THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MISSOURI
RESEARCH CENTER-KANSAS CITY

K0748

John Elliott Shamberg (1913-2009) Papers
[Jewish Community Archives]
1923-2001
9 cubic feet

Correspondence between Shamberg, his family and friends, relating his college years, early career, World War II, and after the war. Shamberg was an attorney and personal counsel to Robert B. Docking, governor of Kansas.

BIOGRAPHY:

John Elliott Shamberg was born in Fremont, Nebraska on July 15, 1913, the son of Bernard (Barney) and Matilda (Tillie) Shamberg. The family moved to Hutchinson, Kansas where his father owned Shamberg’s Men’s Clothing. John graduated from Hutchinson High School, attended Hutchinson Junior College, Washburn College, and graduated from Washburn Law School in 1937 with an LL.B. Degree, later converted to a J.D. Degree. Following graduation, Shamberg engaged in private practice for a short time. In June 1939, the Honorable Walter A. Huxman, governor of Kansas from 1936-1938, was appointed a judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. He selected John Shamberg as his first law clerk. He held that position from June 1939 until he was drafted into the United States Army in March 1942.

Shamberg served four years in the armed forces during World War II. Following basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, he attended officer candidate school at Fort Belvoir, Virginia completing that training in September 1942, when he was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers. He was assigned to the staff of the Commanding General of the 2nd U.S. Army. In June 1944, the new Eighth U.S. Army was formed, and he was transferred to that Command and went overseas to New Guinea. He served overseas for 19 months in the Pacific Theater. During his wartime service in World War II, he rose to the rank of major. He was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for his service in the Pacific Theater.

After serving in the armed forces and following a refresher course at Harvard Law School, Shamberg resumed the practice of law in Kansas City, Kansas in
1949. In 1966, he reorganized the firm under the name of Schnider, Shamberg and May. In 1995, the firm was again reorganized and the name changed to Shamberg, Johnson & Bergman, Chtd. with offices in Kansas City, Missouri and Overland Park, Kansas.

John Shamberg was personal counsel to the two-term Democratic governor of Kansas in the 1970’s, Robert B. Docking. He was one of the designated lead counsel in the litigation of claims for the victims of the 1981 catastrophic collapse of the Kansas City Hyatt Regency Hotel skywalks. He was a lawyer member of the Kansas Supreme Court Nominating Commission from 1985 to 1993. He was the first Kansas-based lawyer to be selected by the Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association to receive that organization’s Dean of the Trial Bar Award in 1997. He served on the Board of Governors of the Kansas Bar Association from 1969 to 1972 and from 1980 to 1990. In 1989, Shamberg received the Distinguished Service Award from the Kansas Bar Association. In 2006, he received the Phil Lewis Medal of Distinction. He was a member of the Kansas Trial Lawyers Association and served on its Board of Governors. In 1989, he was its first recipient of the Arthur G. Hodgson Distinguished Service Award, and in 2005, he received the Humanitarian Award. In 1995, the Leavenworth County Bar Association presented him with the Smiling Bull Award, one of the most prestigious awards in the state of Kansas. In 2000, the Johnson County (Kansas) Bar Association conferred its coveted Justinian Award on him for professional excellence. He was a member of the Association of Trail Lawyers of America, a fellow of the international Academy of trial Lawyers, a member of the Wyandotte County (Kansas) Bar Association, and was listed in The Best Lawyers in America legal directory from 1983-2000. Shamberg was president of the Washburn Law School Association for two terms 1965-1970. In 1984, Washburn University conferred an honorary Doctor of Law degree on him. He was a generous benefactor of the Washburn Law School.

Shamberg belonged to Temple B’nai Jehudah, Kansas City, and served on its Board of Trustees from 1968 to 1971. He was also a member of Temple Beth Torah in Overland Park, Kansas, and of B’nai B’rith, the Jewish men’s service organization.

Biographical information taken from Shamberg, Johnson & Bergman, Chtd. website 2009.

PROVENANCE:

This gift was received from Barbara Musser as accession KA1725 on July 20, 2009.

