

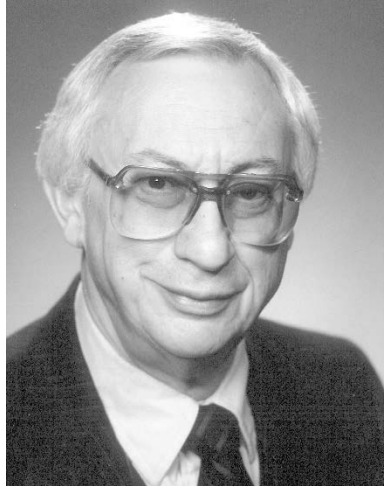


THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE  
**AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES**

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**A Finding Aid to the  
Sidney J. Jacobs Papers**

**Manuscript Collection No. 855**



## Collection Summary

<b>Title</b>	Sidney J. Jacobs Papers
<b>Dates</b>	1922-2001 (bulk 1940-1990)
<b>Collection Number</b>	MS-855
<b>Repository</b>	The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
<b>Creator</b>	Jacobs, Sidney J.
<b>Extent</b>	5 linear feet (5 record cartons)
<b>Language of the Material</b>	English

## Administrative Information

### Biographical Sketch

Sidney Jerome Jacobs was born in Chicago on May 25, 1917 to Emanuel and Sarah Minnie (Barnett) Jacobs. He graduated with a degree in journalism from Northwestern University and an M.A. in Hebrew Letters from the College of Jewish Studies. Jacobs first worked as a newspaper editor and was director of the Sunday school and Friday evening services at Temple Judea in Chicago. Ordained by the Jewish Institute of Religion in 1946, he served the Baisley Park Jewish Centre-Congregation Beth Moses and West End Temple-Sinai Congregation in New York. In 1952, he was the founding rabbi of the Reconstructionist Niles Township Jewish Congregation in Skokie, Illinois, where he stayed until 1970. He was also vice president of the Chicago Board of Rabbis and executive director of the Chicago Council of the American Jewish Congress. Jacobs hosted "Cabbages and Kings," a religious talk show in Chicago that aired on WLS-TV.

In California, Jacobs was rabbi of Temple Sinai of the Desert in Palm Springs beginning in 1976. He then served at Temple Ner Tamid in Downey (1982-1983) while continuing to teach religious school classes in local synagogues. Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion awarded him an honorary Doctor of Divinity in 1984. From his post as the chairman of the Social Action Committee of the Board of Rabbis of Southern California, Jacobs worked with César Chávez in the fight for workers' rights and was also an advocate for animal rights.

He was the president of Jacobs Ladder Publications and is the author of *The Jewish Word Book*; *Clues about Jews for People who Aren't*; *122 Clues for Jews Whose Children Intermarry*; and *Jewish Clues to Your Health and Happiness*.

Jacobs and his wife Helen had four children, Nehama, Aviva, Michael, and Jonathan. He married Betty Jane Lazaroff in 1971.

Sidney J. Jacobs died in 2001.

### Scope and Content

Correspondence, articles, and notes spanning Sidney Jacobs' career as a rabbi, journalist, and educator from his school days to retirement. Series A, *Rabbinical Career*, includes documents collected by Jacobs from the congregations he served. A majority of this series is from the Niles Township Jewish Congregation in Skokie, Illinois. Series B, *Writings*, contains drafts, correspondence, and notes pertaining to published articles in various newspapers and magazines. Series C, *General*, is an alphabetical arrangement of Jacobs' files on animal rights, coursework, Reconstructionism, and individuals such as César Chávez and Mordecai Kaplan.

### Arrangement

This collection is arranged in three (3) series: A. *Rabbinical Career*, 1922-1983; B. *Writings*, 1930-1995, undated; C. *General*, 1929-2001.

### Terms of Access

The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.

### Preferred Citation

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

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-855. Sidney J. Jacobs Papers. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

### Provenance

Received from HUC-JIR, Los Angeles, Calif., 2004, and Betty Jacobs, Culver City, Calif., 2011.

