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# American Jewish Archives selected documents

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<td><strong>Collection No:</strong></td>
<td>MSS.49</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Extent:</strong></td>
<td>2 cubic feet</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Inclusive Dates:</strong></td>
<td>1808-2000 (Bulk dates: 1853-1865)</td>
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**Abstract:**
The collection consists mainly of photocopies of material held by the American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, used in the research activities of Dr. Berkley Kalin, University of Memphis. It includes articles, correspondence, histories and constitutions of congregations, speeches, personal records, and publications related to Southern Jews.

**Donor:**
Dr. Berkley Kalin, June 1979.

**Processed by:**
James E. Montague, 2003; Gerald Chaudron, 2014.

**Access:**
Open to all researchers.

**Language:**
English

**Preferred Citation:**
American Jewish Archives selected documents, Special Collections Department, University Libraries, University of Memphis.

**Publication date:**
May 2014
Scope and contents

The collection consists of photocopies of articles, correspondence, histories and constitutions of congregations, speeches, personal records, and publications related to Southern Jews. There is considerable information about Jews in Memphis and Nashville during the 1850s and 1860s.

Provenance

Much of the collection is copied from material held by the American Jewish Archives on the Cincinnati Campus of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

Subject terms

Benjamin, J. P. (Judah Philip), 1811-1884.
Jews--United States—History.

Inventory

Box 1

Note: Folders 1-69 contain photocopies of articles published in The Occident and American Jewish Advocate, a monthly periodical devoted to the diffusion of knowledge on Jewish literature and religion. It was edited by Isaac Leeser and published in Philadelphia during the 19th century. The Occident began publication with the April 1843 issue and published some 26 volumes before ceasing publication in 1869.

The Occident:

Folder 1  1 item

Folder 2  1 item
Vol. XIV, no. 9, Dec., 1856: “Congregations.”

Folder 3  1 item

Folder 4  1 item
Folder 5  1 item

Folder 6  1 item
Vol. XX, no. 9, Dec., 1862: “Cotton Speculators in Tennessee.”

Folder 7  1 item
Vol. XX, no. 12, Mar., 1863, “The Jews in Tennessee.”

Folder 8  1 item
Vol. XXIII, no. 3, June, 1865: Obituary: President Abraham Lincoln.

Folder 9  1 item
Vol. XXIII, no. 4, 1865: Resolution related to General Grant’s treatment of the Jews in Tennessee during the Civil War.

Folder 10  1 item
Vol. XXIII, no. 6, Sept., 1865: Re: Project for the amendment of the U. S. Constitution so that it would recognize Christianity as the religion of the land.

Folder 11  1 item
Vol. XXIII, no. 8, Nov., 1865: Report to the Board of Delegates of American Israelites on the efforts to make Christianity the religion of the land and on General Grant’s treatment of the Jews in Tennessee during the Civil War.

Folder 12  1 item
Vol. XXIII, no. 9, Dec., 1865: General Grant’s “General Order, No. 11” issued Dec. 17, 1862, expelling Jews from the Department of Tennessee.

Folder 13  1 item

Folder 14  1 item

Folder 15  1 item

Folder 16  1 item
Vol. X, April, 1852: Need for establishment of Jewish congregation in Memphis for 20 families.
Folder 17
Vol. XI, Sept., 1853: Israelites first regularly organized in Memphis under Mr. M. Simon as Parnass.

Folder 18
Vol. XI Mar., 1854: The will of Judah Touro of New Orleans (Made bequest to Hebrew Congregation of Memphis.)

Folder 19

Folder 20
Vol. XII, Aug., 1854: Mr. M. Simon, President of the Memphis Congregation, makes a contribution of $140 to Palestine relief fund.

Folder 21
Vol. XIII, May, 1855: Memphis Hebrew Congregation contributes $140 to Palestine Relief Fund.

Folder 22

Folder 23

Folder 24
Vol. XIII, Sept., 1855: Election of officers of the congregation “Children of Israel,” July 8, 1855, and speech by president.

Folder 25

Folder 26
Vol. XIV, April, 1856: Formation of the Ladies’ Hebrew Benevolent Society of Memphis, December 1855. On Jan. 28, 1856, a ball was held to raise money for the society.

Folder 27
Vol. XIV, May, 1856: April 13, 1856, congregation of the “Children of Israel” decide to build a synagogue in Memphis on lot purchased with Judah Touro’s bequest.
Folder 28  5 items
Vol. XIV, May, June, July, 1856 advertisement for person to act as a Shochet, Hazan, and Teacher for Hebrew congregation in Memphis.
Vol. XIV, Oct., Nov. 1856 notice of situation as Hazan, Koray, Teacher, Shochet and Mohel at Memphis.

