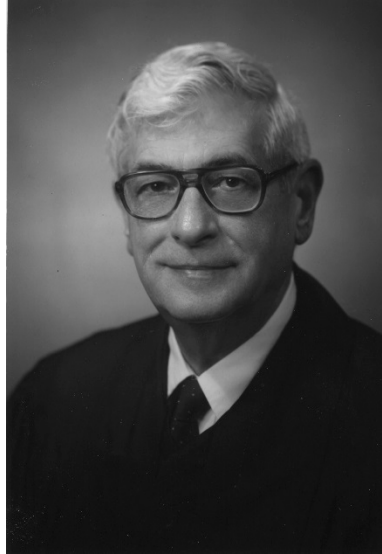




THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

**A Finding Aid to the
Alvan D. Rubin Papers**

Manuscript Collection No. 894



Collection Summary

Title	Alvan D. Rubin Papers
Dates	1952-2000
Collection Number	MS-894
Repository	The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
Creator	Rubin, Alvan D.
Extent	0.8 linear feet (2 Hollinger boxes)
Abstract	Collection consisting primarily of sermons delivered by Rabbi Alvan D. Rubin. These include Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and other Jewish holiday sermons together with weekly Sabbath sermons. Also includes miscellaneous writings, speeches, and correspondence, along with files related to Rubin's retirement from Congregation Temple Israel in Saint Louis, Missouri.

Language of the Material English

Administrative Information

Biographical Sketch

Alvan D. Rubin was born in Boston, Massachusetts in 1920. While attending Northeastern University he worked at the Boston Globe. After receiving his degree in journalism in 1941 Rubin continued working at the Globe as a reporter. Rubin enlisted in the United States Army during the Second World War, where he served overseas from 1942 until 1945. His first hand experiences of the Holocaust and what he called "the struggle for life and death" prompted Rubin to enroll in the rabbinical program at the Jewish Institute of Religion in New York after returning from active service in 1945. While a student at JIR he took a student pulpit in Roslyn Heights, New York, to serve the newly formed congregation of Temple Sinai.

After ordination from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR) in 1950, Rubin continued serving Temple Sinai as its first full time rabbi. During this time, Rubin enrolled at New York University, where he earned his Master of Arts degree in 1952. He was extended the honor of life tenure at Temple Sinai in 1958, after ten years of service there. In 1964, Rubin took a sabbatical year in Israel to study at the Hebrew Union College Biblical and Archeological School's excavation at Gezer under the direction of Dr. Ernest Wright. During his 18 year tenure at Temple Sinai, the congregation grew from fifty families to over 1000 families. In 1967, Rubin moved to Congregation Temple Israel in Saint Louis, Missouri where he served as senior rabbi. In 1987, he retired and became rabbi emeritus.

Rubin was very active in the communities where he worked. He was a member of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the National Chaplaincy Commission of the Jewish Welfare Board, and the New York Board of Rabbis, where he served as vice-president. He was also a member of the Board of Alumni Overseers of HUC-JIR and a past president of the HUC-JIR Rabbinic Alumni Association. In Saint Louis, Rubin participated in a weekly radio program, taught at Saint Louis University and Webster College, and served as chaplain to various military and community organizations.

Rubin remained involved in chaplaincy throughout his rabbinical career. In New York, he served as auxiliary Jewish chaplain at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point and at Mitchel Air Force Base in Long Island. In 1966, he toured the Far East as Technical Adviser to the Air Force Chief of Chaplains. After moving to Saint Louis, Rubin served as a Jewish chaplain at VA Medical Centers.

Rubin is the author of A Picture Dictionary of Jewish Life and co-author of Your Bar Mitzvah.

Alvan Rubin died in 2006 at the age of 85.