COPYRIGHT AND RESTRICTIONS:

The Donor has given and assigned to the State Historical Society of Missouri all rights of copyright which the Donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor’s works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the Society from others.
PREFERRED CITATION:

Specific item; folder number; John Elliott Shamberg (1913-2009) Papers (K0748); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-KC].

CONTACT:

The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City
302 Newcomb Hall, University of Missouri-Kansas City
5123 Holmes Street, Kansas City, MO 64110-2499
(816) 235-1543 SHSoFMO-KC@umsystem.edu
http://shs.umsystem.edu/index.shtml

DESCRIPTION:

This collection consists primarily of correspondence between John E. Shamberg, his family and friends. The bulk of the materials pertain to Mr. Shamberg’s college years, early career, World War II, and the years immediately following the war. Some personal, military and family records are included as well as photographs, publications and newspaper clippings. Oversize materials include newspapers (1941-1946) and a panoramic photograph of Mr. Shamberg’s Officers Candidate School (1942).

INVENTORY:

BOX 001

PERSONAL/FAMILY RECORDS

Folder 1 Hutchinson, Kansas- public schools, 1923-1924
Folder 2 Hutchinson, Kansas- junior college, class of 1933
Folder 3 Washburn College, Washburn University, 1936, 1941, 1948
Folder 4 Washburn College, Directory 1936-1937; Program, school of Music 1939
Folder 5 Harvard Law School, 1941-1949
Folder 6 Publications: Topeka, Kansas, 1939-1941
Cicaco Round Table of Christians & Jews, 1939; Univ. of Chicago Roundtable, radio discussion of The Jews, January 28, 1940.

Folder 8 Miscellaneous: handwritten notes; income tax return (1941); receipts, memorial program- Charles S. Fulton, 1940; business cards, membership cards.

Folder 9 Power of attorney, June 21, 1944. Helen Shamberg Brabets, to act on behalf of John E. Shamberg while in the armed forces.

Folder 10 Bank records- John E. Shamberg, 1939-1940
Folder 11 Bank records- John Shamberg, 1941
Folder 12 Bank records- Lt. John E. Shamberg, Memphis, TN, 1943
Folder 13 Bank records- John Shamberg, 1948-1949
Folder 14 Receipts, bills, 1938-1949
Folder 15 Programs: Jewish Community Center, Hutchinson, KS. Dedication, Sept. 1, 1950
Folder 16 Programs: Beth Horon Lodge, B’nai B’rith, May 1, 1955
Folder 17 Bernard and Matilda Shamberg, valuable personal papers, 1932-1966
Folder 18 Bernard (Barney) J. Shamberg (1882-1956), obit
Folder 19 Bernard Shamberg, estate recap, receipts and disbursements and final computation of shares to heirs, 1956-1961
Folder 20 Shamberg’s Men’s Clothing, expired insurance, leases, etc. stock receipts, 1952-1954
Folder 21 Shamberg estate; misc. family papers, 1967-1970
Folder 22 Publications, pamphlets, miscellaneous
Folder 23 Handwritten notes, junior legal pads, undated
Folder 24 Blank notes and cards
Folder 25 Photographs: picnic ca. 1939
Folder 26 Photographs: 1923, 1938-1940
Folder 27 Photographs: World War II, military service
Folder 28 Photographs: 1949
Folder 29 Photographs: 1950’s-1960’s
Folder 30 Photographs: Roslyn H. Feinberg, 1958
Folder 31 Photographs: 1980’s-2000’s
Folder 32 Photographs: undated, unidentified
Folder 33 Award: B’nai B’rith, century club award
BOX 002

