

JHSSA DESCRIPTIVE LEVEL RECORD

TITLE: Sheftel Family fonds

No.: MSF

DATE RANGE: [1926], 1958-1970, 1989-1995

EXTENT: 2.5cm of textual records.--2 objects

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH:

Morris (1871-1953) and Chava (Chasia) (1875-1936) Sheftel left the Ukraine in 1926, travelling with their daughters Sheva (1898-1991) and Molly (d.1966), and sons Harry (1904-1975) and Leo (1913-2004), to join their son Ben (1905-1984) who had emigrated to Calgary in 1923. They operated a fruit and vegetable stall in the City Hall Market (8th Ave and 2nd St SE), and in 1929 opened the first Empress Grocery Store. This was to be the first of three general stores owned and run by the family. The family business gradually moved primarily into hotels, notably the Highlander and Empress Hotels, and the Carriage House Inn. All the children were active members of their Jewish community.

Ben Sheftel married Bella Goodman (1911-2010) in 1935. They had 3 children; Allan (m Eva), Evelyn (m. Mike Brager) and Fran (m. Allan Kolinsky). Ben Sheftel was one of the founders of the Congregation Shaarey Tzedec. Bella was a long-time member of Calgary Hadassah-WIZO.

Harry Sheftel married Fanny Zeidman (1912-2001) in 1930. They had three children; Rose (m. Dave Zivot), Annette (m. Sid Shafron) and Harvey (m. Marilyn). In addition to his involvement with the family hotels, Harry Sheftel became a highly regarded cattle dealer.

Sheva married Moishe Baren. They had two daughters; Betty Crystal and Sylvia Milrod.

Molly Sheftel married Dave Baber in 1929. They had three children; Albert, Cecil and Diane.

Leo Sheftel married Goldie (Gopman) (1913-2002) in 1936. They had two daughters Harriet (m. Phil Libin) and Sheila (m. Ralph Gurevitch). Leo Sheftel was one of the founders of the Congregation Shaarey Tzedec, and the long-time owner-operator of several Calgary hotels, including the Highlander Hotel and the Carriage House Inn. In addition he was involved with several tourism initiatives, including the Calgary Convention Centre.

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

The fonds consists of immigration documents, correspondence, clippings, memorabilia, biographies and family histories regarding the personal interests, philanthropic and business activities of the family of Morris and Chava Sheftel. The fonds includes some photocopies, date of copying unknown.

The fonds has been arranged into the following series: Family; Ben & Bella, Leo & Goldie

SOURCE OF TITLE: title from content of fonds

SOURCE OF ACQUISITION: estate of Leo Sheftel; Sheila Gurevitch; Harriet Libin; Evelyn Sheftel Revivo

ACCESS CONDITIONS: no restrictions on access

ACCRUALS: further accruals expected though not scheduled

RELATED GROUPS OF RECORDS: JHSSA Photo collection; JHSSA Oral History Collection;
Congregation Shaarey Tzedec

Series Title: Family **No.:** .01
Date Range: [1926], 1995
Extent: 2 documents

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

The series consists of a copy of a 1926 receipt for some of the family's tickets to travel from Poland to Canada. The document list parents Moske and Chasia, and children, Margulchia (Molly) and Leiser (Leo). Also included is a family history written by Harriet Sheftel Libin.

SOURCE OF TITLE: title from content of series

ACCESS CONDITIONS: no restrictions on access

Series Title: Ben & Bella (Goodman) **No.:** .02
Date Range: 1989-1994
Extent: .5cm documents

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

The series consists of copies of telegrams sent to Ben and Bella Sheftel on the occasion of their wedding, as well as Hadassah-WIZO certificates acknowledging donations made on behalf of Bella Sheftel.

SOURCE OF TITLE: title from content of series

ACCESS CONDITIONS: no restrictions on access

Series Title: Leo & Goldie (Gopman) **No.:** .03
Date Range: 1958-1970
Extent: . 2cm of textual records.—3 objects

SCOPE AND CONTENT:

The series consists of correspondence and letterhead, clippings, souvenir booklets, and 2 metal photo print blocks, one of Leo Sheftel and one of the head table at a Shaarey Tzedec Synagogue function. Also included is a pin from a 1958 curling bonspiel hosted by Regina B'nai B'rith.

SOURCE OF TITLE: title from content of series

ACCESS CONDITIONS: no restrictions on access