A Finding Aid to the
Nahum M. Sarna Papers

Manuscript Collection No. 753
Collection Summary

Title: Nahum M. Sarna Papers
Dates: 1894-2004
Collection Number: MS-753
Repository: The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
Creator: Sarna, Nahum M., 1923-2005
Extent: 29.2 linear feet (73 Hollinger boxes)
Language of the Material: English and Hebrew

Administrative Information

Biographical Sketch

Nahum Mattathias Sarna was one of the preeminent Biblical scholars of the twentieth century. He was born in London in 1923 to Jacob J. Sarna and Milly (Horonzick) Sarna. In an article written by Sarna’s sister, Rachel Araten, she describes the household in which she and Nahum grew up as one full of ideas, books, Zionism, and Yiddishkeit. The article, written at the time of Jacob Sarna’s death, further states thatJacob took it upon himself to teach both his son and his daughter the traditions of Orthodox Judaism. Nahum’s education continued, first at the University of London, then at Jews College, where he was awarded his rabbinical degree in 1947.

He married Helen Horowitz in 1947, with whom he had two sons, David and Jonathan. In 1949, he and his family went to Israel, where he worked for the Jewish Agency. Emigration to the United States followed in 1951, so that Sarna could work on his doctorate in Bible and Semitic Languages at Dropsie College. Stints on the faculties of Gratz College and Jewish Theological Seminary came next. Sarna then joined the faculty at Brandeis University in 1965, rising to become the Dora Golding Professor of Biblical Studies, where he taught until his retirement in 1985. In addition to Sarna’s responsibilities at Brandeis, he served at various times in his career as visiting professor at Columbia University, Dropsie College, Andover Newton theological Seminary, Yale University, and Hebrew College. He concluded his teaching career at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, where he served as Distinguished Visiting Professor, and then as Gimmelstob Eminent Professor.

Sarna’s writing did not take a back seat to teaching. He edited and translated the Jewish Publication Society’s (JPS) version of the Torah, and was the General Editor of its five-volume Torah Commentary. He contributed over forty articles to the Encyclopedia Judaica, while serving in the capacity of Departmental Editor. In addition, he contributed articles to the Encyclopedia Britannica, Encyclopedia Biblica Hebraica, Encyclopedia Hebraica, and the Encyclopedia of Religion. Dr. Sarna also authored the following books: Understanding Genesis (1966), Exploring Exodus: The Origins of Biblical Israel (1986), Genesis: The Traditional Hebrew Text with New JPS Translation/Commentary (1989), Exodus: The Traditional Hebrew Text with the New JPS Translation/Commentary (1991), On the Book of Psalms: Exploring the Prayers of Ancient Israel (1993), Songs of the Heart: An Introduction to the Book of Psalms (1993), Genesis: World of Myths and Patriarchs (1996), and Studies in Biblical Interpretation (2000). It should be mentioned that in 1993, Sarna was honoured with a festschrift: Minhah le-Nahum: Biblical and Other Studies Presented to Nahum M. Sarna in Honour of his 70th Birthday. Finally, Sarna, at the time of his death, was working on a book dealing with the return of Jews from exile during the realm of King Cyrus.

It would be fair to say, though, that Sarna’s great love was teaching. He taught for exactly 60 years, from 1943-2003, when he taught his last class. His impact in the classroom can be measured in the superlatives students used to describe his classes. Whether it was a class at the post-graduate level, or a summer-session class for senior citizens, Sarna put his heart and his soul into his teaching. Nahum Sarna died in 2005. He selected for his tombstone the Hebrew words “u-le-herot natan be-libo” (Ex. 35:34). As he explained in his commentary on Exodus, the Hebrew phrase means “They are endowed with the ability to instruct others, which is a divinely-bestowed gift.”

Scope and Content

Consists of notebooks, syllabuses, exams, handwritten notes, correspondence, course evaluations, manuscripts, meeting minutes, lectures, addresses, sermons, book reviews, editorial forms, and biographical information. Sarna’s handwritten notes are voluminous and can be found throughout the collection; they are sometimes written on notepaper, other times on scraps of paper. The majority of the folders in the collection contain documents in both Hebrew and English.

