A Finding Aid to the
Julian B. Feibelman Papers

Manuscript Collection No. 94
**Collection Summary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Title</strong></th>
<th>Julian B. Feibelman Papers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Collection Number</strong></td>
<td>MS-94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Repository</strong></td>
<td>The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Creator</strong></td>
<td>Feibelman, Julian Beck, 1897-1980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Extent</strong></td>
<td>12.4 linear feet (31 Hollinger boxes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Language of the Material</strong></td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Administrative Information**

**Biographical Sketch**

Julian Beck Feibelman was born in Jackson, Mississippi on March 23, 1897 to Abraham and Eva (Beck) Feibelman. He spent his childhood in Jackson, attending school there, graduating from Millsaps College in Jackson in 1918 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. Following his graduation, Feibelman enlisted in the Army and served 15 months at Camp Shelby, Mississippi during World War I.

After leaving the Army, Feibelman matriculated at the University of Mississippi Law School but shortly thereafter decided to enter the rabbinate and transferred to Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati in 1920. He was ordained in 1926 and went to Philadelphia to become assistant rabbi at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel where he remained for ten years. While in Philadelphia Feibelman attended the University of Pennsylvania and earned a Master of Arts degree and a Ph.D.

In September, 1936 Feibelman came to New Orleans to become rabbi at Temple Sinai. He remained there until his retirement in 1967 when he was elected rabbi emeritus.

Feibelman was deeply involved in community affairs in New Orleans, working for better interfaith relations between Christians and Jews and for greater friendship and brotherhood among all persons.

During World War II, Feibelman was Chairman of the Home Service Committee and the Camp and Hospital Committee of the New Orleans Red Cross Chapter and he served as a volunteer Field Director for the Red Cross in New Orleans camps.

In 1947 he was a representative of the First World Conference on Anti-Semitism in Seeligsburg, Switzerland, which was organized by the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

Feibelman served as president of many organizations, including the Louisiana Society for Mental Health, the Louisiana Association for Mental Hygiene, the Family Service Society, the Rotary Club and the Alumni Association of the Hebrew Union College. He served on the executive boards of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, the New Orleans Urban League (of which he was a charter member), the Boy Scouts of America, the Foreign Policy Association, the Veterans Information Center, the Jewish Federation and the Jewish Community Center. In addition, he was a member of the editorial board of the Jewish Publication Society.

Feibelman was a lecturer at Tulane University in the field of World Religion. He was also Religious Director of the Southwestern Division of the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

Feibelman was active in efforts to achieve integration in New Orleans Schools and he was responsible for the first integrated meeting in New Orleans in 1949 when he invited Dr. Ralph Bunche, then Director of the United Nations Trusteeship Division, to speak at Temple Sinai after Bunche had been denied an auditorium in the city.

Feibelman received many awards during his lifetime, including an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Millsaps College in 1946 and an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in 1955. He also received the Weiss Award from the National Conference of Christians and Jews in 1967, the Torch of Liberty Award from the Anti-Defamation League in 1974, the Annual Medal for Distinguished Service from St. Mary's Dominican College in 1967 and the Times-Picayune Loving Cup Award in 1968. In addition, he received citations from the Goodwill Industries and the Boy Scouts of America, who awarded him the Silver Beaver Award in 1951.

Feibelman was the author, in 1980, of his memoirs, The Making of a Rabbi. He also was
editor of the New Orleans Jewish Ledger from 1940-1944.

On October 20, 1938, Feibelman married Mary Anne Fellman. They had one son, Julian, Jr.

Julian B. Feibelman died on October 10, 1980, in New Orleans at the age of 83.

**Scope and Content**
The collection consists of correspondence, sermons, photographs, congregational materials, writings and personal items relating to Feibelman's rabbinic career.

**Arrangement**

**Terms of Access**
The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.

**Terms of Reproduction and Use**
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**Preferred Citation**
Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Julian B. Feibelman Papers and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-94. Julian B. Feibelman Papers. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

**Provenance**
Received from Julian B. Feibelman, New Orleans, La., 1960-1967; and Temple Sinai, New Orleans, La., June 1981.

