



Special Collections and University Archives

**Ruth Marcus Jewish History Project, 1930s-1990s
Manuscript Group 95**

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**Indiana University of Pennsylvania
302 Stapleton Library
Indiana, PA 15705-1096
Voice: (724) 357-3039
Fax: (724) 357-4891
Website: www.iup.edu/archives**

Ruth Marcus Jewish History Project, Manuscript Group 95
Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Special Collections and University Archives
14 boxes; 7 linear feet

Table of Contents	Pages
Scope and Contents Note	2
Series Descriptions	2-3
Content List	4-10
Series A: Hadassah Files (4 boxes)	4-5
Series B: Beth Israel Files	5-6
Series C: State of Israel Bonds/United Jewish Appeal	6
Series D: B'nai B'rith Files	6
Series E: Jewish-Related Newspapers and Publications	6-8
Series F: Newspaper Articles	8
Series G: Marcus Family Series	8-9
Series H: Audio and Video Oral History Interviews	9-10
Series I: University Museum Exhibition – Photographs and Interview Transcripts	10-11

Scope and Contents Note

The documents of the Ruth Marcus Collection are arranged into nine series by topic. Documents arranged by topic excluding photographs that were placed in their own series. The papers have been placed into eleven archival boxes, arranged by topic as well as chronologically in each series. The documents cover a wide time period, dating from the 1930s to the 1990s. There are many different types of materials in the collection, including newspaper articles, scrapbook materials, old newspapers, publications, and ephemera, as well as photographs. Some older documents have been encapsulated for preservation purposes, since they are some of the only documents of their kind known to exist. The collection was processed and the finding aid was initially compiled by Brett M. Reigh. Series I contains photographs, transcribed interviews (from Series H), research, and the exhibition catalog from the 1999 [University Museum Exhibition – The Jewish Business Community of Downtown Indiana: A Historical Retrospective](#) (for additional University Museum Exhibition information see Record Group 68).

Series Descriptions

Series A: Hadassah Files

This series is the largest of the collection. Series A is contained in four boxes, arranged according to topic within the series, such as Hadassah correspondence and ephemera. Ruth Marcus was President of the Indiana Chapter of Hadassah, a Jewish women's organization. Most of the documents date from the 1960s and 1970s, with a few documents originating in the 1940s.

Series B: Beth Israel Files

The Beth Israel Files contain documents related to the Beth Israel Synagogue, located in Indiana, Pennsylvania. The materials are arranged by topic within the series, dating from the 1940s through the 1990s. A collection of Beth Israel newsletters, dating from December 1964 to June 1994 highlights the series.

Series C: State of Israel Bonds/United Jewish Appeal

Series C contains documents concerning the State of Israel Bonds/United Jewish Appeal. Both are fundraising drives to raise money for the State of Israel. Papers dating from the 1950s through the early 1980s, focusing on the activities of these organizations within the Indiana region.

Series D: B'nai B'rith Files

Series D includes documents associated with B'nai B'rith. An extensive collection of Four Star Review Newspapers is contained in the series, dating from May/June 1993 to February 1979. Papers associated with Clarence Marcus's involvement within the organization are also included.

Series E: Jewish-Related Newspapers and Publications

Series E contains many different types of publications, including with the State of Israel, the history of the Jewish people, various Jewish organizations, as well as documents related to the Jewish community of Indiana, Pa. The most unique aspect of the series is the collection of Yiddisher Indianan newspapers. They are some of the only copies in existence, dating from April 1947 to October 1974. The newspapers were written about the Jewish community of Indiana, Pennsylvania.

Series F: Newspaper Articles Series

Series F includes copies of newspaper articles related to the Jewish community of Indiana, Pennsylvania. The newspaper articles date from the 1950s to the 1980s.

Series G: Marcus Family Series

The Marcus Family Series contains documents related to the family of Ruth Marcus, such as correspondence and newspaper articles.

Series H: Audio/Video Interviews

This series includes audio and video interviews with business owners and their families. The interviews were conducted in 1999 as part of the [University Museum Exhibition: The Jewish Business Community of Downtown Indiana](#). The interviews were conducted by Sonya Barclay and Jim Harrison.

