

K Epstein, Samuel and Gertrude Papers, 1951-2000
1335 5 cubic feet
[JCA]

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INTRODUCTION

This collection contains the papers of Samuel and Gertrude Epstein, members of the Kansas City Jewish community. Included is information regarding their business, Epstein's Kosher Foods, Inc. In addition, there is information related to the several Jewish congregations that the Epstein's were involved with including Congregation Beth Israel Abraham and Voliner, Congregation Beth Shalom, Kehilath Israel Synagogue, the Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy, and the Jewish Community Center of Kansas City.

DONOR INFORMATION

The papers were donated by Gertrude Epstein to the State Historical Society of Missouri on October 20, 2014 (Accession No. KA2255).

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RELATED COLLECTIONS

Congregation Beth Shalom Records, 1917-2002 (K0602)

Congregation Beth Israel Abraham and Voliner (B.I.A.V.) Collection, 1969 (K0916)

Kehilath Israel Synagogue Collection, 1940-2010 (K0776)

Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy Collection, 1974-2012 (K1337)

Jewish Community Center Collection, 1945-1975 (K0743)

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Samuel Epstein was born in 1921 in Kansas City, Missouri. Epstein served in the United States Army during World War II, and following the war, returned to Kansas City. Epstein received a degree in electrical engineering from the University of Kansas City, now the University of Missouri, Kansas City, in 1949. Samuel and Gertrude married and had three daughters. Epstein owned and operated Epstein's Kosher Foods, Inc.

Samuel and Gertrude were members of Congregations Beth Shalom and Kehilath Israel. Samuel was involved with the Men's Club at Kehilath Israel and was past president of Congregation Beth Israel Abraham and Voliner. Gertrude volunteered on several committees at Beth Israel Abraham and Voliner, and served on the Sisterhood Committee. She and her husband attended the Married Couples Club at the Congregation Beth Israel Abraham and Voliner Synagogue.

Samuel was active in the Kansas City community, serving on both the Kansas City Board of Election Commissioners and the board of directors of Park Lane Medical Center. He was president of Chevra Kadisha of Greater Kansas City, and was given the honor of being an honorary life member of the board of trustees at the Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy.

For his service in World War II, Samuel was a member of the American Legion and Jewish War Veterans. He was also a member of the Heroine Masonic Lodge.

Samuel Epstein died in January 1995.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The papers have been arranged into the following eight series:

Epstein Papers

Business Papers

Family Papers

Family Photographs

Congregation Beth Israel Abraham and Voliner

Institutional Records

Synagogue Groups

Photographs

Congregation Beth Shalom

Congregation Papers

Multimedia

Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy

Academy Papers

Photographs

Kehilath Israel Synagogue

Jewish Community Center

Oversize

Architectural Drawings

The **Epstein Papers** series includes information about the Epstein's business, Epstein Kosher Foods, Inc., along with some general family papers and photographs. Within the **Business Papers**, there are board of directors meeting minutes, correspondence, customer lists, and financial paperwork. In addition, there is paperwork that the Epstein's obtained get its kosher designation. The **Family Papers** contain general family correspondence, newspaper clippings, and programs for events that the family attended. Finally, the **Family Photographs** subseries contains images of the Epstein's at family gatherings and events, as well as participating in local Jewish community events.

The **Congregation Beth Israel Abraham and Voliner** series includes records of the synagogue, information on synagogue groups, and photographs of congregation events. Within the **Institutional Records**, are board meeting minutes, financial records, the constitution and by-laws of the congregation, and membership rosters. The **Synagogue Groups** subseries contains information on the Married Couples Club, Sisterhood, and the Youth Council. The information on these groups includes ledgers, newsletters, minutes, membership rosters, and event information.

The **Congregation Beth Shalom** series includes a synagogue history, synagogue events programs and calendars, membership rosters, and issues of their newsletter "The Scroll." In addition, there is a video cassette of the program "Salute to Song and Spirit."

The **Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy** series contains papers related to the activity of the academy, especially in relation to their annual pilgrimage to Israel. Within the **Academy Papers**, there are academy directories, events information, programs, and yearbooks. In addition, there is information related to the Jewish Education Council. Of particular interest are the papers related to the academy's annual pilgrimage to Israel. In the **Academy Photographs** subseries, there are photographs of academy events, and of the groups the traveled to Israel.

The **Jewish Community Center** series includes annual reports, newsletters, and event information related to the center.

The **Kehilath Israel Synagogue** series includes commemorative directories and calendars for members of the synagogue and newsletters.

The **Oversize** series primarily consists of architectural drawings of the Epstein Kosher Foods processing plant. There is also a certificate from the Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy, a newsletter, an ashtray that has Epstein Kosher Foods stamped on it, and a school jersey for the Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy.

The **Architectural Drawings** series contains building plans for Epstein's Kosher Foods Inc. In addition, there are alterations and remodeling plans for Epstein's Kosher Meats.

PREFERRED CITATION

Specific item; box number; folder number; *Epstein, Samuel and Gertrude Papers* (K1335); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-KC].

FOLDER LIST

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f. 1	Board of Directors Meeting Minutes, 1982-1983
f. 2	Building and Business Specifications, 1951-1968
f. 3	Correspondence, 1970-1989
f. 4	Customer Lists, 1955
f. 5	Ephemera, n.d.
f. 6	Financial Paperwork, 1960
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f. 8	Newspaper Clippings, 1972-1990
f. 9	Receipt Booklets, 1956-1990
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f. 12-28	Congregation Beth Israel Abraham and Voliner
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f. 12	Board Meeting Minutes, 1974-1978
f. 13	Constitution and By-Laws, 1967

- f. 14 Correspondence, 1978-1979
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- f. 28 Photographs, 1956
- f. 29-35 Congregation Beth Shalom
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 - f. 43 Yearbook, 1976
 - f. 44 Photographs, 1968-1980
- f. 45-47 Jewish Community Center
 - f. 45 Annual Reports, 1985
 - f. 46 Events, 1978-1995
 - f. 47 Newsletter "Hillel," 1984-1985
- f. 48-49 Kehilath Israel Synagogue
 - f. 48 Directory and Calendar, 1980-1985
 - f. 49 Newsletter "The Focal Point," 1999
- f. 50-55 Oversize
 - f. 50 Architectural Drawings, 1960

f. 51 Ashtray, n.d.
 f. 52 Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy Certificate, 1983
 f. 53 Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy Member Directory, 1990
 f. 54 Newsletter "Windows," 1984
 f. 55 School Jersey, n.d.

Architectural Drawings

Roll 1 Meat and poultry processing building plans for Sam Epstein Foods, Inc.
 Location 2615-17 E 18th St., Kansas City, MO
 Architect Sam Price and Associates
 Date 1963

Roll 2 Alterations and remodeling for Epstein Kosher Meats
 Location 403 W 79th St., Kansas City, MO
 Architect Samuel R. Rosen
 Date 1968
 Job/Plan no. 6803-A

INDEX TERMS

Index Term	Folder	Image	Mediums
Congregation Beth Israel Abraham and Voliner (Kansas City, Mo.)	12-28	Yes	
Congregation Beth Shalom (Kansas City, Mo.)	29-35		Video tape
Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy	36-44	Yes	
Jewish Community Archives of Greater Kansas City	1-55	Yes	
Jewish Community Center of Greater Kansas City	45-47		
Kosher food industry	1-9		

Processed August 2017