

Arnold S. Schutzberg Collection
Collection ID: CHC035

**Donated to the Historical Commission
by Adena Schutzberg and Daniel Schutzberg,
August 2010**

Series I-IV housed offsite

Cambridge Historical Commission
831 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139

Collection Extent: 4.5 linear feet (4 records cartons, 1 photograph box, 9 oversized plans)

Collection Dates: mid 1800's – 2010 (Almost all items from the 19th century are photocopies of documents deposited elsewhere.)

Access: The collection is open for research use. Two folders are restricted at the request of the donor and are not available to researchers for, respectively, 20 and 50 years from the date of donation.

Processing and finding aid completed by Aimee Dus and Kate Gyllensvard in May 2011.

Biographical Note

Arnold Samuel Schutzberg was born in Cambridge on 30 July 1927, the child of Russian immigrants Blanche Sternberg and Harry Schutzberg. Schutzberg attended the Wellington School and the Longfellow School before graduating from Cambridge High and Latin in 1945. Shortly after graduation, Schutzberg was drafted and served in the U.S. Army Air Force until the end of World War II. Since his teens Schutzberg had been involved in the Zionist cause as a member of the youth group Habonim. After World War II he became more actively involved by serving in the military forces fighting for the establishment of the independent state of Israel and in 1948 by helping found the Kibbutz Geshet Haziv.

Upon returning to the United States Schutzberg studied engineering and began a career as an aerospace engineer. Schutzberg married Frances Poger Leve in June 1957. The couple had two children, Adena and Daniel. The couple lived in Pennsylvania and then Winchester, MA before moving back to Schutzberg's childhood home at 54 Fayette St., Cambridge after his retirement. Arnold Schutzberg died on March 25, 2010 at age 82.

Description

Schutzberg was always actively involved in the Jewish community. During his retirement years he became dedicated to pursuing research and writing on the history of the Jewish immigrant community in Cambridge. Along with his wife, Schutzberg visited nearby archives including the American Jewish Historical Society and the Cambridge Historical Commission and collected stories and oral histories from fellow members of the Cambridge Jewish community. He compiled this information on a website, "Jewish Cambridge," which he intended to use to "interactively research, recover, enhance, conserve, and maintain the history of the Jewish community of Cambridge, past and present." Topics on the website included immigration, family histories, and the establishment of synagogues. This website is no longer available online. (In addition to the drafts and printouts contained in Series II, copies of some of the website content can be found in the CHC file on Jewish Cambridge.) Schutzberg also wrote a chapter, "Immigrant Jewish Cambridge," for a Cambridge Historical Society book, *A City's Life and Times: Cambridge in the Twentieth Century*. His authorship of newspaper op-ed pieces on Jewish history and his petition for historic landmark status for an early synagogue building are further examples of his work to achieve recognition for the Jewish community's contributions to Cambridge life.

Significant topics included in Schutzberg's research include Jewish businesses, organizations, and notable people. Another major focus of the research papers is the history of Cambridge synagogues. Synagogue building history, including architectural plans, is represented here. Schutzberg's research also traced the history of some of the Jewish families who were early immigrants to Cambridge, including, among others, the Andelman and Busnach families.

As a former resident of Israel and early supporter of Israeli statehood, Schutzberg was also interested in collecting information on Zionism and Israel's struggle for independence. Besides saving general information on Israel's history, Schutzberg traced the community of people who, like him, had been involved in the military and in agricultural collectives in Israel. While some of these people may have been from Cambridge or the Boston area, it is not always possible to determine what, if any, connection these materials have to Cambridge history.

This collection predominantly consists of the background research Schutzberg compiled to support these projects. The research in this collection includes Schutzberg's collections of photocopied documents, internet printouts, and correspondence. Schutzberg appears to have been gathering any information he could find on Jewish Cambridge and the product of his efforts is collected here.

While Schutzberg made notes on some of the photocopies, the majority are not annotated. The research papers also include sheets of notes and spreadsheets of data compiled by Schutzberg, but these comprise only a small percentage of the collection. He consulted City of Cambridge directories and United States Census records from the late 19th and early 20th centuries and his notes and spreadsheets often reference these records. It is not always clear where the copies of the documents were obtained, but Schutzberg appears to have done a significant amount of research at the [American Jewish Historical Society](#).

