

Jewish Historical Society Oral History Project

An inventory of the Jewish Historical Society Oral History Project at DC Public Library

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on May 26, 2021.

English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

People's Archive, MLK Library

901 G Street NW

Washington, DC

peoples.archive@dc.gov

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Summary Information

Repository:	People's Archive, MLK Library
Creator:	Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington
Title:	Jewish Historical Society Oral History Project
ID:	OHP001
Date [inclusive]:	1980-1981
Physical Description:	6.25 Linear feet
Physical Description:	3 Boxes
Language of the Material:	English

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Biographical / Historical

Founded by volunteers in 1960, the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington was incorporated in 1965 as a nonprofit organization dedicated to interpreting Jewish history in the greater Washington area. With a mission to explore the unique Jewish heritage of Washington as a hometown and as the nation's capital. The Society is the region's foremost destination and source for American Jewish history and engages the community through exhibition, public programs and educational initiatives. The Society activity collects and preserves material culture that documents the story of the Jewish community in the Washington, D.C. region.

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Scope and Contents

From 1980 – 1981, the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington, D.C., conducted a total of 26 oral history interviews with local Jewish senior citizens to learn about growing up in Washington in the early years of the 20th century as well as the development of the Jewish community. Topics include arriving and settling in Washington, military service, education, businesses and professions, family relationships, synagogues, traditions and customs, and leisure time activities. Individuals were selected from a cross-section of senior citizens in the Jewish community. Ellen R. Epstein, a Society member and

director of the Center for Oral History and Director of the Center for Oral History, trained volunteers to conduct the interviews. The volunteers were Stella Bernstein, Estelle Bossin, Joyce Chaiet, Phyllis Dreyfuss, Tammy Friedman, Suzanne Helfand, and Ida Neviasser. A grant from the D.C. Humanities Council provided funds for transcribing the taped interviews. The timed indexes offer an encapsulated version of topics discussed during specific periods of the taped interviews. In addition, summary pages of topics discussed precede transcripts

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Arrangement

Series 1: Project Overview Materials in this series are general in nature and pertain to this oral history project. Series 2: Indexes Materials in this series are timed indexes for the interviews conducted by the Jewish Historical Society. Series 3: Interviews Materials in this series include master and patron access copies of the oral histories on audio cassette. There are two copies of each audio cassette except for 01-17, 01-18, and 01-19.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

People's Archive, MLK Library

901 G Street NW

Washington, DC

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Revision Description

Finding aid revised to be more evergreen. 2020-07-15

Custodial History

From 1980-1981, the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington, D.C. conducted these interviews. In 1982 the tapes, bound transcripts and indexes were donated to the D.C. Public Library.

Processing Information

Prior to their donation to the Library in 1982, the transcripts for these interviews were organized alphabetically and bound by the Jewish Historical Society. These bound transcripts have been cataloged and added to the Washingtoniana Book Collection. Tapes were duplicated by the Library with the original being placed into off site deep storage, and patrons given access to the use copy. Indexes and subsequent materials related to the project and the interviews were foldered and placed into a filing cabinet for patron access. Following digitization of the tapes, transcripts and indexes in 2014, the foldered materials were reprocessed and boxed. Indexes were foldered and placed original order. folders were then boxed for long term storage. Master and patron use copies of the audio cassette recording were placed in new archival boxes. Release documents between the interviewee and the Jewish Historical Society were moved to the control file. In 2017, the Jewish Historical Society granted the Library the right to publish the digitized materials on the Library's website.

Conditions Governing Use

The D.C. Public Library does not hold copyright. It is the responsibility of the researcher to obtain permission from the Jewish Historical Society of Washington, D.C., Greater Washington to publish or exhibit information.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Oral History
- Judaism
- Religion

Collection Inventory

Series 1: Project Overview

Scope and Contents

Materials in this series are general in nature and pertain to this oral history project.

Title/Description	Instances	
Overview, 1982	Box 1	Folder 1

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Series 2: Indexes

Scope and Contents

Materials in this series are timed indexes for the interviews conducted by the Jewish Historical Society.

Title/Description	Instances	
Flora Atkin, 1981 April 15	Box 1	Folder 2
Leo Bernstein, 1981 March 30	Box 1	Folder 3
Henry Brylawski, 1980 September 29	Box 1	Folder 4
Samuel Dodek, 1981 August 4	Box 1	Folder 5
Henry Gichner, 1980 August 7	Box 1	Folder 6
Isabelle Gichner, 1980 July 30	Box 1	Folder 7
Amy Goldstein and Ruth Small, 1980 November 10	Box 1	Folder 8
Harry Hahn, Jr., 1980 November 25	Box 1	Folder 9
Elizabeth Kahn, 1980 December 2	Box 1	Folder 10
Milton Kronheim, 1980 November 11	Box 1	Folder 11
Bernard Isaac Nordlinger, 1980 July 14	Box 1	Folder 12
Israel Orlove, 1981 March 28	Box 1	Folder 13
Fannye Rose, 1981 January 7	Box 1	Folder 14
Samuel Rosenberg, 1980 October 22	Box 1	Folder 15
Edward Rosenblum, 1980 June 4	Box 1	Folder 16
Rebecca Safer, 1980 June 9	Box 1	Folder 17
Eugenia Schwartz, 1980 August 13	Box 1	Folder 18
Betty Shapiro, 1980 October 22	Box 1	Folder 19
Leon Shinberg, 1981 March 23	Box 1	Folder 20
Robert Silverman, 1980 July 21	Box 1	Folder 21
Rabbi Harry Silverstone, 1980 September 3	Box 1	Folder 22
Albert Small, 1981 August 13	Box 1	Folder 23
Rose Taishoff, 1981 March 18	Box 1	Folder 24
Harry S. Wender, 1980 September 30	Box 1	Folder 25
Morton Wilner, 1980 September 15	Box 1	Folder 26

