

Temple Israel Collection (MC 305)

Organizational / Historical Note

The Temple Israel congregation has a long and interesting history in Columbus, Georgia dating back to 1854, when twenty Jewish families came together to form Temple B'nai Israel. They had been meeting in private homes when the group established a sanctuary and school in a building at the northeast corner of 10th Street and 5th Avenue. In October of 1859, the congregation bought a house on the corner of 10th Street and 4th Avenue, which it furnished as a synagogue accommodating 100 people. For almost a century it occupied the same site in downtown Columbus.

A parcel of land given to the congregation by the city for the construction of a Temple on Chapel Street was never used. In June of 1866 it was decided to build a new Temple at the 10th Street-4th Avenue site. The house being used was then moved to a new site. The new Temple, begun in October 1886, was dedicated September 2, 1887. A banquet and dance to celebrate was held at the Rankin Hotel with several hundred guests attending.

In 1907, fire destroyed the interior of the Temple, along with historical records. The Temple was rebuilt and remodeled, including moving the choir loft and organ.

On January 28, 1955, Temple Israel celebrated a double "Simcha"; its 100th anniversary and the 10th anniversary of the ordination of its Rabbi, with many honored guests attending. In March of 1956, under the leadership of President Albert M. Wise, the membership approved purchase of the Wildwood Avenue site and the sale of the downtown building. Ground was broken for the new Sanctuary in March 1957 and dedicated in March 1958. The stately old building downtown was sold and demolished in 1958 when the congregation moved into the new Temple on Wildwood Avenue.

The Jewish Ladies Aid Society in Columbus was founded on July 5, 1874, by the Ladies Purim Association. These women decided to broaden their societies' focus to include charity and benevolence within the Jewish community and throughout the city of Columbus. Originally named the "Daughters of Israel", the name has changed over the years, becoming the Hebrew Benevolent Society before finally becoming the Jewish Ladies Aid Society. The Columbus Society orchestrated the establishment of the Milk Fund in 1924, donating milk to needy children. The Jewish Ladies Aid celebrated 100 years of service in 1974. Rabbi Goodman called them "an arm of the Temple". Among other projects they have been involved with are the Blind Fund and the Educational Fund. Their works have known neither race, creed, nor color.

The Columbus chapter of Hadassah had been organized twice in the 1930's but was dissolved both times. In the fall of 1944 two young women, newcomers to the community, began discussing the possibility of organizing Hadassah, which was involved in the plight of European Jews. A chapter was formed in 1945 with 40 women signing up. Hadassah sold more war bonds than any other organization in the community. By the 1960's, particularly after the 1967 war, Hadassah leadership was held by young women who brought new ideas and fresh enthusiasm and increased the membership. This brought in many women of the reform congregation who had not been willing to join in previous years. Columbus Jewry became more united in spirit and fellowship.

Scope and Content

The Temple Israel Collection consists of 8 boxes of archival material from the Archives of Temple Israel, Columbus, Georgia. This collection encompasses the history of the Temple in Columbus, its anniversaries, family histories, the women's organizations of Hadassah and the Jewish Ladies Aid Society and the founding and history of the Harmony Club. There are 3 boxes of scrapbooks included in this collection, including those from Temple Israel, Hadassah, the Jewish Ladies Aid Society and the Century Club. The collection is divided by subject area. The folders within each subject are arranged alphabetically by content.

1874-2003 8 boxes (8 l.f.)

Provenance

The Temple Israel Collection was donated to the Columbus State University Archives by the Board of Trustees of Temple Israel in October 2013. Rabbi Beth Schwartz, Jean Kiralfy Kent, Regina Satlof Block, and Gary Stern arranged the transfer.