**Processing Information**
Processed by Kevin Proffitt, March 1982.

**Index Terms**

| Subjects | Civil rights / Depressions -- 1929 / Jews -- Louisiana -- New Orleans / Judaism -- Relations -- Christianity / Rabbis / Reform Judaism / School integration |
| Personal Names | Feibelman, Julian Beck, 1897-1980 |
| Corporate Names | Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel (Philadelphia, Pa.) / Temple Sinai (New Orleans, La.) |
| Media | Photographs / Sermons |

**Series A. Correspondence, 1913-1980**

**Extent**
5.2 linear feet (13 Hollinger boxes)

**Scope and Content Note**
Consists of correspondence and some minutes, reports and newsclippings.

**Arrangement**
The correspondence is arranged alphabetically by the name of the person or organization. Letters are arranged chronologically within each folder.

**Box and Folder Listing**

Box 1. Folder 1. A, General.


Box 1. Folder 3. Amberg, Irma, 1965-1972, undated


Box 1. Folder 5. American Association for the United Nations, 1958-963

Box 1. Folder 6. American Cancer Society, 1971-1972
Box 1. Folder 10. American Jewish Committee, 1953-1970
Box 1. Folder 11. American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, 1945, 1963
Box 1. Folder 13. Anti-Defamation League [Torch of Liberty Award], 1974-1975
Box 1. Folder 17. Ba-Bi, General.
Box 1. Folder 21. Berger, Elmer [Vicksburg, Miss. pulpit], 1936-1937
Box 1. Folder 22. Bergman, Leo A., 1949-1968, undated
Box 2. Folder 1. Bl-Bu, General.
Box 2. Folder 11. Celotex Corporation [labor arbitration], 1942-1943
Box 2. Folder 13. Central Conference of American Rabbis [pastoral counseling], 1951-1954
Box 2. Folder 14. Christ Church Cathedral, 1967
Box 3. Folder 2. Cody, John P., 1961-1979, undated
Box 3. Folder 3. Cohn, Isidore, 1955-1968
Box 3. Folder 15. Engel, Lehman, 1954-1974
Box 3. Folder 16. Ettelson, Harry W., 1964
Box 3. Folder 19. Feibelman, Abraham and Eva [parents of JBF], 1913-1940, undated
Box 4. Folder 1. Feibelman, Julian B., Jr. [son of JBF], 1967-1972, undated
Box 4. Folder 15. German friends and relatives, 1926-1941
Box 4. Folder 22. Greek Orthodox Cathedral of Holy Trinity, 1964-1967
Box 4. Folder 24. Ha-He, General.
Box 5. Folder 1. Hannan, Philip M., 1965-1971
Box 5. Folder 2. Hanus, Jaromir and Helen, 1955-1969, undated
Box 5. Folder 3. Harris, Rufus C., 1956-1961
Box 5. Folder 5. Hart, Sarah [sister of JBF], 1956, 1968, undated
Box 5. Folder 8. Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR), 1951-1971, undated
Box 5. Folder 9. HUC-JIR [Doctor of Divinity degree], 1954-1955
Box 5. Folder 10. HUC-JIR [Doctor of Divinity degree-congratulatory letters, A-K], 1955
Box 5. Folder 11. HUC-JIR [Doctor of Divinity degree-congratulatory letters, L-Z, unidentified], 1955
Box 5. Folder 15. Hitt, Homer L., 1961-1972
Box 5. Folder 16. Holmes, John Haynes, 1932-1942
Box 5. Folder 17. Hunter, David, 1965-1969
Box 6. Folder 12. Kiwanis Club [Clergyman of the Year Award], 1970
Box 7. Folder 1. La-Le, General.
Box 7. Folder 2. Landrieu, Maurice E., 1967-1972
Box 7. Folder 5. League of Jewish Women's Organizations, 1942-1943
Box 7. Folder 8. Lefkowitz, Sidney M., 1964
Box 7. Folder 10. Lemann, Monte M., 1954-1959
Box 7. Folder 15. Li-Ly, General.
Box 7. Folder 16. Louisiana Association for Mental Health, 1953-1969
Box 7. Folder 17. Louisiana Civil Service League, 1965-1971
Box 7. Folder 18. Louisiana Coalition of Patriotic Societies, 1938
Box 7. Folder 19. Louisiana State University, 1964-1972
Box 7. Folder 21. Loyola University, 1959-1970
Box 7. Folder 24. Ma-Me, General.
Box 8. Folder 5. May, Dan, 1959-1970
Box 8. Folder 10. Mi-My, General.
Box 10. Folder 5. Ro-Ry, General.
Box 10. Folder 11. Sa-Se, General.
Box 10. Folder 14. St. Mary's Dominican College [Medal Award], 1967
Box 11. Folder 1. Sh-Si, General.
Box 11. Folder 3. Shell Oil Company [labor arbitration], 1942-1943
Box 11. Folder 7. Sm-Sy, General.
Box 11. Folder 15. Stern, S. Walter, 1919-1960
Series B. Sermons and Addresses, 1924-1978