Arrangement

Collection is arranged in fifteen (15) series: A. Jews College; B. Gratz College; C. Dropsie College; D. Brandeis University; E. Career Correspondence and Milestones; F. Professional Correspondence; G. Jewish Publication Society; H. Development of the Bible; I. Genesis Commentary; J. Exodus Commentary; K. Lectures, Sermons, and Notes; L. Writings; M. Encyclopedia Judaica; N. Subject Files; O. Personal/Professional.
Index Terms

Subjects
- Bible -- Commentaries
- Bible -- History
- Bible -- Study and teaching
- Bible -- Versions
- Bible. Old Testament
- Scholarly publishing

Personal Names
- Sarna, Nahum M.

Corporate Names
- Brandeis University
- Jewish Publication Society

Media
- Lectures / Minutes / Sermons

Series A. Jews College, 1943-1951

Extent
- 1.4 linear feet (3.5 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note
Sarna’s class notes were taken while a student and lecturer at University of London and Jews College. His notes are very thorough and legible. Of particular interest is the fact that these notes were of use to him throughout his career, as evidenced by their occasional presence in later series.

Arrangement
The series is arranged chronologically.

Box and Folder Listing

- Box 1. Folder 1. Class notes: Midrash, 1942-1944
- Box 1. Folder 2. Class notes: Proverbs, 1943-1944
- Box 1. Folder 3. Class notes: Proverbs, 1943-1944
- Box 1. Folder 4. Class notes: Daniel, 1943-1944
- Box 1. Folder 5. Class notes: Semitic Linguistics, 1944
- Box 1. Folder 6. Class notes: Comparative Grammar of the Semitic Languages, undated
- Box 1. Folder 7. Class notes: Jewish History, 1944-1945
- Box 1. Folder 8. Class notes: Jewish History, 1944-1945
- Box 1. Folder 9. Class notes: Jewish History, undated
- Box 2. Folder 1. Class notes includes Targum Jonathan, 1943-1946
- Box 2. Folder 2. Class notes: Targum Jonathan, 1943
- Box 2. Folder 3. Class notes: Midrash, 1944
- Box 2. Folder 4. Class notes: History of Jewish Literature, 1945
- Box 2. Folder 5. Class notes, 1945-1946
- Box 2. Folder 6. Class notes: Genesis, 1946
- Box 2. Folder 7. Class notes: Proverbs, 1946-1947
- Box 3. Folder 2. Class notes: Literature, Biblical Period, 1943-1944
- Box 3. Folder 3. Class notes: Religious Philosophy, 1944
- Box 3. Folder 4. Class notes: Talmud, 1945
- Box 3. Folder 5. Class notes: Talmud, 1945
- Box 3. Folder 6. Class notes: Literature, Medieval, 1946
- Box 3. Folder 7. Class notes: Literature, Medieval, 1946
**Series B. Gratz College, 1946-1954, undated**

**Extent**  0.2 linear feet (0.5 Hollinger box)

**Scope and Content Note**  The items to be found in these three folders include programs for commencement 1952 and 1957, a "Register" with college and course descriptions, booklets and notes used in preparation for teaching "Philosophy of Religion," and notes concerning Jewish holidays.

**Box and Folder Listing**

- Box 4. Folder 6. Gratz College, undated
- Box 4. Folder 8. Gratz College class material, undated

**Series C. Dropsie College, 1950-1992**

**Extent**  0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)

**Scope and Content Note**  Sarna earned his Ph.D. at Dropsie, and was involved in the eventual change in name and mission of the College, which became the Annenberg Institute (later known as the "Center for Advanced Judaic Studies"). He studied "History of Islamic Peoples" and the Koran while at Dropsie, as well as the "History of Israel," which his class notes reflect. While Sarna worked on his Ph.D., he also lectured at Jewish Theological Seminary, where he taught a course on Samuel I from 1956-1961, pedagogic materials for which can be found here. Finally, correspondence concerning the change in name from Dropsie to the Annenberg Institute is contained in the last three folders.

