Inventory of the Colman and Blank Families Papers, 1845-1993
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Colman and Blank families papers

Date(s) 1845-1993

Creator: Colman family; Blank family

Abstract: The collection consists of professional and personal correspondence, professional materials, photograph albums and photographs, and other assorted papers of the Colman and Blank families of Charleston, South Carolina. Materials relate to Beverly Isabel Colman, a former managing editor for Schocken Books, and her great-great grandmother Rosa Simmons Blank, Rosa's son, Isadore Blank, and Isadore's son, Edwin J. Blank.

Extent: 2.15 linear feet
(5 document boxes, 1 oversize folder)

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 1111

Language of Material: Materials in English

Biographical Note

Beverly Isabel Colman (1940-1999), daughter of John H. and Rosabel Blank Colman (1916-2009) was born in Houston, Texas. She graduated from Wellesley College in 1962 with a BA in English literature and was a managing editor for Schocken Books, a publisher of Jewish fiction and non-fiction books located in New York City.

Rosa Simmons Blank (d. 1915), Beverly's great-great-grandmother, was a member of the Ladies Hebrew Benevolent Society of Charleston. Her son, Isadore Blank (1862-1947), father of Edwin J. Blank (1886-1968), was president of Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim from 1917 to 1937.
Collection Overview

The collection consists of personal and professional correspondence, professional materials, photograph albums and photographs, and other assorted papers of the Colman and Blank families of Charleston, South Carolina. Materials primarily pertain to Beverly Isabel Colman, a former managing editor for Schocken Books, and her maternal ancestors Rosa Simmons Blank, Rosa’s son, Isadore Blank, and Isadore’s son, Edwin J. Blank. Materials related to Beverly Isabel Colman include school records, personal and professional correspondence, books, and other papers pertaining to Beverly's work as a managing editor. Photograph albums contain assorted family photographs, ephemera, and genealogical information concerning the Elias, Blank, Furchgott, and Colman families. Also included are a series of leases, mortgages, and bonds for a George Street property, part of the Glebe Lands owned by St. Philip's Episcopal Church, purchased by Rosa Simmons Blank in 1882; miscellaneous materials related to Isadore Blank and his son, Edwin J. Blank; a Lillye Blank commemorative china plate; a newspaper clipping scrapbook given to Minnie R. Loryea from Rev. David Levy; a pair of silver Shabbat candlesticks; and a Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim centennial booklet.

Collection Arrangement

Materials are described at the folder level.

Restrictions

Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research.

Copyright Notice

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Related Material

Related materials in Special Collection include the Hebrew Benevolent Society papers, 1867-1984 (Mss 1059).

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

Colman, Beverly
Blank, Rosa Simmons, d. 1915
Blank, Isadore, 1862-1947
Blank, Edwin J., 1886-1968
Colman family
Blank family
Schocken Books
Subjects
   Editors--South Carolina--Charleston
   Jewish families--South Carolina--Charleston

Places
   Charleston (S.C.)

Types of Material
   Correspondence
   Photograph albums
   Black-and-white photographs
   Color photographs
   Legal documents
   45 rpm records
   Scrapbooks
   Candlesticks

Administrative Information

Preferred Citation
   [Identification of item], Colman and Blank families papers, College of Charleston Libraries, Charleston, SC, USA.

Acquisitions Information
   Materials were donated in 2006, 2009, and 2011 by Rosabel Colman and Randolph Colman.

Processing Information
   Processed by Colleen O'Connor and Joshua Minor, October 2012.
   
   Encoded by Joshua Minor, October 2012.
   
   Reviewed and uploaded by Martha McTear, February 2013.
   
   Funding from the Council on Library and Information Resources supported the processing of this collection and encoding of the finding aid.
Inventory

Beverly Isabel Colman, 1953-1993

Box 1 Folder 1
School records and resume, 1953-1969, undated
Personal correspondence, 1964-1993, undated
  General correspondence from friends and family as well as correspondence related to family history and financial matters.

Box 1 Folder 2
Mae and Jeffrey Rockland, 1977-1981

Box 1 Folder 3
Elias family history, 1981-1983

Box 1 Folder 4
Beatrice M. Elias estate, 1988-1989
  Also includes will and legal papers.

