

# A Finding Aid to the Nachum and Sham Gootman Eden Papers

# **Manuscript Collection No. 851**



#### **Collection Summary**

**Title** Nachum and Sham Gootman Eden Papers

**Dates** 1911-2003 (bulk 1960-2000)

**Collection Number** MS-851

**Repository** The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

**Creator** Eden, Nachum, 1920-2009

Eden, Sham Gootman, 1923-2008

**Extent** 4 linear feet (4 record cartons)

Language of the Material English and Hebrew

#### **Administrative Information**

## **Biographical Sketch**

Nachum Reigrod Eden was born in 1920 in Grodno, Poland and immigrated to the United States, settling in Cleveland, Ohio in 1938. He married Sham (Shulamith) Gootman on December 19, 1943 during a furlough before being sent to the European front with the United States Army. After the war, Nachum learned his entire immediate family had perished during the Holocaust. He then returned to Cincinnati, where he earned a bachelor's degree in economics in 1947.

In 1947, Nachum and his wife, Sham, traveled to Jerusalem, Palestine where he attended graduate school at Hebrew University. Their son Avi was born there in 1947. When Palestine was divided in late 1947 by the United Nations, Hebrew University was closed and the family soon found themselves caught up in the War of Independence. This prompted Nachum to join the Haganah, where he adopted the surname Eden to replace his original Polish surname, Reigrod. After the War of Independence, Eden worked in the office of Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion as an assistant in economic research and in the political department of the Foreign Office.

The family returned to the United States in June, 1952. He attended the University of Cincinnati and received a master's degree in economics in 1953. He spent his career working in the insurance industry in Cincinnati, Ohio. Nachum was also a board member of Yavneh Day School. He died in 2009.

Sham (Shulamith) Gootman Eden was born in 1923 in Cincinnati, Ohio, the daughter of Joseph (Yosef) and Bessie (Batya) Gootman. Her father, Joseph Gootman was one of the founders of Yavneh Day School and Sham and Nachum continued to be involved with the school throughout their lives. Sham died in 2008.

--Adapted from "Edens: 50 years of commitment to each other, family, community", by Phyllis Singer, The American Israelite, February 24, 1994.

#### **Scope and Content**

Correspondence and memorabilia contained in scrapbook-like files organized by subject. Some of these subjects include the Labor Zionist Alliance (Cincinnati, Ohio), Habonim (Labor Zionist Youth Movement), and the 40th and 50th anniversaries of the state of Israel. Also included are materials pertaining to Yavneh Day School, Cincinnati, Ohio, such as board minutes, legal documents, and news clippings.

**Arrangement** This collection is arranged in one (1) series: A. General.

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

**Preferred Citation** Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Nachum and Sham Gootman Eden Papers

and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-851. Nachum and Sham Gootman Eden Papers. American

Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

**Provenance** Received from Avi Eden, Cincinnati, Ohio, June 2010.

**Processing Information** Processed by Michelle Wirth Detroit, January 2012.

This collection was arranged and described according to minimal-processing standards. Funding, in part, for the arrangement and description of this collection was provided by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission.

#### **Index Terms**

Subjects

Jewish day schools / Jewish education / Jews -- Ohio -- Cincinnati / Labor Zionism

Personal Names

Eden, Nachum, 1920-2009 / Eden, Sham Gootman, 1923-2008 / Gootman, Joseph

Corporate Names Cincinnati Community Hebrew Schools (Cincinnati, Ohio) / Habonim (Cincinnati, Ohio) / Labor Zionist

Alliance (Cincinnati, Ohio) / Yavneh Day School (Cincinnati, Ohio)

Media Minutes

# Series A. General, 1911-2003

**Arrangement** Material is arranged alphabetically.

### **Box and Folder Listing**

Box 1. Folder 1-3. Articles — Cincinnati Community Hebrew Schools, 1962-1987

Box 1. Folder 4-11. Correspondence, 1967-2001

Box 1. Folder 12-16. Family — Habonim, 1935-1993

Box 2. Folder 1-3. History — Institute for Learning in Retirement, 1991-1999

Box 2. Folder 4-6. Israel, 1988-1998

Box 2. Folder 7-10. Ivriah, 1911-2002

Box 2. Folder 11-14. Jewish Family Service — Kushnir (Moshe and Dvorah) Education Fund, 1963-2000

Box 3. Folder 1-8. Labor Zionist Alliance (Cincinnati, Ohio), 1913-1999

Box 3. Folder 9-12. Memoirs/letters — Obituaries, 1966-2003

Box 4. Folder 1-2. Obituaries — Weintraub, 1965-1999

Box 4. Folder 3-15. Yavneh Day School (Cincinnati, Ohio), 1952-2003

Box 4. Folder 16. Yehuda, Zvi, 1992-1994