Permission to Publish

Permission to publish material from the Temple Israel Collection must be obtained from the Columbus State University Archives. Use of the following credit line for publication or exhibit is required:

Temple Israel Collection, MC 305 Columbus State University Archives Columbus State University Columbus, Georgia

Box and Folder List

Box 1: Temple Israel

- Folder 1: Articles and clippings
- Folder 2: Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes, 1986-1990
- Folder 3: Budget, 1979
- Folder 4: Bulletins of Temple Israel
- Folder 5: Centennial Anniversary Sabbath Service, 1974
- Folder 6: Charter Applications, 1878, 1889, 1922 Reviver, 1948 Reviver
- Folder 7: Columbus Concordia, Record of Proceedings (photocopy), organized April 12, 1870
- Folder 8: Confirmation programs, 1897
- Folder 9: *Congress Weekly: A Review of Jewish Interests*, v. 22, #7, Feb. 14, 1955
- Folder 10: Constitution and By-Laws, Congregation B'nai Israel, 1908
- Folder 11: Constitution, 1949
- Folder 12: Correspondence, 1918, 1965, 1993-1994
- Folder 13: Documents, financial, 1887, 1889, 1891, 1894, 1909
- Folder 14: "Early History of Jewish Settlers in Columbus, Georgia" by Jean Kent (See also folder 17), 1998
- Folder 15: Evaluation of Board Members Workshop
- Folder 16: Golden Book of Life, Congregation B'Nai Israel, 1896-1938
- Folder 17: "History of Early Jewish Settlers in Columbus, Georgia" by Jean Kent (See also folder 14), 1991
- Folder 18: History of Temple Israel
- Folder 19: Inventory of Graves in the West Section of Linwood Cemetery known as the Jewish Section
- Folder 20: Jewish Welfare Board, Army and Navy Committee news release, January 21, 1944
- Folder 21: Jewish Welfare Federation of Columbus, Georgia-Incorporation Proceedings, 1944
- Folder 22: Jewish Youth Rally, 1953
- Folder 23: *Like Mama Used to Make*; Jewish dishes and recipes
- Folder 24: Linwood Cemetery lists (2); 1943-1946, 1950-1959
- Folder 25: National Council of Jewish Women, Columbus section - Membership
- Folder 26: National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods
- Folder 27: Notes-handwritten
- Folder 28: 125th Anniversary of Temple Israel
- Folder 29: 150th anniversary celebration, 2004
- Folder 30: Parliamentary procedures, 1960
- Folder 31: Photographs
- Folder 32: Proceedings of Executive committee Congregation B'nai Israel (photocopies), 1880-1908
- Folder 33: Rabbi Alfred L. Goodman
- Folder 34: Rabbis
- Folder 35: Religious School Handbooks, 1984-1987

- Folder 36: Remembrance card for Mrs. Mina Hirschberg, May 8, 1890
- Folder 37: Riverdale Cemetery Burials
- Folder 38: Schindler's List viewing by area high school students; sponsored by Jewish Federation of Columbus
- Folder 39: Shearith Israel Synagogue Dedication Ceremony, 2550 Wynnton Rd., February 1951
- Folder 40: Temple Beth- El, West Point, Georgia
- Folder 41: Temple B'nai Israel, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
- Folder 42: "Temple Israel of Columbus, Georgia, 1854-1999" by Jean Kiralfy Kent
- Folder 43: Timeline and history
- Folder 44: "To Do the Manufacturing for the South: Private Industry in Confederate Columbus"; *Georgia Historical Quarterly*, 2001
- Folder 45: Wall of Tolerance honoring Harry Kruger, 2003

