

Project Descriptions

The Papers of Netti Boleslav

Location: National Library of Israel, Jerusalem

Arranged & described by: [Judith Poppe](#)

Further information: [NLI online catalogue](#)

The papers of the poet Netti Boleslav (Jungbunzlau/Mladá Boleslav 1925 – Tel Aviv 1981) consist of letters, diaries, manuscripts and personal documents, which provide insight into Boleslav's writing. The collection includes letters from Boleslav's parents in Prague (1930s–1941) and various materials on her lecture-tours in Germany in the 1960s and 1970s as well as several drafts/fragments of an autobiographical novel, which she never completed. The materials provide significant insight into the work of a German-language writer in Mandate Palestine/Israel.

The Collection of C.Z. Kloetzel and his Family

Location: Central Archives for the History of the Jewish People, Jerusalem

Arranged & described by: [Sonja Dickow](#)

Further information: [CAHJP Finding Aid](#)

The collection – mainly letters, manuscripts, personal documents, published works, books and photographs – covers a time span from 1881 until 2013 and reveals new perspectives on life and work of C. Z. (Hans) Kloetzel (1891–1951) in Berlin and Jerusalem as well as information about members of his family before and after the rise of National Socialism in Germany.

The Papers of Heinrich Loewe

Location: Sha'ar Zion Beit Ariela Library, Tel Aviv

Arranged & described by: [Dr. Lina Barouch](#) and [Judith Siepmann](#)

Assistance: Tanya Zhovner, Frank Schloeffel, Maja Krueger

Further information: [Finding Aid](#)

50 boxes of letters, manuscripts, notes, rare printed matter, and books of the Sha'ar Zion Library's former director and Zionist writer Heinrich Loewe (1869–1951) document his work as a librarian in Berlin and Tel Aviv. They also reflect his role as journalist, newspaper editor as well as early Zionist networker and scholar of Jewish folklore. Many materials shed light on Loewe's commitment to the development of libraries in Mandate Palestine.

The Habima Administrative Archive 1925-1933

Location: Israeli Documentation Center for the Performing Arts, Tel Aviv

Arranged and described by: [Jan Kühne](#)

Further information: [IDCPA Online Catalogue and Finding Aid](#) (*available soon*)

The archive contains the historical records of the Habima Secretariat in Berlin 1928–1933 – mainly letters, legal documents, contracts, and bills in German (bulk), Hebrew, Polish, Yiddish, Russian, English, and French. The Hebrew theatre Habima (est. in Moscow 1918) became the National Theatre of Israel in 1948. Most materials pertain to the legal philanthropic bodies, the Habimah Friends' Circle and the Patrons' Organization.

The Papers of Martin Plessner

Location: National Library of Israel (NLI), Jerusalem

Arranged & described by: [Amit Levy](#)

Further information: [NLI online catalogue](#)

The papers of the prominent Jewish-German orientalist Martin Plessner (Posen/Poznań 1900 – Jerusalem 1973) consist of manuscripts, research-related and personal notes as well as correspondence with colleagues in Israel and abroad. Plessner, an important figure in the study of Islam and Arabic in Israel, worked as an assistant of the orientalist Helmut Ritter at the University of Hamburg and as a lecturer at the University of Frankfurt until 1933. He joined the Department of Islamic Culture at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 1955. The collection is a substantial source for the study of German-Jewish Orientalism in Israel and migration-related knowledge transfer.

The Perles Family Collection

Location: Leo Baeck Institute Jerusalem

Arranged & described by: [Dr. Enrico Lucca](#)

Further information: [LBI Jerusalem Finding Aid](#); [LBI New York Online Catalogue](#)

The collection contains correspondence, manuscripts of scholarly works and sermons, notes and newspaper clippings of the rabbi Joseph Perles (1835–1894) and his son, the rabbi and scholar Felix Perles (1874–1933). The papers provide an insight into less known facets of the history and networks of the Wissenschaft des Judentums; the materials in Jerusalem complement a corresponding collection at the Leo Baeck Institute New York.

The Papers of Nadia Stein

Location: Central Zionist Archives, Jerusalem

Arranged & described by: [Margarita Fortus](#)

Further information: [CZA Finding Aid](#)

In 2012, the daughter of the Zionist social worker and journalist Nadia Stein (1891–1961) agreed to transfer manuscripts, diaries, family correspondence, and images to the CZA. They complement a collection of professional correspondence, articles, and propaganda material (especially on the Women's International Zionist Organization), which had been do-nated to the CZA earlier. The papers of Nadia Stein offer rich material for gender-orientated research on Zionism and Zionist women's activities in the field of social work.

