Eisenstein Reconstructionist Archives
Reconstructionist Rabbinical College

Finding Aid for the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College Collections

The cataloging and housing, as well as, the publishing of this finding aid was made possible through the generous support of a grant from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. This grant has allowed us to move College records into the controlled environment of the archives, sort, properly house and record our collections. Although, this is an ongoing process, we have significantly increased our care and access to these important holdings. Researchers can now visit us and use primary records about the history of the College and papers of past presidents and deans, which were previously inaccessible. Finding aids are being created and updated on a regular basis.

All reference requests should be directed to Kim Tieger at ktieger@rrc.edu.

Outline of Record Groups and Series for the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College collections are divided into the following record groups and series:

R.G. 1. Ira Eisenstein papers

R.S. 1 Reconstructionist Rabbinical College documents
[Ira Eisenstein, President of RRC (1968-1981)]

R.S. 2 Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation, Inc.
[Ira Eisenstein, President (1959 –1978)]

R.S. 3 The Reconstructionist Press
The Reconstructionist Magazine
Ira Eisenstein:
• A founder of the magazine, 1935
• Associate Chairman of the Editorial Board, 1935-1959
• Editor, 1959

R.S. 4 Federation of Reconstructionist Congregations and Havurot (FRCH)
Ira Eisenstein, Executive Director

R.S. 5 Mordecai M. Kaplan Birthday Celebrations & Related Fundraisers

R.S. 6 Correspondence of Rabbi Ira Eisenstein
Letter subjects concern a wide range of Reconstructionist issues, relating to the *Reconstructionist*, fundraising, RRC, as well as personal letters.

R.S. 7 Writing: Sermons, Lectures, Other Liturgy, Manuscripts, Letters to the Editor, Book Reviews, Transcripts & Related Materials

R.S. 8 Personal

(Organized – Record Series to be detailed shortly)

(Organized – Record Series to be detailed shortly)

R.G. 6 Ronald Brauner, RRC Dean

R.G. 7 Rebecca Alpert, RRC Dean of Students
(Organized – Record Series to be detailed shortly)

R.G. 8 Jacob Staub, Dean & Vice President of Academic Affairs, RRC
(Organized – Record Series to be detailed shortly)

(Organized – Record Series to be detailed shortly)

R.G. 10 Reconstructionist Rabbinical College
General files, administrative records, publications, promotional materials, financial records, event materials, graduation materials

R.S. 1 RRC Catalogues
R.S. 2 Newsletters
R.S. 3 Printed Materials
R.S. 4 Student Handbooks
R.S. 5 RRC Annual Reports
R.S. 6 RRC Financial Statements & Budget Materials
R.S. 7 Periodic Reviews & Self-Studies
R.S. 8 Planning Reports
R.S. 9 Program Proposals
R.S. 10 Student Files
   Student profiles, lists, biographies, admissions reports, student employment and internships
R.S. 11 Staff Lists
R.S. 12 Course Materials
R.S. 13 RRC Stationery
R.S. 14 Visitor Log Book
R.S. 15 RRC Prizes
R.S. 16 Memos, General Letters, Class Schedules and Academic Calendar, Administrative and College Council materials, Faculty meetings
   (see R.S. 20 – oversized items also)
R.S. 17 RRC Annual Event
R.S. 18 RRC Other Events
R.S. 19 RRC Graduation
R.S. 20 Oversized Items
R.S. 21 Jewish Women’s Study Project (JWSP) at RRC (1990-92)
R.S. 22 Kolot: The Center for Jewish Women’s & Gender Studies
R.S. 23 Hiddur: The Center for Aging & Judaism
R.S. 24 Center for Jewish Ethics
R.S. 25 Kaplan Institute
R.S. 26 Public Relations
   Press Releases, Newspaper clippings & magazine articles
R.S. 27 Photographs

1. Record Group - Ira Eisenstein Papers

Rabbi Ira Eisenstein was born in New York in 1906, son of Isaac and Sadie Eisenstein. He attended the New York public schools and De Witt Clinton High School. He graduated cum laude from Columbia College in 1927 and received the degree of Rabbi from the Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS) in 1931. He obtained his Ph.D. from Columbia in 1941 and was awarded an Honorary D.D. from JTS in 1958.

Rabbi Eisenstein served as leader of the Society for the Advancement of Judaism (SAJ) from 1931 to 1954. He was one of the founders of the Reconstructionist magazine and served as associate chairman of the Editorial Board from 1935 until 1959, when he became editor. In 1951, he was visiting homiletics professor at Jewish Theological Seminary (JTS). He also served as president of the Rabbinical Assembly of America from 1952 to 1954.
He served as Rabbi of Anshe Emet Synagogue in Chicago from 1954 to 1959. Upon returning to the East coast, he assumed his duties as president of the Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation and editor of *The Reconstructionist* in 1959. He was the founding president of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, serving from 1968 to 1981.

This record group contains the following series:

**R.S. 1. Reconstructionist Rabbinical College documents**

[Ira Eisenstein, President of RRC (1968-1981)]

**Materials relating to the chartering of RRC – this was a provisional approval.**

Reconstructionist Rabbinical College was opened in October of 1968. (Dedication ceremonies were on October 13, 1968, which included a procession from Temple’s Ritter Hall to the College building at 2304-08 North Broad Street, and affixing of the mezuzah.) The charter was subsequently granted on January 14, 1969. There were four visits by state representatives to the College between March 1969 and April 1972 to obtain continuance of approval. The applications, correspondence, supporting materials and subsequent yearly reports provide a concise view into the College’s expanding programming, finances, administration and curriculum in the early years of existence. This initial approval of RRC to operate in Pennsylvania was a provisional accreditation status only and was unusual in that the College did not have the required $500,000 unencumbered endowment in hand. In correspondence dated 1978 with the state representative for chartering, the College is urged to comply and seek permanent charter status.

- Application for the chartering of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Public Instruction.  
  6/24/1968
- Correspondence for the chartering of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Public Instruction. Includes Approval of the Articles of Incorporation of RRC and charter to grant the Doctor of Hebrew Letters degree, October 1968.

Supporting materials for applications:

a. The resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation regarding the founding of RRC, the purchase of property, letters of commitment regarding Kaplan’s books for the library at RRC and letters of commitment by advisors for services to RRC.

b. Financial and curriculum information

c. Board of Control, biographical data
d. Faculty, biographical data

Yearly follow-up reports to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania regarding operations at RRC:

a. Data report regarding the first year of operation of RRC, submitted to Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Public Instruction, March 5, 1969.
c. Data report regarding the second year of operation of RRC, submitted to Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Public Instruction, 1970.
e. Data report regarding the fourth year of operation of RRC, submitted to Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Public Instruction, July 28, 1972.

Accreditation Materials and application for final approval for permanent accreditation.

• Correspondence from the Department of Education, Pennsylvania to the College regarding the status of provisional charter approval.
• Outline of steps to be taken for permanent accreditation of RRC, February 2, 1979.
• Materials submitted to the Commonwealth Department of Education for consideration of permanent accreditation of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, October 1979. This is a thick, detailed report regarding all aspects of operation, facilities, faculty, students, finances, calendar, etc.

Commercial Insurance Policies and Appraisal Records

• CNA Commercial Insurance Policy for RRC, 1994-95
• CNA Commercial Insurance Policy for RRC, change endorsement, 1993-94
• Acord, Certificate of Insurance for RRC, 1994
• Value appraisal, December 1993
• School Board liability insurance, RRC, 1993

RRC Financial Documents

• Auditor’s Reports & Financial Statements 1973-78
• Other financial reports, budgets & notes, 1969-1996

Mordecai M. Kaplan Library

In a handwritten letter dated May 6, 1968, from Mordecai M. Kaplan to Ira Eisenstein, Kaplan affirms the provisions of his will to leave his entire personal library to Eisenstein. He also agrees in this letter to provide up to 1,000 volumes of
this stated collection to the RRC library as a working library for students, on or before the opening date of the 1968 fall semester.

Among the many contributions of books to the initial library of the College, there were 7,000 volumes from the personal collection of Rabbi Max Schenk, including some rare editions, which were donated in 1969. In a letter from Eisenstein to Schenk, he believes the collection to have been worth $22,500.

The Mordecai M. Kaplan Library Fund.

In 1970, to commemorate Kaplan’s 90th birthday, a special fundraising solicitation was developed specifically to fund the library through the Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation. There are many files relating to the 90th birthday celebration.

