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Finding Aid - Abraham de Sola/Evelyn Miller Fonds (MG2053)

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Abraham de Sola/Evelyn Miller Fonds

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Summary information

Repository:	McGill University Archives
Title:	Abraham de Sola/Evelyn Miller Fonds
ID:	MG2053
Accession no. [alternative]:	01-202
Date:	1784-1996 (date of creation)
Date:	1784-1996 (date of creation)
Physical description:	1.3 m of textual records 180 photographs
Language:	English
Language:	French
Language:	Hebrew
Dates of creation, revision and deletion:	
Note [generalNote]:	Proper names assigned to persons based on file content and references in the Encyclopedia Judaica and Jewish Encyclopedia.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Abraham de Sola was born in 1825 In London to David Aaron de Sola, Cantor in the Bevis-Marks Synagogue, and Rica Meldola, daughter of prominent publisher and scholar, Raphael Meldola. Abraham de Sola moved to Montreal in 1847 upon accepting the position of Reverend of the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue (Shearith Israel), Canada's oldest synagogue. Over the ensuing fifty-seven years, de Sola carved out a career and reputation as a leading scholar and leader of the Jewish community; not only in Canada but also in the United States.

Custodial history

The records were created and collected by Evelyn Miller and remained in her custody until her death In 1996. At this date they were transferred to her estate under the care of her family in Montreal. Previous to this, Miller had agreed to have selections of the de Sola materials microfilmed at the McGill University Archives in 1973 in conjunction with the production of a finding aid for the microfilm. The fonds,

including both her research papers and the original de Sola materials, were donated to the McGill University Archives in November 2002.

Scope and content

Fonds consists of correspondence, research and genealogical notes, articles produced by Evelyn Miller's activities as a researcher, historian, writer and archivist. There is also a considerable amount of primary source material collected by Evelyn Miller on her family; particularly correspondence, sermons and articles relating predominately to Abraham de Sola but also to David Aaron de Sola (Abraham's father), Aaron David Meldola de Sola, Clarence Isaac de Sola and the Hart family. The fonds have a vast amount of photographs mostly of the de Sola Family, but also the David, Hart and Joseph families. The fonds is composed of the following series:

1. Original Historical Records (de Sola, Hart, Joseph) Documents
2. Research and Professional Activities

Although there are two separate series, it must be noted that some information contained in the series files are often relevant to more than that area of activity. This is especially true of correspondence files.

Notes

Title notes

- **Source of title proper:** Title based on provenance of the fonds.

Arrangement

The documents are presented in their original order as received by McGill University Archives.

Restrictions on access

None

Finding aids

<http://archives.mcgill.ca/findingaid/mg2053.pdf>

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Published
-

Access points

- Miller, Evelyn 1916-1996

- Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue (Montréal, Québec).
- Rabbis -- Canada. (subject)

Series descriptions

Series MG2053-1: Original historical records (de Sola, Hart, Joseph)

Date: 1784-1974 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of original records relating primarily to the Hart, Joseph and de Sola families; however, materials relating to the de Sola family dominate the series. Includes records relating to Abraham de Sola, Abraham's father David Aaron de Sola as well as Abraham's sons Aaron David Meldola de Sola and Clarence Isaac de Sola. Also Includes records of the early Hart family, mostly concerning Aaron Hart and the family's settlement in Trois-Rivières, Quebec.

The documents primarily include correspondence to and from Abraham de Sola and to a lesser extent his sons Aaron David Meldola & Clarence Isaac de Sola. There is some early correspondence by David Aaron de Sola, Abraham de Sola's father. As well, the series Includes personal correspondence between Abraham de Sola and his wife Esther Joseph de Sola and their children (particularly Aaron David Meldola and Clarence Isaac).

Abraham de Sola's correspondence relates to his work as reverend of the Shearith Israel (Montreal) synagogue; Professor of Oriental Languages at McGill University; and as a lodge member of the Ancient Jewish Order of Keshet Shel Barzel, to which he gave his name to its first Canadian lodge in 1872, the De Sola Lodge no. 89. There is extensive correspondence relating to the lodge as well as other lodges in the order, the majority located in the United States. The correspondence relating to Abraham de Sola's professorship at McGill University includes a number of letters from Principal William Dawson.