Series I: Photographs, Transcriptions of Interviews, and the University Museum Exhibition

The photographs in series I have been taken from every series in the collection. Most were not associated directly with a specific series, so they have been arranged together in terms of the photograph itself. A few photographs date from the 1930s, and cover a wide range of sizes, from snapshots to oversized photographs. The photographs have been sorted into three groups: Marcus family photographs, Hadassah-related photographs related to the business community of the Indiana region. Photographs taken by Jim Harrison include business owners and their family members who were interviewed, the transcriptions of the interviews, and the [1999 University Museum Exhibition: The Jewish Business Community of Downtown Indiana](#). The exhibition was curated by Donna Cashdollar and Robert S. Marcus with further research conducted by Sonya Barclay and Dr. Irwin M. Marcus (IUP History Department).

Container List

Series A: Hadassah Files

Box 1 (7 folders)

1. Correspondence
 - a. Letters, Postcards, and Flyers mailed to and from Hadassah members, with Ruth Marcus correspondence representing the bulk of the materials
2. Financial and Hadassah Organization Notes
 - a. Dues reports, Hadassah financial papers, various notes, dinner receipts, and membership and participation lists, Indiana
 - b. Auction papers
3. Ruth Marcus Speeches
 - a. Speeches from various Hadassah functions
4. Newspaper Articles and Newsletters
 - a. Hadassah newsletters and newspaper articles
5. Guides and Manuals (1)
 - a. The Hadassah Idea
 - b. Hadassah Manual
 - c. Education guides, 1959-1967
 - d. Hadassah Manuals, 1959-1960, 1960-1961, 1961-1962
6. Guides and Manuals (2)
7. Guides and Manuals (3)

Series A: Hadassah Files

Box 2 (6 folders)

1. Guides and Manuals (4)
2. Guides and Manuals (5)
3. Guides and Manuals (6)
 - a. Hadassah Israel Educational Services Campaign Kit
 - b. Hadassah Welcomes You
 - c. The Menorah and the Olive Branch
 - d. Legacy of Laughter
 - e. Call Me Madam President
 - f. This Is Your Hour
 - g. Isaac Bashevis Singer
 - h. Hanukkah, a holiday manual
 - i. Passover, a holiday manual
 - j. Purim, a holiday manual
 - k. Sukkot Simchat Torah, a holiday manual
 - l. Hadassah Work Kit
 - m. Young Judaea
 - n. Ephemera from Hadassah Work Kit
4. Plays and Songbooks

5. Youth Activities
 - a. Camp Young Judaea material
6. Midwest Area Cooperative Materials
 - a. Conference information, leaders lists, and general cooperative information

Series A: Hadassah Files

Box 3 (5 folders)

1. Other Hadassah Chapters (1)
 - a. Chapter guides, membership lists, directories, and flyers from other chapters in Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia
2. Other Hadassah Chapters (2)
3. National Convention Material
 - a. Conference handbooks and reports
4. Western Pennsylvania Region Spring Conference Material (1)
5. Western Pennsylvania Region Spring Conference Material (2)
 - a. Registration materials, brochures, guides, reports, and handbooks from various Spring Conferences, dating from 1948 to 1985

Series A: Hadassah Files

Box 4 (4 folders)

1. Hadassah Ephemera (1)
 - a. Bookmarks, calendars, stationary, program, and a red, white, and blue Hadassah hat
2. Hadassah Ephemera (2)
 - a. Publications, brochures, advertisements, program
3. Hadassah Ephemera (3)
 - a. Yearbooks from 1943-1944 to 1977-1978
4. Hadassah Ephemera (4)
 - a. Membership lists, brochures, programs, invitations, and various guides and supplements

Series B: Beth Israel Files

Box 1 (11 folders)

1. Correspondence, 1948-1993
2. Constitutional Material
 - a. Proposals and Constitution copies
3. Meeting Minutes and Reports
4. Financial Document
 - a. Year-end Treasurer's reports, Auxiliary reports
5. Programs, Mass Booklets, Invitations
6. Youth Activities
7. Various Guides and Publications
8. Flyers and Announcements

9. Newspaper Articles
10. Newsletters, June 1964 to December 1994 (1)
11. Newsletters, June 1964 to December 1994 (2)

Series C: State of Israel Bonds – United Jewish Appeal

Box 1 (9 folders)

1. State of Israel Bonds Correspondence, 1953-1986
2. Ephemera (1)
3. Ephemera (2)
 - a. Invitations, programs, bond publications and flyers, 1953-1984
6. Local Bonds Payment and Organizational Records
 - a. Contribution & community lists
 - b. Bond histories
 - c. Prospectus
7. United Jewish Appeal Correspondence
8. United Jewish Appeal Materials
9. Newspaper Articles

Series D: B'NAI B'RITH Files

Box 1 (4 folders)