**Box and Folder Listing**

- Box 5. Folder 1. Dropsie College, undated
- Box 5. Folder 2. Class material: History of Israel, 1956
- Box 5. Folder 3. Miscellaneous, includes notes, 1950
- Box 5. Folder 4. Class material: Samuel I, 1956-1961
- Box 5. Folder 5. Correspondence, 1962, undated
- Box 5. Folder 6. Faculty seminar, 1962
- Box 5. Folder 8. Dropsie/Annenberg, 1985
Series D. Brandeis University, 1963-1999

Extent  5.2 linear feet (13 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note  A wide-ranging interest in all manner of biblical subject matter is evident in this series. Topics given particular attention include Exile/Return to Zion, the Cyrus Declaration, Civilization of the Ancient Near East, Jeremiah, Amos, and Psalms/Wisdom Literature. While the notes written on lined notebook paper are, again, thorough and legible, notes which he wrote on the back of previously used paper tend to be a bit more cryptic.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 6. Folder 1. Exile/Return to Zion, ch. 3-5, undated
Box 6. Folder 2. Exile/Return to Zion, ch. 6-8, undated
Box 6. Folder 3. Exile, Return to Zion, ch. 9, undated
Box 6. Folder 4. Exile/Return/Cyrus Declaration, undated
Box 6. Folder 5. Source books, undated
Box 7. Folder 1. Cyrus Declaration/Exile and Diaspora, undated
Box 7. Folder 2. Cyrus Declaration/Exile and Diaspora, undated
Box 7. Folder 3. Cyrus Declaration/Exile and Diaspora, undated
Box 7. Folder 4. Cyrus Declaration/Exile and Diaspora, undated
Box 7. Folder 5. Cyrus Declaration/Exile and Diaspora, undated
Box 7. Folder 6. Cyrus Declaration/Exile and Diaspora, undated
Box 7. Folder 7. Cyrus Declaration/Exile and Diaspora, undated
Box 7. Folder 8. Cyrus Declaration/Exile and Diaspora, undated
Box 7. Folder 9. Cyrus Declaration/Exile and Diaspora, undated
Box 7. Folder 10. Cyrus Declaration/Exile and Diaspora, undated
Box 7. Folder 11. Return to Zion in the Persian Period, undated
Box 8. Folder 2. Wisdom literature (Psalms), 1965
Box 8. Folder 7. Seminar: Phoenician and Aramaic Inscription, 1978
Series E. Career Correspondence and Milestones, 1935-2004

Extent 0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)

Scope and Content Note Includes a letter to Sarna’s father, notifying him that his son had been awarded a scholarship to Jewish Secondary School. Some of the correspondence has to do with articles written by Sarna, some consists of letters of recommendation both to and from him, and some is from his students.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 19. Folder 2. Correspondence, 1951-1968
Box 19. Folder 3. Correspondence, 1969-1975

Series F. Professional Correspondence, 1944-1997

Extent 2 linear feet (5 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note The correspondence in this series has to do with Sarna’s academic career. It is in alphabetical order, either by the individual’s last name, or by organization name. The notables with whom he corresponded included William Foxwell Albright, Meir Ben-Horin, and Moshe Greenberg.

Arrangement The series is arranged alphabetically.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 22. Folder 1. Correspondence. G, 1976
Box 22. Folder 9. Hebrew University, 1974-1993
Box 22. Folder 10. Correspondence. E, 1945-1973
Series G. Jewish Publication Society, 1946-2003

Extent 3.2 linear feet (8 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Sarna enjoyed a long and productive association with the Jewish Publication Society, first as editor and translator of the writings (Ketubim) portion of the Tanach, next as editor and author of their Torah commentary (for which Sarna wrote the commentaries on Genesis and Exodus).

Arrangement The series is arranged into two (2) subseries: 1. Correspondence; 2. Publications Committee.

Subseries 1. Correspondence, 1946-2003

Extent 2 linear feet (5 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note The correspondence centers largely on two projects: Sarna's translation of the Writings (Ketubim) portion of the Tanach and his editing of Torah commentary.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 25. Folder 1. Committee on Ketubim, 1965
Box 25. Folder 2. Committee on Ketubim, 1966-1971
Box 25. Folder 3. Committee on Ketubim, 1972
Box 25. Folder 4. Committee on Ketubim, 1973-1976
Box 25. Folder 5. Committee on Ketubim, 1977-1980
Box 25. Folder 6. Committee on Ketubim, 1981-1985
Box 25. Folder 7. Projects correspondence, 1985
Box 25. Folder 8. Projects, Reorganization and trip to Israel correspondence, 1985-1986
Box 26. Folder 10. Two manuscripts by Maurice Lamm: Jewish War Ethic and Red or Dead?, undated
Box 27. Folder 1. Correspondence, 1986 January-March 5
Box 27. Folder 2. Correspondence, 1986 March 10-April
Box 27. Folder 3. Correspondence and partial manuscript, 1986 May-July

Extent 1.2 linear feet (3 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note The Publications Committee handled the reading of manuscripts, and made suggestions as to their publication readiness. Dr. Sarna’s many letters to and from Chaim Potok can be found here.

