

WORCESTER HISTORICAL MUSEUM

30 Elm Street
Worcester, Massachusetts

ARCHIVES

Chevrah Gemara
of Worcester Collection

1999.100

Processed by William F. Carroll, C.A.
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Collection Information

Abstract: Chevrah Gemara was a city-wide chevra (interest group) which met to study the scriptures. Activities of the chevra are documented from the 1920s to the 1940s. Most records are written in Yiddish or Hebrew.

Finding Aids: Written Finding Aid available in the Repository.

Preferred Citation: Archives of the Worcester Historical Museum, 30 Elm Street, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Provenance: Given to the Museum by Rabbi Baruch and Mrs. Rebecca Goldstein, Portland, Oregon, May 4, 1999.

Access: The Finding Aid is cataloged in MARC under the following subject headings (lcsh, tgm, gmGPC, etc.)

Chevrah Gemara of Worcester (Organization)
Congregation Shaarai Torah (Worcester, Mass.)
Jews – Massachusetts – Worcester – Social life and customs.
Jews – Massachusetts – Worcester – Societies, etc.

Broadsides, Yiddish (gmGPC)
Invitation cards, Yiddish – Massachusetts – Worcester (lcsh)
Invitations, Yiddish – Massachusetts – Worcester (gmGPC)
Record-keeping works, Yiddish – Massachusetts – Worcester – 20th century (gmGPC)

Historical Information

Chevrah Gemara of Worcester was established in the Hebrew year 5654 (1894 A.D.) to study the scriptures, and celebrated its 50 year Jubilee in 5703 (1943 A.D.). The chevra was a loosely structured group of people in the Jewish community of Worcester with mutual interests, and this particular chevra completed its fifth cycle of study of the Talmud in 1943.

Scope and Content

The collection consists of a records book of the activities of the Chevrah Gemara from ca. 1926 - ca. 1945, including financial statements, reports, lists, minutes, and other records. The record book is written in Yiddish. An English translation of excerpts from the record book provide insight into the group's activities for non-Yiddish speaking researchers.

Included with the collection is an invitation from Chevrah Gemara, inviting participation in the 50th year jubilee of the chevra (1943). During this 50 year period, the chevra members completed the fifth study of the Talmud. The invitation is printed in Yiddish or Hebrew. An English translation provides insight into the importance of the event for members of the chevra.

The collection also includes a broadside, advertising a Chanukah Concert and Play, December 25, 1932, sponsored by Congregation Shaarai Torah of Worcester. The broadside is printed in both English and Yiddish.

Series Description

Series 1: Record Books. Includes a single record book of Chevrah Gemara for the period ca. 1926 - ca. 1945, which includes financial reports, minutes, lists, etc. Written in Yiddish.

Series 2: Broadsides. Includes a single broadside advertising Chanuka Concert and Play, 1932, sponsored by Congregation Shaarai Torah of Worcester.

Series 3: Invitations. Includes a single invitation from Chevrah Gemara for the 50th year Jubilee, celebrating the fifth complete reading of the Talmud by the chevra. Printed in Yiddish or Hebrew, with English translation.

Chevrah Gemara of Worcester
1999.100
Series 1, Record Books

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1	1999.100.1.1	Record book. Includes financial records, lists, reports, minutes, etc. Written in Yiddish. 200 p., 28 cm.
1	1	1999.100.1.2	Excerpts. Translation into English of excerpts from record book.

Chevrah Gemara of Worcester
1999.100
Series 2, Broadsides

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	2	1999.100.2.1	Broadside. Advertisement for Chanuka Concert and Play, given by the Ladies Auxiliary of Congregation Shaarai Torah, December 25, 1932. Printed in Yiddish and English.

1aAqp.

Chevrah Gemara of Worcester
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Series 3, Invitations

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	3	1999.100.3.1	Invitation. From Chevrah Gemara of Worcester, inviting participation in celebration of the great Siyum, on the 50 year Jubilee of the chevra and celebration of the fifth complete study of the Talmud. Printed in Yiddish or Hebrew, 1aAqp.
1	3	1999.100.3.2	Invitation. English translation.