PERSONAL/MILITARY RECORDS

Folder 1  Record Books, notebooks
Folder 2  Applications for Commissions-correspondence:  War Department, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, F.B.I. (contains genealogical information), 1941, 1942
Folder 3  Affidavit of Law Practice, December 1941
Folder 4  604th Engineer Camouflage Battalion, Camp Campbell, Kentucky, December 15-18, 1942
Folder 5  Notebooks, training notes, 1942-1944
Folder 6  Military Papers, notes, pamphlets- Major John E. Shamberg, 1944-1945
Folder 8  Orders pertaining to service promotions & commissions, 1944-1946
Folder 9  Official separation papers, War-Navy Departments, 1946
Folder 10 Reserve officer’s information, job inquiries, 1946
Folder 11 Correspondence, military related, 1946-1951
Folder 12 Publication:  “The Amphibious Eighth”, ca. 1945
Folder 13 Newspaper Clippings: Shamberg family and friends, 1936-1945
Folder 15 Newspaper Clippings: 1942-1958
Folder 16 Newspaper Clippings: 1989-1997

BOX 003

CORRESPONDENCE / PERSONAL / FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Folder 1  Correspondence- John Shamberg to family, 1934-1940
Folder 2  Correspondence- John Shamberg to family, 1941-1965
Folder 3  Correspondence- Bernard (Barney) Shamberg, 1939-1952
Folder 4  Correspondence- Matilda (Tillie) Shamberg, 1926, 1934, 1941
Folder 5  Correspondence- Mrs. Edwin (Helen) Shamberg Brabets, Phyllis Shamberg Zien, Daniel Shamberg, undated
Folder 6  Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1928-1937
Folder 7  Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1938
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1939, 1 of 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1939, 2 of 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1939, 3 of 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1940, 1 of 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1940, 2 of 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1940, 3 of 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1940, 4 of 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BOX 004**

**CORRESPONDENCE / PERSONAL / FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1941, 1 of 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1941, 2 of 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1941, 3 of 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1941, 4 of 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1942, 1 of 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1942, 2 of 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Correspondence: military related, 1941-1943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1943, 1 of 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1943, 2 of 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1946</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BOX 005**

**CORRESPONDENCE / PERSONAL / FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1947, 1 of 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1947, 2 of 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1947, 3 of 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1947, 4 of 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Miscellaneous handwritten notes, business cards, 1947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1948, 1 of 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1948, 2 of 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1951</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Folder 11  Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1952
Folder 12  Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1953

**BOX 006**

*CORRESPONDENCE / PERSONAL / FAMILY AND FRIENDS*

Folder 1  Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1954
Folder 2  Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1955
Folder 3  Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1956
Folder 4  Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1957
Folder 5  Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1958
Folder 6  Correspondence to John Shamberg, Roslyn Feinberg, 1 of 2
Folder 7  Correspondence to John Shamberg, Roslyn Feinberg, 2 of 2
Folder 8  Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1959
Folder 9  Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1960

**BOX 007**

*CORRESPONDENCE / PERSONAL / FAMILY AND FRIENDS*

Folder 1  Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1960, 2 of 2
Folder 2  Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1961
Folder 3  Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1962
Folder 4  Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1964
Folder 5  Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1965
Folder 6  Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1966
Folder 7  Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1967
Folder 9  Correspondence re: Dr. Dereka Dodson, 1980-1981
Folder 10 Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1982-1994
Folder 11 Correspondence: Greeting Cards, Postcards, Invitations, Thank-you notes, 1989-
Folder 12 Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1995-1998
Folder 13 Correspondence to John Shamberg, 1999, 2001
Folder 14 Correspondence to John Shamberg, undated
Folder 15 Miscellaneous notes, handwritten
BOX 008

