



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

**A Finding Aid to the
Temple Beth El (Corsicana, Tex.) Records
Manuscript Collection No. 892**

Collection Summary

Title	Temple Beth El (Corsicana, Tex.) Records
Dates	1902-1985, undated
Collection Number	MS-892
Repository	The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
Creator	Temple Beth El (Corsicana, Tex.) Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Southwest Council
Extent	0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)
Language of the Material	English

Administrative Information

Biographical Sketch	<p>The Jewish community of Corsicana, Texas, dates to 1871 when the Houston and Texas Central Railroad extended its line. The Hebrew Cemetery Association organized in 1887 and the first Jewish services were held above stores or at city hall. Temple Beth El was chartered on 8 November 1898 and its historic Moorish Revival synagogue was dedicated on 27 September 1900.</p> <p>The congregation was served by Julius M. Magil (1900-), David Goldberg (1914-), Joseph H. Stolz, (1918-1920), Louis Rosenberg, M.G. Solomon (1921-), Louis Brav (1925-), Wolfe Macht, David L. Zielonka (1929-), Hyman J. Ettlinger, Charles Lesser (1935-), Edward Ellenbogan, Albert A. Michels (1938-), Earnest Gray (1946-1947), Herbert M. Yarrish (1949), Joseph D. Spear (1958), Harry A. Merfeld (1959-1961), Gustave F. Falk, Sol Kaplan, Avery Jonah Grossfield (1965), and Ernest Joseph as official or visiting rabbis.</p> <p>Temple Beth El closed in May of 1980 due to a dwindling Jewish population but its building was saved by the Navarro County Historical Society and is now used as a community center.</p>
Scope and Content	Collection consisting of minute books of the congregation and Ladies Auxiliary, together with articles of incorporation, constitution and by-laws, histories, correspondence with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations Southwest Council, and other records.
Arrangement	This collection is arranged in one (1) series: A. General.
Terms of Access	The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.
Preferred Citation	Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Temple Beth El (Corsicana, Tex.) Records and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows: [Description], [Date], Temple Beth El (Corsicana, Tex.) Records, MS-892, Box [#], Folder [#]. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Provenance	Received from Brian Zimmerman, Dallas, Tex., November 2014.
Processing Information	Processed by Elisa Ho, November 2014.

Index Terms

Subjects	Jewish women -- Texas -- Corsicana / Jews -- Texas -- Corsicana / Synagogues -- Texas -- Corsicana
Personal Names	Kaplan, Solomon Kahn
Corporate Names	Temple Beth El (Corsicana, Tex.)
Media	By-laws / Constitutions / Minutes

Series A. General, 1902-1985, undated

Scope and Content Note Records of Temple Beth El; includes records of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations Southwest Council regarding the congregation's closing.

Arrangement

Arranged alphabetically.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 1. Building, 1984-1985

Box 1. Folder 2. Histories, undated

Box 1. Folder 3. Ladies Auxiliary minute book, 1950-1961

Box 1. Folder 4. Minute book, 1913-1949

Box 1. Folder 5. Records, 1902-1981

Box 1. Folder 6. Union of American Hebrew Congregations Southwest Council, 1963-1981