



LancasterHistory

Congregation Shaarai Shomayim Archives, 1897-2009

Object ID: MG0978

x boxes x folders, x items, xxx pages to scan xx cubic feet

Repository: LancasterHistory (Organization)

Shelving Location: Archives South, Side 13

Scope and Content Note: This collection contains the historical records of Congregation Shaarai Shomayim, including minutes, service bulletins, financial records, Lancaster Jewish history, and property records.

Creator: Congregation Shaarai Shomayim (Lancaster, Pa.)

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Language: English; German

Biographical and Historical Note:

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Custodial History (Provenance):

Accruals: Further accruals are possible.

Preferred Citation: Title or description of item, date (day, month, year), Collection Title (MG#), Box #, Folder #, (or Object ID), LancasterHistory, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. URL if applicable. Date accessed (day, month, year).



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People:

Simon, Joseph

Subject Headings:

Jewish archives

Jewish cemeteries

Religious institutions

Synagogue archives

Search Terms:

Anniversaries

Celebrations

Cemeteries

Congregation Shaarai Shomayim

Financial records

Jewish archives

Jewish cemeteries

Minutes

Programs

Rabbis

Religious institutions

Reports

Synagogue archives

Related Materials:

Processing History: Originally inventoried by Ellen Pike and the Archives Committee at Shaarai Shomayim. This collection has been documented, preserved and managed according to professional museum and archives standards. The collection was cataloged using DACS conventions.



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Box 1 Lancaster Jewish histories

Lancaster Jewish Histories

1940 List of German Refugees in Lancaster

Early history: copy of B&M Gratz papers

Photos related to colonial period

Joseph Simon papers, estate & children

Lancaster Jewish Colonial Histories & correspondence

Correspondence w. American Jewish Archives

Lazarus Zellerbach murder

Jewish community of Schaefferstown

Joseph Simon artifacts

Levy Andrew Levy & Indian traders

Box 2 Shaarai Shomayim Cemetery

Cemetery - 1902 legal case

Cemetery - Brotherhood cemetery checkbook register

Cemetery-reports to congregation

Cemetery-reconciliation report

Cemetery - Deeds, etc.

Cemetery-land acquisition

Cemetery-1930s-1970s

Cemetery-financial secretary cemetery ledgers

Cemetery-deed stub books 1888-1965

Cemetery-blank deeds

Cemetery fence 1960

Box 3 Other Lancaster Jewish Organizations and Individuals

Yetta Sachs Carpenter

Jewish Merchants City Directory 1865-1892

Hamilton Club, Chamber of Commerce bias 1960s

Levi Rosenstein citizenship papers 1856

Joseph Meyer citizenship papers 1886, 1889

Lehman Strauss 1865 Union Army discharge papers

Degel Israel Orthodox Congregation

Ephrata Hebrew Circle

Harmonie Club

Jewish Community Center

Jewish Family Service

United Jewish Appeal 1928

Contributions to Hebrew Charity Fund 1895

1932 Religious School Columbia



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Box 4 B'Nai B'rith Lancaster

