INDIANA JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
COLLECTION ADDITION, 1899–2015

Collection Information
Historical Sketch
Scope and Content Note
Series Contents

Processed by
Alysha Zemanek
July 2016

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org
**COLLECTION INFORMATION**

**VOLUME OF COLLECTION:** 6 manuscript boxes; 7 bound volumes; 39 DVDs/CDs; 5 black and white photograph folders; 7 color photograph folders; 1 negative envelope; 1 oversized folder

**COLLECTION DATES:** 1899–2015

**PROVENANCE:** Indiana Jewish Historical Society, Fort Wayne, Indiana, 2015

**RESTRICTIONS:** None

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**ALTERNATE FORMATS:**

**RELATED HOLDINGS:** Indiana Jewish Historical Society Collection M 0743; Indiana Jewish Historical Society Addition M 1016, M 1023, M 1193, M 1230; Indiana Jewish History Printed Materials Collection, M 0929; B’nai B’rith Indiana Materials M 0902

**ACCESSION NUMBER:** 2015.0049, 2015.0233, 2015.0339

**NOTES:** This forms part of the collection of the Indiana Jewish Historical Society.
HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Indiana Jewish Historical Society was founded in 1972 to collect, preserve and publish material involving two hundred years of Jewish life in Indiana. The organization aims to gather and preserve the records of synagogues, temples and societies; Jewish life cycle demonstrations, such as Bar Mitzvah certificates, Confirmation certificates, Katubbot (marriage contracts); personal memorabilia, scrapbooks and diaries; burial and cemetery records; government documents such as naturalization records; newspaper and magazine articles; and photographs.

Another goal of the Indiana Jewish Historical Society is to provide data not always available to historians, scholars and authors, thus helping to provide an awareness of the role played by Jews and Jewish communities in the creation of the religious climate of Indiana.

The IJHS founders ensured that the Jewish experience throughout the state would be preserved and conveyed. They began an annual publication, Indiana Jewish History, which recorded:

- settlers in Richmond and Terre Haute in 1818
- the beginning of the Fort Wayne congregation in 1848 and the dedication of the Madison synagogue in 1855
- stores founded more than 100 years age in Plymouth, Wabash, Huntington, and North Manchester
- the role of the Lafayette congregation in the Reform movement in the late 19th century and the history of self-help organization in the community, beginning in 1907
- a forum which brought W.E.B. Du Bois of the NAACP and other speakers to Hammond during the heyday of the Ku Klux Klan life in Muncie and Columbia City in the 20th century

Sources:
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection is an addition to Manuscript Collection M 0743, the Indiana Jewish Historical Society Collection, 1845–2002. It contains archive materials related to the Jewish life in Indiana, and has been split into seven series:

Series 1: B’nai B’rith Youth Organization (BBYO) Materials

This series contains materials related to the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization. Materials include the BBYO constitution and policy manuals, organization directories, materials related to the BBYO Leadership Training Institute and miscellaneous photos. Also included are adult board training manuals and the board's meeting minutes as well as materials related to BBYO events, such as softball and basketball tournaments and the annual Beau-Sweetheart dance. Other materials relate to sub-organizations of the BBYO, including event flyers, meeting agendas and minutes for the B'nai B'rith Girls and publications for Aleph Zadik Aleph, the boys' group.

Series 2: B'nai B'rith Materials

This series contains materials related to the Indiana lodges of B'nai B'rith and the Indianapolis chapter of the B'nai B'rith Women. B'nai B'rith materials include bulletins, correspondence, photos, and reports and correspondence of the Hillel Advisory Committee. These materials are from the 1940s through the 1960s. The B'nai B'rith Women materials include event flyers, chapter newsletters and awards, a membership roster and miscellaneous newspaper clippings about chapter events. Other materials are photos of various events and a scrapbook related to the chapter's activities in 1973 and 1974. Most of these materials are from the 1970s.

Series 3: Jewish Organizations of Lafayette, Records

This series contains materials related to three Jewish organizations in Lafayette, IN. It includes the history and meeting minutes of the Lafayette Orthodox Free Loan Association from 1907 to 1993. Also included are the allocation records and meeting minutes of the Jewish Federation of Greater Lafayette from 1952 to 2000. Finally, the series contains the meeting minutes of the Jewish Ladies Aid Society of Lafayette from 1917 to 1930.

Series 4: Jewish Publications of Indianapolis and Lafayette

This series contains materials from Jewish publications in Indianapolis and Lafayette. Publications include the Jewish Community Journal from 1916 to 1918 and the Jewish Post and Opinion. The series also includes newsletters and directories for Jewish organizations, such as Hadassah and the Indianapolis chapter of the National Council of Jewish Women. Materials in the series date from 1916 to 2014.

Series 5: Jewish Congregations
This series contains materials related to Jewish congregations in Indiana. The congregations include the Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation, Temple Beth-El of Muncie, Sinai Temple of Marion, Congregation B'nai Jacob of Fort Wayne, First Hebrew Congregation of Anderson, Congregation Sons of Abraham of Lafayette, United Hebrew Congregation of Terre Haute, B'nai Judah Synagogue of Whiting, Congregation Achduth Vesholom of Fort Wayne, Congregation B'ne Zion of La Porte, Congregation Beth-El Zedek of Indianapolis, and Congregation Beth Shalom of Bloomington. Materials in this series include membership directories, correspondence, temple bulletins, meeting minutes, programs, by-laws, and photos.

**Series 6: Jimmy Guilford Materials**

This series contains the materials related to Jimmy Guilford, a singer from Indianapolis, from 1953 to 2015, including show programs, contracts, news clippings, correspondence, Broadcast Music Inc. materials, photos, a scrapbook, and CDs.

**Series 7: Miscellaneous Materials**

This series contains miscellaneous materials related to Jewish life in Indiana. Materials include notes on the history of different organizations and families, newsletters and news clippings, photos, and a scrapbook.
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