Box 1 Folder 5
  Also includes family ancestral list, family tree, and other assorted information related to the Furchgott family and genealogy.

Box 1 Folder 6
Miscellaneous, 1964-1993
  Professional materials, 1965-1987, undated
    Assorted professional correspondence, books, and other materials relating to her work as managing editor for Schocken Books, a publisher of Jewish fiction and non-fiction books located in New York City.

Box 1 Folder 7
Briefe 1902-1924 (Letters to Friends, Family, and Editors) correspondence, 1974-1976
  Assorted correspondence regarding the editing and English translation of a collection of Franz Kafka's letters.

Letters to Ottla & the Family, 1976-1982

Box 2 Folder 1-2
Correspondence, 1976-1981
  Assorted correspondence regarding the editing and English translation of a collection of Franz Kafka's letters.

Box 2 Folder 3
Research materials, undated

Box 2 Folder 4
Letters to Ottla & the Family, 1982

Box 2 Folder 5
The Jewish Yellow Pages, 1976

Box 2 Folder 6
The Jewish Party Book, 1978-1979
  Contains assorted promotional materials and correspondence regarding editing.

Box 3 Folder 1
The Jewish Holiday Kitchen, 1979-1984
Contains a copy of *The Jewish Holiday Kitchen* and assorted correspondence regarding its editing.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 3 Folder 2</th>
<th><strong>False Prophets, 1982-1986</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Clippings and correspondence relating to the editing of <em>False Prophets</em> and the legal suite against the author.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Box 3 Folder 3 | **The Children's Jewish Holiday Kitchen, 1987** |
| Box 3 Folder 4 | Miscellaneous professional correspondence, 1965-1971, undated |
| Box 3 Folder 5 | Clippings, 1964-1982, undated |
| Box 3 Folder 6 | Miscellaneous, 1955-1973, undated |
|                | Photograph albums and photographs, 1961-1978, undated |

| Box 3 Folder 7 | **Photograph album, 1940s** |
|                | Contains images of Beverly Isabel Colman and her brother Randolph Colman. |
| Box 3 Folder 8 | **Photograph album, 1953-1954** |
|                | Contains images of Beverly Isabel Colman and friends at camp. |
| Box 3 Folder 9 | **Photograph album, 1978** |
|                | Album contains family photographs and genealogical information concerning the Elias, Blank, Furchgott, and Colman families. |

| Box 4 Folder 1 | **Photograph album, 1980s** |
|                | Album contains family photographs, ephemera, and genealogical information concerning the Elias, Blank, Furchgott, and Colman families. |
| Box 4 Folder 2 | **Photographs, 1961, 1964, undated** |
|                | Includes miscellaneous photographs of Beverly Colman, her mother, Rosabel Blank Colman, and her father, John H. Colman. |

| Oversize Paper Folder 1 | **Rosa Simmons Blank, 1845-1892** |
| (Flat storage) | Contains materials related to Rosa Simmons Blank, mother of Isadore Blank. Materials include a series of leases, mortgages, and bonds for a George Street property purchased by Rosa in 1882, part of the Glebe Lands owned by St. Philip's Episcopal Church. |

<p>| Box 4 Folder 3 | <strong>Isadore Blank, 1914-1943, undated</strong> |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 4 Folder 4</th>
<th>Edwin J. Blank, 1911-1929, undated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contains miscellaneous materials related to Edwin J. Blank, son of Isadore Blank. Materials include a patent for a combined cotton chopper and cultivator, a patent for a stalk cutter, a consent decree discharging Edwin from his duties as executor and trustee under the will of Ishum F. Lanier, a list of library books, and a black and white photo of his nurse.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 5</th>
<th>Lillye Blank commemorative china plate, 1892</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Portrait of Lillye Blank surrounded by signatures of friends.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 4 Folder 5</th>
<th>Newspaper clipping scrapbook, undated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Given to Minnie R. Loryea by Rev. David Levy. Scrapbook contains Minnie's letters to <em>The American Israelite</em> newspaper as well as miscellaneous poems, articles, and obituaries.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Box 5 | Silver Shabbat candlesticks, undated |
| Box 4 Folder 6 | KKBE centennial booklet, 1924 |