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**Inventory of the Helen Schneider
Silver Papers, 1900-2003**

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Descriptive Summary

Title:	Helen Schneider Silver papers
Date(s)	1900-2003
Date(s)	(bulk 1970-1990)
Creator:	Silver, Helen, 1922-2003
Abstract:	The collection consists mainly of articles and research files written and compiled by Helen Schneider Silver (1922-2003), a freelance journalist born in Knoxville, Tennessee. Topics include the Arab-Israeli conflict, Jewish historical sites, Jewish women, and Jewish populations around the world. In addition are manuscripts of Silver's short stories and children's books and materials relating to Silver's family history and her involvement in organizations such as Hadassah, the Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina, the Southern Jewish Historical Society, and the Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim Sisterhood. Also included are letters from Sidney Silver, Helen's husband, written while he served as a corporal in the U.S. Army Signal Corps during World War II.
Extent:	5 linear feet (12 document boxes, 20 audiocassettes)
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 1091
Language of Material:	Materials in English and Hebrew

Biographical Note

Helen Rose Schneider (1922-2003) was born in Knoxville, Tennessee, to Julius Jacob "J.J." Schneider (1892-1972) and Mollie Simon Schneider (1896-1960). Schneider's parents had been born in Lithuania and immigrated to the United States via New York City circa 1912. They married in 1920 and moved to Knoxville, Tennessee, where they operated a grocery store. After retiring in 1960, they moved to Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Helen Schneider graduated from Knoxville High School in 1940. After completing a one-year commercial course at the Knoxville Business College, she worked as a clerk stenographer for the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). There she met Sidney Silver (1919-), an engineer from Atlanta, Georgia. They married in 1942.

While her husband served as a corporal in the U.S. Army Signal Corps during World War II, Silver worked from 1944-1945 as a legal secretary and clerk stenographer for the U.S. War Department. In 1946, the Silvers moved to Chattanooga, Tennessee, where Silver was a stay-at-home mother until the 1960s when she took a job at Chattanooga's Water Quality Lab.

In 1968, the family relocated to Washington, D.C. She then took a job with the National Weather Service, which included writing articles for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Environmental Science Services Administration (ESSA). Silver left in 1974 to pursue a career in freelance journalism. Until the mid-1980s, Silver covered the State Department and White House briefings, press conferences, and congressional hearings for the Jewish Telegraph Agency's Washington Bureau. Silver's articles were also published in *Pioneer Woman Magazine* (now *Na'amat Magazine*) and *Hadassah Magazine*.

In 1984, Helen and Sidney Silver retired in Charleston, South Carolina. Silver continued writing, mostly travel features for the "Jewish Traveler" column in *Hadassah Magazine*.

Helen Silver was active in several Jewish organizations. She edited the Hadassah yearbooks in the 1960s, the Southern Jewish Historical Society's newsletter from 1990-1998, and in 1994, she was a founding member and newsletter editor for the Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina. Silver was also a member of the Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim Sisterhood and served as President of the Chattanooga chapter of Hadassah.

Collection Overview

The collection consists mainly of articles and research files written and compiled by Helen Silver, a freelance journalist. These include "Jewish Traveler" columns in *Hadassah Magazine* describing Jewish sites in the southeastern United States, and articles published in the Jewish Telegraph Agency's *JTA Weekly News Digest* regarding the conflict in the Middle East and the United State's diplomatic and material support. Other byline and research file topics include Jewish women, Jewish artists and musicians, antisemitism, the Holocaust, Jewish populations around the world, Jewish holidays, Zionism, and weather. Also included are manuscripts of Silver's short stories and children's books, some of which include illustrations.

The collection also includes materials relating to Silver's family history and her involvement in organizations such as Hadassah, the Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina, the Southern Jewish Historical Society, and the Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim Sisterhood. Also included are letters from Sidney Silver, Helen's husband, written while he served as a corporal in the U.S. Army Signal Corps during World War II.

Collection Arrangement

1. Biographical papers, 1900-2003
2. Organizations and activities, 1965-2001
3. Literary manuscripts, 1955-1982
4. Research files and bylines, 1948-1999 (bulk 1970-1990)

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

This collection has access restrictions. Please contact **Special Collections at the College of Charleston Libraries** for more information.