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Series 3: Interviews

Scope and Contents

Materials in this series include master and patron access copies of the oral histories on audio cassette. There are two copies of each audio cassette except for 01-17, 01-18, and 01-19.

Title/Description	Instances	
Flora Atkin, 1981 April 15	Box 3	Folder 01-01
Flora Atkin, 1981 April 15	Box 3	Folder 01-02
Flora Atkin, 1981 April 15	Box 3	Folder 01-03
Leo Bernstein, 1981 March 30	Box 3	Folder 01-04
Leo Bernstein, 1981 March 30	Box 3	Folder 01-05
Leo Bernstein, 1981 March 30	Box 3	Folder 01-06
Henry Brylawski, 1980 September 29	Box 3	Folder 01-07
Henry Brylawski, 1980 September 29	Box 3	Folder 01-08
Henry Brylawski, 1980 September 29	Box 3	Folder 01-09
Henry Brylawski, 1980 September 29	Box 3	Folder 01-10
Samuel Dodek, 1981 August 4	Box 3	Folder 01-11
Samuel Dodek, 1981 August 4	Box 3	Folder 01-12
Henry Gichner, 1981 August 4	Box 3	Folder 01-13
Henry Gichner, 1980 August 7	Box 3	Folder 01-14
Isabelle Gichner, 1980 July 30	Box 3	Folder 01-15
Isabelle Gichner, 1980 July 30	Box 3	Folder 01-16
Amy Goldstein and Ruth Small, 1980 November 10	Box 3	Folder 01-17
Amy Goldstein and Ruth Small, 1980 November 10	Box 3	Folder 01-18
Harry Hahn, Jr., 1980 November 25	Box 3	Folder 01-19
Harry Hahn, Jr., 1980 November 25	Box 3	Folder 01-20
Elizabeth Kahn, 1980 December 2	Box 3	Folder 01-21
Elizabeth Kahn, 1980 December 2	Box 3	Folder 01-22
Milton Kronheim, 1980 November 11	Box 3	Folder 01-23
Milton Kronheim, 1980 November 11	Box 3	Folder 01-24
Bernard Isaac Nordlinger, 1980 July 14	Box 3	Folder 01-25

Bernard Isaac Nordlinger, 1980 July 14	Box 3	Folder 01-26
Israel Orlove, 1981 March 28	Box 3	Folder 01-27
Fannye Rose, 1981 January 7	Box 3	Folder 01-28
Fannye Rose, 1981 January 7	Box 3	Folder 01-29
Samuel Rosenberg, 1980 October 22	Box 3	Folder 01-30
Edward Rosenblum, 1980 June 4	Box 3	Folder 01-31
Edward Rosenblum, 1980 June 4	Box 3	Folder 01-32
Edward Rosenblum, 1980 June 4	Box 3	Folder 01-33
Rebecca Safer, 1980 June 9	Box 3	Folder 01-34
Rebecca Safer, 1980 June 9	Box 3	Folder 01-35
Eugenia Schwartz, 1980 August 13	Box 3	Folder 01-36
Eugenia Schwartz, 1980 August 13	Box 3	Folder 01-37
Betty Shapiro, 1980 October 22	Box 3	Folder 01-38
Betty Shapiro, 1980 October 22	Box 3	Folder 01-39
Leon Shinberg, 1981 March 23	Box 3	Folder 01-40
Leon Shinberg, 1981 March 23	Box 3	Folder 01-41
Leon Shinberg, 1981 March 23	Box 3	Folder 01-42
Robert Silverman, 1980 July 21	Box 3	Folder 01-43
Robert Silverman, 1980 July 21	Box 3	Folder 01-44
Rabbi Harry Silverstone, 1980 September 3	Box 3	Folder 01-45
Albert Small, 1981 August 13	Box 3	Folder 01-46
Rose Taishoff, 1981 March 18	Box 3	Folder 01-47
Rose Taishoff, 1981 March 18	Box 3	Folder 01-48
Harry S. Wender, 1980 September 30	Box 3	Folder 01-49
Harry S. Wender, 1980 September 30	Box 3	Folder 01-50
Harry S. Wender, 1980 September 30	Box 3	Folder 01-51
Harry S. Wender, 1980 September 30	Box 3	Folder 01-52
Morton Wilner, 1980 September 15	Box 3	Folder 01-53
Morton Wilner, 1980 September 15	Box 3	Folder 01-54

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