Folder 29  1 item

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Folder 31  1 item

Folder 32  1 item
Vol. XVI, May, 1858: Memphis congregation “Children of Israel” and visit of Rev. Dr. Wise.

Folder 33  1 item
Vol. XVI, June, 1858: Leasing the Farmers and Mechanics’ Bank building for use as location for public worship for Jewish congregation in Memphis.

Folder 34  3 items
Vol. XVI, June, August, December 1858: Advertisements to hire Hazan, Preacher, Teacher, and a Shochet for the congregation of the “Children of Israel” in Memphis.

Folder 35  1 item
Vol. XVI, Sept., 1858: Story encouraging newly arrived Jews to settle in Memphis and other places.

Folder 36  1 item
Vol. XVI, Nov., 1858: Jacob S. Cohen speaks to Memphis congregation.

Folder 37  1 item

Folder 38  1 item
Vol. XVI, Feb., 1859: List of officers of the Congregation “Bnai Israel”. Mr. Peres opened a Hebrew school.
Folder 39

Folder 40
Vol. XVII, no.4, April, 1859: The Israelites of Memphis form a literary society. Rev. Peres elected honorary member.

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Folder 43
Vol. XVII, no. 43, Jan., 1860: Rev. Jacob Joseph Peres has been re-elected Hazan.

Folder 44

Folder 45
Vol. XX, no. 5, Aug., 1862: New Polish congregation formed in Memphis called Beth-El-Emeth.

Folder 46
Vol. XX, Mar., 1863: Advertisement for Hebrew and English teacher for the congregation Beth-El-Emeth in Memphis.

Folder 47
Vol. XX, no. 12, Mar., 1863: General meeting of congregation Beth-El-Emeth held Jan. 25, 1863.

Folder 48
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Folder 52
Vol. XXII, no. 1, April, 1864: Obituary of Edward Mitchell, born in Louisville, Kentucky, died in Memphis, Mar. 16, 1864.

Folder 53
Vol. XXII, no. 12, Mar., 1865: Minutes of the Jan. 22, 1865, meeting of the Euphrates Lodge, No. 35, I.O.B.B.

Folder 54

Folder 55
Vol. XXV, no. 4, July, 1867: “Rishuth Again. II”

Folder 56

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Folder 60
Vol. XI, June, 1853: Thirty Israelites residing in Nashville unite to form a beneficial society under the name “The Shield of David.” Election of officers.
Folder 61

Folder 62

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Folder 64
Vol. XV, Dec., 1857: Article pertaining to a treaty made by the U.S. Government and the Swiss Confederation which would abrogate the rights of American Jewish citizens traveling in Switzerland.

Folder 65
Vol. XV, Dec., 1857: An account of meeting held by the Israelites of Nashville for the purpose of taking into consideration certain articles in a treaty signed by the U.S. President and the Swiss Confederacy.

Folder 66
Vol. XV, Dec., 1857: An account of one of the first meetings of the Nashville Israelites in a rented room used as a synagogue and the hiring of Rev. Emanuel Marenson [sic] as Hazen, Shochet, and Hebrew teacher.

Folder 67

Folder 68

Folder 69
Vol. XIII, Nov., 1855; Vol. XVII, no.15, July, 1859: List of new congregations in the U.S. in 1854, including Nashville. A discussion of the distribution of the population of the earth in accordance with their religious confessions, the Jews in particular.

Material related to Jews in Alabama:
Folder 70  
1 item

Folder 71  
12 items
Congregation Beth-El constitution and by-laws (Anniston, April 18, 1906).

Folder 72  
2 items
Sermons of Rabbi Stanley Yedwab, Temple Beth Am, Lakewood, New Jersey: “The March on Montgomery” and “Memorial Eulogy for Mrs. Viola Liuzzo (1965).”

Folder 73  
1 item
Hebrew Union College (Cincinnati, Ohio) student petition in support of “Deliverance Day of Prayer” and declaring “our solidarity with our Negro fellow citizens” (1956).

Folder 74  
1 item
“Memoirs of Henry Beck”, Co. D, 5th Alabama Reg., General Battles Brigade, General Rodes’ Division, General Éwell’s Army Corps (1864 March-1865 February). (Pages 1-22)

Folder 75  
1 item
“Memoirs of Henry Beck”, Co. D, 5th Alabama Reg., General Battles Brigade, General Rodes’ Division, General Éwell’s Army Corps (1864 March-1865 February). (Pages 23-54)

Folder 76  
1 item
Letter dated April 17, 1964, written by A.S. Krawcheck, Birmingham, to Dr. Jacob R. Marcus.