The correspondence in the fonds related to David Aaron Meldola de Sola focuses on his assuming the position of Reverend of the Shearith Israel (Montreal) Synagogue upon his father's death in 1882, and Includes a number of handwritten and printed sermons given to the congregation. The correspondence and documents relating to Clarence Isaac de Sola focuses mainly on his role as the president of the Federation of Zionist Societies of Canada from 1899 to 1920. This includes sermons, conference proceedings, as well correspondence between Clarence Isaac de Sola and the leader of the Zionist movement, Theodore Herzl.

Physical description: approximately .7 m of textual records.

180 photographs.

Language of the material:

English

French

Hebrew

Publication status:

Published				
File / item list				
Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
MG2053-1-1	File - Small English dictionary, inscribed "G. de Sola"	1882		
MG2053-1-2	File - Book, [A Morsel of Bread] Rabbi Elisa Habbillo [Hebrew]	1794		
MG2053-1-3	File - Exercise books of Aaron David Meldola de Sola	1860-1868		
MG2053-1-4	File - Autograph book of Hannah Kellert	1881		
MG2053-1-5	File - Lectures by Abraham de Sola	1853-1874		
MG2053-1-6	File - de Sola family and business correspondence	1784-1913		
MG2053-1-7	File - Archival records - family history of the de Sola, David, and Hart families	undated		
MG2053-1-8	File - Exercise books - Abraham de Sola	1840-1860		
MG2053-1-9	File - Newspaper Clippings: Announcements	1839-1969		
MG2053-1-10	File - Sermons by D.A. de Sola, Meldola de Sola & Others	1831-1905		
MG2053-1-11	File - Book: Way of Faith by Rev. Dr. R. Meldola	1848		
MG2053-1-12	File - Corporation of Portuguese Jews of Montreal and Indenture of late Arthur Wellington Hart	1841-1857		
MG2053-1-13	File - Clarence de Sola: Banquet, Addresses, Correspondence	1900-1919		
MG2053-1-14	File - Address by Alan Judah Hart, Trols-Rivleres, Quebec	undated		
MG2053-1-15	File - Presentation booklet, Rev. David de Sola Pool	1935		
MG2053-1-16	File - Scrapbook of Clippings, de Sola Lodge #89 By-Laws	1889-1912		
MG2053-1-17	File - Diary, David. A. Hart	1898-1915		
MG2053-1-18	File - Clippings de Sola and Hart	[1850?]-1920		
MG2053-1-19	File - Clippings: Mendes Family, Birth of Marguerite	1890		
MG2053-1-20	File - Correspondence, Abraham de Sola	1833-1849		
MG2053-1-21	File - Correspondence, Abraham de Sola	1850-1859		
MG2053-1-22	File - Correspondence, Abraham de Sola	1860-1869		
MG2053-1-23	File - Correspondence Abraham de Sola	1870-1871		
MG2053-1-24	File - Correspondence, Abraham de Sola	1872-1873		
MG2053-1-25	File - Correspondence, Abraham de Sola	1873		
MG2053-1-26	File - Correspondence, Abraham de Sola	1874		
MG2053-1-27	File - Correspondence, Abraham de Sola	1875		
MG2053-1-28	File - Correspondence, Abraham de Sola	1876-1879		
MG2053-1-29	File - Correspondence, concerning Abraham de Sola's Illness in Europe	1877		
MG2053-1-30	File - Correspondence, Abraham de Sola	1880-1882		
MG2053-1-31	File - Assorted Correspondence, de Sola family	1858-1913		