• letter and list of books acquired through a grant from the Israel Matz Foundation, December 21, 1970
• correspondence regarding library donations & purchases, 1968-70.
• correspondence and copies of artwork relating to library bookplate and library insignia, 1969-70.
• information relating to library personnel, 1970

Draft and printed promotional materials relating to RRC

• correspondence, copy and invoices for various RRC brochures, 1970
• “The Reconstructionist Rabbinical College...in the news,” 1968.
• “The Reconstructionist Rabbinical College...in the news,” 1969. Printed 2-fold piece (2 copies) and original paste boards with newsprint attached.
• “The Reconstructionist Rabbinical College...in the news,” 1970. Plus supporting materials for news of Reconstructionists: “Youth” magazine, September 13, 1970 featuring Sandy Eisenberg (Sasso) on the cover and JRC Newsletter with note circled about Aaron Peller.
• “A New Approach to the Training of Rabbis” Published by the Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation (JRF), 1968. This 2-fold brochure features a reproduction of letters exchanged in 1967 between Temple University and the JRF.
• Mordecai M. Kaplan Library brochure, 1970!
• Dropsie College brochure (1968) & program (1967) (Dropsie College was located across the street from RRC on Broad Street)
• Reconstructionist Rabbinical College booklet (2 copies)-Financial needs are outlined. 1969!

Contribution letters and Acknowledgments to RRC
Original letter of donation and acknowledgment letter are filed together and then letters are ordered chronologically by acknowledgment letter date, with the most recent on top. January 1968 to April 1970

**RRC Faculty/Lecturers**

- Correspondence, 1968-70
- List of senior seminar lecturers, 1973-74

**Students**

- 2nd & 3rd year student lists, September 1970
- Student Rosters

**RRC General**

Administrative, Press Releases, Policy, Governance, Programs

- RRC calendar, 1969-70
- Requests for RRC candidates to fill positions, 1978
- RRC letterhead
- Policy: proposal for changes to Student Advisory System & Incomplete Work policy change, 1984
- RRC Press Releases, 1969
- Press Release re: Rabbi Gilbert, June 24, 1971
- RRC By-laws
- Letter from Sidney Musher to Ira Eisenstein regarding fundraising for the College, May 11, 1970
- Meeting Minutes of Board of Governors, RRC, January 5, 1977
- Danforth Foundation correspondence, 1969
- RRC mimeographs including: senior seminar syllabus (Spring 1979); bibliography on homosexuality; faculty memo (December 15, 1978) regarding class cancellation; memo for preliminary meeting on admitting an avowed homosexual to RRC (December 14, 1978); Newsletter #8
- blank Application for Admission to RRC
- Program for the Dedication Ceremonies for RRC, October 13, 1968. Ceremonies included affixing the mezuzah on the building.
- Material relating to the fourth anniversary celebration of RRC, October 1972.
- Apfel Parlor Meeting lists & correspondence, April 1973
- Drafts of Meeting minutes from Administration, Students, Faculty Meetings, March 9 and March 23, 1970.
Includes note from Arthur Gilbert to Ira Eisenstein regarding the “highly charged” meetings. The minutes indicate the disagreement over awarding Doctor of Hebrew Letters on the basis of a master’s versus a Ph.D.

- Calendar planning & worksheet for 1970-71.

**Exxon Education Foundation Grant: Teaching Medical Ethics to Theological Students.**

RRC received a $50,000 two-year grant in August 1979 to develop this course. Project director was Ronald A. Brauner. The curriculum was prepared by Dr. Stephen Lammers and Dr. Arnold Eisen and reviewed by others. A year-long pilot program was taught at RRC by Rebecca Alpert. Students upon completion of the course were to receive two RRC credits and a certificate of completion.

- File includes expenditures, semi-annual reports, schedules, correspondence, course outline, meeting minutes & notices, grant notification, press release.
- Syllabus by Dr. Stephen Lammers for Exxon Project.
  
  Part Three/ Brief Teacher’s Guide to Proposed Seminary Course in Bioethics

- Information regarding Leonard Krivy, on course advisory board and reprints of course reading.

**R.S. 2 Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation, Inc.**

**Ira Eisenstein, President (1959 –1978)**

January 15, 1940, the Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation is established, primarily as a vehicle to take over the publication of *The Reconstructionist*, which had previously been published by the Society for the Advancement of Judaism (SAJ). It was established on the model of the Carnegie Foundation to seed a variety of cultural and intellectual expressions of Reconstructionist Judaism. In addition to the publication of the magazine, the organization also was the publisher of the Reconstructionist prayer books in the 1940s and 50s. *The New Haggadah, 1941; The Sabbath Prayer Book, 1945; The High Holiday Prayer Book, 1948; the Festival Prayer Book, 1958; Daily Prayer Book, 1963.* In later years, it served as the overarching organization, bridging both ideologically and administratively the congregational branch of Reconstructionism and the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College.

The Women’s Organization of the Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation deserves special mention here, since many of the records included in this collection concern *Reconstructionist* subscription promotion and T’hiyah or Reconstructionist University Fellowship (RUF), which are products of the Women’s Organization’s efforts to promote Reconstructionism. Unlike other similar organizations whose primary purpose is philanthropic or sisterhood affiliation, this Women’s Organization concentrated efforts on the promotion of Judaism and self-
knowledge. Initially a local New York metropolitan area group, expansion efforts to nationalize began in 1967.

The Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation ceased to exist as a financial or governance body in September 1982, no longer collecting or distributing funds, but still exists as a legal body.

Administrative Records of the Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation

These records include information about all parts of the Foundation: Publications, Congregations and College. Correspondence is primarily from Ira Eisenstein or Arthur Gilbert (Assistant to the President, JRF and later RRC’s founding dean).

• Minutes, cover letters, agendas for meetings of the Board of Directors and other Board correspondence. Includes: committee reports, financial reports, resolutions, president’s report. Organized chronologically within each year, for the following: 1944; 1957-1958; 1963; 1965-73; 1976; 1978-80
• Individual Board correspondence, 1969-70
• General correspondence, 1963-67
• Individual correspondence, 1967-68
• Membership campaign (Wolfe Kelman), 1965
• JRF Statement of mission, organizational structure, budget, 1942-43
• National Council – JRF – Board of Directors list
• Letterhead Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation, Inc.

JRF Annual Conferences & Dinners

• 1944 Annual Conference, program, June 30 – July 1, 1944
• 1948 Annual Meeting and Conference program, January 4, 1948
• Minutes of Convention, November 10, 1955
• 20th Anniversary Dinner program, JRF, November 20, 1960
• 1967 Annual JRF Dinner invitation, November 19, 1967
• 1969 Annual JRF Dinner program, January 12, 1969
• 1969 Annual Dinner table seating arrangements
• 1977 Annual JRF Dinner & 10th Anniversary of RRC, 1977

Conferences/Programs/Special Events

• Summer Conference, June 26 – 28, 1942
• Summary of proceedings at the Conference on Economic Ethics and Group Living, August 26 – 27, 1944
• Reconstructionist Youth House Plan, December 14, 1944
Seminar plan at Cejwin Camp, Port Jervis, NY, September 1 – 2, 1946
Summaries of discussions between the American Jewish Congress and JRF, February 21, 1952 & March 7, 1952
Testimonial Dinner honoring Rabbi Eugene Kohn, May 16, 1957 with Spring workshop insert for May 17 -18, 1957
1966 Eisenstein 60th Birthday Dinner Invitation to Dinner; Address delivered by Ira Eisenstein; letter and seating list, October 30, 1966
Orient Tour brochure and letters to Mrs. Allen Taft, Tour Chairman, 1966-67
Conference of Executives of National Jewish Organizations Merrill Trust Fund granted the Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation a grant of $7,500 in 1965 for the purpose of bringing together Jewish leaders to discuss their common problems. At least two conferences occurred. These files contain meeting notes, correspondence and grant reports.
Israel Tour and Study Mission, 1977 & 1979
The Mordecai M. Kaplan Award Dinner program, November 18, 1978
Israel Summer Program for High School Students, 1979 & 1980
The First North American Reconstructionist Shabbat Kallah for teenagers, May 1 – 4, 1980

JRF Financial Records
Budgets, Financial Statements, Expenditures: assorted materials 1942 - 1977
Fundraising, 1966-70

Press Releases
“Why Waste Effort on Fighting Anti-Semitism?,” by Mordecai M. Kaplan, October 10, 1941
Editorial for Release, “The Jewish Student on the American Campus,” January 9, 1942
JRF Press Releases, 1968-69
JRF Press Releases, 1968-70
Religious News Service: Rabbi Kaplan Warns ‘Hedonism, Promiscuity’ Threaten The Family, June 27, 1969
JRF & Religious News Service Press Releases, 1968-69
“Reconstructionist Rabbi calls for new sex codes, legalization of marijuana, and Jewish community support of radical alternatives,” July 1, 1971
Press Release, 1976

Promotional brochures and Newsletters, Publications
Materials relating to the Reconstructionist Reader, 1959-60
The Reader was to “reproduce some of the outstanding articles which have appeared in THE RECONSTRUCTIONIST during the twenty-five years of its existence.”