Arrangement Torah commentary is arranged chronologically, followed by other files arranged alphabetically.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 30. Folder 1. Torah commentary, 1966-1973
Box 30. Folder 2. Torah commentary, 1973-1980
Box 30. Folder 3. Torah commentary, 1981-1983
Box 30. Folder 4. Torah commentary, 1984-1986 March
Box 30. Folder 5. Torah commentary, 1986 April-1998
Series H. Development of the Bible, 1960-1989, undated

Extent 3.6 linear feet (9 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note The series speaks to Sarna’s passion for Bible study and, in three of the five subseries, his love of language and languages. Wisdom literature and the Prophets figure prominently in this series. Sarna’s interest in the Ten Commandments (see Series N) shows up here in subseries 5 under “Biblical Law.”


Extent 1.2 linear feet (3 Hollinger boxes)

Box and Folder Listing

Box 33. Folder 1. Micah, undated
Box 33. Folder 2. Micah, undated
Box 33. Folder 3. Psalms. For Encyclopedia Judaica, undated
Box 33. Folder 4. Psalms. For Encyclopedia Judaica, undated
Box 33. Folder 5. Psalms, undated

Extent 0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)

Box and Folder Listing

Box 36. Folder 1. Biblical canon, 1969
Box 36. Folder 2. Biblical canon, 1971
Box 36. Folder 3. Ancient libraries, 1971
Box 36. Folder 4. Ancient libraries, undated
Box 36. Folder 5. Biblical canon, undated
Box 36. Folder 6. Biblical canon, undated
Box 36. Folder 7. Biblical canon, undated
Box 36. Folder 8. Ancient libraries and the ordering of the biblical books, 1989
Box 36. Folder 9. Transmission of the Torah, undated
Box 36. Folder 10. Transmission of the Torah, undated

Extent 0.6 linear feet (1.5 Hollinger boxes)

Box and Folder Listing

Box 37. Folder 1. Bible translations, 1989
Box 37. Folder 2. Bible translations, 1980, undated
Box 37. Folder 3. Arabic, undated
Box 37. Folder 4. Aramaic Targumim, undated
Box 37. Folder 5. Dutch, undated
Box 37. Folder 6. French, undated
Box 37. Folder 7. German, undated
Box 37. Folder 8. German-Jewish/Yiddish, undated
Box 37. Folder 9. Gothic, undated
Box 37. Folder 10. Greek, undated
Box 37. Folder 11. Hungarian, undated
Box 37. Folder 12. Italian, undated
Box 37. Folder 13. Latin, Old, undated
Box 37. Folder 14. Non-European, undated
Box 37. Folder 15. Russian, undated
Box 37. Folder 16. Samaritan, undated
Box 37. Folder 17. Scandinavian, undated
Box 37. Folder 18. Slavonic, Old, undated
Box 37. Folder 19. Spanish, undated
Box 37. Folder 20. Western Slavonic, Polish, Czech (Bohemian), Slovak, undated
Box 38. Folder 1. Bible translations/Bible versions, undated
Box 38. Folder 2. Bible translations/Bible versions, undated
Box 38. Folder 3. Bible translations/Bible versions, undated
Box 38. Folder 4. Targumim, undated
Box 38. Folder 5. Bible translations/Bible versions, undated
Box 38. Folder 6. Bible Translations and LXX Version, undated

Subseries 4. Versions of the Bible, undated

Extent 0.6 linear feet (1.5 Hollinger boxes)

