



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

**A Finding Aid to the
Robert I. Kahn Papers**

Manuscript Collection No. 853



Collection Summary

Title	Robert I. Kahn Papers
Dates	1935-2000 (bulk 1950-1970)
Collection Number	MS-853
Repository	The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
Creator	Kahn, Robert I.
Extent	4 linear feet (4 record cartons)
Language of the Material	English

Administrative Information

Biographical Sketch Robert Irving Kahn was born in Des Moines, Iowa on December 12, 1910. He was ordained by Hebrew Union College in 1935, earned a Doctor of Hebrew Letters in 1951, and was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity in 1960. During World War II, Kahn was an army chaplain and Hillel counselor representing Rice Institute. He was the founding rabbi of Congregation Emanu El in Houston and served for 58 years, including being rabbi emeritus from 1978 until his death in 2002.

Kahn authored many volumes, including, *Lessons for Life; The Ten Commandments for Today; May the Words of My Mouth; and the Letter and the Spirit*. He also lectured at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion and at local colleges in Houston. In addition, he delivered services on radio programs and wrote newspaper columns in Houston.

Kahn and his wife Rozelle married in 1940 and had three children, Alfred, Edward, and Sharon.

Scope and Content The collection consists of sermons delivered at Temple Emanu El; lectures given while teaching at HUC-JIR and religious schools; "Emanu El Services of the Air," a radio program on Houston's KPRC; "Lessons for Life," a weekly newspaper column that ran in the Houston Chronicle and "Kahn-Notations," a column in the Jewish Herald-Voice. Includes a copy of Kahn's dissertation, "Liberalism as Reflected in Jewish Preaching in the English Language in the Mid-Nineteenth Century."

Arrangement This collection is arranged in two (2) series: A. Sermons and Addresses, 1935-2000.; B. General, 1937-1999.

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

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

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-853. Robert I. Kahn Papers. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Provenance Received from Robert I. Kahn, Houston, Tex., 1992, 2000, and 2001.

Processing Information Processed by Elisa Ho, February 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	Jews -- Texas -- Houston / Rabbis
Personal Names	Kahn, Robert I.
Corporate Names	Congregation Emanu El (Houston, Tex.)
Media	Sermons

Series A. Sermons, 1935-2000

Extent 3 linear feet (3 record cartons)