B'Nai Brith Lodge 228

Box 5 Rabbis

Hazzan (Readers)-Pre-1884

Duties & search

Rabbi Annual Reports - 1947-1975

Rabbi Morris Ungerleider 1884-1889

1890-1892 Rabbinical search applicant correspondence by name and date

Rabbi Clifton H. Levy 1892-1894

Rabbi Isidore Rosenthal & family 1896-1921

Rabbi Morris Ungerman 1921-1923

Rabbi Nathaniel Cantor 1923-1925

Rabbi Raphael Goldenstein 1925-1927

Rabbi Daniel Davis 1927-1947

Rabbi Lester Roubey 1947-1953

Rabbi William Sanderson 1953-1955

Rabbi Samson Shain 1956-1976

Rabbi Samson Shain eulogies

Rabbi Samson Shain marriage records

Rabbi Samson Shain speeches to B'nai Mitzvahs

Rabbi Samson Shain-Lancaster Human Relations Commission

Rabbi Stanley Funston - 1977-1979

Rabbi David Sofian 1980-1993

Rabbi Jack Paskoff - 1993-

Rabbis born in Lancaster, PA-Max Eichhorn

Rabbis born in Lancaster, PA-Theodore Joseph

Box 6 Board Decisions, 1963-1978; Charter and By-laws

Board decisions-summaries 1963-1978

Charter & bylaws copies - multiple years

Bylaws suggestions & changes through the years

Original Charter 1856

Charter amendment 1879

Charter changes/amendments 1888

Undated pre-1914 charter amendments

Charter amended & bylaws 1928

Charter amendments 1944

Bylaws 1938, 1954, 1984

Board meeting summaries 1855-1994

Occident articles congregation founding



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Box 7 Minutes, 1855-1934

Minutes transcribed from oral translation -1855-1879

Original cassette tapes German minutes 1855-1880

Photostats early German minute book 1855-1880

Minutes 1916-1921

Documents in lieu of minutes 1855-1910

1888-1897 Bruno Astrich documents in lieu of minutes

Box 8 Minutes, 1934-1978

Box 9 Minutes, 1978-1995

Box 10 1997 Triple Anniversary; Presidents' Reports

Sefer Torah Project

Sefer Torah Project Telethon

News articles

1996-1997 Triple Anniversary

Early anniversary planning 1994-1995

First mailing September 1996

Anniversary kickoff October 1996

Anniversary historical information

1997 Confirmation Reunion

Concluding weekend June 1997

Anniversary summary

UAHC Biennial PA November 1996

Biennial Concert November 1996

Scholar in Residence weekend

Closing Shabbat June 1997

1923-1939 President Reports

1940-1949 President Reports

1950-1959 President Reports

1960-1969 President Reports

1970-1979 President Reports

1980-1989 President Reports

1990-1999 President Reports

2000-2009 President Reports



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Box 11 & 12 Special Services; Service Programs; Celebrations; Congregation Anniversaries

Undated special services
Service Programs 1880-2022
Year Books 1914-1919
Jewish Annual 1931
1931 75th Anniversary
Temple Ball 1938
1936 80th Anniversary
1938 Temple Ball
1941 85th Anniversary
1944 Temple of Tomorrow Campaign
1946 90th Anniversary
1954 History of the Jews in Lancaster by Professor Klein
1956 Sisterhood & Brotherhood Spring Dance
1976 David Brener Lancaster County Historical Society Journal article
1976 120th Anniversary
2006 250th Anniversary
Communities of Faith - Lancaster County Historical Society, 2005

Box 13 & 14 Committee Reports; Old Church Music, adapted

Adult Education	Membership Lists/Donations
Archives & History	Music
Congregational Brit	Music-Old amended church music
Brotherhood/Men's Club	Organ
Caring Community/Social Action/Tikkun	Public Relations
Olam	Religious School 1894-1929
Charter Shabbats	Religious School 1930-1979
Confirmation photos	Religious School 1980-2010
Confirmation documents	Religious School Teacher Reports-
Congregant of the Year	Essays 1946-1947
Financial Reports	Religious School Miscellaneous
Gifts & Memorials	Ritual
Grants	Safety & Security
House	Seating
Leadership Training	Sisterhood Reports
Long Range Planning	Stained Glass Window
Membership Outreach	Youth
Membership Lists	



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Box 15 & 16 Property Records; Deeds, Mortgages; Renovations

