



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE  
**AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES**

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**A Finding Aid to the  
Alexander A. Steinbach Papers  
Manuscript Collection No. 70**



## Collection Summary

<b>Title</b>	Alexander A. Steinbach Papers
<b>Dates</b>	1935-1977
<b>Collection Number</b>	MS-70
<b>Repository</b>	The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
<b>Creator</b>	Steinbach, A. Alan (Alexander Alan), 1894-1978
<b>Extent</b>	0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)
<b>Language of the Material</b>	English

## Administrative Information

### Biographical Sketch

Alexander Alan Steinbach was a rabbi and prolific author. He was born on February 2, 1894 in Baltimore Maryland. He received a B.A. from Johns Hopkins and an M.A. from Atlantic University and was ordained a Rabbi from Hebrew Union College in 1930. Steinbach was awarded the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Divinity by HUC in 1956.

Congregation Ahavath Sholom in Bluefield, West Virginia was Steinbach's first rabbinic post which lasted from May 1921 to September 1922. From 1922 to 1934 Steinbach presided over Congregation Beth El in Norfolk, Virginia where he also served as Psychological Examiner of Juvenile Court and for the public school system. In 1934 he became rabbi of Temple Ahavath Sholom in Brooklyn, New York where he presided for the rest of his life, attaining the title Rabbi Emeritus in 1966. During World War II Steinbach enlisted in the U.S. Army and was commissioned as First Lieutenant in the Army Chaplains Corps in 1943. He served in the Eighth Service Command for more than two years.

Steinbach's body of written work includes essays, sermons, text-books and poetry. He headed the Jewish Book Council of America, was editor of the Jewish Book Annual from 1954 to 1976 and was editor of the National Jewish Welfare Board's, JWB Circle: Jewish Bookland.

Steinbach was recognized for his contributions to literature, education and Jewish thought and culture. His literary acclaim included honorary memberships in both the Mark Twain Society and the Eugene Field Society. He was a member in the Order of Bookfellows and the American Poetry League. Steinbach was the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, Leo J. Goldberger Award winner as outstanding educator for 1963 and was the 1970 winner of the Frank Weil L. Award for contributions to the advancement of American Jewish culture.

Alexander Steinbach received numerous other awards and distinctions including citations for his spiritual leadership and active involvement on the boards of charitable, cultural and civic agencies of both the Jewish and general communities. He received a commendation from Mayor Robert F. Wagner of New York and a letter of recognition from President Lyndon Johnson.

Steinbach was a President of the Brooklyn Board of Rabbis, Vice President of the New York Board of Rabbis and was the first President of the Brooklyn Association of Reform Rabbis. He was also a longstanding National Trustee of the National Home for Asthmatic Children.

Alexander Alan Steinbach died November 12, 1978.

### Scope and Content

Confirmation readings and services and adult education lectures at Temple Ahavath Sholom of Flatbush, Brooklyn, N.Y.

### Terms of Access

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### Terms of Reproduction and Use

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### Preferred Citation

Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Alexander A. Steinbach Papers and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-70. Alexander A. Steinbach Papers. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

**Provenance** Received from Rabbi Alexander A. Steinbach, Brooklyn, New York, N.Y., 1977.

**Processing Information** Processed by American Jewish Archives staff.

### **Index Terms**

**Subjects** Adult education / Confirmation (Jewish rite) / Jews -- New York (State) -- New York / Rabbis / Rites and ceremonies

**Personal Names** Steinbach, A. Alan (Alexander Alan), 1894-1978

**Corporate Names** Temple Ahavath Sholom of Flatbush (Brooklyn, New York, N.Y.)

### **Series A. General, 1935-1977**

#### **Box and Folder Listing**

Box 1. Folder Confirmation service recitations [Temple Ahavath Sholom of Flatbush (Brooklyn, N.Y.)], 1936-1964

Box 1. Folder Adult education course [Temple Ahavath Sholom of Flatbush (Brooklyn, N.Y.)], 1935-1941

Box 1. Folder Letters, 1977