MG2053-1-32	File - Correspondence, Abraham de Sola	[1870?]-1880
MG2053-1-33	File - Correspondence, Sir Moses Montefiore to Abraham de Sola	1862-1888
MG2053-1-34	File - Testimonial Letters for Abraham de Sola	1845-1850
MG2053-1-35	File - Opening of U.S. Congress by Abraham de Sola	1874
MG2053-1-36	File - Correspondence Abraham de Sola, Meldola de Sola	1873-1882
MG2053-1-37	File - Correspondence Naval Service of R. de Sola	1943-1946
MG2053-1-38	File - Estate Rev. Isaac Leiser (Philadelphia)	1894
MG2053-1-39	File - Booklets/Reprints	1856-1920
MG2053-1-40	File - Last Will and Testaments: Joseph Family	1879-1899
MG2053-1-41	File - Estate of Miss Fanny David	1907
MG2053-1-42	File - Miscellaneous: Document, Correspondence, Almanac	[1868?]-1974
MG2053-1-43	File - Correspondence, Marriage of Sarah David It Dr. David Hart	1875-1921
MG2053-1-44	File - Letters Patent de Terrier Samuel Becancourt of Three Rivers	1845
MG2053-1-45	File - Dedication Ceremonies Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue Sermons - Aaron David Meldola de Sola	1887-1894
MG2053-1-46	File - Lecture Meldola de Sola - Book Excerpts Biographies Early Canadian Jewry	1912
MG2053-1-47	File - Documents / Correspondence Marriage of Harline David & Ludwig Reuben	1907-1911
MG2053-1-48	File - Clippings: Pall Mall Gazette Civil Code of the Jews	1880
MG2053-1-49	File - Documents, Correspondence de Sola Family	[1794?]-1960
MG2053-1-50	File - Sacred Music by D.A. de Sola	1856
MG2053-1-51	File - Synagogue Choir Music- Meldola de Sola	1882-1920
MG2053-1-52	File - Effects of Isidore Freeman Livingstone (d. 1955)(Financial)	1918-1964
MG2053-1-53	File - Certificates - Jesse Joseph Mining Shares	1891-1899
MG2053-1-54	File - Memorandum of Agreement between Alan J. Hart and the Bank of Montreal	July 1923
MG2053-1-55	File - Correspondence to Marguerite Mendes (Mrs. Sam Silver)	1903-1948
MG2053-1-56	File - Miscellaneous correspondence to Marguerite Mendes	1927-1958
MG2053-1-57	File - Documents - Assets of late Mrs. Rica Mendes (de Sola)	1929
MG2053-1-58	File - Bound copies - The Jewish Times	December 1901- November 1902

MG2053-1-59	File - Bound copies - The Jewish Times	December 1905- November 1906
MG2053-1-60	File - Bound copies - The Jewish Times	November 1906-November 1907
MG2053-1-61	File - Scrapbook	1892-1903
MG2053-1-62	File - Scrapbook	[1907?]-1924
MG2053-1-113	File - Montreal Swimming Club Aquatic Polo Team	1909
MG2053-1-114	File - Single & Double Hand Alphabet for the Deaf and Dumb	Undated
MG2053-1-115	File - Montreal Star Article - 125th anniversary of Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue	1893
MG2053-1-116	File - Broadsheet - Abraham de Sola Lectures	Undated
MG2053-1-117	File - Calendar - Montreal City & District Savings Bank	1947
MG2053-1-118	File - Certificate - Colloquium Medicorum et Chirurgorum Canada Inferiores for Joannem J. Bibaud, signed by A.H. David, M.D.	1850
MG2053-1-119	File - Testimonial to Mrs. Meldola de Sola - The Corporation of Spanish & Portuguese Jews on death of her husband, (Aaron David) Meldola de Sola	1918
MG2053-1-120	File - Testimonial to Clarence de Sola- 10 years as President of Federation of Zionist Societies of Canada	1909
MG2053-1-121	File - Testimonial to Meldola de Sola for 25 years as minister	1906
MG2053-1-122	File - Illuminated Letter of Congratulations to Rev. Abraham de Sola- 25th Anniversary	1872
MG2053-1-123	File - Bill of Costs, Superior Court of Quebec, James Duncan Gibb- Issac Ebbitt	1871
MG2053-1-124	File - Diploma- Raphael de Sola "Guizbar" Association Consistoriale Israelite D'Alger	1945
MG2053-1-125	File - Correspondence	1858
MG2053-1-126	File - Report of Special Committee to the Justices of the Peace of Lower Canada regarding the rights & privileges of Jews in Canada	1834
MG2053-1-127	File - Montreal Gazette opinion piece by S. B. Hart	1830
MG2053-1-128	File - Satirical Cartoon - Clarence Isaac de Sola, Canadian Jewish Times	1912
MG2053-1-129	File - Testimonial to Aaron David Meldola de Sola	1887
MG2053-1-130	File - Copies of The Jewish Times - Lewis A. Hart Articles	1886,1901
MG2053-1-131	File - Engraved Copper Plates	1913
MG2053-1-132	File - Collier's and American Israelite	1908-1912

