

# Thomas Jefferson University Archives and Special Collections

## MS 42

### Solis-Cohen Family Collection, 1838-1960

#### I. Solis-Cohen Family Genealogy, 1894-1959

5.75 Linear Feet (6 Boxes)

#### Historical Note

The 1827 marriage of Myer David Cohen (b. 1811) and Judith Simha de Silva Solis reunited the Sephardic and Ashkenazic branches of the European Jewish community separated by the dispersions of the Spanish Inquisitions, which began in 1492.

#### Scope and Contents

The collection consists of genealogical research materials compiled and written by members of the Solis-Cohen family from 1903-1960. Chiefly collected by Myer and Rosebud Solis-Cohen, the collection contains correspondence, family trees, reproductions of historical documents, manuscript notes, typescript copies of genealogies, materials from and correspondence with genealogical societies, biographies, necrology files and privately printed genealogies.

The materials document the family's European history, including the Sephardic Jewish origins of the Fonseca family of medieval Iberia and the Mendoza family. Information on the family's American ancestry focuses on the Binswanger, Etting, Hays, Jacoby, Levy, and Teschner families as well as Rabbi Gershom Sexias. The story of Aaron Levy includes documents, publications, and photographs detailing the events commemorating the "Aaronburg Story;" the establishment of the town of Aaronsburg (PA). Selected Jewish publications, which provide historical perspectives on the Jewish community in America, and hence on the family, are also included here.

#### Organization and Arrangement

Materials are organized into the following four series. Genealogies are arranged in each series by family name.

- A. European ancestry (1400-1754)
- B. American ancestry (1754-1830)
- C. Solis-Cohen genealogies (1830-1960)
- D. General biographical and historical notes
  1. General genealogical correspondence (includes societies and record sources)
  2. Genealogical and historical notes in manuscript form
  3. Jewish historical publications

## Contents List

### I. Solis-Cohen genealogy

#### A. European ancestry (1400-1700)

- 1.1 Fonseca family genealogy from the certified Spanish registers ca. 1400-1700. Text “translated, ca. 1851.” Manuscript notes of Myer Solis Cohen, one section dated Aug. 1941. ca. 1940 -1945
- 1.2 Fonseca family tree. Manuscript charts with annotations by Myer Solis Cohen. ca. 1940 -1945
- 1.3 Fonseca family tree: Analysis sheets from certified Spanish register. Myer Solis Cohen in manuscript. ca. 1940 -1945
- 1.4 Fonseca, Alloa and Taughts Family trees ca. 1400-1700. Notes in ms. by Myer. (File 1) ca. 1903 -1949
- 1.5 Fonseca, Alloa and Taughts Family trees, ca. 1400-1700. Notes in ms. by Myer. (File 2) ca. 1903-1949
- 1.6 Mendoza Origins, Da Silva Solis Genealogy: ca. 1685- . Solomon Solis-Cohen's correspondence and manuscript notes, with additional notes by Myer, 1925. ca. 1925

### I. Solis-Cohen genealogy

#### B. American ancestry, 1654-1830s

- 2.1 Binswanger genealogy. ca 1770- . Solis-Cohen, Myer. *The American Descendants of Samuel Binswanger*. Privately printed, 1957. 1957
- 2.2 Binswanger genealogy. Myer's research notes. ca. 1954 -1957
- 2.3 Binswanger genealogy. Myer's notes and drafts. ca. 1954 -1957
- 2.4 Binswanger genealogy. Myer's notes and drafts ca. 1954 -1957
- 2.5 Binswanger genealogy. Myer's final typescripts. 1957
- x *Cross reference: See also* Binswanger genealogy (2 files) and the Oppenheimer branch of the Binswanger family (1 file) in box 6 of this series. ca. 1954-1957
- 3.1 Etting genealogy. Myer Solis-Cohen, *The Etting Family in America*. ca. 1770- (inscribed to Solomon & Jacob, Jr.) ca. 1950 -1959
- 3.2 Etting genealogy. Myer's research notes and correspondence. 1934-1954
- 3.3 Hays genealogy, including Juda and Basha H. (1737-1741). Myer's manuscripts, with Judah Hayes' last will and testament and related legal correspondence. ca. 1930-1939
- 3.4 Hays genealogy. David and Michael Hays ca. 1730- , Solomon Solis-Cohen research notes from the American Jewish Historical Society. 1894