LEGAL / PROFESSIONAL / SOCIAL ISSUES

Folder 1  Admission to Bar, State of Kansas, June 24, 1937; Supreme Court of Kansas, U.S. Supreme Court, passes, 1937-1941
Folder 2  Application for admission to practice law in U.S. District Court, Kansas, Dec. 22, 1941
Folder 4  New York State Bar Papers, 1947
Folder 5  Executive Training Department, Macy’s- refresher training, John Shamberg, Mr. Newkirk
Folder 6  Practicing Law Institute- Corporate Practice, Brief Writing and appeals, 1947
Folder 7  Correspondence, professional, 1938-1940
Folder 8  Correspondence, professional, 1941-1948
Folder 9  Correspondence, professional, Bresee College note, 1938-1940
Folder 10  Legal Files- John Shamberg, contents of folder, zoning map, Hutchinson, KS. 1938, correspondence, 1938-1939
Folder 11  Legal Files- John Shamberg; Mr. Garrity, 1938
Folder 12  Legal Files- John Shamberg, Mr. Smithson, 1938
Folder 13  Legal Files- John Shamberg, Mr. McVey, 1938
Folder 14  Legal Files- John Shamberg, Mr. Randolph, 1938
Folder 14a  Legal Files- John Shamberg, 1939
Folder 15  Legal Files- John Shamberg, 1940
Folder 16  Material on New Federal Rules, 1940
Folder 17  Legal Files- John Shamberg, notes, 1941
Folder 17a  Legal Files- John Shamberg, 1941
Folder 18  Handwritten Notes, 1942
Folder 19  Legal notes, calculations, Spanish lessons, undated
Folder 21  Writings: “The Bricker Amendment would be Harmful!” Schuyler W. Jackson (dean of the law school, Washburn University), 1953
Folder 22  Report: Anti-Defamation League, B’nai B’rith, December 19, 1957
Folder 23  Stock Purchase Agreement, May 1, 1978
Folder 24  Invitation: Presidential Inauguration, 1989
Folder 26  Bank Registers, 1977-1984
Folder 27  Shamberg, Johnson, Bergman, 1994-2001
Folder 28  American Jewish Historical Society, 2000
Folder 29  Anti-Semitism
Folder 30  Israel

BOX 009

PUBLICATIONS

Folder 1  Allagaroo, Hutchinson Kansas High School, yearbook, 1930
Folder 2  Allagaroo, Hutchinson Kansas High School, yearbook, 1931
Folder 3  Gregg Typing Techniques, 1932; The Century Handbook of Writing, 1928
Folder 4  United States Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division, interpretative bulletins, 1938-1939, 1941
Folder 5  Lawyer’s Desk Book for the Bar of Jackson County, MO, 1938
Folder 6  Pamphlets; legal, business, 1932-1947
Folder 7  Publications re. legal issues, 1940-1942
Folder 8  Pamphlets; socialism, civil rights, 1941, 1947
Folder 10  “The Labor Magazine”, July 1941
Folder 11  Pamphlets; Washington, D.C., 1941
Folder 14  The Journal of the Bar Association of the State of Kansas, Nov. 1936, Aug. 1940, Feb. 1941
Folder 15  The Journal of the Bar Association of the State of Kansas, May 1941, Aug. 1941
Folder 16  Kansas Association of Plaintiff’s Attorneys, November 28, 1952
Folder 17  How Our Laws Are made by Charles J. Zinn, 1956; Our American Government. . .1955


Folder 19  Hyman Brand Hebrew Academy, 12th Annual Civic Service Award dinner, June 2, 1985

OVERSIZE FLATBOX

*The Kansas City Star, June 11, 1941*

*The Kansas City Star, February 1, 1942*

*Nippon Times, Tuesday, September 25, 1945*

*Nippon Times, Tokyo, January 30,31 1946*

*Nippon Times, Tokyo, February 1,2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 1946*

Order of DeMolay, Degree, November 25, 1929


Invitation to picnic and week-end event, April 27-29, 1934.  Alpha Theta chapter of Zeta Beta Tau fraternity.

PANORAMIC PHOTOGRAPH (in office)

*Co. O Officer Candidate School*

Second Engineer School Regiment, Fort Belvoir, Virginia, Sept. 1942

R.C. Pfeil, Captain C.E. Commanding

ARTIFACTS

Small paperboard box:  Genuine Tungsten ignition contacts.  Handwritten note on end: Chrysler, De-Soto, Dodge, Plymouth.

Justrite Indelible Black Ink Set for Rubber Stamping cloth, issued to Capt. J.E. Shamberg

Rubber Stamp.  Capt. J.E. Shamberg 01103923

Small blue mirror glass Art Deco picture frame with silver metal corners.

Hollow brown ball with red peg in one side

Military issue green suitcase, with clothes.  Identified J.E. Shamberg 01103923