MG2053-1-133	File - Scrapbook, Aaron David Meldola de Sola and de Sola Family	1898-1945
MG2053-1-134	File - The Canadian Jewish Chronicle	1959
MG2053-1-135	File - Book covers, Samuel David	1846

Series MG2053-2: Research and professional activities

Date: 1900-1996 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Series consists of records reflecting Evelyn Miller's pursuit of her historical, genealogical, professional and related interests. The records focus on Evelyn Miller's research activities including documents relating to her genealogical research, research for her historical writing, and research correspondence. Included are documents relating to research used in her publications and articles, as well as drafts of these articles in various stages of editing. These articles and publications most notably include: "Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue (Shearith Israel) Montreal, 1768-1968" published in the Jewish Historical Society of England's Micellanies Part VIII, "Enter the Jew: The Jews of Quebec 1759-1882", and The Microfilm Guide to the Abraham de Sola Papers at McGill University (1973). This series also Includes selected printed material relating to the Montreal-based Spanish and Portuguese (Shearith Israel) Synagogue, the Shaar Hashamaylm Synagogue, and the Golden Age Association, all as it derived from her research interests.

Physical description: Approximately .6 m of textual records.

Language of the material:

English

French

Hebrew

Publication status:

Published

File / item list

Ref code	Title	Dates	Access status	Container
MG2053-2-62	File - Scrapbook	circa 1907-1935		
MG2053-2-63	File - Booklet, 50th Anniversary of Samuel Jacobs & Luisa Eder	1946		
MG2053-2-64	File - Research Correspondence	1961-1992		
MG2053-2-65	File - Miscellaneous Research Correspondence	1970-1992		
MG2053-2-66	File - Research Correspondence	1980-1993		
MG2053-2-67	File - Research Correspondence	1984-1990		
MG2053-2-68	File - Correspondence - Research on de Sola, Joseph Families, Gratz-Joseph Pamphlets	1968-1982		
MG2053-2-69	File - Research Correspondence, Trois-Rivieres	1970-1985		
MG2053-2-70	File - Research Correspondence Arthur Wellington Hart	1982-1987		