### I. Solis-Cohen genealogy

#### B. American ancestry, 1654-1830s

- 3.5 Hays genealogy. Solomon Solis-Cohen, *Note concerning David Hays and Esther Etting, his wife, and Michael Hays and Reuben Etting, their brothers, patriots of the revolution*. American Jewish Historical Society. Publications no. 2, 1894. 1894
- 4.1 Levy family. Aaron. 1894-1955. Published biographical reviews and publications re: "The Aaronsburg Story." ca. 1934-1935
- 4.2 Levy family. Daniel, 1766-1844: Myer's genealogical notes. ca. 1930-1959
- 4.3 Levy family. Rachel, wife of Aaron. photograph, b&w print from original negative with correspondence from M. E. Levy. 1933
- 4.4 Levy genealogy. Myer Solis-Cohen's correspondence. ca. 1934-1955
- 4.5 Levy family descendents. Myer Solis-Cohen's genealogical notes. ca. 1934-1955
- 4.6 Aaron Levy. "The Aaronsburg Story" 23 Oct. 1948- . Programme of the pageant and ceremonies. 1948
- 4.7 Aaron Levy. "The Aaronsburg Story" Press release: "The story in brief." 1948
- 4.8 Aaron Levy. "The Aaronsburg Story" W. R. Gordon, "The issue of an ideal" (the pageant). 1948
- 4.9 Aaron Levy. "The Aaronsburg Story" Visitor's guide to Aaronsburg. 1949
- 4.10 Aaron Levy. News clippings, publications and programs on the "Aaronsburg Story." 1894-1955
- 4.11 Aaron Levy. "The Aaronsburg Story. Photographs. Aaronsburg, PA. Negatives, b&w 3x5. 1948
- 4.12 Aaron Levy. "The Aaronsburg Story." Photographs. Aaronsburg, PA. Prints, b & w, 3x5, multiple copies and 1 set 5x7 prints. 1951
- 4.13 Aaron Levy. "The Aaronsburg Story." Photographs. Aaronsburg, PA. 1. Prints, b & w, 8x10 enlargements from negatives (#1). 2. Panorams, mounted – 2, made with 3x5 prints, b & w – 5 copies. F. Sim Pounds, photographer, State College, PA. 1948
- 4.14 Aaron Levy. "The Aaronsburg Story" Photograph order specifications and correspondence. F. Sim Pounds, photographer. 1948
- 4.15 Aaron Levy. "The Aaronsburg Story" Philadelphia Inquirer. Photo prints of ceremonies. 1 b&w 8x10. 1948
- 4.16 Aaron Levy. "The Aaronsburg Story." Newsclippings (several newspapers). 1948
- 4.17 Aaron Levy. "The Aaronsburg Story" 23 Oct. 1948 U.S. Chief Justice Felix Frankfurter. "Remarks" w/correspondence. 1948
- 4.18 Aaron Levy. "The Aaronsburg Story" Correspondence. 1948
- 4.19 Aaron Levy. "The Aaronsburg Story." Solis-Cohen, Myer. "Aaron Levy". a biographical review, addressed to J. S. Shannon, 1949. 1948 -1949
- 4.20 Aaron Levy. "The Aaronsburg Story." Magazine publications re: the pageant: Issue of an Ideal" and ceremonies. 1948

## I. Solis-Cohen genealogy

### B. American ancestry, 1654-1830s

- |       |  |               |
|-------|--|---------------|
| 4.21  | Aaron Levy. "The Aaronsburg Story" 23 Oct. 1948-<br>Programme of the pageant and ceremonies.   | 1948          |
| 4.22  | Aaron Levy. "The Aaronsburg Story" Press release: "The story in<br>brief."   | 1948          |
| 4.23  | Aaron Levy. "The Aaronsburg Story" W. R. Gordon, "The issue<br>of an ideal" (the pageant).   | 1948          |
| 4.24  | Aaron Levy. "The Aaronsburg Story" Visitor's guide to<br>Aaronsburg.   | 1949          |
| 4.25  | Sexias Family, ca. 1815-1865. Genealogical review from Hays<br>Solis-Cohen, MonteVerde, CA, To Myer.   | 1951          |
| 4.26  | Haym Salomon, Broker, PA Packet and Daily Advertiser, 21<br>Sept. 1784.  | 1784          |
| OS1.1 | Binswanger genealogy. Notes and family tree drafts.  | ca. 1954-1957 |
| OS1.2 | Binswanger genealogy. Final manuscript.  | 1957          |
| OS1.3 | Binswanger genealogy (descendants). J. Robert and Frank<br>Oppenheimer Genealogical correspondence to Myer Solis-Cohen.<br>Also includes publications re: the Oppenheimers in Congressional<br>hearings. | ca. 1949-1955 |
| OS1.4 | <i>Haym Solomon: The unsung hero.</i> American Jewish Review. 26<br>April 1951 (Revolutionary war history), re: statue.  | 1951          |

