



## THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MISSOURI RESEARCH CENTER-KANSAS CITY

K0904

Carl Lipoff (1909-1994) and Adele Goodman Lipoff (1910-1994)

Family Papers

[Jewish Community Archives]

1991

one volume

*History on the Lipoff family dictated by Carl and Adele Lipoff, active members of the Jewish Community in Kansas City, MO.*

### BIOGRAPHY:

Born on March 17, 1910, Adele Lipoff was the daughter of Peres Goodman (1869-1954) and Elizabeth Deitchman (1881-1954), both children of Rumanian Jews whose parents immigrated to the United States in the 1890s, living first in New York City before settling in St. Joseph, MO. In running a soda water factory, Peres made a decent living by contemporary standards but later regretted declining a franchise to take over the then nascent Coca-Cola Company branch in St. Joseph on the grounds that Coke, then packaged in smaller bottles priced the same as other drinks, would never attract customers in large numbers. Moving to Kansas City in the 1910s, Peres worked in a variety of businesses (grocery store, mattress factory, pawn shop, geriatric center) and was active in the local Jewish community, serving as president of Tefares Israel Synagogue then located on Admiral and Tracy. Graduating from Manual High School, Adele sold children's clothes at Harzfelds at the time she started dating Carl Lipoff.

Born on June 17, 1909, in Kansas City, Carl Lipoff was the son of Morris (1873-1946) and Mary Lipoff (1877-1968), a comparatively privileged family with sugar business connections which fled Russia in 1903 to escape the draft conscription for the Russo-Japanese War. An excellent student, Carl finished high school at the age of 16 in 1925 and went to the University of Texas at Austin. Graduating in 1928, he worked as an accountant and as a technical management for his brother's jewelry store in the twilight phase of the prosperous twenties until 1930 when the Great Depression hit the jewelry industry. Returning to Kansas City in 1933, he subsequently worked as an office manager in an unnamed

general store humorously known as “The Store Without a Name” located at 9<sup>th</sup> and Main.

Married on June 14, 1936, Carl and Adele had two daughters, Gerre (b. April 19, 1938) and Judy (b. May 18, 1942). Through performing war-related accounting work with the firm Peat Marwick by auditing firms with defense contracts, Carl was exempted from military service during World War II before opening his own accounting office in 1946. The Lipoffs subsequently prospered in the postwar years, with Carl progressing to become the President of the Missouri Society of Certified Public Accountants (and was one of the discussion leaders at the Eighth International Accounting Office in 1962) and Adele, long active in local Jewish community activities such as Hadassah and Israel Bond drives, advancing to become President of the Beth Shalom Synagogue Sisterhood and Woman’s Chairman of the Hebrew Academy.

The 1960s witnessed further expansion on both the professional and community fronts for Carl, with his accounting firm, Lipoff Sharlip & Company- through an advantageous merger with Touche Ross & Company- rising to become one of the most successful in Kansas City, and his community involvement diversifying to include memberships in the Missouri State Society, the Jewish Family and Children Service, Beth Shalom Synagogue, the Jewish Community Foundation (Board of Governors member), the Jewish Geriatric Center, Port Arthur’s B’nai B’rith Lodge (as president), Heart of America Lodge (as first chaplain), Oakwood Country Club, Budget Committee (as chairman), American Accounting Association, the National Association of Accountants, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (on the Management Services Committee), Menorah Hospital (as Assistant Treasurer), and the Menorah Medical Center (as a Board Life Member).

Carl and Adele’s children also started their own families during this period, with Gerre, after graduating from the University of Kansas City, marrying Rodney Minkin (1959, who worked as a partner at Touche Ross & Company before starting a successful career in real estate in 1974) and having three daughters: Carole (b. March 1962), Lisa (b. June 1964), and Debra (b. June 1967); and Judy, after graduating from the University of Colorado, marrying Andrew Hilvitz (1962) and having four children: Andria (b. 1964), Perry (b. 1967), Hai David (b. 1968), and Merri (b. 1970).

During the 1970s, the Lipoffs’ extensive professional and community accomplishments were rewarded with Adele’s receipt of the coveted Herbert Lehman award (1974) for raising Israel bonds (she was later invited by Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir to attend an Israel Bond conference in Jerusalem) and Carl’s designation as Man of the Year (1978) by Beth Shalom Synagogue two years after retiring from accounting. The following decade, the family expanded further with Carole Minkin marrying Jeffrey Rosen (1984), Lisa Minkin marrying Steve Ruben (1988), and Andria Hilvitz marrying Steven Sherman (1984) and having two boys, Donald (b. 1984) and Jacob (b. 1988).

## PROVENANCE:

This gift was received from Rodney T. and Gerre Ann Minkin as accession KA1321 on August 2, 2004.

## COPYRIGHT AND RESTRICTIONS:

The Donor has given and assigned to the University of Missouri all rights of copyright which the Donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor's works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the University from others.

## PREFERRED CITATION:

Specific item; folder number; *Carl Lipoff (1909-1994) and Adele Goodman Lipoff (1910-1994) Family Papers (K0904)*; The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-KC].

## CONTACT:

*The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City*  
302 Newcomb Hall, University of Missouri-Kansas City  
5123 Holmes Street, Kansas City, MO 64110-2499  
(816) 235-1543 [SHSofMO-KC@umsystem.edu](mailto:SHSofMO-KC@umsystem.edu)  
<http://shs.umsystem.edu/index.shtml>

## DESCRIPTION:

This collection consists of a paperback volume of a manuscript history on the Lipoff family dictated by Carl and Adele Lipoff produced by Carl and Adele Lipoff, Gerre and Rod Minkin, and Judy and Andy Hilvitz., dated 1991.

Linkage to the *Minkin Real Estate Company Records (K0624)* is provided by the marriage of their daughter Gerre to Rodney Minkin in 1959. Also related are the *Gerre Lipoff Minkin (1938- ) Papers (K1274)*.

## INVENTORY:

Volume 1. *Carl and Adele Lipoff Family History*, 1991