### 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

## Index Terms

<b>Subjects</b>	Animal rights / Authors / Judaism / Rabbis / Reconstructionist Judaism
<b>Personal Names</b>	Chavez, Cesar, 1927-1993 / Jacobs, Sidney J.
<b>Corporate Names</b>	Niles Township Jewish Congregation (Skokie, Ill.) / Temple Judea (Chicago, Ill.) / Temple Ner Tamid (Downey, Calif.)
<b>Media</b>	Photographs

## Series A. Rabbinical Career, 1922-1983

**Extent** 2.75 linear feet (2.75 record cartons)

### Box and Folder Listing

- Box 1. Folder 1. Temple Judea, 1922-1949
- Box 1. Folder 2. Baisley Park Jewish Centre-Congregation Beth Moses, 1943-1945
- Box 1. Folder 3. West End Temple- Sinai Congregation, 1945-1946
- Box 1. Folder 4. Niles Township Jewish Congregation, undated
- Box 1. Folder 5. Niles Township Jewish Congregation, 1957-1970
- Box 1. Folder 6. Niles Township Jewish Congregation Junior-Senior High School study group, 1960-1962
- Box 1. Folder 7. Niles Township Jewish Congregation memoranda, 1957-1969
- Box 1. Folder 8. Testimonial dinner, 1970
- Box 1. Folder 9. Clergyman's records, 1955-1988
- Box 1. Folder 10. Niles Township Jewish Congregation Sisterhood, undated
- Box 1. Folder 11. Temple Sinai of the Desert, 1977
- Box 1. Folder 12. Temple Ner Tamid, 1974-1985
- Box 1. Folder 13. Resource material, 1971-1974
- Box 1. Folder 14. Sermons, 1958-1970
- Box 2. Folder 1. Bereshit Genesis 1.1--6.8 Prophets--Isaiah 42.5-43.11, 1953-1976
- Box 2. Folder 2. Noah Genesis 6.9--11.32 Prophets--Isaiah 54.1--55.5, 1943-1969
- Box 2. Folder 3. Lek Leka Genesis 12.1--17.27 Prophets--Isaiah 40.27--41.16, 1943-1969
- Box 2. Folder 4. Vayera Genesis 18.1--22.24 Prophets--II Kings 4.1--37, 1943-1968
- Box 2. Folder 5. Toledot Genesis 25.19--28.9 Prophets--Malachi 1.1--2.7, 1940-1969
- Box 2. Folder 6. Zav Leviticus 6.1--8.36 Prophets--Malachi 3.4--24, 1957-1970
- Box 2. Folder 7. Shemini Leviticus 9.1--11.47 Prophets--II Samuel 6.1--7.3, 1944-1969
- Box 2. Folder 8. Haye Sarah Genesis 23.1--25.18 Prophets--I Kings 1.1--31, 1945-1996
- Box 2. Folder 9. Vayeze Genesis 28.10--32.3 Prophets--Hosea 11.7--12.12, 1940-1968
- Box 2. Folder 10. Vayishlah Genesis 32.4--36.43 Prophets--Obadiah 1.1--21, 1940-1969
- Box 2. Folder 11. Vayesheb Genesis 37.1--40.23 Prophets--Amos 2.6-3.8, 1940-1969
- Box 2. Folder 12. Mikez Genesis 41.1--44.17 Numbers 28.9--15, Numbers 7.42--47 Prophets--Zechariah 2.14--4.7, 1940-1969

Box 2. Folder 13. Vayigash Genesis 44.18--47.27 Prophets--Ezekiel 37.15-28, 1940-1963

Box 2. Folder 14. Vayehi Genesis 47.28--50.26 Prophets--I Kings 2.1--12, 1940-1969

Box 2. Folder 15. Shemot Exodus 1.1-6.1 Prophets--Isaiah 27.6---28.3; 29.22--23, 1944-1969

Box 2. Folder 16. Vaera Exodus 6.2--9.35 Prophets--Ezekiel 28.25--29.21, 1946-1970

Box 2. Folder 17. Bo Exodus 10.1--13.16 Prophets--Jeremiah 46.13--28, 1955-1969

Box 2. Folder 18. Beshalah Exodus 13.17--17.16 Prophets--Judge 4.4--5.31, 1956-1974

Box 2. Folder 19. Yitro Exodus 18.1--20.23 Prophets--Isaiah 6.1--7.6; 9.5--6, 1954-1970

Box 2. Folder 20. Mishaptim Exodus 21.1--24.18; 30.11--16 Prophets--II Kings 12.1--17, 1955-1970