Box 2: Families of Temple Israel

- Folder 1: Angel Family history-Jeanne Angel Weil, Celie Helman, Elinor Angel Rosenberg
- Folder 2: Broda, Inez Rothschild and Daniel
- Folder 3: Browne, Edward B.M." Alphabet" Dr. and wife Sophie Wells Browne (See also Goldberg/Gerson)
- Folder 4: Cemetery-Historic Jewish of Eufaula, Alabama
- Folder 5: Congregation Mickve Israel, Savannah
- Folder 6: Esquiline, home of Raphael J. Moses (See also Moses, Raphael J and family folder)
- Folder 7: Friedlander, Reb, and Miral
- Folder 8: Golden, Lillian
- Folder 9: Goldberg/Gerson
- Folder 10: Haiman, Lewis and Elijah
- Folder 11: Hecht Family
- Folder 12: Julius, M
- Folder 13: Kent, Gerry and Jean Kiralfy
- Folder 14: Kiralfy, Victor and Raye
- Folder 15: Lilienthal, Leslie and Ruth Gump
- Folder 16: Loeb Family
- Folder 17: Loeb, Sol Family
- Folder 18: Moses, Raphael J. and family
- Folder 19: Picard/Sternberg wedding photo 1909 (Includes a folded flag believed to have belonged to M. Sternberg)
- Folder 20: Rothschild, Benno and Babette
- Folder 21: Rothschild, David II and Barbara
- Folder 22: Rothschild, Frank and Simon
- Folder 23: Rothschild, Jac and Dora
- Folder 24: Rothschild family portraits
- Folder 25: Schiffman, Jack
- Folder 26: Schwob, Simon and Ruth
- Folder 27: Sol Loeb Company, Kern & Loeb charter 1899, Loeb Estate, Loeb Realty Company and family
- Folder 28: Schwarz, Isaac: first Rabbi of Columbus in 1852
- Folder 29: Sternberg & Loewenherz-advertisement. 1887
- Folder 30: Strauss Family; see also Strauss, Isador and Ida
- Folder 31: Strauss, Isador and Ida
- Folder 32: Weil, Sam and Jeanne

Box 3: Hadassah

- Folder 1: Century Club photo- member
- Folder 2: Century Club programs (photocopies), 1908,1912-1915,1924, 1950-1972
- Folder 3: Columbus Hadassah Report, 1960-1962
- Folder 4: Conferences-Southern Regional of Hadassah

- Folder 5: Hadassah Book of Life, 1945-1950
- Folder 6: Hadassah Conferences, 1962-1984
- Folder 7: Hadassah: Hands of Healing Award: John B. Amos, 1989
- Folder 8: Hadassah Headlines
- Folder 9: Hadassah - History of Chapter
- Folder 10: Hadassah-Israel
- Folder 11: Hadassah Minutes, 1977-1989
- Folder 12: Hadassah Minutes book, 1954-1945
- Folder 13: Hadassah Minutes book 1955-1958
- Folder 14: Hadassah Minutes book Sept 1958-Oct 1963
- Folder 15: Hadassah Minutes of board Meetings, 1990-2007
- Folder 16: Hadassah Newsletter/Bulletin
- Folder 17: Hadassah-newspaper clippings
- Folder 18: Hadassah photos
- Folder 19: Hadassah presents News-O-Rama , 1960-1961
- Folder 20: Hadassah programs
- Folder 21: Hadassah ribbons and awards
- Folder 22: Hadassah-Siegal affair
- Folder 23: Hadassah -speech, handwritten, undated
- Folder 24: Hadassah Yearbooks, 1962-1965
- Folder 25: Hedda Hadassah Newsletter, 1961-1962
- Video tapes (2)
- Hadassah Honors Cele Levy Funk, November 14, 1992

Box 4: Harmony Club

- Folder 1: Annual report, Sept 1987
- Folder 2: Bar plan proposals and costs
- Folder 3: Board meetings, 1988-1990
- Folder 4: Board meetings 1991
- Folder 5: Board minutes 1992
- Folder 6: Board of Directors meeting, Nov. 30, 1994
- Folder 7: Budget Recap for redecorating to September 27, 1992
- Folder 8: By-Laws and Special Meeting of Membership, 1994
- Folder 9: Carpet samples and floor finishing plan with blueprint
- Folder 10: Decorating committee correspondence, 1992
- Folder 11: Doors, 1992
- Folder 12: Financial; balance sheets and income statements, 1991
- Folder 13: Financial statements, years ending Sept 1992 and 1993
- Folder 14: History
- Folder 15: Marcel Carles, 1993-1994
- Folder 16: Members packet, 1992
- Folder 17: Membership lists, 1985-1994
- Folder 18: Monthly Board Meetings, 1993
- Folder 19: Monthly board Meetings, 1994
- Folder 20: Nominating Committee, 1992-1994
- Folder 21: Outgoing letters, 1993
- Folder 22: Paint and wallpaper redecorating plans
- Folder 23: Photos
- Folder 24: Redecorating committee renovation, 1992
- Folder 25: Souvenir edition newspaper, 1936

