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**Inventory of the Beth Israel Congregation
(Beaufort, S.C.) Records, 1905-1961**

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Descriptive Summary

Title:	Beth Israel Congregation (Beaufort, S.C.) records
Date(s)	1905-1961
Creator:	Beth Israel Congregation (Beaufort, S.C.)
Abstract:	Original minute book and photocopied reproduction, real estate titles, and long-term lease of Beth Israel, a small Conservative congregation in Beaufort, South Carolina.
Extent:	0.35 linear feet (1 document box)
Repository:	Jewish Heritage Collection, Special Collections, College of Charleston Libraries 66 George Street Charleston, SC 29424 Phone: (843) 953-8016 Fax: (843) 953-6319 URL: http://archives.library.cofc.edu
Call Number:	Mss 1076
Language of Material:	Materials in English

Historical Note

Chartered and incorporated in 1905, Beth Israel is a small Conservative congregation whose synagogue is located at 401 Scotts Street in Beaufort, South Carolina. Before the construction of the sanctuary, Beaufort Jews met in the Masonic Hall above a store on Bay Street. Some ceremonial functions were held in the large hall on the second floor of the Beaufort Arsenal on Craven Street. The synagogue was built in 1908, with Rabbi George Solomon of Savannah, Georgia, officiating at the dedication ceremony and the installation of Torah scrolls in the ark. In 1910, members of the congregation purchased land for a cemetery and, in 1920, acquired a parsonage for the religious leader. The social hall was added in the 1950s. Initially an Orthodox congregation, Beth Israel became Conservative in 1949.

Collection Overview

Collection consists of original minute book and photocopied reproduction containing minutes of the regular monthly, annual, and special meetings of the officers of Beth Israel Congregation, as well as assorted supplementary information regarding the congregation including chronological lists of secretaries, reverends, rabbis, and treasurers from 1916 to 1963, a listing of congregational events from 1910 to 1946, and member donations and dues. Also included are real estate titles for the synagogue lot and cemetery lot and the congregation's long-term lease with the city of Beaufort.

Collection Arrangement

Materials are described at the folder level.

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research.

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Related Material

Related materials in Special Collections include *Beth Israel Cemetery: 906 Bladen Street, Beaufort, S.C.* by Stanley B. Farbstein.

Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person, family, or organization, by topical subject, by place, and by types of material.

Names

Beth Israel Congregation (Beaufort, S.C.)

Subjects

Conservative Judaism--South Carolina--Beaufort

Places

Beaufort (S.C.)

Types of Material

Minute books

Photocopies

Title (property rights)

Leases

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Beth Israel Congregation (Beaufort, S.C.) records, College of Charleston Libraries, Charleston, SC, USA.

Acquisitions Information

Materials were donated in 2009 by Rose Yospe Mark.

Processing Information

Processed by Joshua Minor, September 2012.

Encoded by Joshua Minor, September 2012.

Reviewed and uploaded by Martha McTear, October 2012.

Funding from the Council on Library and Information Resources supported the processing of this collection and encoding of the finding aid.

Inventory

Box 1 Folder 1-2

Original minute book and photocopied reproduction, 1916-1961

Original minute book and photocopied reproduction containing minutes of regular monthly, annual, and special meetings of the officers of Beth Israel Congregation. Minute book also contains the congregation's constitution and amendments; chronological lists of secretaries, reverends, rabbis, and treasurers from 1916 to 1963; a listing of congregational events from 1910 to 1946; member donations and dues; a 1951 letter for the dedication of the Beth Israel Educational Center; William Keyserling's eulogy; a letter from the United Synagogue of America congratulating Morris Neidich on his tenth term as president of the congregation; a farewell letter from Morris Neidich to Rabbi Sadowsky; and a financial report of the costs of building the educational center.

Box 1 Folder 3

Synagogue and cemetery real estate titles, 1905, 1910

Contains real estate titles for the synagogue lot, purchased from Nora Comerford, and the cemetery lot, purchased from Mary H. Buckman.

Box 1 Folder 4

Long-term lease, 1908

Beth Israel Congregation's fifty-year lease with the city of Beaufort for the lot adjacent to the synagogue.