

## Temple Emanu-El Oral History Project, 1925, 1978-1989

### Collection Summary

<b>Reference Code:</b>	MRQ, US.
<b>Repository:</b>	Special Collections, Haverhill Public Library, Haverhill, Massachusetts.
<b>Call Number:</b>	MSS 40
<b>Collector:</b>	Haverhill Public Library
<b>Title:</b>	Temple Emanu-El Oral History Project, 1925, 1978-1989
<b>Dates:</b>	1925, 1978-1989 (bulk=1978-1980)
<b>Size:</b>	4 linear feet (6 boxes)
<b>Language(s):</b>	Collection materials are in English.
<b>Abstract:</b>	This collection contains oral history interviews (tapes and transcripts) for 43 families of the Temple Emanu-El in Haverhill, Massachusetts.

### Organizational/Project History

Temple Emanu-El was a Jewish Conservative-affiliated synagogue that is currently a Reform synagogue founded in 1936, in Haverhill, Massachusetts, with a longstanding tradition of social action. The oral history project was begun in 1978 to capture the stories of how the Jewish people came to settle, live, and make a life for themselves in Haverhill. Emphasis is on the Jews and the shoe industry, as the shoe strike of 1895 brought 1000 Jewish families to Haverhill. Within 30 years of the arrival of this group of Jews, they had become a major force in the shoe factory and allied industries.

### Scope and Content Note

This collection contains oral history interviews (tapes and transcripts) for 43 families of the Temple Emanu-El in Haverhill, Massachusetts. It has been organized into two series. Series one contains general project information, photographs, lists, and a family history. Series two is comprised of the actual cassette tapes containing recordings of the interviews and the transcriptions.

## Arrangement

- Series 1: General Project Information, 1925, 1978-1980, 1989
- Subseries 1.1: Rules & Regulations for Use of Oral History Material, 1989
  - Subseries 1.2: Advertisement of Interviews, undated
  - Subseries 1.3: Complete List of Oral Histories, 1978-1980
  - Subseries 1.4: Photographs, 1925, undated
  - Subseries 1.5: History of Greenburg Family, undated
- Series 2: Oral History Interviews, 1978-1980
- Subseries 2.1: Oral History Transcripts, 1978-1980
  - Subseries 2.2: Oral History Recordings, 1978-1980

## Administrative Information

- Preferred Citation:** [Item Identification], Temple Emanu-El Oral History Project, 1978-1980, *Reference Code*, Special Collections, Haverhill Public Library, Haverhill, Massachusetts.
- Custodial History:** Much of the material was acquired from the creator.
- Acquisition Information:** Unknown
- Processing Information:** Processed by Erik R. Bauer, 2018. Updated by Tamara Gaydos, 2021.
- Access Rights:** Collection is open for research.
- Phys. Access Restrictions:** None.
- Tech. Access Restrictions:** The Haverhill Public Library may not have a cassette player or other playback device available to listen to the audio recordings.
- Copyright:** Copyright has not been assigned to the Haverhill Public Library. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Board of Trustees. Permission for publication is given on behalf of the Haverhill Public Library as the owner of the physical items and is not intended to include or imply permission of the copyright holder, which must also be obtained by the researcher.
- Related Material:** None.
- Separated Material:** None.
- Conservation Notes:** Staples have been removed.
- Using the Collection:** It is important to note that the Haverhill Public Library views oral history not as an end in itself, but as an additional tool for exploring social life in past times. Interviews constitute primary source material, retrospective evidence of individual experiences and perceptions. Those who use the Special Collections audio recordings or transcripts are cautioned to bring to them the same

rules of evidence applied to other forms of historical documentation, testing one interview against another as well as against written sources. The Program, Haverhill Public Library Special Collections, Haverhill Public Library, staff, Library Trustee's, Library volunteers, Temple Emanu-El or those who worked on the project makes no representation as to the factual accuracy of a memoir; the scholar shall judge for themselves.

**Subjects:**

Baker, Anne, -1996  
 Becker, Henrietta, 1912-2005  
 Benedetson, William, 1888-1981  
 Bernstein Family  
 Bier, Glenna, 1921-2000  
 Bloom, Alice, 1895-1980  
 Blotner, Dora  
 Brindis, George  
 Brody, Alfred, 1894-1984  
 Brownstein, Sophie, 1904-2002  
 Cohen, Dora, 1890-1981  
 Cohen, Martha, 1901-1981  
 Epstein, Elsie, 1911-1991  
 Epstein, Manny  
 Espovich, Mae Albertson  
 Espovich, Norman, 1909-1983  
 Fishbein, David, 1902-1984  
 Fishbein, Jerome, 1926-2001  
 Foreman, Frances Albertson  
 Garbelnick, Julia, 1898-1996  
 Gerson, Norman  
 Goldberg, Carl, 1901-2002  
 Goltz, Philip, 1902-1981  
 Goralnick, Gussie  
 Goralnick, Samuel, 1899-1980  
 Gorevitz, Eva, 1890-1987  
 Grad, Mrs. Benjamin  
 Grad, Vinson, 1912-1993  
 Greenberg, Sarah  
 Hartman, Benjamin  
 Haverhill (Mass.) -- History  
 Hershberg, Bessie, 1900-1993  
 Jacobson, Abraham I. (Rabbi), 1910-1992  
 Jews -- Massachusetts -- Haverhill -- History  
 Kaplan, Evelyn, 1896-1986  
 Karelis, Saul, 1914-2007  
 Karelitz, George, 1903-1990