The collection also included 18 books on Cambridge and Boston area history and urban planning. These books are listed in the bibliography below.

Related Resources

See also Cambridge Historical Commission file on Jewish Cambridge.

See Sarah Boyer's book, *Common Cause, Uncommon Courage*, for an oral history interview with Arnold Schutzberg.

Series I: Research

This series consists primarily of photocopies of documents relating to the history of Jewish Cambridge. The copies were made in the late 1990's through about 2010, and the bulk of the source material dates mainly from the mid 19th century to the mid 20th century. The documents include photocopies of articles from the Jewish Advocate and the Cambridge Chronicle, as well as photocopies of the meeting minutes of organizations including the Cambridge Hebrew Ladies Charitable Society, Cambridge Hebrew Women's Aid Society, and Congregation Beth Israel.

Research in this series also includes newspaper articles, synagogue newsletters, and other miscellaneous items that relate to the contemporary Jewish community in Cambridge.

Series II: Drafts and Writing

A major objective of Schutzberg's research appears to have been the preparation of a website on Jewish Cambridge. This series contains drafts and printouts of his website content, as well as copies of editorials and other articles written by Schutzberg. A copy of Schutzberg's account of his life, related in an oral history interview, is also included here. These items date from the late 1990's until about 2010.

Series III: Non-Cambridge Materials

This series includes research photocopies, articles, brochures, and correspondence on a variety of topics. Most relate to Judaism and the history of the state of Israel. Like most of the material in this collection, these items primarily date from the late 1990's until about 2010. The source material for most of the photocopies in this series dates from the mid to late 20th century.

Series IV: Images

This series contains photographs and photocopied images. Some depict Cambridge people and locations, but the subjects of these images are not always labeled or identified.

Series V: Plans and Elevations

This series includes oversized copies of plans and elevations of Congregation Yavna and Congregation Beth Israel.

Series I-IV are located offsite

Folder List

Since most items are photocopies, dates listed refer to the date of the source material.

Series I: Research

Box 1

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|--|----------------|
| 1. Genealogy and Correspondence – Research on Individuals and Families | various dates |
| 2. Genealogy and Correspondence – Research on Individuals and Families | various dates |
| 3. Census and Genealogy Research | various dates |
| 4. Cambridge Jewish Families – Immigration and Naturalization Records | c.1870- c.1940 |
| 5. Cambridge Jewish Families – Immigration and Naturalization Records | c.1870- c.1940 |
| 6. Cambridge Jewish Residents – Personal Estate Records | 1900, 1932 |
| 7. Cambridge Jewish Residents – Newspaper articles/ Obituaries | 1998-2004 |
| 8. Cambridge Jewish Residents – Alpert Family | 1999-2002 |
| 9. Cambridge Jewish Residents – Halpern Family | c.1950, 1997 |

10. Cambridge Jewish Residents – Harris Ginsburg	1913, 1920, 1963
11. Cambridge Jewish Residents – Israel Nesson	c.1895-1940
12. Cambridge Jewish Residents – Geisinger Family	1917-1941
13. Cambridge Jewish Residents – Gesserman/ Schutzberg Families	c.1990
14. Cambridge Jewish Residents – Goverman Family Real Estate Holdings	1991
15. Cambridge Jewish Residents – Goldwasser/ Diamond Families	1917-2000
16. Cambridge Jewish Residents – Gorovitz Family	c.1909-2004
17. Cambridge Jewish Residents – Sam Shertzer	
18. Cambridge Jewish Residents – Andelman Family, Barron Family	c.1940-c.1990
19. Cambridge Jewish Residents – Andelman Family, Sugarman Family	1999-2005
20. Cambridge Jewish Residents – Pearl Wise/ Katz Family	c.1920-1999
21. Cambridge Jewish Residents – Politicians (Hyman Pill, Glenn Koocher)	1871-2000
22. Cambridge Jewish Residents – Joel Family	1893-2000
23. Cambridge Jewish Residents – Busnach Family	1863-2002
24. Cambridge Jewish Residents – Busnach Family & Cigar Making	various dates
25. English Jews in Cambridge	various dates
26. Copies – Bevis Marks Records (London Congregation)	various dates
27. Deeds – Schutzberg, Roseman, Gesserman	c.1920
28. Registry of Deeds – Grantee Index (Andelman)	1916-1925
29. Notes on Cambridge 1920 Census	various dates
30. Research Data and Notes - Families	various dates
31. Miscellaneous Documents – Cambridge Residents and Synagogues	various dates
32. Notes on Earliest Immigrants, Congregation Anshe Sfard, etc.	various dates
33. Research Notes	undated
34. Stern Family History (Restricted- 20 years) Year: 2030	2008

