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Descriptive Summary

Title: Alwyn Goldstein papers

Date(s): 1927-2010

Creator: Goldstein, Alwyn, 1915-2010

Abstract: Photographs, newspaper clippings, interview recording, memorials, and other papers of Alwyn Goldstein, proprietor of Alwyn's Department Store in Georgetown, South Carolina. Also included are records relating to Temple Beth Elohim, of which Goldstein was an active member.

Extent: 0.25 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 1096

Language of Material: Materials in English

Biographical Note

Alwyn O. Goldstein (1915-2010) was born to Rosie Goldman Goldstein (1888-1980) and Max Goldstein (1891-1967), who owned and operated a clothing store on King Street in Charleston, South Carolina. As a child, Goldstein worked in his parents' store until he opened Alwyn's Department Store in 1938 in Georgetown, South Carolina. That same year, he married Thelma Engel (1815-1968), and the couple had two children: Roslyn and Steve.

The Goldsteins were members of Beth Elohim, and Alwyn was temple secretary from the 1960s-1980s and active in the brotherhood. Congregation membership declined after the 1950s, and by 2003, only five members remained, prompting them to consider selling the temple and using the funds for cemetery maintenance. During this time, Goldstein served as unofficial "rabbi," acting as the lay reader for shortened weekly services. In 2004, the congregation had grown to forty-seven, as a result of the recruiting efforts of a new member, Elizabeth Moses. For more information on the history of Beth Elohim and Georgetown's Jewish population, see the Institute of Southern Jewish Life's Encyclopedia of Southern Jewish Communities.

After the death of his first wife in 1968, Goldstein married Frances Ward (1921- ), a family friend. Together, they ran the store until it closed in 1989 after being badly damaged by Hurricane Hugo. Alwyn Goldstein died in 2010.
Collection Overview

Photographs, newspaper clippings, interview recording, memorials, and other papers of Alwyn Goldstein, proprietor of Alwyn's Department Store in Georgetown, South Carolina. Also included are records relating to Temple Beth Elohim, of which Goldstein was an active member. These records include meeting minutes, financial records, membership lists, and materials relating to the Beth Elohim Brotherhood.

Collection Arrangement

1. Biographical, 1927-2010
2. Newspaper clippings, 1938-2007

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research.

Copyright Notice

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Related Material

Related materials in Special Collections include a 1995 oral history interview with Philip Schneider and Alwyn Goldstein (1035-004).

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
- Alwyn's Department Store (Georgetown, S.C.)
- Goldstein, Alwyn, 1915-2010
- Beth Elohim (Georgetown, S.C.)

Subjects
- Jewish merchants--South Carolina--Georgetown
- Jews--South Carolina--Georgetown

Places
- Georgetown (S.C.)--Commerce
Types of Material
Clippings (information artifacts)
Compact discs
Correspondence
Financial records
Interviews
Memorials
Obituaries
Photographs
Minutes

Administrative Information
Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], Alwyn Goldstein papers, College of Charleston Libraries, Charleston, SC, USA.

Acquisitions Information

Materials were donated by Alwyn Goldstein and Roslyn Goldstein Greenspon.

Alternate Form of Materials

Alwyn Goldstein interview available online in the Lowcountry Digital Library.

Processing Information

Processed by Sarah Dorpinghaus, August 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, 1927-2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1 Folder 1</th>
<th>General, 1935-2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Includes a Goldstein family tree, materials relating to Alwyn's Department Store, correspondence, and CD recording of a 2008 interview with Alwyn Goldstein conducted by his grandson, Keith Greenspon. In the interview, Goldstein discusses his father's (Max Goldstein) family history, his childhood in Charleston, and opening his own store in Georgetown. The interview is available online through the <a href="https://www.lowcountrydigital.org">Lowcountry Digital Library</a>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1 Folder 2</th>
<th>Photographs, circa 1927, 1940s-1983</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Includes a picture of Ralph, Alwyn, and Max Goldstein in front of the family store at 538 King Street in Charleston; family portraits of Alwyn, Thelma, Roslyn, and Steve Goldstein; interior and exterior photographs of Alwyn's Department Store at 914 Front Street in Georgetown; and photographs of Alwyn and Frances Goldstein.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1 Folder 3</th>
<th>Memorials and obituary, 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Includes a photocopy of Goldstein's obituary and copies of the memorials given by family and friends at his funeral.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2. Newspaper clippings, 1938-2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1 Folder 4</th>
<th>Alwyn Goldstein, 1938-2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Articles mostly relate to Alwyn's Department Store.</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1 Folder 5</th>
<th>Roslyn Goldstein Greenspon, 1975-2002</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Articles mostly relate to her work with the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1 Folder 6</th>
<th>Steven Goldstein, 1958-2001</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1 Folder 7</td>
<td>Friends, 1984-2003</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3. Beth Elohim, 1921, 1960s-2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1 Folder 8</th>
<th>General, 1921, 1964-2003</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Includes mostly correspondence and newspaper clippings about the temple and its members.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1 Folder 9</th>
<th>Meeting minutes, 1964-1984</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Box 1 Folder 10</td>
<td>Financial records, 1983-1994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1 Folder 11</td>
<td>Membership lists, 1960s-1987</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box 1 Folder 12-13</td>
<td>Brotherhood, 1963-1970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Includes meeting minutes, member lists, and correspondence.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>