Box 5: Jewish Ladies Aid Society

- Folder 1: Annual reports and budgets, 1932-1965
- Folder 2: Bank books (3), 1943-1957
- Folder 3: Broadway Theatre League
- Folder 4: Certificates
- Folder 5: Correspondence
- Folder 6: Cradle Roll
- Folder 7: *DAME, the Yearly Report Magazine*, from Vol.1#1 May 4, 1954
- Folder 8: Deli Day
- Folder 9: Deposit slips-1st National Bank, 1965
- Folder 10: Education Fund
- Folder 11: Guestbook, 1957
- Folder 12: History
- Folder 13: Milk Fund, Laura F. Rosenberg
- Folder 14: Minute Book, 1874-1890
- Folder 15: Minute Book (photocopy), 1874-1902
- Folder 16: Minute Book (photocopy), 1875-1927
- Folder 17: Minute Book (copy), 1946-Dec 1952
- Folder 18: Minute Book (copy), 1952-1958
- Folder 19: "My Chair Lady"
- Folder 20: Newspaper clippings
- Folder 21: President's reports (copy), 1932-1935
- Folder 22: President's reports (copy), 1936-1988
- Folder 23: Programs and photos
- Folder 24: Receipt book , 1964-1965
- Folder 25: Receipts and invoices
- Folder 26: Rothschild fund for the Blind
- Folder 27: Sabbath School
- Folder 28: Springer Guild Laugh In
- Folder 29: Yearbooks

Box 6: Jewish Ladies Aid Society-contents of Broadway File box (text-sm box)

- Folder 1: Altar Guild Fund, 1951-1956
- Folder 2: Bulletin Committee, 1946-1954
- Folder 3: Linwood Cemetery Committee, 1949-1956
- Folder 4: Civic Committee, 1942-1961
- Folder 5: Constitution and By-Laws, 1947
- Folder 6: Corresponding Secretary, 1951-1959
- Folder 7: Eva M. Friedlander Educational Fund, 1947-1954
- Folder 8: Financial Secretary, 1946-1958
- Folder 9: Frank L. Rosenthal Memorial Library Fund, 1941-1950
- Folder 10: House Committee, 1949-1954
- Folder 11: Armed Services Committee, 1951-1952
- Folder 12: Matilda D. Rothschild Fund for the Blind, 1941-1952
- Folder 13: Membership Committee, 1943-1954
- Folder 14: Milk Fund, 1944-1954
- Folder 15: Convention reports from file box
- Folder 16: Miscellany (from file box)

Box 7: Scrapbooks-Hadassah

- National Hadassah "MEM" Award, Re-enrollment Achievement (green cover), 1966-1967
- Hadassah (blue cover), 1963-1967
- Columbus Chapter of Hadassah (brown cover), 1973-1974
- Columbus Chapter of Hadassah (dark blue cover), 1982-1987
- Hadassah (brown cover-the Ideal Scrapbook), 1946-1955
- Hadassah Life Membership Album (white cover)

Box 8: Scrapbooks

- 1. Temple Israel One Hundredth Anniversary, 1854-1954 (cream cover)
- 2. Temple Israel history (green cover)
- 3. Jewish Ladies Aid Society (green cover)
- 4. Jewish Ladies Aid Society (brown cover Scrapbook), 1944-1945
- 4. Broadway file box (empty) that held reports of Jewish Ladies Aid Society (see contents in box 6)

Oversize Items

- Plaque-Resolution for 125th Anniversary of Temple Israel
- Century Club Scrapbooks (2)
- Framed Engraving of Simon Schwob by Harry S Maskowitz (on display in reading room)