1. Various B'nai B'rith Materials
 - a. District Number 3 Convention Proceedings, 1940
 - b. Guide to the King's Yiddish, ordering meals, courting, schmoozing, etc.
 - c. "Silver Palace" grand opening flyer
 - d. Program guide/calendar, 1960-1961
 - e. Carpet rides flyer
2. Clarence Marcus B'nai B'rith Material
 - a. Programs, membership lists, by-laws, newspaper articles, correspondence
3. Four Star Review Newspapers
 - a. March 1984 to May/June 1993
4. Four Star Review Newspapers, February 1979 to January 1984

Series E: Jewish-Related Newspapers and Publications

Box 1 (7 folders)

1. Jewish and Israeli-Related Newspapers and Publications (1)
 - a. The Threat of Anti-Zionism, Resolution 3379, Session of the U.N. General Assembly
 - b. Translation of Hebrew Booklet
 - c. A Guide to Mezuzah
 - d. The Holocaust and Resistance, An Outline of Jewish History in Nazi occupied Europe (1933-1945)
 - e. Soviet Jews - Fact Sheet (2 copies)

- f. U.S. Treasury of Stamps Album, School Year 1982-1983
- g. Aliyon, June/July/August 1980
- h. Tu B'Shavat Handbook, 1960
- i. The Camp David Accords
- j. Jewish Life, Fall 1991
- k. Masada
- l. Jordan is a Palestinian State!
- m. The Flag of Israel
- n. Operation "1000", Summer 1993 in Israel
- o. Aliyon: Coming Home to Israel
- p. 25 Years of Youth Aliyah
- q. Employment in Israel
- r. Study in Israel
- s. Israel: Ancient and Modern
- t. In Israel's 35th Year
- u. Jerusalem
- v. Jewish National Fund
- w. Collages by Irwin Kremer, 1976-1983
- x. The Indiana Symphony Society Presents: Desert Fashion Show, October 6, 1993
- y. United Way of Indiana County 1995 Kick-Off Banquet
- z. Zionist Organization of America Brochures
- aa. The Indiana Scout, April 20, 1931
- bb. "New Boom Towns Across the U.S. - Places with Energy to Spare"
- cc. The Nation, August 14, 1967
- dd. The High Arrow, Indiana High School, May 15, 1936
- ee. Israel fotofacts, June 1955
- ff. Our Latest Extraction
- gg. Retraining for Social Work, Ben-Ilan Program, 1975
- hh. School Psychologists in Israel
- ii. The Kibbutz
- jj. Guide for the Oleh
- kk. Israel Aliyah and You
- ll. The Road to Aliyah
- mm. Zionism - A Short History
- nn. Afro-American Art at IUP
- oo. Hecho en Mexico at IUP
- pp. The Plight of Syrian Jewery
- qq. About Israel - Do You Know What?
- rr. Israel Bonds at 25 and Beyond
- ss. Then: Palestine Now: Jordan and Israel
- tt. Birkat ha-mazon
- uu. Zionism, Judaism, and the State of Israel

- vv. Near East Report
- ww. PLO Does Not Sell for Peace
- xx. Shaare Torah Bulletins
- yy. National Women's Division Records
- zz. The Freehofs' Report on Israel and Europe
- 2. Jewish and Israeli-Related Newspapers and Publications (2)
- 3. Jewish and Israeli-Related Newspapers and Publications (3)
- 4. Jewish and Israeli-Related Newspapers and Publications (4)
- 5. Jewish and Israeli-Related Newspapers and Publications (5)
- 6. American Zionist Federation Publications
- 7. Newsletters
 - a. National Zionist Affairs Department of Hadassah Update, August 20, 1990
 - b. Jewish Community Centers of Chicago Observer, Winter 1990
 - c. Near East Report, December and August 1990 Issues

Series E: Jewish-Related Newspapers and Publications**Box 2 (5 folders)**

1. Newspaper Supplements
 - a. Salute to Israel in its 25th Anniversary, N.Y. Times, May 6, 1973
 - a. Equal Rights in the Temple?, The Pittsburgh Press, March 4, 1973
 - b. N.Y. Times, March 4, 1973
 - c. The Israeli-Arab War, Chicago Daily News, June 20, 1967
 - d. Long Island Jewish World, 1982
 - e. The Record, The Holocaust in History, 1933-1945
2. The Jewish Chronicle of Pittsburgh. Newspapers dating from May 20, 1993 to August 25, 1967
3. Yiddisher Indianan Copies. Newspapers dating from April 24, 1974 to October 20, 1947
4. Yiddisher Indianan Originals (1950s-1970s)
5. Yiddisher Indianan Originals (1940s)