Box 2

35. Synagogues – Congregation Yavna	1919-1953
36. Synagogue Plans – Congregation Yavna	undated
37. Yavna Congregation Incorporation Papers	1908
38. Synagogue Plans – Beth Israel	undated
39. Synagogue Plans – Anshe Sfard	undated
40. Documents – Rabbi Aaron Gorovitz/ Congregation Beth Israel	c.1919-1997
41. Minutes of Directors of Congregation Beth Israel	1939, 1944, 1946
42. Congregation Beth Israel Annual Financial Reports	1940-1943
43. Congregation Beth Israel Publications - “The Scribe,” “Golden Jubilee” Program	1936, 1939, 1951
44. Articles and Documents – Congregation Beth Israel	1900-1988

45. Temple Beth Shalom – Newsletters, Newspaper Articles	1994-2004
46. Temple Beth Shalom Booklet - “Stories and Recollections about Reb Moshe Holcer	2002
47. Miscellaneous Documents – Cambridge Synagogues	various dates
48. Member Lists – Temple Beth Shalom (Restricted- 50 years) Year 2050	1998-2005
49. Documents – Synagogues/ Hebrew Schools	various dates
50. Hebrew School/Hebrew Literary Association, Hebrew Women's Aid Society – Research and Correspondence	1914-2002
51. Hebrew School Photos and Certificate	undated
52. The Window Shop	1959, 1974
53. Cambridge Jewish Businesses – Legal Sea Foods, etc.	1899-2000
54. Cambridge and Somerville Hebrew Benefit Assoc. – Incorporation Papers	1919
55. Deeds – Congregation Anshe Sfard	1906-1913
56. Deeds	1906-1914
57. Hebrew College Course: History of the Jewish Community in Boston	1993
58. Hebrew College Course: History of the Jewish Community in Boston	1993
59. History of the Jewish Community of Cambridge, Mass. Project – The Israel Connection – Nachman Goldwasser	1999
60. Articles and Research – Zimmerman Square	undated
61. Sources List	undated
62. Timelines, Outlines, Articles, Emails	1988-2003
63. Newspaper Clippings – General Cambridge History	1998-2001
64. Articles – Cambridge Jewish Community	1970-2005
65. Jewish Heritage Festival Programs and Materials	1975
66. Booklet – Cambridge/ Somerville Community Build Day	1991
67. Publications: “The Jewish Guide to Boston and New England,” “Guide to Jewish Cemeteries”	2000, 2001
68. Book Chapters	undated
69. Newspaper Clippings – Jews in Boston Area	1985, 2001
70. Newspaper Articles, Notes	1964-2004
71. Research on the Census	1930
72. Research Notes	undated
73. “Blue Eagle” - Longfellow School Newspaper; Bernard Schutzberg Oral History Interview	1948, 1997
74. Housing and Population Statistics	c.1890-c.1940
75. Organizational Information from American Jewish Year Book	1903-1928
76. Miscellaneous Documents – Cambridge Jewish History	various dates
77. Historical Commission Landmark Designation Materials	2000-2001
78. Cambridge Buildings and Plans	1994-1998
79. Cambridge Development	various dates
80. Courses and Harvard Institute for Learning in Retirement	1990’s-2005

