



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

**A Finding Aid to the
Samuel Sandmel Papers**

Manuscript Collection No. 101



Collection Summary

Title	Samuel Sandmel Papers
Dates	1928-1980 (bulk 1955-1979)
Collection Number	MS-101
Repository	The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
Creator	Sandmel, Samuel, 1911-1979
Extent	10 linear feet (25 Hollinger boxes)
Language of the Material	English

Administrative Information

Biographical Sketch

Samuel Sandmel was born in Dayton, Ohio on September 23, 1911 to Morris and Rebecca (Lenderman) Sandmel. He attended public schools in Dayton and St. Louis, Missouri. In 1932 he graduated from the University of Missouri with a B.A. degree, where he was also elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He received his rabbinical training at Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, receiving an M.H.L. degree and being ordained as a rabbi there in 1937.

Sandmel served as assistant rabbi at the Hebrew Benevolent Congregation in Atlanta, Georgia from 1937-1939 and as director of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation at North Carolina and Duke Universities from 1939-1942. In 1942 he entered the U.S. Naval Reserve and served in the chaplaincy. He was stationed first in San Diego, California then was transferred to the Pacific to serve with the 2nd Marine Division.

Following his return from overseas Sandmel served as director of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation at Yale University from 1946-1949. In 1949 he received his Ph.D. in New Testament from Yale.

At Vanderbilt University from 1949-1952, Sandmel held one of the Country's few professorships in Jewish studies, the Hillel Chair of Jewish Religion and Thought, instituted by the joint pioneer efforts of Vanderbilt's Chancellor Harvie Branscomb and the B'nai B'rith.

Sandmel returned to Hebrew Union College in 1952 as Professor of Bible and Hellenistic Literature. He was Provost of the College from 1956-1965 and was named Distinguished Service Professor in 1966. While at Hebrew Union College, he was Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Frank L. Weil Institute for Studies in Religion and the Humanities. In 1968-69 he was Visiting Honorary Principal of the Leo Baeck College in London.

Sandmel was the author of 20 books, among them, *A Jewish Understanding of the New Testament*, *We Jews and Jesus*, *The Hebrew Scriptures*, *The Enjoyment of Scripture*, *When a Jew and Christian Marry*, *Philo of Alexandria*, and a novel, *Alone Atop the Mountain*. He was the general editor of the Oxford University Press Study Edition of the New English Bible, working with a group of 29 interfaith scholars on this project.

He also contributed widely to professional journals and encyclopedias. His lectures in the field of Jewish Christian relations took him to universities, synagogues and colloquia throughout the world. In 1973 he was on the faculty of the Salzburg Seminars in American Studies.

Sandmel was awarded honorary degrees from the University of Vermont, Xavier University in Cincinnati, and Rosary College. Other honors awarded to Sandmel include the Distinguished Citizen Award presented by the University of Missouri, the Jewish Book Council Award in 1973 for his collection of essays, *Two Living Traditions*, the National Media Brotherhood Award in 1978 from the National Conference of Christians and Jews and the Munk International Brotherhood Award which was awarded posthumously in 1979 by the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews.

Sandmel was a member of the Society of Biblical Literature, serving as its president in 1961, the American Association of University Professors, the Archaeological Institute, the American Academy of Jewish Research, the American Society for the study of Religion, the Association for Higher Education, the American Oriental Society, the Central Conference of American Rabbis and Cincinnati's Literary Club.

In 1940 he married Frances Langsdorf Fox of Philadelphia. They had three children: Charles Edwin Fox, Ben Fox and David Fox. Samuel Sandmel died in Cincinnati on November 4, 1979 at the age of 68.

(This biographical sketch was taken almost verbatim from a news release issued by the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion shortly after the death of Samuel Sandmel)

Index Terms

Subjects	Jewish college teachers / Jews -- Ohio -- Cincinnati / Jews -- Tennessee -- Nashville / Judaism -- Doctrines / Judaism -- Relations -- Christianity / Military chaplains / New Testament scholars / Rabbis / Theologians / World War, 1939-1945
Personal Names	Sandmel, Samuel, 1911-1979
Corporate Names	Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion -- Faculty / Vanderbilt University
Media	Photographs

Series A. Correspondence, 1928-1980

Extent 2.4 linear feet (6 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note There is correspondence in this series pertaining to Sandmel's work as a chaplain during World War II, his scholarly activities and tenure at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, his connection with several Jewish Reform organizations, and his publications. Span dates for the series are 1928-1980 with the bulk of materials falling in the years 1960-1979.

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

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 1. A-K, General.

