INDIANA JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
COLLECTION ADDITION, 1875-2017

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Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org
COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 5 Manuscript Boxes; 3 folders of black and white photographs; 2 folders of color photographs; 1 VHS tape

COLLECTION DATES: 1875-2017

PROVENANCE: Indiana Jewish Historical Society, Indianapolis, January, 2017

RESTRICTIONS: Color photographs must be requested at least 4 hours in advance.

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: Sinai Temple, Marion, Records, M 0847; M 1230

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2017.0024

NOTES: This collection forms part of the Indiana Jewish Historical Society Archives.
HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Indiana Jewish Historical Society was founded in 1972 to collect, preserve and publish material involving two hundred years of Jewish life in Indiana. The organization aims to gather and preserve the records of synagogues, temples and societies; Jewish life cycle demonstrations, such as Bar Mitzvah certificates, Confirmation certificates, Katubbot (marriage contracts); personal memorabilia, scrapbooks and diaries; burial and cemetery records; government documents such as naturalization records; newspaper and magazine articles; and photographs.

Another goal of the Indiana Jewish Historical Society is to provide data not always available to historians, scholars and authors, thus helping to provide an awareness of the role played by Jews and Jewish communities in the creation of the religious climate of Indiana.

The IJHS founders ensured that the Jewish experience throughout the state would be preserved and conveyed. They began an annual publication, Indiana Jewish History, which recorded:

- settlers in Richmond and Terre Haute in 1818
- the beginning of the Fort Wayne congregation in 1848 and the dedication of the Madison synagogue in 1855
- stores founded more than 100 years age in Plymouth, Wabash, Huntington, and North Manchester
- the role of the Lafayette congregation in the Reform movement in the late 19th century and the history of self-help organization in the community, beginning in 1907
- a forum which brought W.E.B. Du Bois of the NAACP and other speakers to Hammond during the heyday of the Ku Klux Klan life in Muncie and Columbia City in the 20th century

Sources:

Preface and Introduction from A Users Guide to the Indianapolis Holdings of the Indiana Jewish Historical Society
SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection is comprised of a variety of materials donated to the Indiana Jewish Historical Society in 2017. Items include newsletters and other related items from Indiana temples; minutes of the Indiana Jewish Historical Society; research materials and interviews; events and fundraising materials from the Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis; and board materials and publications from Sinai Temple in Marion, Grant County, Indiana.
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