Inventory of the Solomon Breibart Professional Papers, circa 1965-2008
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Solomon Breibart professional papers

Date(s) circa 1965-2008

Creator: Breibart, Solomon

Abstract: Research files, publications, correspondence, and other professional papers of Solomon Breibart, teacher and historian. Materials relate to Breibart's research and publications on the history of Charleston's Jewish population, in particular, the history of the city's oldest Jewish congregation, Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim.

Physical Description: 8.5 linear feet
(12 document boxes, 8 index card boxes)

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 1084

Language of Material: Materials in English and Hebrew

Biographical Note

Solomon ("Sol" or "Solly") Breibart (1914-2009), teacher and historian, was born in Charleston, South Carolina, to Sam and Ida Breibart. Sol Breibart attended the College of Charleston and earned his MA and teaching certificate from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, in 1938. During this period, he became an active member of Aleph Zadik Aleph, a Jewish youth organization affiliated with B'nai Brith. After graduation, Breibart worked at the High School of Charleston as a social studies teacher and guidance counselor. In 1957, he began teaching at Rivers High School, where he became assistant principal.

After retiring from teaching in 1976, Breibart began researching the poet and hymnalist Penina Moïse and other topics relating to Charleston's Jewish history, particularly Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim (KKBE). Breibart gave talks and lectures on his findings and published numerous articles in KKBE's bulletin, the Charleston Jewish Journal, and the newsletters of the Southern Jewish Historical Society (SJHS) and the Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina (JHSSC). Breibart was an active member of SJHS, served on the board of directors, and held terms as president and editor of the SJHS newsletter. His tenure on the JHSSC board lasted from the Society's inception in 1994 until his death in 2009.

For a more detailed biography, see "In Distinguished Company: A Profile of Solomon Breibart, Teacher and Historian" by Harlan Greene and Dale Rosengarten, published first in Southern Jewish History (2004) and then as the introduction to Explorations in Charleston's Jewish History, a 2005 compilation of Breibart's essays.
Collection Overview

Research files, articles, notes, correspondence, and other professional papers of Solomon Breibart, teacher and historian. Materials relate to Breibart's research and publications on the history of Jews in Charleston, South Carolina, particularly the history of Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim (KKBE). The collection also includes materials regarding Breibart's presentations, KKBE committee work, and involvement in the Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina. Topics include KKBE, Jewish cemeteries, 1886 earthquake, Charleston Jewish Community Center, Brith Sholom Beth Israel, Jewish servicemen, B'nai Brith, Penina Moïse, Gustavus Poznanski, David Levy, and Jacob S. Raisin.

Collection Arrangement

1. Publications
2. Research Files
3. Correspondence
4. Organizations and Activities

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research.

Copyright Notice

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Related Material

Related collections at the College of Charleston Special Collections include the Solomon and Sara Breibart papers (Mss 1085) and 2 oral history interviews of Solomon Breibart (1995, 2004).

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

Breibart, Solomon
Moïse, Penina
Posnanski, Gustavus
Raisin, Jacob S. (Jacob Salmon), 1878-1946
Levy, David (1854-1931)
Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim (Charleston, S.C.)
Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina
Aleph Zadik Aleph
Subjects
- Jews--South Carolina--Charleston--History
- Jews--Southern States--History
- Jewish cemeteries--South Carolina--Charleston

Types of Material
- Research notes
- Articles
- Clippings (information artifacts)
- Correspondence

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Solomon Breibart professional papers, College of Charleston Libraries, Charleston, SC, USA.

Acquisitions Information

Materials were donated by Solomon and Sara Breibart in 2009. Additional material was given in 2010.

Processing Information

Processed by Sarah M. Dorpinghaus, October 2010.

Encoded by Martha McTear, October 2010.

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

### 1. Publications

Consists of Breibart's articles, pamphlets, and other publications as well as related research files and drafts. Research files include handwritten notes, publications, photographs, and photocopies of primary sources such as newspapers, ledgers, correspondence, and diaries. Also present is correspondence between Breibart and other researchers.

**Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim (KKBE)**

| Box 1 Folder 1 | "The Annals of KKBE," 1997-1999 |
| Box 1 Folder 2 | "Archives Acquisitions," 1986 |
| Box 1 Folder 3 | "Beth Elohim and the Earthquake," 1986 |
| Box 1 Folder 4 | "Beth Elohim's Second Organ," 1986 |
| Box 1 Folder 5 | "Correcting the Chronology of the Presidents of K.K. Beth Elohim," 1984 |
| Box 1 Folder 6 | "David Lopez, Builder," 1991 |
| Box 1 Folder 7-8 | "Early Scrapbooks and Journals of Jacob S. Raisin," 2005 |
| Box 1 Folder 9 | *Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim Synagogue, 250th Anniversary: 1749-1999*, 1999 |
| Box 1 Folder 10 | "KKBE: The Transition from Orthodox to Reform," 1999 |
| Box 1 Folder 11 | "Rabbi Jacob S. Raisin and Zionism in Charleston, 1915-1945," 2008 |
| Box 1 Folder 12 | *The Rev. Mr. Gustavus Poznanski: First American Jewish Reform Minister*, 1979 |
| Box 2 Folder 1-2 | *The Rev. Mr. Gustavus Poznanski: First American Jewish Reform Minister*, 1979 |
| Box 2 Folder 3 | "The Status of Women in KKBE to 1920," 1984 |
| Box 2 Folder 4-5 | "This Synagogue Is Our Temple," 1980 |
| Box 2 Folder 6-7 | "The Synagogues of Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim, Charleston," 1979 |

**Charleston and Miscellaneous**

| Box 2 Folder 8 | *Articles on the Southern Jewish Experience in the Journals of the American Jewish Historical Society and American Jewish Archives*, 1986 |
| Box 2 Folder 9 | "BSBI Celebrates 140th Anniversary," 1995 |
| Box 2 Folder 10 | "Charleston Jewish Service Men in World War II," 1995 |
| Box 3 Folder 1 | "Charleston Jews and the Earthquake of 1886," 1994 |
| Box 3 Folder 2 | "Chronology of the Jewish Congregations of Charleston, SC," 1993 |
| Box 3 Folder 3 | "Dan Lodge #593," 1994 |
| Box 3 Folder 4 | "Early Jews of Augusta, GA," 1983 |
Box 3 Folder 6  Explorations in Charleston's Jewish History, 2005
Box 3 Folder 7  "Forerunners of the Charleston Jewish Community Center," 1980
Box 3 Folder 8  "Francis Salvador, Revolutionary War Martyr," 1996
Box 3 Folder 9  "The Jewish Cemeteries of Charleston," 1994
Box 3 Folder 10  "Joseph Fromberg: A Courageous Stand," 1994
Box 3 Folder 11  "Louis M. Shimel, First Jewish Community Center President," 1995
Box 3 Folder 12  "A New Era (1957-2003)," [regarding the Hebrew Orphan Society- unpublished]
Box 3 Folder 13  "An Overview- The First Fifty Years," 1995
Box 4 Folder 1  Some Places in Charleston, S.C., of Jewish Interest, 1995
Box 4 Folder 2  "A Timeline of Charleston's Jewish History," 2004
Box 4 Folder 3  "Two Jewish Congregations in Charleston, S.C., Before 1791: A New Conclusion," 1980
Box 4 Folder 4  "Women Who Made a Difference," 1994
Box 4 Folder 5  Miscellaneous publications, 1980-1996 and undated
  "Penina Moïse, Southern Jewish Poetess", 1984
Box 4 Folder 6  Abraham Moïse (father)
Box 4 Folder 7  Fancy's Sketch Book photocopies
Box 4 Folder 8  Moïse family wills and property transfers
Box 4 Folder 9  Penina Moïse correspondence
Box 4 Folder 10  Portrait
Box 4 Folder 11  Post mortem items
Box 4 Folder 12  Publications
Box 4 Folder 13  Research correspondence
Box 4 Folder 14  Miscellaneous research files

2. Research Files

Included are newspaper clippings, publications, handwritten notes, brochures, inventories, indexes, photographs, and correspondence. Materials are a combination of original documents, photocopies, and photostats.