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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

Silver, Helen, 1922-2003
Silver, Sidney, 1919-
Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America
Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina
Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim (Charleston, S.C.)
Southern Jewish Historical Society (U.S.)

Subjects

Arab-Israeli conflict
Heritage tourism
Jewish journalists
Short stories, Jewish
Women in journalism
World War, 1939-1945--Participation, Jewish

Types of Material

Articles
Correspondence
Photographs
Research notes
Short stories

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Helen Schneider Silver papers, College of Charleston Libraries, Charleston, SC, USA.

Processing Information

Processed by Sarah Dorpinghaus, July 2011.

Encoded by Sarah Dorpinghaus, September 2011.

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. Biographical papers, 1900-2003

- Box 1 Folder 1 General, 1922-2003
- Includes certificates, awards, correspondence, and memorials. Some materials relate to Sidney Silver, Helen Schneider Silver's husband.
- Box 1 Folder 2 Resume and biographical sketches, 1970, 1975, undated
- War-time correspondence from Sidney Silver
- Closed until 2016.**
- Letters describe Silver's daily activities while he served as a corporal in the U.S. Army Signal Corps. Silver was stationed at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia (July- August 1943); Fort McClellan, Alabama (August-November 1943); Headquarters of the Second United States Army in Memphis, Tennessee (November-December 1943); Camp Crowder, Missouri (December 1943-May 1944, July- August, 1945); Fort Monmouth, New Jersey (January-July 1945); Camp Beale, California (September 1945-February 1946); and Treasure Island, California (March 1946).
- Box 11 Folder 13 July- August 1943
- Box 11 Folder 14 September- November 1943
- Box 12 Folder 1 November 1943- May 1944
- Box 12 Folder 2 January- April 1945
- Box 12 Folder 3 April- August 1945
- Box 12 Folder 4 September 1945- January 1946
- Box 12 Folder 5 January- March 1946
- Box 1 Folder 3 Bat Mitzvah, 1981-1982
- Includes digital copies of photographs, photocopies of Silver's adult Bat Mitzvah program and Torah portion, and Silver's article "Mom's Bat Mitzvah- It's never too late!"
- Audiocassette 1091-a01 Recording of Silver's Bat Mitzvah, 1981
- (JHC audiocassette box 1 | 1 audiocassette tape)
- Family history
- Includes photocopies of naturalization papers, memorials, and obituaries.
- Box 1 Folder 4 General, 1910-2003
- Includes materials relating to the Berke, Levine, Simon, Shapiro, and Schneider families.
- Box 1 Folder 5 Julius Jacobs Schneider (Silver's father), 1912-1972

Box 1 Folder 6 Mollie Simon Schneider (Silver's mother), 1957-1960

Box 1 Folder 7 Photographs, circa 1900-1990s

Includes digital copies of photographs of Silver and her family. Also included is a digital slideshow of photographs created for Sidney Silver's 90th birthday.

2. Organizations and activities, 1965-2001

Hadassah

Box 1 Folder 8 General, 1966-1998

Includes newspaper articles and brochures.

Audiocassette 1091-a02

Recording of the closing luncheon at the 1992 convention

(JHC audiocassette box 2 | 1 audiocassette tape)

Box 1 Folder 9

Convention articles, 1980-1992

Some articles were written by Silver.

Box 1 Folder 10

Chattanooga (Tenn.) Chapter, 1965-1968

Includes chapter yearbooks and a 1966 newsletter with an article written by Silver.

Box 1 Folder 11

Charleston (S.C.) Chapter newsletters, 1989-1990

These issues were edited by Silver.

Box 1 Folder 12

Jewish Community Center archives committee, 1988-1994, undated

Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina (JHSSC)

Box 1 Folder 13

Administrative records, 1994-2000

Includes meeting minutes, reports, bylaws, membership and officer lists, and correspondence.

Box 1 Folder 14

Annual meeting minutes, 1994-1998, undated

Box 1 Folder 15

Newsletter, 1995-2000

Includes a draft proposal for the JHSSC newsletter, correspondence, and several newsletter issues.

Box 1 Folder 16

Projects, 1994-1997

Includes materials relating to projects in which JHSSC participated, such as the Camden Tower Sheds and the Jewish Heritage Project.