- “Reconstructionist Newsletter” No. 6 – April 1967; No. 7 – November 1967; No. 8 – March 1968; No. 9 – September 1968
- JRF publications
  - *A Way of Life for the Modern Jew* (between 1955-61)
  - *Judaism as an Evolving Religious Civilization*, n.d.
  - *Questions Jews Ask*, n.d.
  - *Who is a Reconstructionist Jew?* n.d.
  - *The Philosophy and Program of Reconstructionism*, 1944
  - *God Torah Religion Peoplehood Culture Israel Community*, n.d.
  - *The Jewish Reconstructionist Movement* booklet, n.d.
  - *The Jewish Layman Views Reconstructionism*, n.d.
  - *A Program for Jewish Life Today*, 1951
  - *Introduction to the Sabbath Prayer Book*, reprint from 1st ed., 1945

Local Reconstructionist Organizations

- *The Reconstructionist View*, published monthly by The Jewish Reconstructionist Society of California: March & April 1968
- Buffalo, NY: Correspondence regarding efforts to form a local Women’s Organization and promotional efforts for subscriptions to *The Reconstructionist*, 1967-68
- JRF, Midwest Region: Promotional, announcements, correspondence, meeting minutes, 1958-59

Women’s Organization of JRF

Formed 1957 or 1958 (reported in the February 4, 1958 Board of Directors minutes as a recently formed committee of the Foundation. Activities in this report were arranging parlor meetings in all boroughs (NY) and arrangement of a city-wide conference in April, 1958)

- W.O. Board meeting minutes, January 15, 1969; May 7, 1969; June 11, 1969
- T’hiyah, The Reconstructionist University Fellowship (RUF)
  - T’hiyah, a project of the Women’s Organization of JRF, offers programming, special events and institute aimed at the college or graduate student.
a. correspondence, student lists, conference schedule and summary report relating to The Institute, 1969
b. notes, etc. relating to The Institute and the FRCH 10th annual conference, 1969
c. RUF encampment June 18 – 21, 1970
d. T’hiyah survey responses re: Reconstructionist, 1967
e. T’hiyah forms/information, 1967
f. T’hiyah correspondence, 1968
g. T’hiyah membership, 1967
h. T’hiyah, RUF brochures
i. T’hiyah correspondence, 1966-68
j. T’hiyah Spring Shabbat Institute broadside, 1966
k. T’hiyah, 1966-67
l. solicitation to seminary students for free gift subscription, 1966-68
m. gift subscription renewals list, 1966-67
n. correspondence – Gilbert & Greenberg, 1970
o. correspondence – Diament/Aronstein, December 12, 1968
p. Hassidic Service for Sabbath Eve by Isadore Freed
q. T’hiyah Workshop invitation
r. correspondence, 1970
s. address delivered by Rabbi Jacob Agus, Rabbinic Fellowship, JRF, November 29, 1965
t. Hillel speaking contacts, 1967-68

R.S. 3 The Reconstructionist Press

The Reconstructionist Magazine

Ira Eisenstein:

• A founder of the magazine, 1935
• Associate Chairman of the Editorial Board, 1935-1959
• Editor, 1959

The Reconstructionist magazine was established October 8, 1934, by one vote of the Board of Trustees of the SAJ. It was to be published by the SAJ, but be, “an obligation of the individual members of the SAJ” “The Women’s Division, by voting a subsidy of $500, express their preference for the magazine over the continuation of the Sunday morning forums.” [from the Silver Jubilee Journal, S.A.J., May 21, 1947.] On January 15, 1940, the Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation took over the publishing of the magazine.

“Dedicated to the advancement of Judaism as a religious civilization, to the upbuilding of Israel’s ancient homeland, and to the furtherance of universal freedom, justice and peace,” from the cover of the first issue of the journal.
A bi-weekly journal of Jewish opinion, the Reconstructionist magazine was issued 600 times in the first 30 years.

The Reconstructionist Press publishes new works and reprints.

**Subscriptions to the Reconstructionist**

Many of the subscription drives were handled by the Women’s Organization.

- Magazine Subscription Promotion Committee meeting minutes and report, October 30, 1967
- Comprehensive Reports on Magazine Subscriptions & Subscription Reports, 1967-68
- Flyers and Circulars, printing, 1968
- Student solicitation for membership in Reconstructionist University Fellowship (RUF) and gift subscription offers by the Women’s Organization for the Reconstructionist. Correspondence from Rabbi Arthur Gilbert (RUF Advisor) to Jewish Institute of Religion (J.I.R), Jewish Theological Seminary (J.T.S.), Brandeis University, Wellesley College, Hillel, Hebrew Union College (H.U.C.), etc.
- Correspondence also discusses gatherings and lectures for the promotion of Reconstructionism among selected college/seminary students, 1967-68
- Within the folder is: 1) a paper by Norman V. Weitzner, Director B’nai B’rith Hillel Foundation, sent to Rabbi Gilbert on the Holocaust; 2) a proposal for Havurat Shalom Community Seminary.
- Model Packet for promoting subscriptions to the Reconstructionist magazine.
- “Guidelines to promote subscriptions” kit was created by Marcella Rubel, business manager and newly appointed subscriptions director in 1967.
  - Promotional Kit
  - Plans for increasing circulation, 1968-70
  - Subscription campaign, 1967
  - Subscription solicitations, 1967-68
  - Subscription solicitations, 1967-68
  - Subscription orders
  - Reconstructionist subscription flyers
  - Synagogue promotion of the Reconstructionist, 1967-68
  - Reconstructionist subscription flyers/advertisements - all labeled Exhibit “C”
  - Reconstructionist subscription flyer
  - list of Reconstructionist subscribers, graduates of J.T.S.

**Advertising for Reconstructionist Press**

Flyers for publications, advertisements arranged on an exchange basis with other publications, testimonials used for advertising, catalogs
• Press flyers
• Press flyers, 1967
• Advertisement in American Zionist, June 1967
• Advertising exchanges with other publications, 1967-69
• Advertising exchanges, etc.
• Reconstructionist Press catalogs
• Testimonials
• Advertisement for The Faith of America, September 15, 1963

Reconstructionist Press, Administration & General

• Memorandum Report – Reconstructionist - Income and Expense, 1939
• Memo: Donations from SAJ, 1938 subscription money, printing costs, budget, promised donations, September 11, 1939
• Financial memo regarding the printing of the Sabbath Prayer Book, pre-publication of first edition, November 29, 1944
  Introduction for second edition of the Sabbath Prayer Book.
• List of those present at Editorial Board Press meeting held on December 29, 1953
• Meeting Minutes of the Chicago Editorial Board, 1955
• Letter from Thomas Yoseloff, Inc. with terms for printing the trade publication of Kaplan, February 13, 1957
• Tributes to the Reconstructionist on its Thirtieth Anniversary 1935-1965, booklet
• Editorial Board list, meeting minutes and miscellaneous correspondence, 1967-68
• Letter to Editorial Board announcing the meeting and press conference for launching of a new program for the training of rabbis. Brochure, 1968
• Remunerations, 1980-82
• Contributors to the magazine

Magazine Draft Copy

Note 1: The following copies of the Reconstructionist were removed from this Record Group/Record Series and are filed separately with other copies of the magazine: Vol. VII-May 30, 1941; Vol. XXX-April 17, 1964; Vol. XXXV-October 10,1969;Vol. XXXVII -September 17, 1971;Vol. XLIII-March 1977

Note 2: Reprints from the Reconstructionist have been removed and are filed separately with other reprints.

• Notes, correspondence and copy
• Book review and correspondence, 1968

R.S. 4 Federation of Reconstructionist Congregations and Havurot (FRCH)
Ira Eisenstein, Executive Director

In 1955, The Reconstructionist Fellowship of Congregations (RFC) was created as part of the Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation. The first four affiliates were: Society for the Advancement of Judaism, NY; Temple Sinai, Buffalo; Temple Beth El Zedek, Indianapolis, Ind. and Niles Township Jewish Congregation, Skokie, Ill. Other congregations also “interested in various aspects of the Reconstructionist program” were present at the Conference: KAM (Chicago), Beth Emet Congregation (Evanston), Jewish Community Center (Aurora, Ill.), Anshe Emet (Chicago).

In 1961, the organization became known as Federation of Reconstructionist Congregations and Fellowships (FRCF)

In the mid 1970s, both the Reconstructionist Federation of Congregations and Havurot (RFCH) and the Reconstructionist Federation of Congregations and Fellowships (RFCF) names were used.

In the June 13, 1980 by-laws, the name officially became the Federation of Reconstructionist Congregations and Havurot (FRCH).

In 1995, Jewish Reconstructionist Federation replaced FRCH.