Extent 2.4 linear feet (6 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Consists of sermons and addresses and sermon notes, eulogies and prayers.

Arrangement The sermons and addresses are arranged alphabetically according to title, the sermon notes are in no specific order and the eulogies are arranged alphabetically by the name of the deceased. The prayers are arranged chronologically.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 13. Folder 15. A.

Box 14. Folder 1. Ba-Bi.
Box 19. Folder 2. X-Z.
Box 19. Folder 3. Untitled, 1942, undated
Box 19. Folder 4-5. Sermon notes.

Series C. Congregational Records, 1909-1977

Extent 2 linear feet (5 Hollinger boxes)

Arrangement

The series is divided into two (2) subseries: 1. Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel (Philadelphia, Pa.); 2. Temple Sinai (New Orleans, La.).

Subseries 1. Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel (Philadelphia, Pa.), 1918-1937, undated

Extent 0.2 linear feet (0.5 Hollinger box)

Scope and Content Note Consists of materials relating to the congregation and to Feibelman's ten years there as assistant rabbi.

Arrangement The materials in this series are arranged alphabetically by the name of the person or subject.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 20. Folder 1-5. Confirmation annuals, 1928-1935, undated
Box 20. Folder 6. Keneseth Israel 90th anniversary, 1937
Box 20. Folder 8. Miscellaneous, 1918-1936, undated


Extent 1.8 linear feet (4.5 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Consists of materials relating to the congregation and to Feibelman's activities during his forty-four years there as rabbi and rabbi emeritus.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 21. Folder 11. Heller, Max [articles, clippings], 1909-1928, undated
Box 21. Folder 13. Lazarus, Eldon S. [president], 1938-1942
Box 22. Folder 1. Membership [lists], 1959-1970
Box 22. Folder 2. Membership register, undated
Box 22. Folder 6. New Year’s messages, 1959-1972, undated
Box 22. Folder 7. Orphans Fund [foster parents], 1948-1959
Box 22. Folder 10. “The Rabbi’s Column” [from temple bulletin], 1965, undated
Box 23. Folder 3. Search for Assistant Rabbi, 1957-1961
Box 23. Folder 4. Search for Assistant Rabbi, 1964-1970
Box 23. Folder 7. Steeg, Moise S. [president], 1964-1970, undated
Box 23. Folder 8. Temple Sinai 95th anniversary, 1964-1965
Box 24. Folder 1. Miscellaneous correspondence, 1918-1975, undated

**Series D. Scholarship, 1918-1963**

**Extent** 1.2 linear feet (3 Hollinger boxes)

**Arrangement**

The series is arranged in two (2) subseries: 1. Student Papers; 2. Miscellaneous Writings.
Subseries 1. Student Papers, 1924-1941, undated

Extent  0.8 linear feet (2 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note  Consists of examinations, notes, and term papers from Feibelman's student years.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 25. Folder 1. Notes [R-Z].
Box 25. Folder 2. Notes [fragments-Theology, Homiletics, Apocalyptic literature].
Box 25. Folder 3-4. Notes [miscellaneous].
Box 25. Folder 5. University of Pennsylvania [Graduate Studies], 1929-1941
Box 25. Folder 6-7. University of Pennsylvania [Sociology notes], 1935, undated
Box 26. Folder 1-2. University of Pennsylvania [Sociology notes], undated
Box 26. Folder 3. University of Pennsylvania [Sociology articles], undated
Box 26. Folder 4. Term papers [A-H], 1924-1935, undated
Box 26. Folder 5. Term papers [I-S], 1925-1933, undated