Mandell, Ada, 1920-2011  
 Marcus, Max  
 Mencis, Bert  
 Nesson, Bennett  
 Newberg Family  
 Oral history  
 Rich, Anuta  
 Rodberg, Nadia  
 Salner, Sadie  
 Silverman, Fannie  
 Silverman, Saul  
 Sherman, Ida  
 Shinberg, John D.  
 Swartz, Louis  
 Taitsman, Dorothy  
 Temple Emanu-El  
 Watnick, David  
 Watnick, Pauline  
 Woodman, Bertha Shapiro, 1914-2005  
 Zelig, David, 1896-1990

## Collection Inventory

### Series 1: General Project Information, 1925, 1978-1980, 1989, undated

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Title, Dates		
Rules & Regulations for Use of Oral History Material, 1989	1	1
Advertisement of Interviews, undated	1	2
Complete List of Oral Histories, 1978-1980	1	3
Photographs, 1925, undated	1	4
History of Greenberg Family, undated	1	5

### Series 2: Oral Histories, 1978-1980

#### Subseries 2.1: Summary Page & Transcriptions, 1978-1980

Anne Baker & Bert Mencis, 1979	1	6
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<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
William Bendetson, 1980	1	7
Glenna Bier, 1979	1	8
Alice Bloom, 1979	1	9
Alfred Brody, 1979	1	10
Martha Cohen	1	11
Manny & Elise Epstein, 1978	1	12
Mae Albertson Espovich, 1978	1	13
Mae Albertson Espovich & Bertha Woodman, 1978	1	14
Norman Espovich, 1978	1	15
David Fishbein, 1979	1	16
Frances Albertson Forman, 1978	1	17
Norman Gerson, 1979	1	18
Carl Goldberg, 1980	1	19
Philip Goltz, 1978	1	20
Sam & Gussie Goralnick, 1979	1	21
Eva Gorevitz, 1979	1	22
Eva Grad, 1978	1	23
Vinson Grad, 1979	1	24
Benjamin Hartman, 1979	1	25
Bessie Hirshberg, 1979	1	26
Rabbi Abraham I. Jacobson, 1979	2	27
Saul Karelis, 1980	2	28
George Karelitz, 1979	2	29
Ada Mandell, 1979	2	30
Max Marcus, 1978	2	31
Bennett Nesson, 1979	2	32
Aunta Rich & Sophie Brownstein, 1978	2	33

<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Container Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>
Sadye Salner, 1978	2	34
Henrietta Becker & Evelyn Kaplan, 1980	2	35
Fannie & Saul Silverman, 1979	2	36
Saul Silverman, 1979	2	37
Louis Swartz, 1979	2	38
Pauline & David Watnick, 1979	2	39
Dorothy Taitsman, 1979	2	40
Ida Sherman & Dora Cohen, 1979	2	41
Dr. John D. Shinberg, undated	2	42
Dr. David Zelig, 1979	2	43

#### **Subseries 2.2: Original Recordings, 1978-1980**

Anne Baker & Bert Mencis	3
Anne Baker & Bert Mencis	3
William Bendetson	3
William Bendeston	3
Alan Bernson	3
Alan Bernson	3
Glenna Bier	3
Glenna Bier	3
Alice Bloom	3
Alice Bloom	3
Dora Blotner	3
Dora Blotner	3
Al Brody	3
Al Brody	3

<b><u>Folder Title</u></b>	<b><u>Container Number</u></b>
Martha Cohen	3
Martha Cohen	3
Mae Albertson Espovich	3
Judge Norman Espovich	3
Judge Norman Espovich	3
Manny & Elise Epstein	3
Manny & Elise Epstein	3
David & Jerome Fishbein	3
Frances Foreman	3
Julia Garbelnick	3
Mrs. Benjamin Grad	3
Mrs. Benjamin Grad	3
Norman Gerson	3
Norman Gerson	3
Carl Goldberg	4
Carl Goldberg	4
Philip Goltz	4
Philip Goltz	4
Eva Gorevitz	4
Eva Gorevitz	4
Sam & Gussie Goralnick	4
Sam & Gussie Goralnick	4
Vinson Grad	4
Vinson Grad	4
Mrs. Sarah Greenberg	4
Mrs Sarah Greenberg	4
Benjamin Hartman	4