Annual Meetings:

FRCF 2nd Annual Meeting  April 27-30, 1961  White Plains, NY
FRCF 3rd Annual Meeting  May 17-20, 1962  Skokie, IL
FRCF 4th Annual Conference  May 2-5, 1963  Buffalo, NY
FRCF 6th Annual Conference  May 20-23, 1965  Phila., PA
FRCF 8th Annual Conference  May 25-28, 1967  Montreal, Canada
FRCF 9th Annual Conference  May 2-5, 1968  Great Neck, NY
FRCF 10th Annual Conference  June 19-22, 1969  Port Jervis, NY
FRCF 12th Annual Conference  May 21-24, 1971  Phila, PA
FRCF 13th Annual  June 2-4, 1972  Los Angeles, CA
14th Annual  1974  Buffalo, NY
RFCH 15th Annual Convention  May 22-25, 1975  Montreal, Canada
RFCH mid-year conference  Jan.23-25, 1976  Skokie, IL
RFCH & RFCF 16th Annual Con.  May 20-23, 1976  Phila., PA
(Havurot and Fellowships are both used on materials for the convention)
RFCH & RFCF mid-year conference Jan. 14-16, 1977  Skokie, IL
(Havurot and Fellowships are both used on materials for the conference)
RFCH & RFCF 17th Annual Con.  May 26-29, 1977  Skokie, IL
(Havurot and Fellowships are both used on materials for the convention)
RFCH & RFCF 18th Annual Con.  May 18-21, 1978  Denver, CO
(Havurot and Fellowships are both used on materials for the convention)
RFCH & RFCF 19th Annual Con. June 7-10, 1979 Phila., PA  
(Havurot and Fellowships are both used on materials for the convention)
FRCH 20th Annual Convention June 12-15, 1980 Indianapolis, IN  
(also referred to as RFCH on list of attendance)
FRCH 21st Annual Convention June 11-14, 1981 Grossinger, NY
FRCH 22nd Annual Convention June 17-20, 1982 Kiamesha Lake, NY
FRCH 24th Annual Convention June 14-17, 1984 Buffalo, NY
FRCH 25th Annual Convention June 13-16, 1985 Chicago, IL
FRCH 26th Annual Convention May 29-June 1, 1986 Phila., PA

• Fellowship of Reconstructionist Congregations – Statement of Principles, n.d.
• By-Laws of The Reconstructionist Fellowship of Congregations, 1961  
  (just prior to the first name change)
• Annual Meetings
  Agendas, registration forms, pre-meeting correspondence, resolutions:
  2nd annual conference, letter and resolutions, 1961
  3rd annual conference, proposals adopted, 1962
  4th annual meeting, letter and first draft proposal, 1963
  4th annual meeting program, 1963
  6th annual conference sample press release, 1965
  6th annual conference tentative program, 1965
  8th annual conference, program, resolutions, registration form, correspondence, 1967
  9th annual conference, correspondence, reservation form, program/agenda, notes on invitees, 1968
  10th annual conference, letter, agenda highlights, 1969
  10th annual conference, Shabbat Seder, 1969
  10th annual conference, program, 1969
  10th annual conference, letters & agenda highlights, 1969
  East Coast Institute, 5/1-3/1970
  Cabinet meeting planning, 6/7-8/1970
  Cabinet meeting, 6/7-8/1970
  Cabinet meeting highlights, 7/1970
  12th annual national cabinet meeting and convocation
  Round-up and Highlights draft prepared by Arthur Gilbert, 5/21-24, 1971
  13th annual convention – special convention supplement announcing MM Kaplan’s surprise attendance, 5/20/1972
  Newspaper article on Buffalo convention, 5/10/1974
  Resolutions adopted at convention, 5/25/1975
  Mid-year notice and tentative agenda, 1979
  Program, 21st Annual Convention, FRCH & JRF, 6/11-14/1981
• Officer and Member Listings

FRCH statistics on members (between 1961-66)
FRCF listing, 12/1966
FRCF listing, 9/1967
Officer listing with some biographical information, 5/5/1968


• Correspondence

“Federation Old File” miscellaneous
FRCF mailings, Prayer Services
Records of Prayer Books sent, 1963-66
Additional Evening Service by Rabbi Harold Silver distributed to members, 3/4/1968
Letter and survey blanks regarding the religious status of children in mixed marriages, 2/20/1967
Letters between A. Gilbert and Hy Chipkin, 1968-69
   In the Board minutes of 12/4/1968, Rabbi Gilbert describes monthly letters to the S.A.J. Board (Hy Chipkin) “as a means of maintaining contact between the Reconstructionist Foundation and the S.A.J. Board.”
Correspondence, 1968
Correspondence, 1967-70
Correspondence, newsletters, announcements between Rabbi Gilbert and various congregations, 1968-69
letter to fellow officers from Leroy Shuster, 2/21/1973

• FRCH Publications

Newsletters
letter and mailing list requesting items for Newsletter
Newsletter draft materials
Pamphlets, other printed matter
Envelope designed by Betsy Platkin Teutsch, 1981
FRCH
Perhaps you belong in a Jewish Reconstructionist community...
2-pocket folder

R.S. 5 Mordecai M. Kaplan Birthday Celebrations & Related Fundraisers
• 85th Birthday – Rabbi Mordecai M. Kaplan Shabbat, June 11, 1966
  JRF notice - Attend synagogue services on June 11, Mordecai M. Kaplan Sabbath, 1966; with a listing of participating synagogues in the northeast.
  Rabbi Mordecai M. Kaplan Shabbat brochure
  JRF Dinner Program honoring MMK on his 85th year, 11/3/1965
  Publication Fund records for “Questions Jews Ask” record album set, promoted as part of the 85th birthday celebration

• 90th Birthday Celebration, 1971

  Letters to the press regarding the celebration and a possible article on Kaplan
  Letter & mailing service orders for various committees/events related to fundraising for the 90th Birthday celebration; 5/28/1971
  Return postage cards and letters regarding the Sponsoring Committee for the celebration sent to SAJ members
  Various letters from Ira Eisenstein regarding 90th birthday celebrations throughout the country
  Eisenstein Development materials – contains Kaplan 90th birthday celebration lists and correspondence, and other development activities, 1970
  Lists & Notes
  Lists & Correspondence
  Correspondence
  California 90th Birthday Celebration
    Financial Records for California celebration, 1970-71
    Receipts, California
    Invitation, California, 1/17/1971
    Certificate presented by the Board of Supervisors and citizens of Los Angeles County in commemoration of MMK’s 90th birthday
    publicity, pledge records
  Fundraising for Library
  Contribution acknowledgements
  Philadelphia 90th Birthday Celebration, 5/23/1971
    Tribute Dinner Celebration invitation, program;
    Correspondence & Tribute by Eisenstein
  Newspaper articles relating to 90th birthday Celebrations
  Washington DC area celebrations
Westchester committee

R.S. 6  Correspondence of Rabbi Ira Eisenstein

Letter subjects concern a wide range of Reconstructionist issues, relating to the Reconstructionist, fundraising, RRC, as well as personal letters.

Files are arranged alphabetically as originally filed by Ira Eisenstein. Letters are grouped by correspondent (when there were incoming and outgoing letters they were stapled together with the most recent date on top). Staples have been removed, but order maintained. Letters are ordered chronologically using the top letter in a grouping as the date.

“A” 1939-1989
“B” 1945-1993
“C” pre-1942-1997
“D” 1945-1993
“E” 1945-1997
“G” 1945-6/1996
“H” 1941-1997
“I” 1945-1987
“J” 1939 – 1983
“K” 1937-1993
“L” 1936-7/1983
“M” 1941-1982
“N” 1944-1999
“O” 1946-1982
“P” 1930-1983
“Q” 1973-1981
“R” 1945-10/1971
“S” 1945-2001
“T” 1946-1994
“U” 1930-1982
“V” 1946-1983
“W” 1936-1993
“Y” 1968-1993
“Z” 1946-1982

R.S. 7  Writing: Sermons, Lectures, Other Liturgy, Manuscripts, Letters to the Editor, Book Reviews, Transcripts & Related Materials
R.S. 7.1  Sermons and Lectures