Box 3

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| 81. Congregation Beth Israel of Cambridge – Board Meeting Minutes | 1911-1914 |
| 82. Congregation Beth Israel of Cambridge – Board Meeting Minutes | 1915-1919 |
| 83. Congregation Beth Israel of Cambridge – Minutes | 1919-1924 |
| 84. Congregation Beth Israel of Cambridge – Minutes, Bylaws, Misc. | 1923-1951 |
| 85. Cambridge Hebrew Ladies Charitable Society –
Minutes and Bylaws | 1914-1922 |
| 86. Cambridge Hebrew Women's Aid Society – Minutes | 1949-1969 |
| 87. Congregation Beth Israel of Cambridge – General Ledgers | 1929-1936 |

Box 4

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|---|-------------------------|
| 88. Copies - Jewish Chronicle, Jewish Herald,
Boston Hebrew Observer | 1883, 1891-
1893 |
| 89. Copies – Cambridge Tribune, Cambridge Chronicle,
Jewish Advocate | 1891-1947 |
| 90. Copies – Jewish Advocate, Cambridge Chronicle,
Boston Advocate | 1901-1958 |
| 91. Copies – Cambridge Tribune, Cambridge Chronicle,
Jewish Advocate | 1923-1930 |
| 92. Copies – Cambridge Chronicle | 1857-1858,
1903-1905 |
| 93. Copies – Cambridge Chronicle | 1905-1907 |
| 94. Copies – Cambridge Chronicle | 1907-1911 |
| 95. Copies – Cambridge Chronicle | 1934-1936,
1957 |
| 96. Copies – Jewish Advocate | 1905-1908 |
| 97. Copies – Jewish Advocate | 1908-1913 |
| 98. Copies – Jewish Advocate | 1913-1920 |
| 99. Copies – Jewish Advocate | 1920-1922 |
| 100. Copies – Jewish Advocate | 1923-1925 |
| 101. Copies – Jewish Advocate | 1926-1927 |
| 102. Copies – Jewish Advocate | 1927-1928 |
| 103. Copies – Jewish Advocate | 1929-1932 |
| 104. Copies – Jewish Advocate | 933-1934 |
| 105. Copies – Jewish Advocate | 1935-1942 |

Series II: Drafts and Writing

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|--|-----------|
| 106. Drafts - “Jewish Cambridge” website – Early Settlers,
Immigrant Generation, The Schutzbergs of Cambridge | 1997-1999 |
| 107. Drafts – “On the First Cambridge Synagogue” | 2000-2001 |
| 108. Essay for Cambridge Historical Society-
“Immigrant Jewish Cambridge | 2004 |
| 109. Drafts – Editorials, outlines, newsletters | 1997-2008 |
| 110. Miscellaneous drafts, presentations, and articles | 2000-2002 |

Series III: Non-Cambridge Materials

Box 3

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|--|---------------|
| 111. Israel/Zionism | various dates |
| 112. Israel/Zionism | various dates |
| 113. Israel/Zionism | various dates |
| 114. "Menorah Review" – Virginia Commonwealth University | 1996-2003 |
| 115. Judaism and Israel | various dates |
| 116. Israel/Zionism/Jewish History | various dates |
| 117. General American History and Current Events, Jews
and Judaism in New England | various dates |
| 118. Research Guidelines and Correspondence | various dates |
| 119. Judaism and Jewish Culture | various dates |

Series IV: Images

Box 5

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|---|---------------|
| 120. Shull, possible installation | c1920 |
| 121. Youth Groups | |
| Habonim | c1940 |
| Young Folks Hebrew Alliance | c1923 |
| Jewish National Workers Alliance | 1922 |
| Hebrew School | 1922 |
| Confirmation Class, Beth Israel | 1941 |
| 122. Borden Family | various dates |
| 123. Schutzberg Family | |
| 124. Other Families (Andelman, Belkin, Dorfman, Fox, Geisinger,
Roseman, Rosenthal, Stern) | various dates |
| 125. Temples Beth Israel and Ashkenaz,(photographer,
A. Schutzberg) | c2000 |
| 126. Unidentified | |

Series V: Plans and Elevations

Flat file, Mid-Cambridge drawer (temporary storage)

Proposed Synagogue for Congregation Yavna, 10-12 Howard St., Cambridge,
S.S. Eisenberg, Architect
4 plans and elevations (undated)

Congregation Beth Israel, 238 Columbia St.
4 hand drawn plans, (undated)

Plan of Building Lots in Cambridge and Somerville
Belonging to Amory Houghton in April, 1859
Copy made May 19, 1943 by Massachusetts Registry of Deeds

Bibliography

A copy of each book is held in the Cambridge Historical Commission library.