Box 1. Folder 2. Behrman, Sam N., 1963

Box 1. Folder 3. Branscomb, Harvie, 1949,1958-1978

Box 1. Folder 4. Chaplaincy, 1942-1946

Box 1. Folder 5-6. Chaplaincy (Correspondence with soldiers parents, etc. unidentified), 1942-1945

Box 1. Folder 7. Collins-Knowlten-Wing, Inc., 1971-1974

Box 1. Folder 8. Feld, Mose M., 1958

Box 1. Folder 9. German trip, 1965-1966

Box 1. Folder 10. Graduate students, 1972-1978

Box 1. Folder 11-12. Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (Weil Institute's participation in College Centennial), 1974-1976

Box 1. Folder 13. Horn, Charles L., 1960-1966

Box 1. Folder 14. Humphrey, Hubert H., 1977

Box 2. Folder 1. Institute for Christian Clergy, 1962-1964

Box 2. Folder 2. KATV Publishers, 1967-1977

Box 2. Folder 3. Knopf Publishers, 1959-1965

Box 2. Folder 4. Kronenberger, Louis, 1962

Box 2. Folder 5. Leo Baeck College, 1967-1972

Box 2. Folder 6. L-Z, General.

Box 2. Folder 7. Malamud, Bernard, 1958-1964

Box 2. Folder 8. Marcus, Jacob Rader, 1977-1979

Box 2. Folder 9. McArthur Festchrift, 1978

Box 2. Folder 10. Morgenstern, Julian, 1945-1969

Box 2. Folder 11. National Congress of Jewish Deaf, 1959-1961

Box 2. Folder 12. National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, 1948-1966

Box 3. Folder 1. National Jewish Welfare Board, 1957-1961

Box 3. Folder 2. National Jewish Welfare Board, 1962-1966

Box 3. Folder 3. Nikiprowetsky, V. N., 1972-1981

Box 3. Folder 4. Okamoto, Hiroshi, 1965-1979

Box 3. Folder 5. Oxford University Press, 1967-1971

Box 3. Folder 6. Pritchard, Florence, 1965-1969

Box 3. Folder 7. Pseudepigraphic Project, 1977

Box 3. Folder 8. Sands, Melvin S, 1966-1967

Box 4. Folder 1. Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Institute on Judaism), 1963

Box 4. Folder 2. Wayne State University (Ephraim A. Speiser Controversy), 1963

Box 4. Folder 3. Weisberg, Stephen E., 1966-1967

Box 4. Folder 4. Wolsey, Louis, 1928

Box 4. Folder 5. World Union for Progressive Judaism, 1958-1959

Box 4. Folder 6. World Union for Progressive Judaism, 1966-1974

Box 4. Folder 7. World Union for Progressive Judaism, 1961-1965

Box 4. Folder 8. World Union for Progressive Judaism, 1966-1974

Box 5. Folder 1. Miscellaneous correspondence, 1950-1960

Box 5. Folder 2. Miscellaneous correspondence, 1961-1962

Box 5. Folder 3. Miscellaneous correspondence, 1963

Box 5. Folder 4. Miscellaneous correspondence, 1964

Box 5. Folder 5. Miscellaneous correspondence, 1965-1966

Box 5. Folder 6. Miscellaneous correspondence, 1967-1969

Box 5. Folder 7. Miscellaneous correspondence, 1970-1971

Box 5. Folder 8. Miscellaneous correspondence, 1972

Box 6. Folder 1. Miscellaneous correspondence, 1973-1974

Box 6. Folder 2. Miscellaneous correspondence, 1975-1977

Box 6. Folder 3. Miscellaneous correspondence, 1978

Box 6. Folder 4. Miscellaneous correspondence, 1979-1980

Box 6. Folder 5. Miscellaneous correspondence, undated

Series B. Scholarly Activities, 1955-1979

Extent 4 linear feet (10 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note The series documents Sandmel's activities as an internationally recognized scholar and authority on early Christianity, the New Testament and its relation to Judaism.

Arrangement

The series is arranged in three (3) subseries: 1. Books and Articles; 2. Addresses and Lectures; 3. Philo Project.

Subseries 1. Books and Articles, 1955-1979, undated

Extent 3.2 linear feet (8 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Included in the series are full-text manuscripts of books and articles published by Sandmel as well as correspondence concerning the manuscripts

Arrangement

The subseries is arranged alphabetically by title or subject.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 7. Folder 1. Alone Atop the Mountain, 1972-1974

Box 7. Folder 2. Book Reviews, 1960-1978

Box 7. Folder 3. Christianity in the West: A Critique, undated

Box 7. Folder 4. Companion to the Bible, 1976-1979

Box 7. Folder 5. Ecumenical Bible, 1977

Box 8. Folder 1-3. The Enjoyment of Scripture: The Law, The Prophets and The Writings, 1972