Notebook 1:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/18/1933</td>
<td>SAJ</td>
<td>Modern Idolatry</td>
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<td>1/30/1937</td>
<td>SAJ</td>
<td>Sins of the Fathers</td>
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<td>2/18/1933</td>
<td>SAJ</td>
<td>Religion in the Social Crisis</td>
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<td>SAJ</td>
<td>Rome and Jerusalem</td>
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<td>Portion- VYEREA</td>
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<td>11/14/1931</td>
<td>SAJ</td>
<td>Sin of Esau</td>
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<td>11/25/1933</td>
<td>SAJ</td>
<td>Religion and Religions</td>
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<td>SAJ</td>
<td>Bread to Eat</td>
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<td>10/28/1933</td>
<td>SAJ</td>
<td>Bible – Lech Lecha</td>
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<td>10/24/1931</td>
<td>SAJ</td>
<td>Lech Lecha</td>
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<td>10/31/1931</td>
<td>SAJ</td>
<td>VAYERAH – Truth and Peace</td>
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<td>10/21/1933</td>
<td>SAJ</td>
<td>Noah- Dangers of Uniformity</td>
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<td>1932</td>
<td>SAJ</td>
<td>Sukkot-2nd - Art in Jewish Life</td>
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<td>n.d.</td>
<td>SAJ</td>
<td>Sukkot- 2nd day – Revaluating Palestine</td>
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<td>1936</td>
<td>SAJ</td>
<td>Sukkot – Shemini - Equality</td>
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<td>1937</td>
<td>SAJ</td>
<td>Sukkot - 150th Anniversary of Constitution</td>
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<td>10/3/1931</td>
<td>SAJ</td>
<td>Shemini Azeret</td>
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<td>SAJ</td>
<td>Sukkot Sabbath – Judaism as Art</td>
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<td>1933</td>
<td>SAJ</td>
<td>Sukkot 2nd day – Plac [sic] of Palestine in Jewish Life</td>
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<td>3/1940</td>
<td>SAJ</td>
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<td>n.d.</td>
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<td>Mishteh...</td>
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<td>Place of Mysticism in Life</td>
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<td>1942</td>
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<td>Ingratitude</td>
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<td>1/2 ??</td>
<td>SAJ</td>
<td>Blindness and Power</td>
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<td>n.d.</td>
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<td>Conscientious Objection</td>
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<td>1940</td>
<td>SAJ</td>
<td>Three Stories about Torah Revelation</td>
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<td>3/15/1941</td>
<td>SAJ</td>
<td>Does Believing in God Make a Difference?</td>
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<td>1942</td>
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<td>The Sabbath was made ofr[sic] Israel</td>
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<td>1/14/39</td>
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<td>How important is an individual?</td>
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<td>n.d.</td>
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<td>Judah...</td>
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Notebook 2:

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>1953</td>
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<td>Rosh Hash – Faith and Responsibility</td>
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<td>n.d.</td>
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<td>Failure of Nerve</td>
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<td>9/6</td>
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<td>MMK-Seminar I / Y.K.</td>
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<td>1951</td>
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<td>Rosh Hashanah: YOM HA*DIN</td>
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<td>1947</td>
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<td>RH - Immaturity</td>
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1948    RH – Medinat Yisrael
n.d.    Shabbot Shubah Outline
1947    Yom Kippur – The Sense of Unworthiness
1948    YK – Spiritually Displaced Jews. What About the Future?
1948    Sukkot – 2\textsuperscript{nd} day – Sense of Values
1952    Sukkot – Unity of the Jewish People
1952    Sukkot – 2\textsuperscript{nd} day – Values of the Nomad and the Settled
1948    Sukkot – Rural Virtues in the City
1948    ___ God – No Man – Living Dead
n.d.    Sukkot – What is Group Equality?
1947    Sukkot – 2\textsuperscript{nd} day – Whither American Zionism?
1953    Sukkot – And Thou Shalt Rejoice
1949    Sukkot – 1\textsuperscript{st} day – Morale….Through Thankfulness
1953    Shemini Azeret – Religion…In the Mass Media
1949    Shemini Azeret – Place of Prayer in Morale
1952    Shemini Azeret – Praying These Days…
1947    Thanksgiving
1947    The Upper Classes and Judaism
n.d.    Shabbat Hanukkah – Social Climbing
1952    Shabbat Hanukkah – 2\textsuperscript{nd} – Right Kind of Minorities
3/6/1949    Script for Purim Telecast – WPIX
n.d.    Sermons
1948    Pesah
1952    Shabuot
n.d.    May 1\textsuperscript{st} – Pesach
n.d.    clipping & notes on Fosdick & Kaplan
1954    Last day Passover – United Jewish Appeal
4/13/1948    Z.O.A. -Spot News
1947    8\textsuperscript{th} day Pesach – Mystery of Lost Despair
1951    Lag Beomer – Mysticism
1948    Shabuot Pledge
1953    Shabuot – Revelation and Discovery
11/5    Basic Jewish Values
n.d.    How to be Immune to Disillusionment, by Mordecai M. Kaplan
1951    Yom Kippur – Religion and Ethics
n.d.    Future of U.N.
12/3/1949 Revival of Orthodoxy
11/18/1949 Should American Jews Encourage Youth to Settle?
1948 For Religious Studies Lecture –
Freedom and Responsibility – Democracy’s Problems
n.d. “Throughout the centuries of Jewish wandering…”
2/6 clipping: “Conformity is Deplored / Rabbi Eisenstein Calls it Our Top Domestic Menace.”
n.d. Judaism & Democracy
5/24/1948 Benediction...B’nai B’rith Dinner
12/8/1948 Television
1/8/1949 Declaration of the New Curtain
[on reverse] The Creative Function
11/5/1948 Services in Honor of the State of Israel
n.d. 34th Annual Convention of Hadassah, Atlantic City
n.d. The Effects of Democracy on Judaism
4/13/1953 Jewish Commonwealths – Past and Present – part I
4/20/1953 Jewish Commonwealths – Past and Present – part II
4/27/1953 Jewish Commonwealths – Past and Present – part III
n.d. Israel Independence Day...5th

Other sermons/lectures/radio broadcast transcripts and related materials:
All materials were either labeled “sermon” or grouped with sermon materials. It has been ordered by date.

n.d. “Mama Bogner took her son, the doctor aside…”
n.d. Jewish Social Work
n.d. Jewish Elements in Jewish Social Work, transcription of talk and following discussions
n.d. #3, “One of the most important things…”
n.d. “One of the most difficult questions…”
n.d. Kind of Religion We Need Today
n.d. Preparing for Pesah
n.d. Role of Religion
n.d. Be Holy
n.d. Israel and Golah
n.d. Erich Fromm – Man For Himself
n.d. re: Leadership

4/8/1936 SAJ, New Enemies of Zion
9/1942 SAJ, Religion of Ethical Optimism, Rosh Hashanah

1/1944 God Hardens Pharoah’s Heart
1/28/1944 Source of Our Moral Values, Park Ave. Synagogue
2/5/1944 Sharing the Troubles and the Triumphs
2/20/1944 True Brotherhood
4/1944 Freedom From Fear, Pesah
6/20/1944 Lecture #4, Jewish Religious Teaching – What Guide to American Affairs, many edits
9/18/1944 A Heart of Wisdom
9/27/1944 Program for American Jewry
12/31/1944 Eulogy for Mrs. Sarah Garfunkel

1945 Jacob Prays & Rational Messianism
1/1945 Half-Hearted Mitzvah
4/22/1945 Tooth for Tooth – German Tortures
4/28/1945 How to Meet V*E Day
9/1945 Sukkot -The Joy to Come

Late 1940s “Most desperate problem...now is Jews who survive”

1946 Sermon
1946 Hebrews vs. Jews
1946 Shabbat Zukor
1946 Silence is Best
1946 re: integrity, refers to Judge Rifkin’s speech
2/16/1946 Failure of Nerve
4/2/1946 Speech by Judge Simon Rifkind, Delivered at Hotel Biltmore
4/22/1946 Pesah 7th day
5/1946 Crisis in Palestine
11/1946 Sukkot Services Sermon, Zionism Today
11/10/1946 Sukkot Sermon, 1st day
11/11/1946 Sukkot Sermon, 2nd day, Policy of American Zionisms
12/1946 Hanukkah Sermon

1947 Impatience
1947 Right & Wrong: Means & Ends
1947 SAJ – Jewish Unity – With State
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<tr>
<td>1947</td>
<td>Unity of Israel (cont.)</td>
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<td>__reth – Neglected Boy</td>
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<td>1947</td>
<td>Bread to Eat</td>
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<td>1947</td>
<td>Toledot – Intermarriage</td>
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<td>1947</td>
<td>Appropriate Solutions</td>
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<td>1947</td>
<td>Infinitely Small &amp; Great</td>
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<td>1947</td>
<td>Day of Decision</td>
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<td>3/31/1947</td>
<td>Summary of talk to be given to National Jewish Women’s Organizations</td>
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<td>10/1947</td>
<td>Summary of Curriculum for first Quarter: Course I, Introduction to Jewish Life and Thought in Our Time; Course II, The American Jewish Community, 7/14/1947 to 10/24/1947. Eisenstein is one of the lecturers in Course II. His lecture outline, Conceptions of Jewish Life in America, and bibliography included in the file, 10/20/1947.</td>
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<td>Seminar, On “Jewish Values,” Willkie House</td>
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<td>Seminar, On “Jewish Values,” Willkie House w/ correspondence between Arthur Chiel, Anti-Defamation League and Ira Eisenstein</td>
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<td>State of Israel...</td>
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<td>Kiddush Hashem</td>
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<td>Lawlessness</td>
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<td>Decalogue &amp; Human Need</td>
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<td>Solomon Schechter – 100th anniversary</td>
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<td>1948</td>
<td>Criticising Authority</td>
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<td>1948</td>
<td>“…characteristic of the man with no feeling…”</td>
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<td>1948</td>
<td>Vayera – Abraham: Love for People who accept the basic decencies...</td>
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<td>1948</td>
<td>Lek Leka – Ethics of Immigration(?)</td>
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<td>5/7/1948</td>
<td>Tribute to Moshe Furmansky upon his death.</td>
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<td>1949</td>
<td>Shabbat Shekalim (Personal)</td>
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<td>1949</td>
<td>Interpreting Israel’s Victory</td>
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<td>1949</td>
<td>90th birthday – John Dewey</td>
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<td>Noah</td>
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<td>3/5/1949</td>
<td>Personal</td>
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1950s?
Story of the golden calf...
1950s
page 2
1950s
Honoring Cantor Moshe Nathanson