[All in the same boat : twentieth-century stories of East Cambridge, Cambridge, Massachusetts](#)

by Sarah Boyer; Susan E Maycock;

📖 Book : Biography

Language: English

Publisher: Cambridge, Mass. : Cambridge Historical Commission, 2005.

[Crossroads : stories of Central Square, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1912-2000](#)

by Sarah Boyer; Cambridge Historical Commission.;

📖 Book : Biography

Language: English

Publisher: Cambridge, Mass. : Cambridge Historical Commission, ©2001.

[In our own words : stories of North Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1900-1960](#)

by Sarah Boyer;

📖 Book : Biography

Language: English

Publisher: Cambridge, [Mass. : Cambridge Historical Commission], ©1997.

[Survey of architectural history in Cambridge. Report 3, Cambridgeport.](#)

by Cambridge Historical Commission, Massachusetts.

📖 Book

Language: English

Publisher: Cambridge, Mass. : distributed by the M.I.T. Press, 1971.

[Neighborhood trivia hunt for 1986](#)

by The Cambridge Historical Society

[100 years of Cambridge history : highlights from the collection of the Cambridge Historical Society, 1905-2005](#)

by Lindsay Leard Coolidge; Cambridge Historical Society (Mass.)

📖 Book

Language: English

Publisher: Cambridge, Mass. : Cambridge Historical Society, ©2005.

[“For the entertainment of strangers”, the inns & pubs of Cambridge](#)

By George H. Hanford

Publisher: Cambridge, Mass. : Cambridge Historical Commission : 1997.

[Survey of Architectural History in Cambridge - Northwest Cambridge & Survey Index.](#)

by A J Krim; Cambridge, Mass. Cambridge Historical Commission.

📖 Book : Government publication

Language: English

Publisher: Cambridge, Mass. : Cambridge Historical Commission : MIT Press 1977.

[Cambridge Rindge and Latin school : yesterday and today](#)

by John Langone

 Book

Language: English

Publisher: Cambridge, MA : Cambridge Historical Society, 1998.

[City of Cambridge street listing 2003](#)

By Listing Board, City of Cambridge

[City of Cambridge street listing 2005](#)

By Listing Board, City of Cambridge

[East Cambridge : survey of architectural history in Cambridge](#)

by Susan E Maycock; Cambridge Historical Commission.

 Book

Language: English

Publisher: Cambridge, Mass. : Cambridge Historical Commission : MIT Press, ©1988

[Building a new Boston : politics and urban renewal, 1950-1970](#)

by Thomas H O'Connor

 Book

Language: English

Publisher: Boston : Northeastern University Press, ©1993.

[A photographic history of Cambridge](#)

by Patricia H Rodgers; Charles Sullivan; Cambridge Historical Commission.

 Book

Language: English

Publisher: Cambridge, Mass. : MIT Press, ©1984.

[Essays on Cambridge history : proceedings, 1980-1985](#)

by M David Samson; Patricia Rodgers; Cambridge Historical Society (Mass.);

 Book

Language: English

Publisher: Cambridge, Mass. : Cambridge Historical Society, 1998.

[Maintaining your old house in Cambridge](#)

by Charles Sullivan, Eileen Woodford

Publisher: Cambridge, Mass.: Cambridge Historical Commission, 1988

[Streetcar suburbs : the process of growth in Boston, 1870-1900](#)

by Sam Bass Warner

 Book

Language: English

Publisher: Cambridge, Mass. : Harvard University Press, ©1978.

[Boston; a topographical history.](#)

by Walter Muir Whitehill

 Book

Language: English

Publisher: Cambridge, Mass., Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1968.

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<http://www.cambridgema.gov/historic/researchaids/archivalcollections>