

The Archives Matter / Les Archives important

Introduction: New Voices / Des nouvelles voix

The theme of this installment of *The Archives Matter* is “New Voices,” because none of the institutions described here have been featured in this section previously. They are not “new” repositories, but each author has highlighted collections that are likely to be unknown to our readers, as well as new ways of accessing material that may open up additional areas for research.

Each of these three repositories has collections which are interconnected with material housed at other heritage preservation institutions across Canada:

With its important holdings on Jewish religious leaders and community activists, the collections of Library and Archives Canada dovetail with and enhance what scholars can find at Jewish- community-managed archives across Canada. Furthermore, as can be seen from Christine Barrass’ article, this national heritage resource includes materials related to Canada’s Holocaust remembrance museum collections as well.

Under the management of archivist Saara Mortensen, the Ottawa Jewish Archives, a long-established presence in the Ottawa Jewish community, has focused on enhancing digital accessibility to collections. Since the Ottawa Jewish Archives is now a partner in the Canadian Jewish Heritage Network (<http://cjhnc.ca>), researchers can discover through this shared database how materials such as the post-World War I orphans’ records described here complement holdings at Montreal’s Jewish Public Library and Alex Dworkin Canadian Jewish Archives.

The Jewish General Hospital of Montreal is an institution with a unique history; its existence made possible within the particular context of the Montreal Jewish community. As described by Da Linda Lei and Arlene Greenberg, the Jewish General Hospital Archives transcends its specialized niche and, subsequent to recent projects which have rendered its archives more accessible, it is now in a position to further significant scholarly research.

We hope these glimpses will inspire scholars to blaze new trails through these historic thickets.

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