Orange Street Synagogue 1867-1893
Mortgage & loan on synagogues 1870-1909
Duke Street Synagogue building correspondence
Fundraising for new synagogue 1895
Article reprints 1895 synagogue
Contract to build Duke Street Synagogue
1896 Explosion - Insurance Adjuster's Report
1925 synagogue renovations
1928 ark reconstruction
1930s renovations synagogue & 508 N. Duke St.
Purchase and deed for 508 N. Duke St.
1940 sanctuary new seating
1945-1947 Temple of Tomorrow major renovations
1959 appraisals
1959-1999 James Street properties
1960 Religious School construction
1960 new Religious School blueprints
1960 Religious School addition-alley conversion
1960 alterations to kitchen
1968 insurance policy and inspections
1969 air conditioning in social hall & sanctuary
1975 Historic Preservation Trust application
1978 elevator plans
1980 appraisal of Torahs and silver
1985 508 N. Duke Street renovations not done
1987 social hall widening
1989-1991 appraisals
1986-1992 restoration invoices
1991 sanctuary renovations
1991 508 N. Duke Street renovation not done
223 E. Liberty Street
2000 address change to 75 E. James Street
2006 exterior renovation and repairs
2004-2005 Gateway to the Future campaign



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****The contents of Boxes 17-21 may be a mixed up and must be cataloged more thoroughly.**

Box 17 Membership Financial Ledgers, 1892-1949

Dues billing February 1892
Dues receipt book 1892-1902
Dues receipt book 1913-1924
Member pledges 1931-1933
Treasurer's Reports 1933-1939
Treasurer's Reports 1940-1949

Box 18 & 19 Membership Dues Receipt Books, 1939-1970; Membership Financial Ledgers, 1927-1949

Membership dues receipts 1939-1943
Membership dues receipts 1943-1947
Dues receipt book 1947-1951
Dues receipt book 1951-1955
Member dues 1955-1957
Cash receipts membership 1957-1963
Cash receipts membership 1966-1970
Membership financial ledgers 1927-1942
Membership financial ledgers 1938-1944
Membership dues receipts 1944-1949

Box 20 & 21 Membership Financial Ledger, 1949-1960; Membership Dues Receipt Ledger, 1948-1965; Invoices and Vouchers; Financial Records

Member dues 1949-1960
Member dues 1948-1964
Receipts & disbursements 1920-1925
Receipts & disbursements 1925-1930
Receipts & disbursements 1935-1939
Receipts & disbursements 1933-1944
Receipts 1930-1935
Paid bills and vouchers 1880-1906
Paid bills and vouchers 1880-1934
Member loans to finance Duke Street Synagogue
Finance 1923-1930
Financial records 1927-1930
Finance 1931-1940
Finance 1941-1950
Financial reports 1950-1964
Financial reports 1965-1972
Miscellaneous financial reports 1958-1960



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Box 22 Bulletins, 1915-1968

Box 23 Bulletins, 1968-1981

Box 24 Bulletins, 1981-1993

Oversized Items:

Reform Advocate, 9 August 1913

Cemetery plans, 1897 and 1907

Resolution regarding Benjamin Lurio

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/169712251/benjamin-lurio>

Picture of the Simon lintel "In colonial times, when synagogues were scarce, traditional Jews in cities without synagogues conducted prayer services in their homes. This hand-carved wooden lintel was affixed horizontally above the opening of Joseph Simon's personal Torah ark in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. In the lintel's center is a depiction of the two tablets symbolizing the Decalogue (the ten commandments) and below it the Hebrew saying, "Know before Whom you are standing," a phrase that often appears in synagogues on the ark lintel or above the reader's lectern."

www.loc.gov/exhibits/haventohome/haven-haven.html#obj11

Digital archive (images, text, and history) by David Brenner: (accessible onsite)

"Over 7000 images related directly or indirectly to Congregation Shaarai Shomayim in Lancaster Pennsylvania. This is a file of scanned and downloaded documents, publications, newspaper articles, photographs etc. from the archives of Congregation Shaarai Shomayim, Lancaster, PA, items loaned to me and online newspapers. The goal of this collection is to have in one place as much information as possible on Lancaster's Reform Jewish community, institutions, and mid to late 19th century Jewish immigrants that populated the second Jewish community of Lancaster in the 1840s and chartered the congregation."