Box 8. Folder 4. The Enjoyment of Scripture: The Law, The Prophets and The Writings [correspondence], 1970-1977

Box 8. Folder 5. The First Christian Century in Judaism and Christianity, 1969

Box 8. Folder 6. The Genius of Paul [correspondence], 1958-1966

Box 9. Folder 1. The Haggada Within Scripture, undated

Box 9. Folder 2. The Hebrew Scriptures [correspondence], 1971-1977

Box 9. Folder 3-5. The Hebrew Scriptures; An Introduction to Their Literature and Religious Ideas, 1968

Box 10. Folder 1-5. The Hebrew Scriptures; An Introduction to Their Literature and Religious Ideas, 1968

Box 11. Folder 1-3. The Hebrew Scriptures; An Introduction to Their Literature and Religious Ideas, 1968

Box 11. Folder 4-5. Herod: Profile of a Tyrant, 1967

Box 12. Folder 1. The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible, undated

Box 12. Folder 2. Jewish and Christian Beginnings [correspondence], 1974-1977

Box 12. Folder 3-4. A Jewish Understanding of the New Testament [correspondence], 1955-1956

Box 12. Folder 5. Literature vs. Theology.

Box 12. Folder 6. Little Book on Religion [correspondence], 1976-1977

Box 12. Folder 7. Modern Judaism - Introduction, undated

Box 13. Folder 1. Nearprint, 1962-1978

Box 13. Folder 2. New English Bible [correspondence], 1970-1976

Box 13. Folder 3. Paul and the People of Israel, undated

Box 13. Folder 4. Old Testament Issues, 1968

- Box 13. Folder 5. Two Living Traditions: Essays on Religion and the Bible, 1971
- Box 14. Folder 1-3. Two Living Traditions: Essays on Religion and the Bible, 1971
- Box 14. Folder 4. We Jews and Jesus, 1965
- Box 14. Folder 5-6. We Jews and Jesus [correspondence], 1965
- Box 14. Folder 7. We Jews and You Christians, 1967
- Box 14. Folder 8. What is Religion Preface, 1971

Subseries 2. Addresses and Lectures

Extent 0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)

Scope and Content Note Lectures and addresses delivered by Sandmel over the course of his career.

Arrangement The subseries is arranged alphabetically by title or subject.

Box and Folder Listing

- Box 15. Folder 1. A-D.
- Box 15. Folder 2. E-G.
- Box 15. Folder 3. H-L.
- Box 15. Folder 4. M-P.
- Box 15. Folder 5. R-Z.
- Box 15. Folder 6. Untitled.

Subseries 3. Philo Project, 1962-1980, undated

Extent 0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)

Scope and Content Note Correspondence, manuscripts, and working papers relating to his work with the "Philo Project", a group of scholars translating and interpreting the works of Philo, a first century Jewish philosopher from Alexandria.

Arrangement The subseries is arranged alphabetically by title or subject.

Box and Folder Listing

- Box 16. Folder 1. Philo Project. General, 1977-1979
- Box 16. Folder 2. Philo: An Introduction, undated
- Box 16. Folder 3. Arithmology in the Writings of Philo by H. Moering, undated
- Box 16. Folder 4. Etymologizing in Philo's Interpretation, by Lester Grabbe, 1977
- Box 16. Folder 5. Reviews of Philo of Alexandria, 1979-1980
- Box 16. Folder 6. Miscellaneous writings re: Philo, 1962-1973

Series C. Literary Endeavors

Extent 2.4 linear feet (6 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Includes typewritten manuscripts of many plays and works of fiction authored by Sandmel. None of the works in this series were ever published and most are undated.

Arrangement The series is arranged in two (2) subseries: 1. Fiction; 2. Drama.

Subseries 1. Fiction

Extent 1.2 linear feet (3 Hollinger boxes)

Arrangement The works are arranged alphabetically by title.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 17. Folder 1. "The 1960's" - 1.
Box 17. Folder 2. "The 1960's" - 2.
Box 17. Folder 3. "The 1960's" - 3.
Box 17. Folder 4. "In Adam's Fall" - 1.
Box 17. Folder 5. "In Adam's Fall" - 2.
Box 17. Folder 6. "In Adam's Fall" - 3.
Box 17. Folder 7. "The Apostle Paul" (1978-1979) - 1.
Box 18. Folder 1. "The Apostle Paul" (1978-1979) - 2.
Box 18. Folder 2. "The Classic Infidelity".
Box 18. Folder 3. "The Fallen Wall".
Box 18. Folder 4. "Klukas is a Sterile Bull".
Box 18. Folder 5. "Ned Pearson" - 1.
Box 19. Folder 1. "Ned Pearson" - 2.
Box 19. Folder 2. "Ned Pearson" - 3.
Box 19. Folder 3. "Narrative".
Box 19. Folder 4. "An Old Flame Never Dies".
Box 19. Folder 5. "The River's Bend" - 1.
Box 19. Folder 6. "The River's Bend" - 2.
Box 19. Folder 7. "Short Stories".