1952
Lek Leka The Land The People and The Idea
1952
Vayigash – Conservatism of Youth
1952
Toledot – Moral Relativism
1952
Vayera – Hospitality – Lost Art
1952
Bershit – Man God and the Devil
1952
Noah – Babel – Problem of Communication
3/29/1952
Shannat Vayikra, “Shall we restore sacrifices?”

1953
Behaaloteka
1953
Behar Behukotai Fear and Love of God
1953
Vayikra, SAJ, The Evolution of Worship
1953
Zakor, Germany
1953
terumah, The Craving for Direction
1953
Noah/ Unity: Flood Generation vs. Babel Generation

1954
Notes for Reconstructionist Brunch – marking 20 years of
the Reconstructionist.
1954
When to be Sensitive to Public Opinion
1/9/1954
The Art of Compromise, Excerpts from a sermon, SAJ
9/12/1954
Tercentenary Service at Anshe Emet and program from the
Synagogue Council of America
9/20/1954
Outline: Jews Opportunities & Responsibilities Under
Freedom: 300th Year in America/ College of J. Studies
10/29/1954
Program and Sermon: What is a Demagogue?
11/12/1954
Order of Service and Sermon: Is Race Equality Feasible? and
clippings
11/15/1954
World Jewry and World Protestantism: Our Common
Problems
12/10/1954
Where Are Our Intellectuals
12/17/1954
Can we live by Jewish Law
12/24/1954
What Youth Should Expect of the Synagogue
12/31/1954
Prospect and Retrospect

1955
Shabbat Zakor – Can We Fight Anti-Semitism
1955
The Legend of Theodor Herzl
1955
Jewry’s Debt to Solomon Goldman
1/1955
Notes on (Albert) Schweitzer w/ newspaper clippings.
1/7/1955
What’s Wrong with Jewish Philanthropy
1/14/1955
Notes for Sermon on Education.
Includes summaries of The College of Jewish Studies, High School of Jewish Studies and article on Jewish Education through camping.

1/21/1955  Who Owns the Earth? w/ newspaper clipping
2/4/1955  The Arts in Jewish Life
3/11/1955  Positive Thinking...Solve Problems? w/ clipping N.V. Peale
3/18/1955  Toynbee and the Jews
4/2/1955  Conflict of the Generations
4/15/1955  Joys of Being Needed (for Rose Towbin)
4/22/1955  A New Zionism
5/6/1955  The Religion of Albert Einstein
5/13/1955  Is Prayer Necessary?
11/4/1955  Red Star Over Egypt
11/18/1955  Shall Jews Be Missionaries
12/2/1955  Stranger Among the Best Sellers: The Romance of the Dead Sea Scrolls
12/10/1955  Why is Hanukkah Today A Major Festival?
12/23/1955  We Need Jewish Professionals, Homecoming

1/6/1956  The Ethics of the Arab Refugee Problem
1/13/1956  Ludwig Lewisohn...A Tribute
1/27/1956  Art and Jewish Living – Jewish Music Month

1/10/1958  Can We Have Religion Without Revelation?
Delivered at the Anshe Emet Synagogue

1958 R.H.  Rosh Hashanah Sermon (incomplete)
11/25/1958  Naturalism – Goldman Lecture
12/1958  Woman of Valor...Old and New Style

1/2/1959  What's in a Name
1/20/1959  Remarks from the Pulpit
1/30/1959  Intellectuals – Part Two
2/13/1959  Religion of Lincoln

12/1960-1961 materials relating to 25th World Zionist Congress:
Reprint of: “Zionists Convene in Jerusalem” 12/16/1960
mss. Re. 25th World Zionist Congress, 12/1960-1/1961
Bulletin of the Press Bureau, WZO, 12/29/1960

n.d. (1960s)  T'Shuvah as Return to God
1964  Ideas about God and Prayer according to Reconstructionism
1965-66  Forums: Reconstructing the J. Family
1. Changing Patterns, 10/20/1965
2. Cultivating Nostalgia, 12/1/1965
3. Towards a Mature Idea of God, 2/2/1966
1/1966 Given to Bd. Members; Rosen/Friedman?
1966 The Value of Our Doubts, 5/13/1966
The Inalienable Human Rights, n.d.
Beth Shalom Synagogue, White Plains, NY
10/30/1966 Address delivered - Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation,
Annual Dinner
1/10/1967
1967 Where was God?

3/8/1978 The Emerging American Judaism, talk to Indianapolis

Other Liturgy

Prayer for the Jewish Dead in the American Armed Forces
Promise of the Restoration of Zion
“Thou O God Art One...”
“...Oh Lord God of the Spirits of All Flesh...”
Invocation for Federation Meeting, 1/13/1955
Brotherhood Prayer – JTS Dinner, 5/2/1954

Manuscripts

The writings of Ira Eisenstein, a bibliographic compilation of materials
gathered by Richard Libowitz, 1976
Assimilation, n.d.
Assimilation, submitted to Commentary, with letter to Elliot Cohen,
6/2/1947
Comments sent to Conservative Judaism, 8/19/1946
Now we are forty, Saturday Review of Literature, 8/1/1946
Jewish Traditions and Ceremonials, Encyclopedia article, 6/1946
The only way to go to a children’s theatre...” n.d.
“Jewish religious and social practices...” n.d.
Jews and Judaism, c. 1945
“Relations between religious groups in America...” n.d.
Radio address on station W.H.O.M., 11/20/1939
“The Jewish people today...” n.d.
Thanksgiving Day 1946, published in World Over, 11/15/1946
The Contemporary American Jewish Scene?, mid-late 1940s
Reconstructionism Hailed in Several Books, n.d.
Church of the Air, CBS, 2/15/1948
The Zionist Movement, 1960
Chalutz in America, published in The Jewish Frontier?, 11/14/1945
All in a Rabbi’s Day, (includes biographical sketch) n.d.
Radio broadcast, Faith for Living Today, United Jewish Layman’s Committee, Inc., 2.7.1954
The Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, article prepared for CCAR Journal, 1974
Patterns of Living of the Jewish People on the American Scene, 1953
The Naturalistic Religious Philosophy of Mordecai M. Kaplan, 1975?
Tennis Tournament, 7/31 to Commentary, n.d.
“The Catholic Church...” 1946-7

Letters to the Editor/Book Reviews/Transcripts

Letter to Editor of Commentary, Rejoinder to Dr. Gaster, 2/18/1946
Letter to Editor of Commentary, Back Talk from 86th Street, 9/1946
Letter to Editor of Commentary, re: Nathan Glazer, 1/30/1947
Letter to Editor of Commentary, The Parlour Terrorists, 3/1947
Editorial for the Reconstructionist, 12/17/1946
Letter to the Editor of Christian Century, n.d.
Editorial for the Sentinel, 1959
Editorial, “The plain Englishman...”, 2/20/1947

Book review: The Arts and Religion, ed. By Albert Edward Bailey, 1944
Book review: Great Prisoners, by Isidore Abramowitz, 1946
Book review: Psychology of Religion, by Paul E. Johnson, 1945
Book review: A Voice Still Heard, by Eric Werner, 1976
Book review: Leo Baeck: Teacher of Teresienstadt, by Albert H. Friedlander, Jan. or Feb., 1969
Book review: In the Beginning Love, by Mark Van Doren, etc., 1973
Book review: Law and Theology in Judaism, by David Novak, c. 1974
Book review: The Shaping of Jewish History, by Ellis Rivkin, 1971
Book review: Guideposts in Modern Judaism, by Jacob B. Agus, 1954

Lecture/Program Announcements


1946 Outdoor Vesper Services, 1946 Summer Series, sponsored by the Croton Valley Ministers’ Association
Eisenstein on 7/28/1946

10/22/1947


1/7/1948 Announcement – Men’s Club of Temple Emanu-el, Dinner and Forum with Guest speaker Ira Eisenstein on 1/13/1948


R.S. 7.6 Lecture Bookings

Records of Ira Eisenstein from speaking engagements through the Jewish Center Lecture Bureau of the National Jewish Welfare Board. 1945 - 1948 Contains information on the group, lecture subject, attendees, fees and expenses. Front of the file contains 2 versions of Eisenstein’s biographical information.

