .tiff, .pdf, etc.

WHAT DESCRIPTION DO YOU NEED TO PROVIDE?

All submission should include a detailed description (ideally, with precise information about when, where, specific locations and what can be seen on the photo, who the photo depicts or what the given document relates to), if available. We will accept material without detailed information as long as it is within the scope of our purpose. We kindly request that you add at least a few tags describing what is in each document and/or photo to make them searchable.

The detailed description for each image should include the following:
- Name of the photographer.
- When and where the photo was taken, i.e. specific location.
- What or who can be seen on the photo (ideally provide specific names or describe the scene the photo depicts).
- Use detailed photo tags (general terms and multiple tags) separated by commas, as applicable.
- These tags can be the following: people, family, event/type of event (e.g.: wedding), landscape, animals, location (e.g.: street scene, village, city country, etc.), type of building (e.g.: skyscraper, church, government building, house, etc), cars, etc.

In case of documents:
- What any document relates to, if available: the type of document, who issued it, authors, details about the addressee, purpose, etc.

In exceptional cases, and upon prior consultation and agreement to do so, our long-term plans include collecting original source material once the Library reopens and our renovation has been completed.

WHERE CAN YOU SUBMIT?

You can upload your documents and fill in the form with the detailed information at this link: The Hungarian Archives Submission Form.

While the new site is under development, we will feature selections of images, documents and stories on our website: The Hungarian Archives.

We are also planning to share submissions with Fortepan, a Budapest-based online photo archive.

Resources: Leo Szilard Papers, 1898-1998 UC San Diego Library

USEFUL LINKS

Click on the below link and check out some scanning apps recommended by the following *New York Times* article:

"**The Best Mobile Scanning Apps**"

You can also download PhotoScan by Google Photos to your iPhone or Android (click on the corresponding icon):

Available on the App Store   **GET IT ON Google Play**

You can also read the articles below for more useful information and suggestions:

"**How to Digitize Your Most Important Documents**"

"**How to Rescue, Repair and Revive Old Family Photos**"

"**This Is The Best Way To Scan And Save Your Old Photos**"

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If you are unsure how to digitize your material, or you have any other questions, please contact us at:

info@hungarianarchives.org