Presentation recordings

(JHC audiocassette box 2 | 3 audiocassette tapes)

Audiocassette 1091-a13

Richard Gergel, undated

- Audiocassette 1091-a05 Robert Rosen, undated
 Audiocassette |1091-a04 Rabbi Zola on Isaac Harby, undated

Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim (KKBE)

- Box 2 Folder 1 General, 1980-1999
 Includes articles regarding KKBE events and history.
- Box 2 Folder 2-3 Sesquicentennial celebration, 1990-1991
 Includes invitations, programs, correspondence, steering committee minutes, and articles.
- Box 2 Folder 4-5 Sisterhood, 1986-1997
 Includes administrative records, correspondence, newspaper articles, event information, and materials pertaining to the Sisterhood Annual Bazaar.

Southern Jewish Historical Society

- Box 2 Folder 6 Administrative records, 1992-1995, undated
 Includes meeting minutes, committee reports, and the SJHS constitution and by-laws.

Conferences

- Includes conference programs and material regarding Jewish sites of interest, such as brochures and articles.
- Box 2 Folder 7 1982-1990
- Box 2 Folder 8 Alexandria, Virginia, 1991
- Box 2 Folder 9 Montgomery, Alabama, 1992
- Box 2 Folder 10 Atlanta, Georgia, 1993
 Includes transcripts of the following presentations: "Little Rock's Integration Crisis: The Jewish response" by Carolyn Gray LeMaster, "Two Jewish Small-town Mercantile Families in Georgia" by Alyse W. Jones, and "The Straus Family Project" by Joan Adler.
- Box 2 Folder 11 Raleigh, North Carolina, 1994
- Box 2 Folder 12 New Orleans, Louisiana, 1995
- Audiocassette 1091-a18 SJHS officer installation
 (JHC audiocassette box 2 | 1 audiocassette tape)
- Box 2 Folder 13 Miami Beach FL, 1996
 Includes photographs of the Miami Beach Holocaust memorial

Audiocassette 1091-a08, 1091-a09, 1091-a10 Recordings of conference sessions

(JHC audiocassette box 2 | 3 audiocassette tapes)

Box 2 Folder 14 Hot Springs, Arkansas, 1997

Audiocassette 1091-a11 Recording of the opening session and writers' panel

(JHC audiocassette box 2 | 1 audiocassette tape)

Audiocassette 1091-a12 Recording of unidentified session

(JHC audiocassette box 2 | 1 audiocassette tape)

Audiocassette 1091-a15 Recording of closing session "Tribute to Jacob Rader Marcus" with Rabbi Esward Paul Cohn, Rabbi Lance Sussman, Jonathan Sarna, and Rabbi Gary Zola (moderator), Cincinnati, Ohio, 2000

(JHC audiocassette box 2 | 1 audiocassette tape)

Newsletter

Box 3 Folder 1 General, 1997, undated

Includes materials concerning the establishment of the SJHS newsletter and photographs used with articles, mostly from conferences.

Audiocassette 1091-a06 Recording of conference call regarding the SJHS newsletter, undated

(JHC audiocassette box 2 | 1 audiocassette tape)

Box 3 Folder 2 Annual reports to the SJHS board, 1991-1995

Box 3 Folder 3 Correspondence, 1990-1998

Box 3 Folder 4 Article ideas and submissions, 1991-1997, undated

Box 3 Folder 5 Book reviews, 1992-1995

Box 3 Folder 6-10 Newsletter issues, 1986-2001

3. Literary manuscripts, 1955-1982

Includes Silver's short story and children's books manuscripts. Also includes correspondence regarding submissions for publication.

Box 3 Folder 11 *The Busy Grandparents*, 1955, 1975

Box 3 Folder 12 *Ricky, the Little Climber*, 1955, 1975

Includes illustrations by Sylvia Rothman Shapiro.

Box 3 Folder 13 *The Missing Challah aka Sabbath Eve in the Old World*, 1975-1982

Includes illustrations by Marian G. Katzman.

Box 3 Folder 14 *The Incredible Icicle*, 1980-1982

Includes illustrations by Marian G. Katzman.

Box 4 Folder 2 Miscellaneous drafts, undated

4. Research files and bylines, 1948-1999 (bulk 1970-1990)

Includes Silver's bylines and research files, mostly consisting of newspaper articles. Photographs used in Silver's articles are also included. As a freelance journalist from the 1970s-1980s, Silver published articles in numerous magazines and newspapers, including *JTA Weekly News Digest*, and the women's Zionist publications *Pioneer Woman* and *Hadassah*. Many of Silver's articles address topics of Jewish interest, especially the conflict in the Middle East and Jewish tourist attractions.