<b><u>Folder Title</u></b>	<b><u>Container Number</u></b>
Benjamin Hartman	4
Bessie Hershberg	4
Bessie Hershberg	4
Rabbi Abraham I. Jacobson	4
Rabbi Abraham I. Jacobson	4
Becker / Kaplan (Shapiro Family)	4
Becker / Kaplan (Shapiro Family)	4
Saul Karelis	4
Saul Karelis	4
George Karelitz	4
George Karelitz	4
Ada Mandell	4
Ada Mandell	4
Max Marcus	4
Max Marcus	4
Bennett Nesson (Haverhill Credit Union)	4
Bennett Nesson (Haverhill Credit Union)	4
Anuta Rich (Tape 1 of 3)	4
Anuta Rich (Tape 2 of 3)	4
Anuta Rich (Tape 3 of 3)	4
Anuta Rich (Tape 1 of 3)	4
Anuta Rich (Tape 2 of 3)	4
Anuta Rich (Tape 3 of 3)	5
Nadia Rodberg (Tap 1 of 3)	5
Nadia Rodberg (Tap 2 of 3)	5
Nadia Rodberg (Tap 3 of 3)	5
Nadia Rodberg (Tap 1 of 3)	5



<b><u>Folder Title</u></b>	<b><u>Container Number</u></b>
Nadia Rodberg (Tap 2 of 3)	5
Nadia Rodberg (Tap 3 of 3)	5
Sadie Salner (Tape 1 of 3)	5
Sadie Salner (Tape 2 of 3)	5
Sadie Salner (Tape 3 of 3)	5
Sadie Salner (Tape 1 of 3)	5
Sadie Salner (Tape 2 of 3)	5
Sadie Salner (Tape 3 of 3)	5
Anna Burstein Silverman / Jennie Burstein	5
Anna Burstein Silverman / Jennie Burstein	5
Becker / Kaplan (Shapiro Family)	5
Fannie Silverman	5
Fannie Silverman	5
Saul Silverman	5
Saul Silverman	5
Louis Swartz	5
Louis Swartz	5
Pauline Watnick (Tape 1 of 3)	5
Pauline Watnick (Tape 2 of 3)	5
Pauline Watnick (Tape 3 of 3)	5
Pauline Watnick (Tape 1 of 3)	5
Pauline Watnick (Tape 2 of 3)	5
Pauline Watnick (Tape 3 of 3)	5
Bertha Woodman	5
Bertha Woodman	5
Bertha Woodman	5
George Brindis (Wilson Family)	5

<b><u>Folder Title</u></b>	<b><u>Container Number</u></b>
George Brindis (Wilson Family)	5
Wise Family (Ashlcowitz Family)	6
Wise Family (Ashlcowitz Family)	6
Dr. Zelig	6
Dr. Zelig	6
[Unknown]	6

## Appendix

### Rules and regulations pertaining to the use of the Temple Emanu-El Oral History Collection.

It is important to note that the Haverhill Public Library views oral history not as an end in itself, but as an additional tool for exploring social life in past times. Interviews constitute primary source material, retrospective evidence of individual experiences and perceptions. Those who use the Special Collections audio recordings or transcripts are cautioned to bring to them the same rules of evidence applied to other forms of historical documentation, testing one interview against another as well as against written sources. The Program, Haverhill Public Library Special Collections, Haverhill Public Library, staff, Library Trustee's, Library volunteers, Temple Emanu-El or those who worked on the project makes no representation as to the factual accuracy of a memoir; the scholar shall judge for themselves.

Only authorized Library personal shall have direct access to the transcripts and audio recordings.

All rules and policies that apply to Special Collections shall apply to this collection.

None of the audio recordings are to be removed from the Special Collections or the Library at any time.

The oral histories may be used in exhibitions and may be loaned to other institutions so long as the loan follows the archival and museum standards.

Persons doing research shall use transcripts of interviews in preference to the audio recordings, yet audio recordings may be used when necessary or for clarifications reasons.

Audio recordings may be listened to where no transcripts are available.

A limited number of transcript material will be duplicated for the researcher at the discretion of the Librarian or person in charge of Special Collection; to ensure that proper context is given the whole transcript will be printed and no single pages will be printed. The charge for a printed copy of the transcript will \$ be and each additional contributed to the Haverhill Public Library.

Single copies of audio recordings may be requested by at the cost of \$ each additional recording will cost \$ .

The Special Collections Research Usage Policies covers any items that are not covered in this document.