Box 2. Folder 21. Terumah Exodus 25.1--27.19 Prophets--I Kings 5.26--6.13, 1944-1970

Box 2. Folder 22. Tezaveh Exodus 27.20--30.10---Deut. 25.17--19 Prophets--I Samuel 15.2-34, 1957-1970

Box 2. Folder 23. Ki Tissa Exodus 30.11-34.35 Numbers 19.1-22; Prophets--Ezekiel 36.16-38, 1956-1970

Box 2. Folder 24. Vayakhel-Pekude Exodus 35.1--40.38; 12.1--20 Prophets--Ezekiel 45.16--46.18, 1940-1970

Box 2. Folder 25. Vayikra Leviticus 1.1--5.26 Prophets--Isaiah 43.21--44.23, 1955-1970

Box 2. Folder 26. Tzav, 1957-1970

Box 2. Folder 27. "Tazria" "Mezora" Leviticus 12.1--15.33, Numbers 28.9--15 Prophets--Isaiah 66.1-24, 1957-1970

Box 2. Folder 28. "Ahare" "Kedoshim" Leviticus 16.1--20.27 Prophets--Amos 9.7--15, 1955-1970

Box 2. Folder 29. Emor Leviticus 21.1--24.33 Prophets--Ezekiel 44.15-31, 1955-1970

Box 3. Folder 1. Behar-Behukotai Leviticus 25.1--27.34 Prophets--Jeremiah 16.19--17.14, 1954-1976

Box 3. Folder 2. Bemidbar Numbers 1.1--4.20 Prophets--I Samuel 20.18--42, 1956-1970

Box 3. Folder 3. Naso Numbers 4.21--7.89 Prophets--Judges 13.2--25, 1955-1971

Box 3. Folder 4. Behaaloteka Numbers 8.1--12.16 Prophets--Zechariah 2.14-4.7, 1957-1971

Box 3. Folder 5. Shelah Leka Numbers 13.1--15.41 Prophets--Joshua 2.1--24, 1945-1970

Box 3. Folder 6. Korah Numbers 16.1--18.32 Prophets--I Samuel 11.14--12.22, 1958-1978

Box 3. Folder 7. "Hukat" "Balak" Numbers 19.1--25.9 Prophets--Micah 5.6--6.8, 1969-1945

Box 3. Folder 8. Pinhas Numbers 25.10--30.1 Prophets--Jeremiah 1.1-2.3, 1969, undated

Box 3. Folder 9. "Matot" "Masee" Numbers 30.2--36.13 Prophets--Jeremiah 2.4--28; 3.4, 1950-1955, undated

Box 3. Folder 10. Debarim Deut. 1.1--3.22 Prophets--Isaiah 1.1--27, 1943-1959

Box 3. Folder 11. Vaethanan Deut. 3.23--7.11 Prophets--Isaiah 40.1--26, 1944-1969

Box 3. Folder 12. Ekeb Deut. 7.12--11.25 Prophets--Isaiah 49.14--51.3, 1957-1969

Box 3. Folder 13. Ree Deut. 11.26--16.17 Prophets--Isaiah 54.11--55.5, 1957-1967

Box 3. Folder 14. Shofetim Deut. 16.18--21.9 Prophets--Isaiah 51.12--52.12, 1956-1983

Box 3. Folder 15. Ki Teze Deut. 21.10--25.19 Prophets--Isaiah 54.1--10, 1955-1969

Box 3. Folder 16. Ki Tabo Deut. 26.1--29.8 Prophets--Isaiah 60.1--22, 1955-1968

Box 3. Folder 17. Nizabim-Vayelek Deut. 29.9--31.30 Prophets--Isaiah 55.6--56.8, 1955-1969

Box 3. Folder 18. Vayelek Deut. 31.1--30 Prophets--Hosea 14.2--10; Micah 7.18--20, undated

Box 3. Folder 19. Haazinu Deut. 32.1--52 Prophets--II Samuel 22.1--51, 1955-1968

Box 3. Folder 20. Rosh Hashanah, 1969

Box 3. Folder 21. Yom Kippur, 1946-1974

Box 3. Folder 22. Sukkot, 1960-1969

Box 3. Folder 23. Shemini Azeret, 1955-1969  
Box 3. Folder 24. Pesakh, 1954-1965  
Box 3. Folder 25. Shavuot Shabbat, 1959-1962  
Box 3. Folder 26. Shabbat Rosh Hodesh, 1961  
Box 3. Folder 27. Selichot, 1930-1963

