



GERMANS FROM RUSSIA
GRHC
HERITAGE COLLECTION
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**Finding aid to the
Anne (Roesch) Larson
Collection
2003.11**

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OVERVIEW

Donor: Anne (Roesch) Larson

Accession Date: 24 July 2004

Collection Number: 012

Quantity: 0.8 linear feet

Summary: The bulk of this collection consists of photocopies of correspondence to and from Germans from Russia, dating from 1917-1950. Many of these have been translated into English. Also present is family information from Anne Larson and background information about the letters and their authors, dating from 2003-2004.

Languages: German and English

Links:

- [GRHC Interview with Anne \(Roesch\) Larson](#)
- [Anne \(Roesch\) Larson's Obituary in the Aberdeen News](#)
- ["Tunda Anna: Memories of Anne \(Roesch\) Larson" by Melvin Roesch](#)
- [Schmeckfest: Food Traditions of the Germans from Russia](#)
- [Anne Roesch Larson Collection \(Northern State University Archives\)](#)

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: Anne (Roesch) Larson Collection, 012, Germans from Russia Heritage Collection, NDSU Libraries, Fargo, ND.

BIOGRAPHY

Anne Elaine Roesch was born April 13, 1913, to Frederick and Rosina (Trefitz) Roesch on a farm five miles north of Roscoe, S.D. she attended rural elementary school in Sangamon Township.

Anne graduated from Roscoe High school in 1931. She then went on to attend Aberdeen Business College. After receiving her education, Anne worked in the A.S.C. office in Ipswich. She was the Edmunds county deputy treasurer for three years. Anne was also employed in the Groton Bank for two years. Anne married Lewis E. Larson on September 1, 1940, at Aberdeen, S.D. They lived in Roscoe, S.D., for two years before moving to Aberdeen in 1942, where Lewis was employed as a train dispatcher by Milwaukee Railroad. Lewis died December 2, 1974. In Aberdeen, Anne was employed as a part-time consumer advisor in a local food market for 30 years until her health forced her to retire. Anne was a member of United Church of Christ, Plymouth congregational church since 1944. She held various church offices and taught Sunday School. Anne was also a member of Pasque Club, Minerva chapter No.5, Eastern Star, Daughters of the Nile, Aurora Temple No.39, and Yelduz Ladies Auxiliary, Scottish Rite Women's Club, shrine widows, Germans from Russia Heritage Society. Anne represented Germans From Russia at Smithsonian Folklife Festival in Washington DC in 1975. She was also past president of Milwaukee Women's Club. Mrs. Larson also appeared in the Prairie Public Broadcasting documentary *Schmeckfest: Food Traditions of the Germans from Russia*.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The **Anne (Roesch) Larson Collection** consists of two boxes of materials. The bulk of these materials consist of correspondences received from the Glücksthal colonies near the river Dnjestr in the Ukraine which document the lives of some of the German from Russia colonists there. Also present are background information about the letters, information about the Roesch family, correspondence concerning the translation of these letters, interviews, and 5 computer disks.

The [Correspondence Series](#) consists of ten folders of correspondence from the Germans from Russia in Glücksthal that were kept together and numbered in a series, page by page. The original order of this series has been maintained because the numbering corresponds to some of the research and commentary that had been done for the letters previously. There are 95 letters which date from 1917 to 1949 and are all in German.

The [Translated Correspondence Series](#) consists of eight folders of correspondence that have been translated by Alice Morgenstern of Munich, Germany in 2003 - 2004. They have been organized according to the surname of the sender. Some of the senders include: Heinrich and Friederike Büchler, Christine Dollinger, Friedrich Kolb, Anna Kieß, Rosina Rösch, and Christian Vöegele and date from 1917 – 1994. Also contained is one folder of anonymous correspondence. Most of these letters were sent to the United States from Glücksthal (which was then in the Soviet Union) and discuss family members and friends that remain there. There is also a good deal of content about the starvation that the people in Glücksthal suffered through and their constant and tragic pleas for money and food.

The [Subject Files Series](#) consists of eight folders of materials related to the correspondences, the people that sent them, and the efforts to translate the letters. The **Documentation and Commentary Folder** contains background information about the letters, their authors, and some commentary from Alice Morgenstern about the process of translating these letters. The **GRHC Documents Folder** contains correspondences between Alice Morgenstern and the Germans from

Russia Heritage Collection about her progress in translating the letters. These date from 2003 and 2004. The **Genealogy Folder** contains a family genealogy of the descendants of Jacob Roesch (c. 1740) that seems to have been prepared in 2002. The folder titled “**Hidden Treasures in Lars and Annie Larson Home**” contains materials that were prepared for the publication of a book of that title. Within this folder are some photocopied images of Frederick and Rosina Roesch and Lars and Annie Larson, and copies of important documents related to the immigration of the Roesch Family. Also contained in this folder is a poem, titled “That Brown House Near Roscoe”, by Eva Roesch. The **Images Folder** contains photocopies of a German prayer picture, a church in Glücksthal, and family images of the Roesch and Jutzy Families, circa 1890. The **Interviews Folder** contains two interviews with Anne Roesch Larson dating from 1999 and 2003. The **Money Transfers Folder** contains photocopies of receipts for transactions conducted for Germans from Russia between the United States and the Soviet Union. These date from 1917 – 1927. The **Supplies Ledger** folder contains a photocopy of a ledger produced by Friedrich Roesch which details all of the supplies and hardware that was needed to run his farm in the year 1898.

BOX AND FOLDER LIST

Box/Folder	Contents
1/1	Finding aid, detailed inventory, and initial inventory

CORRESPONDENCE SERIES

1/2	Letters 1-10
1/3	Letters 11-20
1/4	Letters 21-30
1/5	Letters 31-40
1/6	Letters 41-50
1/7	Letters 51-60
1/8	Letters 61-70
1/9	Letters 71-80
1/10	Letters 81-90
1/11	Letters 91-95

TRANSLATED CORRESPONDENCE SERIES

1/12	Büchler – Dollinger
1/13	Eisenmann - Jundt
1/14	Kolb – Nufer
2/1	Jutzy – Kieß
2/2	Ritter
2/3	Roesch

2/4 Schaible-Walth
2/5 Anonymous

SUBJECT FILES SERIES

2/6 Documentation and Commentary
2/7 GRHC Documents
2/8 Genealogy
2/9 "Hidden Treasures in the Lars and Annie Larson Home"
2/10 Images
2/11 Interviews
2/12 Money Transfers
2/13 Supply Ledger, 1898

NOTE:

Also contained within this collection are 5 computer disks that contain copies of the letters.