Folder 77  
1 item
Isaac J. Nordlinger’s will, 1864 April 2 (Clarke County).

Folder 78  
2 items

Folder 79  
1 item
A brief history of the congregation Beth Israel in Gadsden (1948).

Folder 80  
1 item
Sampson Samuels’ will, 1840 July 11 (Marengo County).

Folder 81  
1 item
Israel P. Loewi’s will, 1853 April 1 (Perry County).

Folder 82  
1 item
Material related to Jews in Arkansas:

Folder 83 1 item

Folder 84 1 item
Minutes of the Sixth Annual Convention of the Arkansas Jewish Assembly, Texarkana, April 4-5, 1937.

Folder 85 3 items
Material related to the Baum family of Fayetteville, 1895-1931.

Folder 86 1 item
Mordecai Sheftall and Frances Hart marriage certificate (in Hebrew).

Material Related to Jews in Kentucky:

Folder 87 1 item
History of congregation Adas Israel (Hendersonville) prepared by S.O. Heilbronner (1942).

Folder 88 1 item

Folder 89 1 item
Building contract for synagogue and school by congregation K.K. Brith Sholom, Louisville, June 1, 1881.

Folder 90 1 item
Birth and marriage records, Shoninger family (Louisville) (1793-1916).

Folder 91 1 item
Congregation K.K. B’rith Scholom (Louisville) resolution of thanks to H. Shoninger, April 10, 1892.

Material related to Jews in Louisiana:

Folder 92 2 items
Advertisement, notice: Missouri Gazette, Nov. 9, 1808; Louisiana Gazette, Jan. 16, 1811, re: Jacob Philipson

Folder 93 1 item
Memorandum on the first Jewish migration into North Louisiana: re: Jacob Bodenheimer.
Folder 94
1 item

Folder 95
6 items
Letters to and from Saloman Marx, re: the first agricultural colony of Russian Israelites in America, Sicily Island, Catahoula Parish (1882).

Folder 96
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Works Progress Administration history: Congregation B’nai Sholom, Bastrop, 1939.

Folder 97
2 items
A legislative act to incorporate the Hebrew congregation of Baton Rouge, 1859.

Folder 98
1 item
Works Progress Administration history: Congregation Temple Sinai, Lake Charles, 1940.

Folder 99
1 item
Works Progress Administration history: Congregation Agudath Achim, Shreveport, 1939.

Folder 100
5 items
Material related to the Carrie Levy family of Shreveport, 1878, 1885 and undated.

Material related to Judah P. Benjamin, U.S. Senator, Confederate States Attorney General, Secretary of War, and Secretary of State:

Folder 101
8 items
Benjamin, Judah P. – Biographical data on the Hyams family.

Folder 102
1 item

Folder 103
1 item
Election to the U.S. Senate, Feb. 14, 1859 and other documents.

Folder 104
1 item
Pro-slavery speech delivered in U.S. Senate, 1858 March 11.

Folder 105
7 items
Correspondence to and from Benjamin, 1851-1864.

Folder 106
1 item
Letter dated Oct. 13, 1836, from Benjamin, New Orleans, to the president and directors of the New Orleans & Carrollton Railroad Company
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<td>107</td>
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<td>Letters dated Dec. 7, 1847, from G.T. Beauregard, recommending Benjamin and John D. Grimes as lawyers to Franklin Pierce, and introducing General Pierce to Benjamin.</td>
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<td>109</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Summary of letter dated July 30, 1851, from Benjamin to Daniel Webster.</td>
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<td>110</td>
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<td>Letter dated Oct. 10, 1852, from Benjamin to Millard Fillmore, re: visit of partner William Micon.</td>
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<td>111</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Letter dated Dec. 16, 1853, from Benjamin to J.M. Campbell.</td>
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<td>112</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Personal letter dated January 21, 1857, from Benjamin to unknown friend.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>113</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Letter dated May 16, 1861, from Leopold Jacob Weil to Josiah Weil. Refers to Benjamin’s appointment to Confederate States cabinet.</td>
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<td>114</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Letter dated Dec. 16, 1861, from John Fletcher to Benjamin, re: military appointment.</td>
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<td>116</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Correspondence dated Mar. 7, 1862, between Benjamin and Leonidas Ketchum.</td>
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<td>117</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Letter dated Nov. 3, 1862, written by Benjamin to Louis Jamin informing him that his son had been killed in the Battle of Antietam.</td>
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Folder 119  1 item

Folder 120  1 item
Confederate States permit to pass dated Oct. 27, 1863, signed by Benjamin, issued to Benjamin Florance.