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 1. S, 1955-1988, undated

Box 1. Folder 2. Sermons, 1935-1942, undated

Box 1. Folder 3. SM-SME, 1941-1981

Box 1. Folder 4. SMF, 1948-1975, undated

Box 1. Folder 5. SMG, 1943-1971, undated

Box 1. Folder 6. SMH-SMJ, 1947-1953, undated

Box 1. Folder 7. SMK, 1949-1980, undated

Box 1. Folder 8. SML-SMP, 1947-1978, undated

Box 1. Folder 9. SMR, 1947-1959, undated

Box 1. Folder 10. SMS-SMU, 1947-1951, undated

Box 1. Folder 11. SMW, 1962, 1963, 1965

Box 1. Folder 12. SMX, 1947-1977, undated

Box 1. Folder 13. SMY, 1958-1977, undated

Box 1. Folder 14. SMZ, 1941-1992, undated

Box 1. Folder 15. SO-SOC, 1951, 1952, undated

Box 1. Folder 16. SOF, 1953, undated

Box 1. Folder 17. SOG-SOJ, 1952-1954, 1960

Box 1. Folder 18. SOK, 1954-1970, undated

Box 1. Folder 19. SOL-SOQ (except SON), 1952-1955, undated

Box 1. Folder 20. 1945-SON, 1954-1988, undated

Box 1. Folder 21. SOR-SOT, 1955, 1956, undated

Box 1. Folder 22. SOU, 1956, undated

Box 1. Folder 23. SOV-SOX, 1955-1958

Box 1. Folder 24. SOW, 1948, undated

Box 2. Folder 1. SPA, 1951-1985, undated

Box 2. Folder 2. SPB-SPF, 1942-1969, undated

Box 2. Folder 3. SPG, 1959, 1960, undated

Box 2. Folder 4. SPH, 1956-1978, undated

Box 2. Folder 5. SPJ, 1960, 1961, undated

Box 2. Folder 6. SPK, 1961

Box 2. Folder 7. SPL, 1961-1981, undated

Box 2. Folder 8. SPM, 1962, 1963, undated

Box 2. Folder 9. SPO, 1963, undated

Box 2. Folder 10. SPP, 1963, 1964, undated

Box 2. Folder 11. SPQ, 1964, undated

Box 2. Folder 12. SPR, 1961-1970, undated

Box 2. Folder 13. SPS, 1964, 1965, undated
Box 2. Folder 14. SPT, 1965-1976, undated
Box 2. Folder 15. SPV, 1964-1971, undated
Box 2. Folder 16. SPX, 1966, 1971, 1974
Box 2. Folder 17. SPY, 1967
Box 2. Folder 18. SQB, 1967-1990, undated
Box 2. Folder 19. SQC, 1969
Box 2. Folder 20. SQD, 1957-1974, undated
Box 2. Folder 21. SQF, 1969-1977, undated
Box 2. Folder 22. SQG, 1966-1971, undated
Box 2. Folder 23. SQH, 1969, 1970, undated
Box 2. Folder 24. SQJ, 1964-1973, undated
Box 2. Folder 25. SQK, 1973, 1978, undated
Box 2. Folder 26. SQL, 1973-1974, undated
Box 3. Folder 1. SQM, 1974-1975, undated
Box 3. Folder 2. SQN, 1974-1976, undated
Box 3. Folder 3. SQO, 1975, undated
Box 3. Folder 4. SQP, 1976, undated
Box 3. Folder 5. SQR, 1975-1977, undated
Box 3. Folder 6. SQS, 1977, undated
Box 3. Folder 7. SQT, 1976-1978, undated
Box 3. Folder 8. TA, 1940-1960, undated
Box 3. Folder 9. TAB, 1938-1960, undated
Box 3. Folder 10. Radio 1946- Tell it to the Chaplin Radio, 1946, 1947, undated
Box 3. Folder 11. Emanu El Services of the Air October 8, 1950 - March 18, 1951, 1950, 1951
Box 3. Folder 12. Emanu El Services of the Air October 2, 1949 - March 26, 1950, 1949, 1950
Box 3. Folder 13. Emanu El Services of the Air Rabbi's Copies 1951-1952, 1951-1952, 1967
Box 3. Folder 14. Emanu El Services of the Air Rabbi's Copies 1952-1953, 1952-1953
Box 3. Folder 15. Emanu El Services of the Air October 4, 1953 - 1954, 1953-1954
Box 3. Folder 16. Emanu El Services of the Air October 3, 1954 - 1955, 1954-1955
Box 3. Folder 17. Emanu El Services of the Air October 1955 - March 1956, 1955-1956
Box 3. Folder 18. Emanu El Services of the Air October 7, 1956 - 1957 Rabbi's copies, 1956-1957
Box 3. Folder 19. Emanu El Services of the Air 1957 - 1958, 1957-1958
Box 3. Folder 20. Emanu El Services of the Air 1958 - 1959, 1958-1959
Box 3. Folder 21. Emanu El Services of the Air October 4, 1959 - March, 1960, 1959-1960
Box 3. Folder 22. Emanu El Services of the Air 1960 - 1961, 1951, 1955, 1959-1961
Box 3. Folder 23. Emanu El Services of the Air October 1, 1961 - March 25, 1962, 1950, 1961-1962
Box 3. Folder 24. Emanu El Services of the Air 1962 - 1963, 1962-1963
Box 3. Folder 25. Emanu El Services of the Air Oct. 6, 1963 - March, 1964, 1963-1964

Box 3. Folder 26. Emanu El Services of the Air 10/4/64 to March 1965, 1958-1959, 1964-1965

Box 3. Folder 27. Sermons, 1945-1998, undated

Series B. General, 1937-1993

Extent 1 linear foot (1 record carton)

Box and Folder Listing

Box 3. Folder 28. Awards and photos, 1949-1995, undated

Box 3. Folder 29. Correspondence, 1944-1990, undated

Box 3. Folder 30. Mysticism, 1966-1974, undated

Box 3. Folder 31. Roots - RIK (P.J.'s file), 1955, 1993, undated

Box 3. Folder 32. Rotary speeches, 1977--1990, undated

Box 3. Folder 33. Miscellaneous, 1975, undated

Box 4. Folder 1-24. Lessons for Life and lectures.