Scope and Content

This collection consists primarily of holiday and weekly Sabbath sermons delivered by Alvan D. Rubin while serving as rabbi at Temple Sinai in Roslyn Heights, New York and at Temple Israel in Saint Louis, Missouri. The majority of sermons were delivered at high holy day services for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Other Jewish holiday sermons are included along with weekly Sabbath sermons. Also includes miscellaneous writings, speeches, and correspondence, along with files related to his retirement as rabbi at Temple Israel in Saint Louis, Missouri.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged in two (2) series:

Series A. Sermons. 1952-2000, undated

Series B. General. 1969-2000, undated

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Preferred Citation Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Alvan D. Rubin Papers and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Alvan D. Rubin Papers, MS-894, Box [#], Folder [#]. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Provenance The Alvan D. Rubin Papers were received from his daughter, Carol Rubin, Saint Louis, Missouri, in June 2014.

Processing Information Processed by American Jewish Archives staff. Additional processing by Michelle Smith, 	February 2016.

Index Terms

Subjects Congregation Temple Israel (Creve Coeur, Mo.) / Jews -- Missouri -- Creve Coeur / Jews -- Missouri -- Saint Louis / Jews -- New York (State) -- Roslyn Heights / Military chaplains / Rabbis / Rosh ha-Shanah / Rubin, Alvan D. / Temple Sinai (Roslyn Heights, N.Y.) / Yom Kippur

Media Digitized / Photographs / Sermons

Series A. Sermons, 1952-2000, undated

Extent 0.6 linear feet (1.5 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note This series consists of holiday and Sabbath sermons given by Rubin. The majority of sermons were delivered on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Other Jewish holiday sermons are included along with weekly Sabbath sermons.

Arrangement This series is arranged alphabetically.

Box and Folder Listing (see also descriptions below)

Box 1. Folder 1. Sermons, 1953-1966

Box 1. Folder 2. Sermons, 1967-1979

Box 1. Folder 3. Sermons, 1981-2000

Box 1. Folder 4. Sermons, undated

Box 1. Folder 5. Sermons. Hanukkah, undated

Box 1. Folder 6. Sermons. Passover, 1968-1981

Box 1. Folder 7. Sermons. Purim, 1957

Box 1. Folder 8. Sermons. Rosh Hashanah, 1953-1998, undated

Box 1. Folder 9. Sermons. Shavuot and confirmation, 1958-1973

Box 1. Folder 10. Sermons. Simchat Torah, 1991, undated

Box 1. Folder 11. Sermons. Sukkot, 1952-1955, undated

Box 1. Folder 12. Sermons. Yom Kippur, 1953-1998, undated

Box 2. Folder 1. Sermons delivered on KSD-TV, 1967-1977, undated
Box 2. Folder 2. Sermons on anti-semitism and racism, 1993, undated
Box 2. Folder 3. Sermons on family, 1979, 1996, undated
Box 2. Folder 4. Sermons on friendship, undated
Box 2. Folder 5. Sermons on Genesis, 1963-1968, undated
Box 2. Folder 6. Sermons on Israel, 1970, 1996, undated
Box 2. Folder 7. Sermons on marriage, 2000, undated
Box 2. Folder 8. Sermons on women in the Torah, undated

Media

Sermons

Folder 1. Sermons, 1953-1966

In container 1
Creator Rubin, Alvan D.
Extent 38 p.
Language of the Material English

Media

Digitized / Sermons

Folder 2. Sermons, 1967-1979

In container 1
Creator Rubin, Alvan D.
Extent 138 p.
Language of the Material English

Media

Digitized / Sermons

Folder 3. Sermons, 1981-2000

In container 1
Creator Rubin, Alvan D.
Extent 122 p.
Language of the Material English

Media

Digitized / Sermons

Folder MS-894, Box 1, Folder 4. Sermons, undated

In container 1
Creator Rubin, Alvan D.
Extent 286 p.
Language of the Material English

Media

Digitized / Sermons

Folder MS-894, Box 1, Folder 5. Sermons. Hanukkah, undated

In container 1
Creator Rubin, Alvan D.
Extent 5 p.
Language of the Material English

Media

Digitized / Sermons

Folder MS-894, Box 1, Folder 6. Sermons. Passover, 1968-1981

In container 1
Creator Rubin, Alvan D.
Extent 30 p.
Language of the Material English