MG2053-2-71	File - Research Correspondence, Pamphlets & Newsletters Jewish Historical Society materials	1989-1994
MG2053-2-72	File - Drafts Newspaper Articles & Speeches by E. Miller	1967-1975
MG2053-2-73	File - Newspaper Articles by E. Miller, Synagogue History	1973-1975
MG2053-2-74	File - Addresses- E. Miller to Jewish Historical Society and Learned Societies	1980,1985
MG2053-2-75	File - Enter the Jew: The Jews of Quebec 1759-1882, On the Early Harts Part I, Canadian Jewish Congress	1980
MG2053-2-76	File - Drafts, Manuscripts-"Enter the Jew"	1978
MG2053-2-77	File - Research Notes, Essays: Abraham Joseph Fanny David Josepchs, Moses Franks	Undated
MG2053-2-78	File - Documents, Materials - Mrs. Theresa (Arthur) Livingstone	1929-1941, 1976
MG2053-2-79	File - Papers of Reginald J. Hart	1948-1976
MG2053-2-80	File - Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue	1918-1968
MG2053-2-81	File - Notes, reports, minutes on establishing an archive at the Jewish Public Library	1970- 1978
MG2053-2-82	File - Walking Tours notes (Quebec City, Montreal, and Westmount)	1983
MG2053-2-83	File - American Jewish Historical Society Correspondence, Newsletters, Pamphlets	1961-1992
MG2053-2-84	File - Correspondence American Jewish Archives Cincinnati, Ohio	1968-1994
MG2053-2-85	File - Correspondence - John Andreassen- Archivist, McGill University, and Georgeen Barrass- Assistant Archivist, Glenbow-Alberta Institute	1970-1982
MG2053-2-86	File - Correspondence, Reports- A.J. Arnold, Canadian Jewish Congress, Canadian Jewish History	1969-1980
MG2053-2-87	File - Correspondence - A.J. Arnold, Canadian Jewish Congress	1971-1975
MG2053-2-88	File - Correspondence, Newspaper Clippings National Bicentenary of Canadian Jewry	1959
MG2053-2-89	File - Correspondence - Genealogy of de Sola and Seixas families Transcript- Bernard Judah's diary	1970-1973
MG2053-2-90	File - Canadian Jewish Congress, Jewish Public Library: Documents, Correspondence, Meeting Minutes, Notes	1967-1970
MG2053-2-91	File - Correspondence, Newsletters: Canadian Jewish Congress	1967-1972
MG2053-2-92	File - Newsletters, Correspondence Canadian Jewish Historical Society, Learned Society, Canadian Jewish Congress	1977-1991

MG2053-2-93	File - Correspondence, Meeting Minutes Canadian Jewish Congress, Canadian Jewish Historical Society, Beth EI	1980
MG2053-2-94	File - Correspondence, Notes: Canadian Jewish Congress, Jewish Historical Society, Film "Jews of Canada"	Undated
MG2053-2-95	File - Correspondence Clara de la Penha (Finances)	1935-1940
MG2053-2-96	File - Correspondence - Abraham de Sola opening of U.S. Congress (1872)	1977-1983
MG2053-2-97	File - Correspondence, Pamphlets - Jewish Historical Society of England (JHSE)	1968-1974
MG2053-2-98	File - Correspondence, Notes on the Canadian Jewish Congress Jewish Public Library, Jewish Historical Society of Western Canada Inc.	1977
MG2053-2-99	File - Correspondence E. Miller Jewish Public Library, Research	1968-1969
MG2053-2-100	File - Assorted Correspondence, Listing Judaica Rare Books William P. Wolfe, Bookseller	1959-1975
MG2053-2-101	File - Correspondence - Mr. Rene Marchand, Trois-Rivieres Seminary	1983-1987
MG2053-2-102	File - Correspondence - Sybil Milton, Archivist, Leo Baeck Institute	1974-1980
MG2053-2-103	File - Correspondence - Jonathan Plaut, Rabbi, Congregation Beth EI, Windsor, Ontario	1973-1982
MG2053-2-104	File - Correspondence Rogers, Cansino and Plaut Families (genealogical information)	1979-1983
MG2053-2-105	File - Correspondence Jonathan Sarna, Professor America Jewish History (Hebrew Union College, Brandeis University)	1974-1994
MG2053-2-106	File - Correspondence Herman P. Solomon, Research Correspondence	1974-1977
MG2053-2-107	File - Correspondence Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue, Shearith Israel (Montreal)	1910-1978
MG2053-2-108	File - Correspondence Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue Hart-Heller, Levinson, Leibowitz-Wolf	1920-1942
MG2053-2-109	File - Correspondence - Mel Starkman, University of Toronto Archives	1971-1982
MG2053-2-110	File - Correspondence, Documents, draft 75th Anniversary of the Young Men's Young Women's Hebrew Association History (YM-YWHA)	1985
MG2053-2-111	File - Correspondence, Carol and Elliot Rosen	1958-1994
MG2053-2-112	File - Postcards, Marguerite Mendes	circa 1900-1917