Box and Folder Listing

Box 38. Folder 7. Bishops’ Bible, undated
Box 38. Folder 8. Geneva version, undated
Box 38. Folder 9. Great Bible, undated
Box 38. Folder 10. KJV version, undated
Box 38. Folder 11. Rheims-Douai version, undated
Box 38. Folder 12. Taverner version, undated
Box 39. Folder 1. History of the Biblical text, undated
Box 39. Folder 2. Bible versions, undated
Box 39. Folder 3. Bible versions, undated
Box 39. Folder 4. Bible versions, undated
Box 39. Folder 5. Christian canon, undated
Box 39. Folder 7. Coverdale version, undated
Box 39. Folder 8. LXX and Greek versions, undated
Box 39. Folder 10. New England Bible, undated
Box 39. Folder 11. Pre-Wyclifite and Wyclifite Bibles, undated
Box 39. Folder 12. Revised Standard version, undated
Box 39. Folder 13. Syriac version, undated
Box 39. Folder 14. Tyndale version, undated
Box 39. Folder 15. Publication of early bibles, undated
Box 39. Folder 16. Texts and Manuscripts, undated
Box 39. Folder 17. Textual Criticism, undated
Box 39. Folder 18. Bible versions, undated
Box 39. Folder 19. Codex form of the Bible, undated


Extent 0.8 linear feet (2 Hollinger boxes)

Box and Folder Listing

Box 40. Folder 1. Biblical Foundations of Western Civilization, 1960
Box 40. Folder 2. Biblical criticism, undated
Box 40. Folder 4. Understanding the Bible, 1981, undated
Box 40. Folder 8. Biblical law, 1984, undated
Box 40. Folder 9. Biblical law, undated
Box 40. Folder 10. Seals, stamps, and the concept of light in Biblical Literature, undated
Box 40. Folder 11. Biblical canon, undated
Box 40. Folder 12. Biblical canon, undated
Box 41. Folder 1. Companion to the Bible. Ed. N. Sarna, undated
Box 41. Folder 2. Bible article with notes [English, Hebrew, Latin], undated
Box 41. Folder 3. Encyclopedia of Religion notes, undated
Box 41. Folder 4. Medieval Biblical Exegesis, undated
Box 41. Folder 5. Medieval Biblical Exegesis, undated
Box 41. Folder 6. Miscellaneous notes, 1982, undated
Box 41. Folder 7. Miscellaneous notes [English, Hebrew, Yiddish], undated
Box 41. Folder 8. Modern translations in English, undated
Box 41. Folder 9. Teaching the Bible, 1965, undated

Series I. Genesis Commentary, 1971-1995

Extent 3.6 linear feet (9 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Sarna's notes on the various chapters in Genesis can generally be identified by either chapter number or, in the case of well-known Bible stories, by name. These boxes devoted to the Genesis Commentary, each of which holds roughly 800 pages, attest not only to Sarna's prodigious note-taking faculties, but to his exceptional interest, curiosity, and powers of interpretation, as well.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 42. Folder 1. Notes.
Box 42. Folder 2. Notes.
Box 42. Folder 3. Notes.
Box 42. Folder 4. Notes.
Box 42. Folder 5. Notes.
Box 42. Folder 6. Notes.
Box 42. Folder 7. Notes.
Box 42. Folder 11. Notes. Gen. 5.
Box 43. Folder 1. Notes. Gen. 10.
Box 43. Folder 5. Story of Dinah.
Box 43. Folder 7. Judah and Tamar/Levirate marriage.
Box 44. Folder 1. Notes. Gen. 16.
Box 44. Folder 2. Notes. Gen. 25.
Series J. Exodus Commentary, 1986-1999

Extent 1.6 linear feet (4 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Sarna's organizational skills are well-represented in this series, with chapter and verse numbers appearing in virtually every corner of every page of his notes.

Arrangement The commentary notes in this series are arranged by chapter number.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 51. Folder 1. Notes, undated

Box 51. Folder 3. Notes: Ex. 1:14-2.4.
Box 51. Folder 4. Notes: Ex. 2:5-3:1.
Box 52. Folder 1. Notes: Ex. 5:1-6:27.
Box 52. Folder 2. Notes: Ex. 7:1-8:15.
Box 52. Folder 3. Notes: Ex. 8:15-10:29.
Box 52. Folder 10. Notes: Ex. 29:7-29:46.
Box 52. Folder 11. Notes: Ex. 30:1-30:11.
Box 52. Folder 12. Notes: Ex. 30:11-31:8.
Box 52. Folder 13. Notes: Ex., chapters 35 - 40.55.
Box 54. Folder 1. Notes.
Box 54. Folder 2. Notes.
Box 54. Folder 7. Notes: Ex. 19: 8-10.