Box 4 Folder 2 Partial lists of bylines, 1970-1991

Box 4 Folder 3 Aging and the elderly, 1973-1988

Antisemitism, 1976-1987

Box 4 Folder 4 Africa and the Middle East, 1976-1980

Box 4 Folder 5 Asia and Australia, 1976-1987

Box 4 Folder 6 Central and South America, 1975-1983

Box 4 Folder 7 Europe, 1976-1983

Box 4 Folder 8 France, 1980-1987

Box 4 Folder 9 Soviet Union, 1978-1986

Box 4 Folder 10 United States, 1978-1986

Includes information regarding Neo Nazis and the Ku Klux Klan.

Box 4 Folder 11 Anti-defamation league, 1983-1984

Arab-Israeli conflict and the Middle East

Box 4 Folder 12-16 Silver's articles, 1970-1984

Box 5 Folder 1 Silver's articles, 1987, undated

Box 5 Folder 2 American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), 1971-1993

Box 5 Folder 3 Individuals, circa 1970-1990

Box 5 Folder 4 Israel, 1970-1993

Box 5 Folder 5 Saudi Arabia, 1979-1982

Box 5 Folder 6 Miscellaneous newspaper clippings, 1984,1993

Box 5 Folder 7 Bat and Bar Mitzvahs, 1981-1986

Box 5 Folder 8 Black and Jewish relations, 1983-1995

Box 5 Folder 9 Book lists, 1948-1984

Box 5 Folder 10	Book reviews, 1969-1986
Box 5 Folder 11	Handicapped individuals, 1980-1984
Box 5 Folder 12	Hebrew, 1985-1986
Box 5 Folder 13	Hillel rabbis' contract dispute with B'nai B'rith, 1983
	Holocaust
Box 5 Folder 14	General, 1978-1983
Box 5 Folder 15	Nazi war criminals, 1978-1984
Box 5 Folder 16	Elie Wiesel, 1973-1983
Box 5 Folder 17	Hurricane Hugo, 1989
Box 5 Folder 18	Jewish artists, 1971-1991
	Includes materials regarding Israeli and American artists.
	Jewish communities by geographic location
Box 5 Folder 19	General, 1978,1992
	Africa
Box 5 Folder 20	Ethiopia, 1970-1992 (folder 1 of 2)
Box 6 Folder 1	Ethiopia 1970-1992 (folder 2 of 2)
Box 6 Folder 2	Morocco, 1993
Box 6 Folder 3	South Africa, 1977-1987
Box 6 Folder 4	Asia, 1981-1982
	Europe
Box 6 Folder 5	General, 1981-1990
Box 6 Folder 6	France, 1980-1984
Box 6 Folder 7	Italy, 1980-1985
Box 6 Folder 8	Scandinavia, 1984
Box 6 Folder 9	Mexico, Central and South America, 1982-1984
Box 6 Folder 10	Middle East, 1979-1993
Box 6 Folder 11	Soviet Union, 1982-1984
Box 6 Folder 12	United States, 1971-1986
Box 6 Folder 13	Russian Jews in the southern United States, 1992

Box 6 Folder 14	Jewish customs and symbols, undated
Box 6 Folder 15	Jewish families, 1979-1986
	Includes materials regarding domestic violence and interfaith marriages.
Box 6 Folder 16	Jewish genealogy, 1978-1989
	Jewish holidays
Box 6 Folder 17	General, 1985-1991
Box 6 Folder 18	Hanukkah, 1982-1988
Box 6 Folder 19	Passover, 1983-1993
Box 6 Folder 20	Purim, 1984-1987
Box 6 Folder 21	Sukkot, 1987-1989
Box 6 Folder 22-23	Jewish museums and exhibits,
	Jewish music and musicians
Box 7 Folder 1	General, 1975-1993
Box 7 Folder 2	Ernest Bloch, 1980-1984
Box 7 Folder 3	Israeli harp contest, 1983-1985
Box 7 Folder 4-5	Jewish writers, 1971-1997
	Includes materials regarding Yiddish novelists, Emma Lazarus, and the Statue of Liberty
Box 7 Folder 6	Jews in American history, 1975-1984
	Materials mostly relate to the Colonial period.
Box 7 Folder 7	Jews in journalism, 1986-1988
Box 7 Folder 8-11	<i>JTA Weekly News Digest</i> , 1974-1984, 1999
Box 8 Folder 1	Politicians, 1977-1983
	Mostly consists of articles regarding Hubert Humphries.
Box 8 Folder 2	Presidential elections and Jewish support, 1983-1984
Box 8 Folder 3	Reform Judaism, 1981-1987
	Travel and tourism
	Materials are mostly regarding Jewish sights.
Box 8 Folder 4	General travel and safety tips, 1972-1989
Box 8 Folder 5	Canada, 1972-1973