Box 5 Folder 1  "An Architectural History of Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim" by Gene Wadell
Box 5 Folder 2  Aleph Zadik Aleph
Box 5 Folder 3-4 Bibliographies and guides
Box 5 Folder 5 Burials at BSBI cemetery in Maryville, SC
Box 5 Folder 6 Carvalho, Solomon
Box 5 Folder 7 Charleston
Box 5 Folder 8 Charleston in Jewish periodicals, circa 1877-1897
Box 5 Folder 9 Charleston's Jewish journalists
Box 5 Folder 10 Charleston Jewish wills transcriptions
Box 6 Folder 1-2 Charleston's Jewish population
Box 6 Folder 3 Center Talk notes, 1945-1986
Box 6 Folder 4-6 Coming Street cemetery
Box 6 Folder 7 Deaths and graves
Box 6 Folder 8 De La Motta, Jacob
Box 7 Folder 1 DeCosta family
Box 7 Folder 2 Eckman, Julius
Box 7 Folder 3 Elzas, Barnett A.
Box 7 Folder 4 Georgetown, SC, Jews
Box 7 Folder 5 Individuals
Box 7 Folder 6 Israel, Morris and Elias, Rebecca descendants
Box 7 Folder 7 Jewish organizations taken from city directories, 1875-1924
Box 7 Folder 8 King Street merchants
Box 7 Folder 9 KKBE brochures, booklets, and pamphlets
Box 7 Folder 10 KKBE constitution and by-laws
Box 7 Folder 11-12 KKBE miscellaneous
Box 7 Folder 13 KKBE pew arrangement
Box 8 Folder 1 KKBE temple guide research
Box 8 Folder 2 KKBE Unveh Sholom location
Box 8 Folder 3 Lazarus, Abraham and Rosa Visanska
Box 8 Folder 4-5 Levy, David
Box 8 Folder 6 Marriages of Charleston Jews
Box 8 Folder 7 Mayer, Maurice
Box 8 Folder 8 Nathan, Moses Henry
Box 8 Folder 9 Orangeburg, South Carolina
Box 8 Folder 10 Purim celebrations in South Carolina
Box 8 Folder 11 Reformed Society of Israelites
Box 8 Folder 12 Shearith Israel of Charleston, 1840-1866
Box 8 Folder 13 Southern Jews
Box 9 Folder 1 Southern Jews
Box 9 Folder 2 Synagogue photographs
Box 9 Folder 3 Tobias, Thomas J. inventory
Box 9 Folder 4 Wichmann, G. Theodore
Box 9 Folder 5 Miscellaneous handwritten notes
Box 9 Folder 6 Miscellaneous materials

Index Cards
Cards generally include birth and death dates, family members, address, occupation, congregation membership, and burial location.

Box 10 1860 census
  BSBI Maryville
  Civil War
  Emanu-El
  Jewish veterans of World War II, Charleston residents
  Obituaries
  Revolutionary War
  World War I servicemen
  World War II servicemen
  Miscellaneous

Box 11 Miscellaneous

Cemetery Index Cards

Box 12 KKBE Coming Street cemetery, Charleston

Box 13 KKBE Huguenin Street cemetery, Charleston, A-M
Box 14  KKB Huguenin Street cemetery, Charleston, N-Z
Box 15  Brith Sholom Magnolia and Beth Israel Magnolia cemeteries, Charleston
Box 16  Brith Sholom Beth Israel cemetery, Maryville, Charleston
Box 17  Emanu-El cemetery, Maryville, Charleston

3. Correspondence

Research inquiries, thank you letters, and correspondence with other historians and researchers from Breibart's tenure as KKBH historian.

Box 18 Folder 1-7  1974-1992
Box 19 Folder 1-5  1993-2008

4. Organizations and Activities

Box 19 Folder 6  Curriculum vitas
Box 19 Folder 7  AJA conference on preserving synagogue archives steering committee, 1998-1999
Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina, 1980-2008

Box 20 Folder 1  Annual meetings and other events, 1994-2005
Box 20 Folder 2  By-laws, 2000-2005
Box 20 Folder 3  Cemetery Survey Project, circa 2004
Box 20 Folder 4  Correspondence and memos, 1994-2006
Box 20 Folder 5  Financial records, 1995-2007
Box 20 Folder 6  Meeting minutes and agendas, 1993-2006 (scattered)
Box 20 Folder 7  Newsletters, 1994-2005 (scattered)
Box 20 Folder 8  Speakers Bureau, circa 2002-2003
Box 20 Folder 9  Miscellaneous, 1980-2008
Box 20 Folder 10  KKBH Yom Kippur Memorial Roll of Honor Committee, 1968-1999
Box 20 Folder 11  KKBH interpretive exhibit, 2005
Box 20 Folder 12  "A Portion of the People: Three Hundred Years of Southern Jewish Life" exhibition, 1999-2003
Box 20 Folder 13  Presentations, circa 1990-2000