Series F: Newspaper Articles**Box 1 Newspaper Articles (3 folders)**

1. Newspaper articles related to the Jewish Community of Indiana, its members, and organizations (1)
2. Newspaper articles related to the Jewish Community of Indiana, its members, and organizations (2)
3. Newspaper articles related to the Jewish Community of Indiana, its members, and organizations (3)

Series G: Marcus Family Materials**Box 1 (15 folders)**

1. Correspondence
2. Family Documents

- a. Happy Anniversary poem, term paper, award certificates, Sam Rubin, 75 Years, What a Cinsation
3. Family Scrapbook Material
 - a. Copies of scrapbook pages, original scrapbook documents
 - b. (Copies and documents kept in original order)
4. Ruth Marcus Three-Ring Binder Material
 - a. Copies of pictures and newspaper articles from a three-ring binder concerning the Indiana Jewish community (photographs removed to photograph series)
5. McGregor Motor Company Materials
 - a. Correspondence, newspaper articles and financial statements
6. Family-Related Newspaper Articles
7. Ephemera/Memorabilia
 - a. Announcements, certificates, invitations, copy of "The Legionnaire" of the Valley Forge Military Academy
8. McGregor Motor Company
9. Various Family photographs
10. Photographs from 3-ring Binder in Marcus Family
11. State of Israel Bonds
12. Indiana Chapter of Hadassah
13. Passover Dinner at Synagogue
14. Conformation Activities and Dinners
15. Miscellaneous photographs

Series G: Marcus Family Materials**Box 2 Oversized Materials (1 folder)**

1. 1949 Tri-State Luncheon Conference, United Jewish Appeal

Series H: Audio and Video Oral History Interviews**Box 1 Interviews see Transcriptions in Series I Box 1 Folder 3****A. Audio Interviews: 8 Audio Cassette Tapes and CD-R copies (use the CD-R copy)**

1. Howard Abrams – July 13, 1999 (audio)
 - a. Audio Cassette Tape (original)
 - b. CD-R Audio (copy)
2. Leonard Abrams – July 20, 1999 (audio)
 - a. Audio Cassette Tape (original)
 - b. CD-R Audio (copy)
3. Steve Brody – July 12, 1999 (audio)
 - a. Audio Cassette Tape (original)
 - b. CD-R Audio (copy)
4. David Luxenberg – June 23, 1999 (audio)
 - a. Audio Cassette Tape (original)
 - b. CD-R Audio (copy)

5. Robert (Bob) Marcus – July 19, 1999 (audio)
 - a. Audio Cassette Tape (original)
 - b. CD-R Audio (copy)
6. Ruth Marcus – June 25, 1999 (audio with Clarence and Ruth Marcus)
 - a. Audio Cassette Tape (original)
 - b. CD-R Audio (copy)
7. Milton Roumm – June 21, 1999 (audio)
 - a. Audio Cassette Tape (original)
 - b. CD-R Audio (copy)
8. Jay Rubin – August 4, 1999 (audio)
 - a. Audio Cassette Tape (original)
 - b. CD-R Audio (copy)

B. Video Interviews: 7 VHS Video Cassette Tapes and DVD copies (use the DVD copy)

1. Howard Abrams – July 13, 1999 (video)
 - a. VHS Video Cassette Tape (original)
 - b. DVD Video (copy)
2. Leonard Abrams – July 20, 1999 (video)
 - a. VHS Video Cassette Tape (original)
 - b. DVD Video (copy)
3. David Luxenberg – June 23, 1999 (video)
 - a. VHS Video Cassette Tape (original)
 - b. DVD Video (copy)
4. Robert (Bob) Marcus – July 19, 1999 (video)
 - a. VHS Video Cassette Tape (original)
 - b. DVD Video (copy)
5. Ruth Marcus – June 25, 1999 (video with Clarence and Ruth Marcus)
 - a. VHS Video Cassette Tape (original)
 - b. DVD Video (copy)
6. Milton Roumm – June 21, 1999 (video)
 - a. VHS Video Cassette Tape (original)
 - b. DVD Video (copy)
7. Jay Rubin – August 4, 1999 (video)
 - a. VHS Video Cassette Tape (original)
 - b. DVD Video (copy)

Series I: University Museum Exhibition Photographs and Interview Transcripts

Box 1 University Museum Exhibition: The Jewish Business Community of Downtown Indiana, Pennsylvania: A Historical Retrospective, 1999 (3 folders)

