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GRHC
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Finding Aid to the Betty and Chris Maier Collection
2003.05

OVERVIEW

Donor: Betty and Chris Maier

Accession Date: 21 May 2003

Collection Number: 090

Quantity: 1 textile

Summary: One Volhynian-German hemp rug.

Languages: English

Links:
- Interview with Frieda Gabert Schritter
- Interview with Paul P. Welder (08/09/2000)
- Interview with Paul P. Welder (10/03/2000)
- Emily P. Reynolds Historic Costume Collection

Access Restrictions: Open to the public, available upon request. Copyrights to items in this collection remain with original copyright holders or are in the public domain.

Citation: Betty and Chris Maier Collection, 090, Germans from Russia Heritage Collection, NDSU Libraries, Fargo, ND.

BIOGRAPHY

Chris Maier, Jr. was born on June 30, 1925. Chris and his wife Betty lived in Linton, North Dakota. The couple had three children: Kurt, Roger, and Danette. Chris Maier died January 7, 2007 at the age of eighty-one.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The **Betty and Chris Maier Collection** is a small collection that consists of one Volhynian-German hemp rug of two hand-woven panels sewn together at mid seam. Each panel is 27 inches wide of weft striped with bright colors on the black wrap of 72 inches long. The hemp is hand-spun for 16 picks per inch of woven fabric. One inch wide weft stripes are aniline chemical dyes of black, maroon, fuchsia, indigo blue, Prussian blue, moss green, and chartreuse green. Some one-eighth-inch wide weft stripes of indigo blue and moss green are inserted with white "X" dashes, which appear as zipper-dotted lines parallel with the colored stripes.

This Volhyian-German hemp "boden-placht" was purchased in 1991 by Chris and Betty Maier near Rivne, Volhynia (northwest Ukraine, west of Zhitomir and Kiev) from an elderly Ukrainian man's roadside merchant stand. The seller at the village of Borisvitski did not know the ethnic origin of this unique hemp rug, but he insisted that the rug was not ethnic Ukrainian.

SEPARATION RECORD

The Betty and Chris Maier Collection also included a book, 2003.05.01, which was donated along with the rug. The book, Gossamer Webs: the History and Techniques of Orenburg Lace Shawls by Galina Khmeleva and Carol R. Noble, has been catalogued and placed in the GRHC library.

The rug is housed at the Emily P. Reynolds Historic Costume Collection. Advanced notice is requested for the viewing of this item.

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Box/Folder	Contents
1/1	Finding aid, detailed inventory, and initial inventory
EPRHCC	Volhynian-German hemp rug (2003.05.02)