## **Series B. Writings, 1930-1995**

**Extent** 1.25 linear feet (1.25 record cartons)

### **Box and Folder Listing**

Box 3. Folder 28. Writings, 1938-1993  
Box 3. Folder 29. Writings, 1961-1980  
Box 3. Folder 30. Adam on the Eve, undated  
Box 3. Folder 31. Book reviews, 1987-1992, undated  
Box 3. Folder 32. The Creche at the Skokie Village Hall, 1961  
Box 3. Folder 33. The Crumbling Fortress, 1973 and undated  
Box 3. Folder 34. The Enigma of Cristobal Colon, 1969-1984  
Box 3. Folder 35. Ernest Bloch- a paper by Sidney J. Jacobs, 1945  
Box 3. Folder 36. "Exit Laughing" Westways, 1969-1976  
Box 3. Folder 37. "Inscribe Us for Life" The Grim Rosh Hashanah of 5704, 1974-1987  
Box 4. Folder 1. Jacob's Ladder publications, 1985-1995  
Box 4. Folder 2. Mediating Judaism, 1972-1973  
Box 4. Folder 3. The Shooting Priest, 1968-1975  
Box 4. Folder 4. The Valley Walkers, 1973-1983  
Box 4. Folder 5. Animal Rights, 1981-1993  
Box 4. Folder 6. Animal Rights, 1980-1993  
Box 4. Folder 7. Animal Rights Jewish Vegetarianism, 1982-1999  
Box 4. Folder 8. Aronin, Ben, 1961-1982  
Box 4. Folder 9. Avukah, 1933-1937  
Box 4. Folder 10. Awards, Certificates, Honors, 1929-1997  
Box 4. Folder 11. Beliajus, Vytautas F., 1938-1995  
Box 4. Folder 12. Biographical notes, 1995-1997, undated  
Box 4. Folder 13. Byer, Etta, 1933-1983  
Box 4. Folder 14. Chavez, Cesar, 1975-1994  
Box 4. Folder 15. College of Jewish Studies, 1934-1938  
Box 4. Folder 16. Correspondence, 1930s-1950s  
Box 4. Folder 17. Correspondence, 1960s  
Box 4. Folder 18. Correspondence, 1970s

Box 4. Folder 19. Correspondence, 1980s

Box 4. Folder 20. Correspondence, 1980s

Box 4. Folder 21. Correspondence, 1980s

Box 4. Folder 22. Correspondence, 1980s

## **Series C. General, 1929-2001**

**Extent** 1 linear foot (1 record carton)

**Arrangement** Alphabetically arranged by topic.

### **Box and Folder Listing**

Box 5. Folder 1. Course, American Jewish Survival, 1973-1987

Box 5. Folder 2. Course, The Philosophy and Programs of Reconstructionism, 1944-1962

Box 5. Folder 3. Course, Schools of Jewish Religious Thought, 1947-1948, undated

Box 5. Folder 4. Course, Yiddish, 1983

Box 5. Folder 5. Courses, 1963-1975

Box 5. Folder 6. Federation of Reconstructionist Congregations and Fellowships, 1942-1964

Box 5. Folder 7. Freeman, Nan, 1972-1993

Box 5. Folder 8. Heyman, Dr. Ira Michael, 1984

Box 5. Folder 9. Jewish Institute of Religion, 1943-1984, undated

Box 5. Folder 10. Jewish Reconstructionist Federation, 1941-1964

Box 5. Folder 11. Jewish Reconstructionist Federation, 1950-1964

Box 5. Folder 12. Jewish youth, 1919-1943

Box 5. Folder 13. Kaplan, Mordecai, 1940-1966

Box 5. Folder 14. Marshall High School, 1933-1985

Box 5. Folder 15. Newsclippings, 1939-1995

Box 5. Folder 16. Northwestern University, 1933-1938

Box 5. Folder 17. Obituaries, 2001-2002

Box 5. Folder 18. Photographs, 1950-1953, undated

Box 5. Folder 19. The Society for the Advancement of Judaism, 1943-1959

Box 5. Folder 20. Speaking engagements, 1974-1982, undated

Box 5. Folder 21. Television and radio, 1986, undated