1. Photographs (1) by Jim Harrison and transcripts of interviews with members of Indiana's Jewish merchant families in preparation of the University Museum exhibition, research was conducted by Donna Cashdollar (1)
 - a. Howard Abrams – July 13, 1999

- b. Leonard Abrams – July 20, 1999
 - c. Steve Brody – July 12, 1999
 - d. David Luxenberg – June 23, 1999
 - e. Robert (Bob) Marcus – July 19, 1999
 - f. Ruth and Clarence Marcus – June 25, 1999
 - g. Milton and Phyllis Roumm – June 21, 1999
 - h. Jay Rubin – August 4, 1999
 - i. Leon Edelstein (photograph only)
2. Photographs (2) by Jim Harrison
- a. Miscellaneous photographs of buildings and storefronts on Philadelphia Street in Indiana, Pennsylvania
3. Copies of information in Folders 1-2
- a. Photocopies of Interview Transcriptions (from Folder 1): also available as digital files (see audio/video interviews in Series H Box 1)
 - i. Howard Abrams – July 13, 1999
 - ii. Leonard Abrams – July 20, 1999
 - iii. Steve Brody – July 12, 1999
 - iv. David Luxenberg – June 23, 1999
 - v. Robert (Bob) Marcus – July 19, 1999
 - vi. Ruth and Clarence Marcus – June 25, 1999
 - vii. Milton and Phyllis Roumm – June 21, 1999
 - viii. Jay Rubin – August 4, 1999
 - b. CD-R: Images of Jewish Business Community of Downtown Indiana (used for University Museum Exhibition catalog, see Folder 4)
 - i. Interview Photograph Scans
 - 1. Ruth and Clarence Marcus
 - 2. David Luxenberg
 - 3. Howard Abrams
 - 4. Jay Rubin
 - 5. Leonard Abrams
 - 6. Leon Edelstein
 - 7. Milton and Phyllis Roumm
 - 8. Robert Marcus
 - ii. Original Scans of Downtown Businesses (Indiana, Pennsylvania)
 - 1. Philadelphia Street looking west, 1909 (courthouse)
 - 2. Philadelphia Street looking east, 1909 (postcard)
 - 3. Brody's Advertisement, 1915
 - 4. Bon Ton Advertisement, 1916
 - 5. Brody's Staff Picnic, 1916
 - 6. Philadelphia Street south side, Sixth and Seventh Streets, 1916 (postcard)
 - 7. Old Brody's Shop, 1920s

8. Indiana, Sixth Street and Philadelphia Street looking west, 1930s
 9. Brody's Window Menswear, 1933
 10. Brody's Fashion Show, 1934
 11. Brody's Window Womenswear, 1934
 12. Brody's First Floor Dry Goods, 1939
 13. Philadelphia Street looking east, 1940s (postcard)
 14. Philadelphia Street looking west from Seventh Street, 1940s
 15. Philadelphia Street looking east from Eighth Street, 1940s (postcard)
 16. R&S Motor Company, 1940s
 17. Star Furniture Staff, 1945
 18. Philadelphia Street looking east from Seventh Street, 1950 (postcard)
 19. Hadassah at Rustic Lodge, 1950s
 20. Indiana County Sesquicentennial Parade, 1953
 21. Mrs. C.B.M. White Building, 1999
 22. Main Street in Anita, Pennsylvania, 1900 (postcard)
 23. Elks Building, 1910 (postcard)
 24. Philadelphia Street looking west from Fifth Street, 1910 (postcard)
 25. Buchman Brothers Advertisement, 1920
 26. Gordons Shop Advertisement, 1930
 27. Synagogue Groundbreaking, 1952
 28. Beth Israel Synagogue, 1953
 29. Gordons Shop
 30. H.J. Brody
 31. H.L. Heyman, S. Rose, and S. Levine
 32. Moore Hotel and the Hub (Philadelphia Street)
 33. R&S Motor Advertisement
 34. S. Rosenthal Peddler
 35. Saul Waxler
 36. Star Furniture Building
 37. Moore Hotel (postcard)
 38. Waxlers Store (interior)
 39. Waxlers Store (exterior)
4. University Museum Exhibition catalog and brochure: [The Jewish Business Community of Downtown Indiana: A Historical Retrospective](http://libs0500.library.iup.edu/depts/speccol/All%20Finding%20Aids/Finding%20aids/MG%20or%20Col/MG95UniversityMuseumExhibition1999.pdf), 1999 (URL):
<http://libs0500.library.iup.edu/depts/speccol/All%20Finding%20Aids/Finding%20aids/MG%20or%20Col/MG95UniversityMuseumExhibition1999.pdf>