Box 8 Folder 6	Europe, 1978-1995
	Israel
Box 8 Folder 7	Silver's articles and correspondence, 1973-1982
Box 8 Folder 8	Photographs, undated
Box 8 Folder 9	Newspaper clippings, 1970s-1980s
	Recordings of guided tours
	(JHC audiocassette box 2 6 audiocassette tapes)
Audiocassette 1091-a07	Golan Heights, Akko, Caesenia, Massada, and Dead Sea, 1972
Audiocassette 1091-a14	Jericho, Gesher Haziv, and Megiddo, 1972
Audiocassette 1091-a16, 1091-a19, 1091-a20	Jerusalem, 1972
Audiocassette 1091-a03	With David Dore, 1972
	United States
Box 8 Folder 10	Florida, 1988, 1992
	Georgia, Atlanta
Box 8 Folder 11	General, 1973-1992
Box 8 Folder 12	Photographs, undated
Box 8 Folder 13	Jimmy Carter, 1986
Box 8 Folder 14	Leo Frank, 1986
Box 8 Folder 15	Georgia, Savannah, 1986-1992
Box 9 Folder 1	Illinois, Chicago, 1977-1980
Box 9 Folder 2	Maryland, Baltimore, 1983-1987
Box 9 Folder 3	Mississippi, 1955, 1986-1991
Box 9 Folder 4	Missouri, Saint Louis, 1987-1988
Box 9 Folder 5	Nebraska, Omaha, 1987-1988
Box 9 Folder 6	New England, 1979-1985
Box 9 Folder 7	New York, 1986-1999
Box 9 Folder 8	Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, 1978-1985
	South Carolina, Charleston
Box 9 Folder 9	General newspaper clippings, 1958-1997

- Box 9 Folder 10 Jewish resources, 1986-1995
- Box 9 Folder 11 Silver's articles and correspondence, 1986-1994
- Box 10 Folder 1 Tennessee, Knoxville, 1987-1993
- Box 10 Folder 2 Tennessee, Memphis, 1984-1988
- Box 10 Folder 3 Virginia, Richmond, 1981-1989
- Box 10 Folder 4 Virginia, Williamsburg, 1988
- Box 10 Folder 5-6 Washington, D.C., 1971-1985
- Box 10 Folder 7 Yosemite and Yellowstone national parks, 1980, undated
- Box 10 Folder 8 Miscellaneous, 1975-1990
- Box 10 Folder 9 Vietnam War veterans and draft evaders, 1974-1982
- Box 10 Folder 10 Weather and NOAA, 1969-1973

Includes articles regarding female meteorologists.

Women

- Box 11 Folder 1 General, 1970-1986
- Box 11 Folder 2 Discrimination in the workplace, 1973-1986
- Box 11 Folder 3 Domestic violence, 1979-1988
- Box 11 Folder 4 Israel, 1971-1989
- Box 11 Folder 5 Jewish women, 1974-1987
- Box 11 Folder 6 Jewish women leaders, 1981-1984
- Box 11 Folder 7 Politics, 1975-1984
- Box 11 Folder 8 Rabbis and cantors, 1979-1988
- Box 11 Folder 9 Soviet Union, 1987
- Box 11 Folder 10 Zionism, 1975-1989
- Box 11 Folder 11 Miscellaneous bylines, 1971-1987
- Box 11 Folder 12 Miscellaneous research files, 1979-1993

- Audiocassette 1091-a17 "Lisso Brothers of Louisiana" lecture, possibly by Ted Tunnell

(JHC audiocassette box 2 | 1 audiocassette tape)