## I. Solis-Cohen genealogy

### C. Solis-Cohen family genealogy

- |       |   |               |
|-------|---|---------------|
| 5.1   | Solis genealogy (ca.1400-1830) Myer Solis-Cohen, "Ancestry of<br>the Solis Family" manuscript, correspondence and research notes.   | ca. 1940-1959 |
| 5.2   | Cohen, Myer David=Solis, Judith da Silva, ca. 1830-1905, and<br>descendants. Myer Solis-Cohen's research notes with family tree<br>genealogies. Includes correspondence from Hays Solis-Cohen<br>regarding Solomon Solis-Cohen. | ca. 1940-1959 |
| 5.3   | Solis-Cohen, Jacob=Miriam Binswanger family, 1875-1927.<br>Myer's genealogical manuscripts.   | ca. 1940-1951 |
| 5.4   | Solis-Cohen family history, ca. 1870-1910, Myer's genealogical<br>notes & memorabilia   | ca. 1940-1951 |
| 5.5   | Solis-Cohen family genealogy, with correspondence from Hays<br>regarding Solomon Solis-Cohen  | 1951          |
| 5.6   | Solis-Cohen family. Solis-Cohen, Jacob=Miriam. Children: list and<br>necrology  | ca. 1909-1920 |
| OS1.5 | Solis-Cohen family. "The Solis-Cohens: Philadelphia's Grandees,"<br><i>Philadelphia Inquirer, Today's Magazine</i> , 12 Sept. 1976. (incl.<br>genealogical review of the Ashkenazic and Sephardic branches of the               | 1976          |

- family's history and history of the Jews in Philadelphia).
- 5.7 Solis-Cohen family. Solomon and other. Correspondence and necrology (original obituary cards) ca. 1865-1949

## **I. Solis-Cohen genealogy**

### **C. Solis-Cohen family genealogy**

- 5.8 Solis-Cohen family, West Coast branches ca. 1896-1951. ca. 1896-1951  
Genealogical research by Myer, correspondence and necrology
- 5.9 Solis-Cohen, Charity. Obituaries. 20 August. 1943
- 5.10 Jacoby, Kathe Solis-Cohen, (Daughter of Myer). Family tree from 1928-1946  
the Fonseca ancestry; genealogical notes, news clippings, and programs.
- 5.11 Teschner (Rosebud Teschner Solis-Cohen, wife of Myer); 1925-1930  
genealogy. Manuscripts, correspondence and notes.
- 5.12 Teschner, Stern, Engl, Popper -- Genealogies: Correspondence ca. 1925-1958  
with notes.
- 5.13 Teschner, Stern, Engl, Popper -- Engl. descendants (ms w/ dates ca. 1925-1958  
1781-1866).
- 5.14 Teschner, Stern, Engl, Popper -- Stern descendants (ms w/dates ca. 1925-1958  
1760-1882).
- 5.15 Teschner, Stern, Engl, Popper -- Teschner descendants (ms. date: ca. 1925-1958  
1857 (only)).
- 5.16 Teschner, Stern, Engl, Popper -- All family trees: w/ dates 1822- ca. 1925-1958  
1926.
- 5.17 Teschner, Stern, Engl, Popper -- Pollock=Klein: To Stern/Engl ca. 1925-1958  
family trees: 1760-1918.
- 5.18 Teschner, Stern, Engl, Popper -- Popper family tree and ca. 1925-1958  
descendant account. no dates.
- OS1.6 Teschner genealogy (Rosebud's family) Chart in ms. ca. 1925-1940

## **I. Solis Cohen genealogy**

### **D. General genealogical papers**

- 6.1 Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania. ca. 1900-1920
- 6.2 Myer Solis-Cohen, General genealogy papers. ca. 1900-1951
- 6.3 Myer Solis-Cohen, "Genealogy" Notes and correspondence. ca. 1930-1959
- 6.4 National Society of Children of the American Revolution. 1938
- 6.5 Hispanic Society. Information for genealogical research. ca. 1937-1941
- 6.6 How to trace your family tree. (article). ca. 1900-1959