Folder 121  1 item
Letter dated Mar. 12, 1878, from Benjamin to John Finney.

Material related to Jews in Mississippi:

Folder 122  1 item

Folder 123  1 item
Constitution and by-laws of congregation B’nai Israel, Natchez, 1893.

Folder 124  1 item
Historical notes: Congregation B’nai Israel, Natchez (1828-1872).

Folder 125  1 item
Diary: Simon Mayer, Natchez (1862-1865).

Folder 126  4 items
Material on the Rice/Cromline family (Vicksburg).

Folder 127  33 items

Folder 128  63 items

Materials related to Jews in Missouri:

Folder 129  1 item

Folder 130
Folder 131 1 item

Folder 132 1 item
Congregation B’nai Jehuda (Kansas City), program of dedication (1885).

Folder 133 1 item
“Annual No. 11 of Congregation B’nai Jehuda, 5670 (1910-11), Records from June 1909 to June 1910, Directory, Etc., Kansas City, Missouri”.

Folder 134 1 item
Letter dated June 20, 1957, from Charles Van Ravenswaay, Missouri Historical Society, to Rabbi Ferdinand M. Isserman concerning Benjamin Altheimer being the founder of Flag Day.

Folder 135 1 item
Congregation Bnai Jehudah Sabbath School Board rules and regulations (Kansas City) (Mar. 11, 1877).

Folder 136 1 item
Marriage certificate of Moses Baum and Mathilde Baum, Congregation B’nai El, St. Louis, 1871.

Folder 137 4 items
Congregation B’nai El constitution, 1853 (St. Louis). Also obituary of Adolphus Busch and other material.

Folder 138 1 item
Congregation B’nai El constitution, 1871 (St. Louis).

Folder 139 1 item
“The Jews in St. Louis: Historical sketch by Isador Bush”.

Folder 140 1 item
Beth El Temple, Jefferson City (1879-1939).

Material related to Jews in Ohio:

Folder 141 3 items
Letters dated, Jan. 15, 1855, Nov. 19, 1856, April 20, 1859, and from Isaac M. Wise, Cincinnati, to Simon Tuska.

Material related to Jews in Tennessee:
Folder 142  5 items
“Annals of Chattanooga Jewry” beginning in 1865.

Folder 143  7 items
Mizpah Congregation’s 80th anniversary, Chattanooga, 1946

Folder 144  1 item
“History of Mizpah Congregation, Read at the Twenty-fifth Anniversary, March 28th, 1913, by
H. Goodman, Jr., Chattanooga, Tenn.”

Folder 145  1 item
“History of Mizpah Congregation by H. Goodman. Jr., Nov. 18th, 1921. Celebration of burning
of the mortgage on the Temple”.

Miscellaneous:

Folder 146  1 item
Cahn family (New York, New Orleans, Natchez) scrapbook (1700-1912).

Folder 147  1 item
Will: Bernard Young, Mar. 2, 1860. Father of Bernard W., Dorothy C. Sledge, Rebecca A. Butt,
Mary E. Wit, Clara F. Mason.

Folder 148  2 items
Blame.” Also clippings on Fineshriber, 1920s.
B.F. Saltzstein Resolution; re: honorary doctoral degree conferred on Rabbi Morris Lazaron and

Folder 149  2 items
Correspondence: Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, New York, to/from Rabbi Malcolm H. Stern,
Norfolk, Virginia, May 29, June 5, 1963; Marjorie Arsht, Houston, Texas, to Emil Baar, Union
to Rabbis Lazaron and Fineshriber.

Folder 150  2 items
Correspondence: Dr. Nelson Glueck, President of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of
Religion, Cincinnati, to Rabbi Roland B. Gittelsohn, Boston, 1963 June 11; Harry Sahlman, New
York, to Dr. Glueck, 1963 July 9. Re: granting of honorary degrees to Rabbis Lazaron and
Fineshriber.

Box 2
**Periodicals:**

*Volume/Number  Date*

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**The American Jewish Archives Journal**

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**Identity in Dispersion: Selected Memoirs from Latin American Jews** (Supplement to the American Jewish Archives Journal), undated.

**Southern Jewish History**

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