File has been put in chronological order by scheduled lecture date.

File containing the following forms:
Printed Materials: Columns, Articles, Book Reviews
n.d. magazine published by The Jewish Center Lecture Bureau of the National Jewish Welfare Board, article by Eisenstein, “Jewish Cultural Values,” pp. 4-5

8/15/1944 “Zionism in American Jewish Life,” in The New Palestine
Reconstructionist Calls for the Creation of a Kehillah


6/1946 Book review of Psychology of Religion by Paul E. Johnson, Jewish Education, pgs. 53-54

(see manuscript copy also)


6/1947 Dr. Eisenstein’s Column, page 2, Metropost

1947 Book Review of The Arts and Religion in Jewish Education, summer 1947

11/1950 “Cultural Democracy,” (incomplete), in Israel Life and Letters

R.S. 8  Personal

Personal Correspondence

• Originally in 2 folders specifically marked “personal correspondence” (other personal correspondence was found in Eisenstein’s alphabetical letter files in R.S.6 and were left a part of those files):
  Folder A (1947-1948) is now divided into 3 folders, A1, A2, A3.
  Folder B (1946-1947) is now divided into 5 folders, B1, B2, B3, B4, B5
  Original order was kept for these files – most recent date at file front.
• post card from Gertrude Samuel to Ira & Judith, 8/2/1947
• Misc. letters:
  A. To Ike & Sadie from Papa, Aug. 15
  B. To J.D. Eisenstein from Rabbi Leo Jung regarding a manuscript, 3/13/1945
  D. To Quaker Moving from I.E., 8/24/1981
• correspondence between Ira and Grandpa (J.D. Eisenstein), and letters from Judy. (removed from the general letter files under “E.” 1920-60
• Miriam’s Statement of her purpose in going to college, 11/1955

Collected Articles, Liturgy, Bulletins, etc.

_Hymnal_ from Keneseth Israel & 3 article tear sheets
_A Common Service_
_Call Me – Madam President, May, 1958_
_Raayonot/Great Teachers, Fall 1987_
_Esther/A Drama of a Jewish Girl Who Made Good by Henry M. Rosenthal_
_Smith College Morning Worship, 1/15/1961_
_Materials on Robert Starer (1924-4/22/2001)_
_My Criminal Career, by Ian Stone_
_Jacob Weinstein materials, 1968_
_World Over/A Magazine for Boys and Girls, 10/29/1954_
_Four New Songs of Solomon ibn Gabirol, inscribed to Ira Eisenstein, 1951_
_World Jewry, 1968 - p. 15 notated, “Israelis Aid Arab Students”_
_Popular Jewish Reference Library lists_
Quotations collected by I.E., summer 1980
Amos vs. Amaziah, by Shalom Spiegel, Essays in Judaism Series, No. 3, JTS
Hebrew, Kaplan
in Hebrew
Modern Trends in Jewish Religion by Emanuel S. Goldsmith, Judaism
pamphlet series, published by B’nai B’rith Youth Organization
Hebrew Roots and Fruits, inscribed by the author Avivah Benamy,
12/28/1983
reprint of The Pharisees: Their Origin and Their Philosophy by Louis
Finkelstein, 7/1929. Inscribed to Ira Eisenstein.
2 reprints from The Jewish Quarterly Review of Harold M. Schulweis’
article, “Karl Barth’s Job, n.d.

Organizations

Notice of Special Meeting of Members of SAJ with Attached By-Laws,
2/19/1974
Information on Hebrew Union College, CA regarding grant funding,
student body, course work, committee meeting minutes. I.
Eisenstein served on the Professional Advisory Committee for the
School of Jewish Communal Service, 6/11/1971
Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, Inc., (CJFWF), includes,
Memorial Meeting for Jacob H. Rubin (Pres. Of CJI 1917-1930).
Chapter and Group Presidents of the Westchester Region of Hadassah,
1967-68
Jewish Educational Workshop – Monograph #3
National Jewish Welfare Board -Re: role of JWB, 1971
Jewish Reconciliation Board of America, Inc.
I.E. member of Board of Directors
Report of the Curriculum Committee to the Faculty
I.E., student at JTS, one of submitters, 5/1929
Outline and annotated reading list for course on Modern Jewish Thought
prepared by Rabbi Neil Gillman, distributed by The Rabbinical
Assembly, 2/11/1982

Calendars

1983 –loose notes & RRC meeting and Event calendars for 1983-84
1984 – post-its taped onto dates
1986 – includes handwritten 1987 calendar
Miscellaneous

White House Worship Service, 1/21/1973
Invitation & Program to Dr. Ira Eisenstein to attend the National Layman’s Institute of JTS, 6/15-20/1948
The Anshe Emet Synagogue, 1873-1973
book lists, festivals on Jewish Music

Judith Kaplan Eisenstein
(items found in Ira Eisenstein’s papers relating to Judith)

Reception invitation in honor of Dr. Judith K. Eisenstein and her new series, “Music of the Jewish People,” 9/17/1987
70th anniversary of Judith Kaplan’s Bat Mitzvah – various celebration materials
Newspaper clippings, 1973-74
Partial manuscript

Newspaper clippings

R.G. 4 Ira Silverman papers – 2nd RRC
President, RRC, 1981-86
(Organized – Record Series to be detailed shortly)

R.G. 5 Arthur Green – 3rd RRC President
Dean of RRC, 1984-86
Acting President, RRC, 1986-87
President, RRC, 1987-1993
Faculty, RRC, 1993-94

(Organized – Record Series to be detailed shortly)

R.G. 6 Ronald Brauner, Dean RRC

R.S. 1 Teaching Applications; 1978 – 1982
R.S. 2 Faculty & Guest Lecturers
R.S. 3 Students
Misc., includes student course evaluations
R.S. 4 Committee meetings:
   Curriculum Committee, 1980-81
   Academic Committee, 1977-79
   Steering Committee, 1978-83
Admissions Committee, 
President Search Committee, 1980-81 
College Council, 1972-78 
Philadelphia Friends of RRC & The Institute of Jewish Studies, 1978-1982 
R.S. 5 Board of Governors Meetings 
R.S. 6 Jewish Medical Ethics Committee 
Albert Einstein-Northern 
R.S. 7 Jewish Civilization: Essays and Studies Vol. 1 and 2, ed. Ronald A. Brauner 
Correspondence files

R.S. Correspondence 
Ordered chronologically

R.G. 7 Rebecca Alpert, Dean RRC 
(Organized – Record Series to be detailed shortly)

R.G. 8 Jacob Staub, Dean & VP, RRC 
(Organized – Record Series to be detailed shortly)

R.G. 9 David A. Teutsch – 4th RRC President 
President, RRC, 1993-2002 
(Organized – Record Series to be detailed shortly)

R.G. 10 Reconstructionist Rabbinical College 
General files, Administrative records, publications, promotional materials, financial records, event materials, graduation materials

R.S. 1 RRC Catalogues 
1968-69 
1969-70 
1970-71 
1973 
1978 
1980-82 
1982-83 
1983-85 
1985-87 
1988-1990 
1990-1993 
1993-1996 
1996-1999 
1999-2002 
2002-2004 
2005-2007
R.S. 2 Newsletters

RRC Newsletter (from Rebecca Alpert’s files) 9/10/1984 to 10/22/1984
Internal Journal (from Rebecca Alpert’s files) 10/29/1984 to 5/20/1985
R.R.C. Report, Summer 1984 to Winter 1995 (issues missing)
Talmidei Haverin, 2004
Kol Hahadashot 2005-2006
Letters from Dan Ehrenkrantz

R.S. 3 Printed Materials

Booklets:
Our Rabbis: Serving Diverse Jewish Communities, 1995?
Reconstructionist Rabbinical College/For the Journey of a Lifetime, 1999
The RRC Roster of Speakers, within 1993-2002
Scholarship, Teaching and Faculty Achievements, 3/2006

Brochures:
The leaders of the next Jewish generation... n.d.
During the 90's almost 20% of American Jews... n.d.
Rabbinic Training with a focus on Jewish Education, n.d.
Rabbinic Training with a focus on Jewish Education, n.d. (water damage)
The Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, 1968-69
Mordecai M. Kaplan Library brochure, c. 1971
The Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, prior to 1981
Fundraising booklet, prior to 1981
Development booklet for giving opportunities, 1981
The main purpose of education is... 1981-86 (water damage)
Help build... 1981-86
The Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, prior to 1982
The Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, prior to 1982
Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, 1981-86
“The thing I enjoy most about teaching is...” c. 1986
“The thing I enjoy most about teaching is...” c. 1986 (water damage)
Imagining The Jewish Future, 12/25-27/1988
“Join us...” brochure and letter from Ira Silverman, 8/1/1993
Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, 1993-94
Master of Arts in Jewish Studies, 1998+
Promotional folders
Promotional folders

R.S. 4 Student Handbooks
R.S. 5  RRC Annual Reports

1993-95
1997-99
2001-2
2005-6

R.S. 6  RRC Financial Statements & Budget materials

Found in Dean’s papers (RRC basement files) and miscellaneous sources already existing in the archives.