Media

Digitized / Sermons

Folder MS-894, Box 1, Folder 7. Sermons. Purim, 1957

In container 1
Creator Rubin, Alvan D.
Extent 4 p.
Language of the Material English

Media

Digitized / Sermons

Folder MS-894, Box 1, Folder 8. Sermons. Rosh Hashanah, 1953-1998, undated

In container 1
Creator Rubin, Alvan D.
Extent 311 p.
Language of the Material English

Media

Digitized / Sermons

Folder MS-894, Box 1, Folder 9. Sermons. Shavuot and confirmation, 1958-1973

In container 1
Creator Rubin, Alvan D.
Extent 123 p.
Language of the Material English

Media

Digitized / Sermons

Folder MS-894, Box 1, Folder 10. Sermons. Simchat Torah, 1991, undated

In container 1
Creator Rubin, Alvan D.
Extent 52 p.
Language of the Material English

Media

Digitized / Sermons

Folder MS-894, Box 1, Folder 11. Sermons. Sukkot, 1952-1955, undated

In container 1
Creator Rubin, Alvan D.
Extent 44 p.
Language of the Material English

Media

Digitized / Sermons

Folder MS-894, Box 1, Folder 12. Sermons. Yom Kippur, 1953-1998, undated

In container 1
Creator Rubin, Alvan D.
Extent 155 p.
Language of the Material English

Media

Digitized / Sermons

Folder MS-894, Box 2, Folder 1. Sermons delivered on KSD-TV, 1967-1977, undated

In container 2
Creator Rubin, Alvan D.
Extent 57 p.
Language of the Material English

Media

Digitized / Sermons

Folder MS-894, Box 2, Folder 2. Sermons on anti-Semitism and racism, 1993, undated

In container 2
Creator Rubin, Alvan D.
Extent 67 p.
Language of the Material English

Media

Digitized / Sermons

Folder MS-894, Box 2, Folder 3. Sermons on family, 1979, 1996, undated

In container 2
Creator Rubin, Alvan D.
Extent 55 p.
Language of the Material English

Media

Digitized / Sermons

Folder MS-894, Box 2, Folder 4. Sermons on friendship, undated

In container 2
Creator Rubin, Alvan D.
Extent 35 p.
Language of the Material English

Media

Digitized / Sermons

Folder MS-894, Box 2, Folder 5. Sermons on Genesis, 1963-1968, undated

In container 2
Creator Rubin, Alvan D.
Extent 70 p.
Language of the Material English

Media

Digitized / Sermons

Folder MS-894, Box 2, Folder 6. Sermons on Israel, 1970, 1996, undated

In container 2
Creator Rubin, Alvan D.
Extent 46 p.
Language of the Material English

Media

Digitized / Sermons

Folder MS-894, Box 2, Folder 7. Sermons on marriage, 2000, undated

In container 2
Creator Rubin, Alvan D.
Extent 10 p.
Language of the Material English

Media

Digitized / Sermons

Folder MS-894, Box 2, Folder 8. Sermons on women in the Torah, undated

In container 2
Creator Rubin, Alvan D.
Extent 35 p.
Language of the Material English

Media

Digitized / Sermons

Series B. General, 1969-2000, undated

Extent 0.2 linear feet (0.5 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note This series consists of biographical data, writings, and material on Rubin's retirement from Temple Israel. His writings include a personal letter to his granddaughter on her bat mitzvah, an editorial letter appearing in the Saint Louis Post-Dispatch, installation addresses, and speeches given throughout his career. Retirement materials include congratulatory letters, articles, and speeches honoring Rabbi Rubin.

Arrangement This series is arranged alphabetically.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 2. Folder 9. Biographical data and personal, 1996, undated

Box 2. Folder 10. Installation addresses, 1969-1983

Box 2. Folder 11. Retirement, 1986-1987

Box 2. Folder 12. Speeches, 1996-2000