Series K. Lectures, Sermons, and Notes, 1972-2002

Extent 1.2 linear feet (3 Hollinger boxes)
**Scope and Content Note**

Sarna’s lectures, sermons, and his notes for these reflect the interests which are well-documented elsewhere. The relative paucity of material would seem to indicate that his love of, and need for, public speaking was adequately met by his years of teaching in the classroom. Much that is found here was written for his family, his congregation in Florida, or very close friends.

**Box and Folder Listing**

- Box 55. Folder 3. Sermon "Exodus.", undated
- Box 55. Folder 4. Sermons, 1986, undated
- Box 55. Folder 7. Lecture "Archaeology and the Bible.", undated
- Box 55. Folder 8. Lecture, Scholar-in-Residence (Congregation Beth Shalom, Coconut Creek, Fla.), 1996
- Box 55. Folder 11. Fox, Marvin. Eulogy, 1996 March 10
- Box 55. Folder 12. Kushner Drash (on floppy disk).
- Box 56. Folder 1. Lecture "Parshan-data: Rashi the Commentator.", undated
- Box 56. Folder 2. Lecture "Parshan-data: Rashi the Commentator.".
- Box 56. Folder 4. Lectures, sermons, notes, 1994, undated
- Box 56. Folder 5. Lectures, sermons, notes, undated
- Box 56. Folder 7. Lectures, sermons, notes, undated
- Box 56. Folder 8. Lectures, sermons, notes, undated
- Box 56. Folder 10. Miscellaneous notes, undated
- Box 56. Folder 12. Sermon "The Creation Story.", undated
- Box 57. Folder 1. Lecture Subjects: Decalogue, Monarchy Period, Archaeology and Bible.
- Box 57. Folder 2. Lectures, sermons, notes, 1972, undated
- Box 57. Folder 3. Lectures, undated
- Box 57. Folder 4. Lectures, sermons, notes, undated
- Box 57. Folder 5. Torah Lishma Study Session, 1991 February 25
Series L. Writings, 1962-1993

Extent 1.6 linear feet (4 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note The series holds drafts and manuscripts of some of Nahum Sarna’s books, accompanied by the appertaining correspondence. The researcher cannot fail to notice that Sarna’s books were never rushed, and sometimes took decades to complete. His respect for his subject matter, and for “getting it right,” were of paramount importance. It should be mentioned here that McGraw-Hill and Schocken Books were two other publishers (besides JPS) with whom Sarna was associated.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 58. Folder 1. Understanding Genesis, 1962-1965
Box 58. Folder 2. Understanding Genesis, 1966
Box 58. Folder 3. Understanding Genesis, 1967
Box 58. Folder 5. First draft of book about Proverbs, 1972-1973
Box 59. Folder 2. Songs of the Heart. Ch. 5-9, Notes to Introduction, Afterword.
Box 59. Folder 3. Songs of the Heart notes, bibliography.
Box 59. Folder 4. Early partial manuscript Songs of the Heart. Psalms 1-3.
Box 59. Folder 5. Early partial manuscript Songs of the Heart. Psalms 4-8.
Box 59. Folder 6. Edited copy of manuscript Songs of the Heart.
Box 59. Folder 8. Songs of the Heart book reviews.
Box 60. Folder 1. First draft, Songs of the Heart. Pp. 113-190.
Box 60. Folder 5. Copy-edited manuscript of Introduction to Songs of the Heart, 1992-1993
Box 60. Folder 6. Festschrift. The Biblical Sources for the History of the Monarchy Period [handwritten manuscript], undated
Box 61. Folder 1. First draft of a book about Job, 1975
Box 61. Folder 2. Revised manuscript of book about Job, undated
Box 61. Folder 7. Rashi. Articles, lectures, notes, undated
Series M. Encyclopedia Judaica, 1968-1971

Extent 0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)

