



## Betty Lipsitz Bikson Family Papers (K0898)

**Collection Number:** K0898

**Collection Title:** Betty Lipsitz Bikson Family Papers

**Dates:** 1916-2000

**Creator:** Bikson, Betty Lipsitz

**Abstract:** The Betty Lipsitz Bikson Family Papers consists of newspaper clippings, photographs, certificates, and advertisements concerning the Bikson family.

**Collection Size:** 0.19 cubic foot  
(16 folders, 2 oversize items, 4 photographs)

**Language:** Collection materials are primarily in English with some in Hebrew.

**Repository:** The State Historical Society of Missouri

**Restrictions on Access:** Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at [kansascity@shsmo.org](mailto:kansascity@shsmo.org). Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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**Preferred Citation:** [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Betty Lipsitz Bikson Family Papers* (K0898); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-KC].

**Donor Information:** The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Betty Bikson on November 18, 2010 (Accession No. KA1880).

**Notes:** Collection is associated with the Jewish Community Archives of Greater Kansas City. Folder 16 is located in an oversize flat box.

**Processed by:** Processed by Whitney Heinzmann, December 2017

**Biographical Note:**

Betty Lipsitz was born November 30, 1932, to Jacob and Rose (Wise) Lipsitz, Eastern European Jewish immigrants who settled in the Kansas City area. Betty attended the University of Illinois and graduated with a major in painting in 1953. In 1954, she married James A. Bikson (1928-2012), a graduate of the University of Missouri who worked with the firm of Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner, and Smith and as an account executive at the stock brokerage firm Dean Witter and Company. The Bikson's had three children, Bruce, Gayle (Levin), and Nancy (Yawitz). The Bikson family was heavily involved with Congregation B'nai Jehudah and the greater Kansas City Jewish community.

**Arrangement:**

The collection has been arranged into the following four series:

Genealogy  
Congregation B'nai Jehudah  
Photographs  
Oversize

**Scope and Content Note:****Genealogy**

This series contains materials related to the activities of Betty Bikson's family members. The materials have been arranged by family member starting with Betty's mother's maternal line (Eda/Ida Wise, Betty's maternal grandmother, Dorothy and Sarah Wise, Betty's aunts). The arrangement then moves to Betty's parents (Rose (Wise) and Jacob "Jack" Lipsitz) to Betty and her husband (James Bikson). After Betty and James their children and grandchildren are listed (son, Bruce, Betty's granddaughter Carie, grandson Scott, daughter, Gayle (Bikson) Levin, daughter, Nancy (Bikson) Yawitz, and Betty's granddaughter Katie Yawitz). Grandchildren have been placed under their respective parent. Folder contents have been arranged chronologically.

**Congregation B'nai Jehudah**

This series consists of materials pertaining to Congregation B'nai Jehudah in Overland Park, Kansas. Of special interest is an insert concerning the centennial of Congregation B'nai Jehudah titled "For One Hundred Years...Congregation B'nai Jehudah, a Motivating Force for the Advancement of Philanthropy and Culture in the Life of Kansas City," dated 1970. The items are arranged chronologically within the folder.

**Photographs**

This series contains four black and white photographs: two portraits of Rose Lipsitz, one photograph of an unidentified group of children, and one group photograph labeled B'nai Jehudah Sisterhood with three of the four women identified as Sally Reicher, Betty Bikson, and Amy Shane, dated September 1, 1978.

**Oversize**

This series consists of two items: a single newspaper, *The Kansas City Jewish Chronicle*, dated February 20, 1981, and a naturalization certificate for Harry Bikson, James Bikson's father. The newspaper contains a lengthy article, "The Jewish Home Beautiful," that discusses the Bikson family and home.

**Container List:**

|         |       |   |
|---------|-------|---|
| f. 1-13 |       | Genealogy   |
| Box 001 | f. 1  | Edna/Ida Wise, 1943, 1960   |
|         | f. 2  | Dorothy Wise, 1990  |
|         | f. 3  | Sarah Wise, 1931  |
|         | f. 4  | Rose (Wise) Lipsitz, 1940, 1974-1975, no date   |
|         | f. 5  | Jacob "Jack" Lipsitz, 1927, 1958-1962, 1975, no date  |
|         | f. 6  | Betty (Lipsitz) Bikson, 1947-2000   |
|         | f. 7  | James Bikson, 1961-1962, 1964, no date  |
|         | f. 8  | Bruce Bikson 1970, 1982, no date  |
|         | f. 9  | Carie Bikson, 2000  |
|         | f. 10 | Scott Bikson, 1984, 1997, no date   |
|         | f. 11 | Gayle (Bikson) Levin, no date   |
|         | f. 12 | Nancy (Bikson) Yawitz, 1969-1971, 1973, 1987-1988, no date  |
|         | f. 13 | Katie Yawitz, 1999  |
| f. 14   |       | Congregation B'nai Jehudah  |
|         | f. 14 | Congregation B'nai Jehudah, 1963, 1970-1971   |
| f. 15   |       | Photographs   |
|         | f. 15 | Photographs, 1978   |
| f. 16   |       | Oversize  |
| Box 002 | f. 16 | <i>The Kansas City Jewish Chronicle</i> , February 20, 1981<br>Naturalization Certificate, Harry Bikson, 1916 |

**Index:**

| Index Term                                    | Folder    | Image |
|---|-----------|-------|
| Bar mitzvah                                   | 8, 10     |       |
| Bat mitzvah                                   | 9, 12, 13 |       |
| Berl, Shari                                   | 8         |       |
| Betrothal                                     | 8         |       |
| Bikson, Betty Lipsitz                         | 6, 14, 15 | Yes   |
| Bikson, Bruce                                 | 8         |       |
| Bikson, Carie                                 | 9         |       |
| Bikson, Harry                                 | 7, 16     |       |
| Bikson, James, 1928-2012                      | 7, 14     |       |
| Bikson, Scott                                 | 10        |       |
| Congregation B'nai Jehudah (Kansas City, Mo.) | 14        |       |
| Housing, single family                        | 16        |       |

| <b>Index Term</b>                                | <b>Folder</b> | <b>Image</b> |
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| Jewish Community Archives of Greater Kansas City | 1-16          |              |
| Jewish religious schools                         | 14            |              |
| Levin, Gayle Bikson                              | 11            |              |
| Lipsitz, Jacob                                   | 5             |              |
| Lipsitz, Rose Wise                               | 4, 15         | Yes          |
| Naturalization                                   | 1, 4, 5, 16   |              |
| Obituaries                                       | 1, 7          |              |
| Public schools—Missouri—Kansas City              | 3             |              |
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| Wise, Dorothy, 1904-1989                         | 2             |              |
| Wise, Edna                                       | 1             |              |
| Wise, Ida  | 1             |              |
| Wise, Sarah                                      | 3             |              |
| Yawitz, Nancy Bikson                             | 12            |              |
| Yawitz, Katie                                    | 13            |              |