

Collection #
M 0356,
OM 0463,
F 1712

JULIAN FREEMAN COLLECTION, 1932–1978

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Processed by

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4 December 2007

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
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Indiana Historical Society
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Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION:

Manuscript Materials: 3 document cases, 1 oversize manuscript box, 1 microfilm
Visual Materials: 2 photograph folders, 1 color photograph folder
Printed Materials: 8 pamphlets

COLLECTION 1932–1978
DATES:

PROVENANCE: Julian Freeman, Indianapolis, IN, August 2001

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: Endelman, Judith E. *The Jewish Community of Indianapolis: 1849 to the Present*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1984. General Collection: F 534.I55 E5 1984
Indiana Jewish Historical Society Collection, 1845–1998.
Manuscript Collection M 0743.

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1981.0617

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Julian Freeman (1897–1980), a prominent businessman, became an influential community activist within the local and national Jewish community. Freeman was owner and operator of Freeman Store Equipment Company until it closed in 1966. He was a veteran of World War I serving as an artillery officer in the American Expedition Force in France. He married an Indianapolis woman Esther Freeman and made Indianapolis his permanent home in 1926. Freeman was president of his synagogue Beth El-Zedeck. In 1947 and 1948 he was president of the Indianapolis Jewish Welfare Fund. He was president of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds from 1950 to 1955. From 1949 to 1953 he was president of the Indianapolis Jewish Welfare Federation. Freeman traveled frequently to Israel and cultivated strong ties between the Indianapolis Jewish community and Israel. His travels to Israel brought him in contact with influential Israeli politicians of the time such as former Prime Minister Golda Meir. Freeman was also founder of the National Foundation for Jewish Culture and the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council now the Jewish Council for Public Affairs, JCPA. Both organizations remain active.

Sources:

<http://www.ancestrylibrary.com/default.aspx>

www.familysearch.org

“Jewish Council for Public Affairs.” http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jewish_Council_for_Public_Affairs. Last accessed 6 November 2007.

“Hoosiers in Profile.” *Indianapolis Times*. 26 May 1951. p. 3

Indianapolis Star. Obituaries. 30 November 1980.

Interview with Irving Freeman (Julian’s nephew). 9 November 2007.

Materials in the collection.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection fills three document cases. Box one contains correspondence and two manuscripts. One of them is *The Organized Jewish American Community* the other which is untitled and was never published was the basis for Judith Endelman's *The Jewish Community of Indianapolis: 1849 to the Present*.

The remaining two boxes contain materials from the various local and national Jewish organizations that Freeman was a member of. The bulk dates for the materials are from 1960–1978.

Two of the three photograph folders are made up of black and white photographs. The photographs show the groundbreaking and cornerstone ceremony for the Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation in the late 1950s and the Jewish Community Center including the buildings that preceded the Jewish Community Center such as the Kirschbaum Center and the Communal Building.

The oversized folder contains a scrapbook of newspaper clippings relating to the Indianapolis Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council.

The printed items consist of eight pamphlets. These have been cataloged separately and are stored with the General Collections.

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<i>Golden Jubilee Congregation Sharah Tefilla</i> , 1932	Pam Q Collection: F535.J5 G65 1932
<i>Palestine and the Jews</i> , 1937	Pamphlet Collection: DS126 .G74 1942
<i>The Jewish Community and Jewish Education</i> , 1947	Pamphlet Collection: LA102 .B37 1948
<i>Jewish Education Journal</i> , Summer 1951	Printed Collection: LC701 .J35
<i>The Unique Function of the Jewish Community Center</i> , 1955	Pamphlet Collection: HN43 .S65 1955
<i>The Genius of the Jewish Community Center: Its Role in Coping with the Crisis in American Jewish Life</i> , 1964	Pamphlet Collection: HN43 .S64 1964
<i>The Academy News</i> , April 1976April 1978	General Collection: LA102 .A21
<i>Made in America: The Story of a Unique Institution</i> , n.d.	Pamphlet Collection: HN43 K66 1963

CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog: <http://opac.indianahistory.org/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, M 0356).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.