Scope and Content Note Sarna served as Departmental Editor for Encyclopedia Judaica while contributing over forty articles to it. The "Technical Matters" referred to in the Box and Folder List have largely to do with word count, margins, and other details related to the physical appearance of the encyclopedia.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 62. Folder 1. Correspondence, 1968-1969
Box 62. Folder 2. Correspondence, 1970
Box 62. Folder 3. Correspondence, 1971
Box 62. Folder 4. Technical matters, undated
Box 62. Folder 5. Technical matters, undated

Series N. Subject Files, 1894, 1934-2003

Extent 4 linear feet (10 Hollinger boxes)

Scope and Content Note Two subjects to which Sarna devoted considerable attention are the Decalogue (Ten Commandments), and Sabbatical Year. Sarna’s heritage as the son of a bookseller is evident, both in the folder called “Book buying and selling” and in the “Library” folder.

Arrangement The subject files are arranged alphabetically within each box.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 63. Folder 1. Decalogue, 1951-1984, undated
Box 63. Folder 2. Decalogue, undated
Box 63. Folder 3. Decalogue, undated
Box 63. Folder 4. Decalogue, undated
Box 63. Folder 5. Decalogue, undated
Box 63. Folder 6. Decalogue, undated
Box 63. Folder 7. Decalogue, undated
Box 63. Folder 8. Biblical Law, 1986
Box 63. Folder 9. Biblical Law, undated
Box 64. Folder 1. Cordova, Moshe. Revivim, 1981-1983
Box 64. Folder 2. Dead Sea Scrolls, undated
Box 64. Folder 3. Dead Sea Scrolls, 1991
Box 64. Folder 4. Divine title (name of God), undated
Box 64. Folder 5. Divine titles (names for God), undated
Box 64. Folder 6. Ebla, undated
Box 64. Folder 7. Islam.
Box 64. Folder 8. Triennial Cycle, undated
Box 65. Folder 1. Ancient Near East, 1960, undated
Box 65. Folder 2. Ashkenazim and Sephardim, 1961
Box 65. Folder 3. Ezra, Moses Ibn, 1934, undated
Box 65. Folder 5. Hasidism, 1952, undated
Box 65. Folder 6. Hebrew and the Classical Tradition, 1959, undated
Box 65. Folder 7. Jewish Community, undated
Box 65. Folder 9. Jewish Studies at the University Level, 1994, 1995
Box 65. Folder 10. Making of the Modern Jew, undated
Box 65. Folder 12. Miscellaneous readings.
Box 65. Folder 14. Zion in Jewish Tradition, 1952
Box 66. Folder 1. 92nd Street "Y, 1984-1985
Box 66. Folder 5. Columbia University, Adjunct professorship, 1992
Box 66. Folder 6. Florida Atlantic University, 2003
Box 66. Folder 7. Institute for Distinguished Leaders, 1982-1983
Box 66. Folder 8. Institute for Traditional Judaism, 1990
Box 66. Folder 10. Sun Symbolism, undated
Box 66. Folder 11. Ugaritic Texts, undated
Box 66. Folder 12. Ugaritic Texts, undated
Box 67. Folder 1. Concept of time, 2000, undated
Box 67. Folder 2. Corruption of Blood, Blasphemy, undated
Box 67. Folder 4. Ethics of the Fathers, undated
Box 67. Folder 5. Hellenistic Period, undated
Box 67. Folder 7. Jewish Pope/Book burning, undated
Box 67. Folder 8. Joshua, 1971, undated
Series O. Personal/Professional, 1952-2004

Extent 0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)

Scope and Content Note Includes an unpublished memoir titled Wanderstaub, written by Sarna’s father in German, contained in Folder 1. Other items include manuscripts by Helen Sarna, personal cards and letters, and a family photo.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 73. Folder 1. Sarna family genealogy.
Box 73. Folder 2. Writings of Chaim Potok by Helen Sarna.
Box 73. Folder 3. Manuscript about Aharon Megged by Helen Sarna.
Box 73. Folder 4. Manuscript about Aharon Megged by Helen Sarna.
Box 73. Folder 5. Personal Cards and Letters, 1973-2004
Box 73. Folder 6. Personal Cards and Letters, 1973-2004
Box 73. Folder 7. Personal, includes family photos, 1998-2003
Box 73. Folder 8. Professional biography, includes vita and sketches, 1952-1984