Subseries 2. Miscellaneous Writings, 1918-1963, undated

Extent  0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)

Scope and Content Note  Consists of fiction, editorials, poetry and other miscellaneous writings by Feibelman. Also included in this series is a file of writings by persons other than Feibelman

Arrangement  The subseries is arranged alphabetically by the name of the author.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 27. Folder 1-2. The Jewish Ledger [editorials by JBF], 1940-1946
Box 27. Folder 3-5. Miscellaneous writings [H-T, untitled].
Box 27. Folder 6. Poetry [A-U, untitled].
Box 27. Folder 7-10. Reminiscences, undated
Box 27. Folder 11. "Whither Shall I Flee?" [correspondence], 1954-1955
Box 27. Folder 12. Writings by others [C-T], 1918-1963
Box 28. Folder 1-2. Unidentified manuscripts, undated

Series E. Personal, 1904-1980

Extent  1.6 linear feet (4 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note  Consists of items relating to Feibelman's personal life and to some of his activities. Of particular interest in this series are the two oral history interviews given by Feibelman and the files on segregation, which chronicle the efforts of Feibelman and others in pressing for integration of schools in New Orleans and the South.
Box and Folder Listing

Box 28. Folder 3. Address book, undated
Box 28. Folder 5. Biographical material.
Box 28. Folder 6-7. Clippings.
Box 28. Folder 12. Oral history interview [transcript, correspondence-Memphis State University].
Box 28. Folder 13. Oral history interview [transcript, correspondence-University of Southern Mississippi].
Box 29. Folder 1-2. Positions considered, 1923-1936, undated
Box 29. Folder 3. Research materials [regarding Judah Touro, New Orleans].
Box 29. Folder 4. Research materials [regarding Gershon Kursheedt].
Box 29. Folder 5. Segregation, 1949-1960
Box 30. Folder 1. Segregation [articles, pamphlets], 1954-1963
Box 30. Folder 2. Segregation [articles, pamphlets], undated
Box 30. Folder 3. Segregation [clippings], undated
Box 30. Folder 4. Times-Picayune Loving Cup Award, 1968
Box 30. Folder 5-8. Times-Picayune Loving Cup Award [congratulatory letters, A-K].
Box 31. Folder 1-4. Times-Picayune Loving Cup Award [congratulatory letters, L-Z, unidentified].
Box 31. Folder 5. Personal miscellaneous, 1904-1957, undated
Box 31. Folder 7. Myers, William [Execution of], 1927-1951
**Subject Tracings**

Note: The following list of subjects is a selective index to many of the topics and individuals in the JULIAN B. FEIBELMAN PAPERS. It is selective in that it only attempts to draw attention to the more significant items in the collection. It does not attempt to list every subject or individual nor does it try to indicate all places that a listed subject or individual appears in the collection. When used in conjunction with the Box and Folder List, the Subject Tracings should help the researcher locate topics. References are to boxes and folders: e.g., 2/2 means Box 2, folder 2.

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<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Folder/Box</th>
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<td>Abram, Morris</td>
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<td>American Jewish Congress</td>
<td>1/1</td>
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<td>Anti-Semitism</td>
<td>1/11, 12; 8/21; 13/14; 30/1</td>
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<td>Archdiocese of New Orleans</td>
<td>1/14; 3/2; 5/1; 10/10</td>
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<td>Baruch, Bernard M.</td>
<td>1/17</td>
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<td>Billikopf, Jacob</td>
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<td>Bowles, Chester</td>
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<td>Freehof, Solomon B.</td>
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<td>Hadassah</td>
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<td>Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion</td>
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<td>Heller, James G.</td>
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<td>Integration</td>
<td>29/5; 29/6; 30/1; 30/2; 30/3</td>
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<td>Isserman, Ferdinand M.</td>
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<td>Jewish Christian Relations</td>
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<td>Kennedy, John F.</td>
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<td>Korn, Bertram W.</td>
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<td>Morgenstern, Julian</td>
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<td>Villard, Oswald G.</td>
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<td>Wise, Stephen S.</td>
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<td>Zionism</td>
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