The Chemjo Vinaver Collection

Location: National Library of Israel, Jerusalem

Detailed description by: [Dr. Amalia Kedem](#)

Further information: [NLI online catalogue](#)

The collection contains musical scores, documents, photos, letters, manuscripts, and newspaper clippings of Chemjo Vinaver (1895–1973), a choir conductor, researcher (esp. Hasidic music), and arranger of music for choir. Vinaver was married to Mascha Kaléko; he studied and worked in Berlin until his emigration from Nazi-Germany in 1938. The collection documents Vinaver's work in Germany, the USA, and Israel; in particular, it provides an insight into his composing and research related to the elaborate Anthology of Jewish Music (1955).

The Papers of Heinrich Mendelssohn

Location: Archives for the History of Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv

Arranged & described by: by [Netta Cohen](#), [Ray Schrire](#), and [Itamar Manoff](#)

Further Information: [Finding Aid](#)

The papers of Prof. Heinrich Mendelssohn (1910–2002), a renowned zoologist and a pioneer of environmental thought & action in Israel, comprise more than 70 archival boxes of manuscripts, observations on Israel's changing nature, research materials and notes, correspondence with academic, governmental and non-governmental institutions in Israel and abroad as well as images, films, and objects.

The Papers of Walter Grab

Location: National Library of Israel, Jerusalem

Arranged & described by: [Yonatan Shiloh-Dayan](#)

Further information: [NLI online catalogue](#)

The papers of the historian Walter Grab (Vienna 1919 – Tel Aviv 2000) include correspondence, articles, book reviews and newspaper clippings. The materials (ca. 4 archival boxes) range from the late 1960s until the 1990s. Walter Grab was a distinguished scholar of German History, noted for his research on the French Revolution, the German Jacobins and the democratic movements in Germany in the 19th century. In 1971, Grab founded the Institute for German History at Tel Aviv University, the first academic institution in Israel dedicated to research and teaching of German history.

Ongoing Cataloguing Projects in Partner Institutions in Israel

The Papers of Samuel (Shmuel) Hugo Bergmann

Location: The Historical Archives of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Arranged & described by: [Shaul Marmari](#)

Further information: Finding Aid (*available in soon*)

The personnel files (5 folders) of the philosopher Shmuel Hugo Bergmann (Prague 1885 – Jerusalem 1975) contain letters and documents related to Bergmann's professorship at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. From 1920-1935, Bergmann served as director of the Jewish National and University Library. He was a professor of philosophy at the Hebrew University and its first rector. Bergmann's research was devoted to Kant, Maimonides, and 20th-century philosophy. Furthermore, he was one of the Yishuv's leading public intellectuals. The archival materials provide insight into Bergmann's academic career and his involvement in the university's policy matters.

The Papers of Shlomo Dov (Fritz) Goitein

Location: National Library of Israel, Jerusalem

Arranged & described by: [Hanan Harif](#)

Further information: [NLI online catalogue](#) (*available after the completion of the project*)

In ca. 30 boxes, the NLI preserves the papers of S. D. Goitein (Burgkumstadt 1900 – Princeton 1985), one of the leading Orientalists and Medievalists of the 20th century who received his academic training in Frankfurt. The papers include correspondence,

manuscripts, notes, private diaries, travel- and ethnographic reports. Goitein taught at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and at the University of Pennsylvania. In 1971, he became a member of the Institute for Advanced Studies in Princeton. Goitein's scope of scholarship ranged from early Islamic History and Theology, Arab-Jewish Literature and Medieval Jewish History to the History Yemenite Jewry. His pioneering research on the 'Cairo Geniza' is reflected in the six volumes of *Mediterranean Society* (1967 and 1983).

Institutional Records and Collections of the Leo Baeck Institute Jerusalem

Location: The Leo Baeck Institute Jerusalem (LBI)

Cataloguing: [Judith Siepmann](#)

Further Information: [Online catalogue of the Center for Jewish History, New York](#)

The LBI Jerusalem (est. 1955) received abundant collections, mostly from families of German-Jewish immigrants in Israel. Furthermore, the Jerusalem office preserves historical records, which document the institute's research, collaborative efforts with German institutions, and internal affairs. The institute's collections and the historical records of the LBI Jerusalem provide substantial insights into German-Jewish social and cultural history. Together with the LBI New York, a transparent system for the arrangement and electronic description of the LBI's holdings in Jerusalem has now been implemented. With the help of junior scholar Judith Siepmann, the LBI Jerusalem has started to provide detailed information on its collections. More than 100 collections have been processed and are accessible via the online catalogue of the Center for Jewish History in New York – such as the Fritz Raphael Aronstein Collection, the CENTRA Collection, the Irvin Eppstein Collection, the Falk Family Collection, the Herbert Freeden Collection, the Collection of Salomon Adler-Rudel and the Council of Jews from Germany, the Pinchas Erich Rosenbluth Collection, the Walter Silberbach Collection, the Felix Weltsch Collection as well as Minutes of International Board Meetings of the Leo Baeck Institutes and various other LBI-records.