A Finding Aid to the
Abraham I. Shinedling Papers

Manuscript Collection No. 128
Abraham I. Shinedling was born in Menominee, Michigan, on September 8, 1897 to Moses and Dora (Morris) Shinedling. He received an A.B. degree from the University of Cincinnati in 1919 and was ordained rabbi by the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati in 1920. He also attended the University of Georgia from 1923-1924 and received an M.A. degree from Columbia University in New York in 1928. In 1959 he was awarded the honorary degree Doctor of Divinity by the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

Shinedling held a large number and a wide variety of jobs during his lifetime. From 1920-1926 he served as rabbi at congregations in Joplin, Missouri, Marshall, Texas, Athens, Georgia, and Goldsboro, North Carolina. From 1926-1928 he worked as a Hebrew school principal and teacher in the Bronx, New York and from 1932-1943 he served as a prison chaplain in Westchester County, New York. Shinedling returned to the congregational rabbinate in 1943, serving in West Virginia until 1956.

Also, during this time, from 1928-1943, Shinedling worked as the New York City editor and historian for the Universal Jewish Encyclopedia. In addition, from 1950 until his death in 1982, Shinedling also served as a staff member of the American Jewish Archives in Cincinnati.


On June 9, 1929 Shinedling married the former Helen Lowenstein. They had one child, Sidney T., born in 1939.

Abraham I. Shinedling died on October 18, 1982, at the age of 85.

The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.

This collection consists of correspondence, Shinedling’s autobiography, and other writings of Shinedling. This collection has been placed in the permanent care, custody, and control of the American Jewish Archives (AJA) by the donors of the collection. Questions concerning rights to use or publish materials from the collection should be addressed to the Executive Director of the AJA. For more information, see the American Jewish Archives copyright information webpage.

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

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-128. Abraham I. Shinedling Papers. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Index Terms

Subjects
Jewish historians / Jews -- New Mexico / Jews -- West Virginia / Rabbis

Personal Names
Shinedling, Abraham I. (Abraham Isaac), 1897-1982

Media
Autobiographies

Series A. Correspondence, 1935-1982

Extent 1.2 linear feet (3 Hollinger boxes)

Arrangement 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 8. C, General.
Box 1. Folder 9. Coleman, Marie E., 1957-1964
Box 1. Folder 11. D-E, General.
Box 2. Folder 1. Gordis, Robert, 1953-1959
Box 2. Folder 2. Gordis, Robert, 1960-1967
Box 2. Folder 8. Ivry, Frank (uncle), 1957-1963, 1973
Box 2. Folder 10. Jewish Statistical Bureau, 1954-1964
Box 2. Folder 12. Korn, Bertram W., 1953-1963
Box 2. Folder 13. L, General.
Box 2. Folder 15. Levinson, Robert E., 1971-1973
Box 3. Folder 1. M-O, General.
Box 3. Folder 3. Morby, Joanne (Mrs. Paul A. Young), 1959-1961
Box 3. Folder 7. Platnick, Nathan, 1975
Box 3. Folder 9. Sa-Sh, General.
Box 3. Folder 10. Schulenburg, Texas - Temple Israel, 1960
Box 3. Folder 13. Si-Su, General.
Box 3. Folder 17. Zeitin, Josef, 1959-1963

Series B. Literary Productions, 1886-1981

Extent 7.6 linear feet (19 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note This series consists of Shinedling’s autobiography, memoirs written by Shinedling of his grandfather, father and brothers, and other writings.

Arrangement The autobiography, which details intimately Shinedling’s life and thoughts, is filed first in this series followed by the memoirs and other writings arranged alphabetically by title.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 7. Folder 1-5. Autobiography, pp. 3001-4000.
Box 14. Folder 1-6. Autobiography, pp. 11,201-12,400.
Box 15. Folder 1-6. Autobiography, pp. 12,401-13,600.
Box 19. Folder 4. Family documents, 1886-1930
Box 19. Folder 5. Introduction and Preface to The Occident and American Jewish Advocate, undated
Box 19. Folder 6. Memoir on Meyer Morris (grandfather), undated
Box 20. Folder 1. Memoir on Julian M. Shindedling (brother), 1958
Box 20. Folder 2-3. Memoir on Moses Shindedling (father), 1958
Box 20. Folder 6. "References to and Texts on, New Mexico Jews in the Volumes of the New Mexico Historical Review".
Box 20. Folder 7. Sermons and prayers, 1966-1967
Box 21. Folder 1. Memoir on Leo Mannheimer and his family, 1959-1960
Box 21. Folder 2-4. Research and correspondence related to the memoir on Leo Mannheimer and his family.
Box 22. Folder 1-3. Research materials and correspondence on West Virginia Jewry, 1956-1960