Subseries 2. Drama

Extent 1.2 linear feet (3 Hollinger boxes)

Arrangement The works are arranged alphabetically by title.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 20. Folder 1. "A Chip on a Shoulder".
Box 20. Folder 2. "Extremes and the Mean".
Box 20. Folder 3. "The Fact of the Matter".

Box 20. Folder 4. "Genius in the Family".
Box 20. Folder 5. "The Grosvenor Castle".
Box 20. Folder 6. "The Hempsted Library".
Box 20. Folder 7. "Hits, Runs, and Errors".
Box 20. Folder 8. "I Trust My Son".
Box 20. Folder 9. "Klvkas is a Sterile Bull".
Box 21. Folder 1. "A Leightened Shadow".
Box 21. Folder 2. "Light in the Darkroom".
Box 21. Folder 3. "A Man Who was not Job".
Box 21. Folder 4. "A Matter of Vengeance".
Box 21. Folder 5. "Milk for the Hottentots".
Box 21. Folder 6. "Mess in Zirovia".
Box 21. Folder 7. "My Partner and Friend".
Box 22. Folder 1. "Peace and Quiet".
Box 22. Folder 2. "Phyllis".
Box 22. Folder 3. "Something for Nothing".
Box 22. Folder 4. "Thence a Paradox".
Box 22. Folder 5. "In Tune of the Hickory".
Box 22. Folder 6. "The Yellow Rug".

Series D. Personal Correspondence, 1944-1955

Extent 0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)

Scope and Content Note Consists mainly of letters exchanged between Sandmel and his wife, Frances, during the time when Sandmel was serving as a chaplain during World War II in the years 1943-1945. There is also a folder of Sandmel's miscellaneous personal correspondence dating from 1944-1955 which includes letters to Frances as well as other family members and friends.

Arrangement The letters from Frances to Samuel Sandmel are numbered from 1 to 388, while Samuel's letters to his wife are dated and the letters are arranged chronologically.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 23. Folder 1. Frances Fox Sandmel to Samuel Sandmel. #1-49.
Box 23. Folder 2. Frances Fox Sandmel to Samuel Sandmel. #54-100.
Box 23. Folder 3. Frances Fox Sandmel to Samuel Sandmel. #101-199.
Box 23. Folder 4. Frances Fox Sandmel to Samuel Sandmel. #200-299.
Box 23. Folder 5. Frances Fox Sandmel to Samuel Sandmel. #300-388.
Box 23. Folder 6. Frances Fox Sandmel to Samuel Sandmel. Unnumbered.
Box 23. Folder 7. Samuel Sandmel to Frances Fox Sandmel, 1944
Box 23. Folder 8. Samuel Sandmel to Frances Fox Sandmel, 1945
Box 23. Folder 9. Samuel Sandmel to Frances Fox Sandmel, undated

Box 24. Folder 1. Miscellaneous personal correspondence, 1944-1955

Series E. Miscellaneous, 1936-1980

Extent 0.8 linear feet (2 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Includes photographs, a folder of obituaries at the time of Sandmel's death, a diary chronicling his trip to Europe in 1936, and autobiographical reminiscences, both typescript and handwritten, by and about Sandmel.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 24. Folder 2. Photographs, 1943

Box 24. Folder 3. Sandmel memorial volume, 1983-1984

Box 24. Folder 4. Obituaries, 1979-1980

Box 24. Folder 5. Autobiographical reminiscences, undated

Box 24. Folder 6. Autobiographical reminiscences, undated

Box 25. Folder 1. Autobiographical reminiscences, undated

Box 25. Folder 2. European dairy, 1936

Box 25. Folder 3. Unidentified manuscripts.

Box 25. Folder 4. Unidentified manuscripts.



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MS-101: Samuel Sandmel Papers

Subject Tracings

Note: The following list of subjects is a selective index to many of the topics and individuals in the SAMUEL SANDMEL 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 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., 3/10 means Box 3, Folder 10.

Anti-Semitism	1/13; 9/1, 2
Argentina	2/12
Baeck, Leo	1/1
Burns, Arthur F.	1/1
Chaplaincy	1/4, 5, 6; 2/2, 3
Glueck, Nelson	2/11; 3/1
Goldenson, Samuel H.	1/1
Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion	1/8, 15, 16; 2/4
Jewish-Christian Relations	1/11; 1/7; 3/9, 10; 6/4; 8/4; 9/3
Michener, James A.	1/13