Financial reports ending 1978 - 2004:
Budgets – draft and final versions
9 Files from the papers of Ronald Brauner, Dean, RRC
Papers include budgetary information from 1975 – 1984
Includes: notes, memos, drafts and final budgets
(Budget and Finance Committee folders remain with the Brauner papers)

R.S. 7  Periodic Reviews & Self-Studies

Submitted to Middle States Commission on Higher Education accrediting agency

RRC Self Study (bound document), 6/12/1944
RRC Self Study documents
RRC Self Study, 1989

R.S. 8  Planning Reports

Five Year Plan, 6/30/1988 (2 copies)
Draft materials for Long-Range plan 1993-1998
Long-Range Plan 1995-2000

R.S. 9  Program Proposals

Proposal for Program in Jewish Civilization to begin 9/1998
R.S. 10  Student Files
   Photocopies of student profiles by class and year; 1983 to 2007
   Student lists: 1969-70; 1970-71; 1971-72; 1974-75; 1975; 1975;
   1975-76; 2004; 2005
   Student biographies, 2005?
   Admissions Report, Fall 2004
   Admissions Report, Fall 2005
   Admissions Report, Fall 2006
   Student Employment and Internships 2005-06

R.S. 11  Staff Lists
   Photocopies of staff lists by year; 1995 to 2007
   Lists and phone list; 2003 to 2006

R.S. 12  Course Materials
   Introduction to Hebrew class, Rabbi Ivan Caine, 1971
   Student info. Regarding placement – Basic Studies & Biblical Civ.,
   Rabbi Caine, 1971-72
   Rabbinic Civilization, bibliography, R. Brauner, 1976?

R.S. 13  RRC Stationery
   Various addresses, logos, styles
   Letterhead & Envelopes

R.S. 14  Visitor Log Book

R.S. 15  RRC Prizes
   The A. Walter Socolow Prize
   Lillian And David Fern Awards, 2005

R.S. 16  Memos, General Letters, Class Schedules and academic calendar,
   Administrative and College Council materials, Faculty meetings
   (see R.S. 19 – Oversized items also)

Miscellaneous Items:
RRC Library fund gift notice, n.d.
Excerpts from the essays of 3 RRC applicants, n.d.
“Statement on Educational Philosophy and Policy of the Reconstructionist
Rabbinical College,” c.1968
Faculty meeting announcement, 1970s
RRC Board of Directors meeting Agenda, 2/7/1971
RRC solicitation to establish the Kaplan Library, 1971
MMK 90th birthday dinner, RRC records, 5/1971
College Council Meeting Minutes - 12/15/1971 – 10/20/1980
Letter to Friends from Ira Eisenstein reporting on RRC’s progress, 5/1977
Administration Meeting minutes, 4/30/1985
JTS-HUC-RRC First Annual Woman Rabbinical Student’s Conference, 1985-86
RRC Creative Liturgy Project, 1985-1988
Library job description, 7/1988
RRC building plan as of 7/2001
Memos, announcements, 2004-2006
RRC Committees, 2005-06
Calendar/class schedule:
1971; 1971-72; Fall 2004; Fall 2005; Spring 2005; Fall 2006; Spring 2006;
Fall 2006; Spring 2007
Fact Sheets for RRC; 2005 – 2007

Note: The following 8 folders were kept intact, there is some overlap in
dates, however, it was determined that integrating files into one chronology
was not possible in a precise manner due to some undated material.

File 1: Notices, Memos, Newsletters, etc., 1968 - 1974
“capsule image” of life at RRC
All documents are 3-hole punched. Order is kept as found.
Includes: memos to students, staff and faculty; Internal Journal;
meeting notices & agendas; course descriptions & schedules; lecture
announcements; news clippings; RRC Newsletter; event invitations;
student and faculty/staff lists; surveys; policy memos; curriculum
changes/developments; student internship listing; placement
memos.

File 2: Notices, Memos, Newsletters, etc., 1975 - 1979
“capsule image” of life at RRC
All documents are 3-hole punched. Order is kept as found.
Includes: memos to students, staff and faculty; Internal Journal;
meeting notices & agendas; course descriptions & schedules; lecture
announcements; news clippings; RRC Newsletter; event invitations;
student and faculty/staff lists; surveys; policy memos; curriculum
changes/developments; student internship listing; placement
memos.

File 3: Notices, Memos, Newsletters, etc., 1979 - 1982
“capsule image” of life at RRC
All documents are 3-hole punched. Order is kept as found.
Includes: memos to students, staff and faculty; *Internal Journal*; meeting notices & agendas; course descriptions & schedules; lecture announcements; news clippings; RRC *Newsletter*; event invitations; student and faculty/staff lists; surveys; policy memos; curriculum changes/developments; student internship listing; placement memos.

File 4: Notices, Memos, Newsletters, etc., 2/1980 to 5/1983
“capsule image” of life at RRC
All documents are 3-hole punched. Order is kept as found.
Includes: memos to students, staff and faculty; *Internal Journal*; meeting notices & agendas; course descriptions & schedules; lecture announcements; news clippings; RRC *Newsletter*; event invitations; student and faculty/staff lists; surveys; policy memos; curriculum changes/developments; student internship listing; placement memos.

File 5: Notices, Memos, Newsletters, etc., 9/1982 to 8/29/1985
“capsule image” of life at RRC
All documents are 3-hole punched. Order is kept as found.
Includes: memos to students, staff and faculty; *Internal Journal*; meeting notices & agendas; course descriptions & schedules; lecture announcements; news clippings; RRC *Newsletter*; event invitations; student and faculty/staff lists; surveys; policy memos; curriculum changes/developments; student internship listing; placement memos.

File 6: Notices, Memos, Newsletters, etc., Fall 1985 to 4/1987
“capsule image” of life at RRC
All documents are 3-hole punched. Order is kept as found.
Includes: memos to students, staff and faculty; *Internal Journal*; meeting notices & agendas; course descriptions & schedules; lecture announcements; news clippings; RRC *Newsletter*; event invitations; student and faculty/staff lists; surveys; policy memos; curriculum changes/developments; student internship listing; placement memos.

File 7: Administrative Meeting Minutes - 9/15/1981-6/18/1985
Details of RRC Administration
All documents are 3-hole punched. Order is kept as found.

File 8: Liaison Committee Meeting Minutes – 1/26/1981 – 2/13/1984
R.S. 17  RRC Annual Event
   2002-2006

R.S. 18  RRC Other Events

R.S. 19  RRC Graduation

R.S. 20  Oversized Items

   “Welcome” by the City of Philadelphia to Dr. Ira Eisenstein, 3/10/1974

   RRC logo – original art – by Ethan J. Weiner-Kaplow and William M. Strongin, 9/1987

   Certificate for Donald Lewis Shapiro of Harvard to attend the Inauguration of David A. Teutsch as President of RRC, 10/17/93

   Honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters to Ira Eisenstein by RRC, 6/7/1998

   Connections, Newsletter of the RRC
      Shevat 5766/issue 1
      Elul 5766/issue 2

   Entering Students (images):  Fall 2004; Fall 2005; Fall 2006

   Schedule of classes:  1969-70; 1975

   Diplomas:
      Master of Arts in Hebrew Letters
      Doctor of Divinity
      Doctor of Humane Letters
      Certificate attesting to service as rabbi
      Certificate for the title of cantor

R.S. 21  Jewish Women’s Study Project (JWSP) at RRC, 1990-92
   Initiated by students, undertaken jointly by students and faculty.
   Gail Milgram Beitman, chairperson
   Sonya Starr, project intern
   Elizabeth Bolton
   Files contain: Meeting minutes and notes; Correspondence; memos

R.S. 22  Kolot – Center for Jewish Women’s & Gender Studies
R.S. 23  Hiddur – The Center for Aging & Judaism

R.S. 24  Center for Jewish Ethics

R.S. 25  Kaplan Institute

R.S. 26  Public Relations
  1. Press Releases
  2. Newspaper clippings & magazine articles

R.S. 27  Photographs