How do I see the original photographs and documents found on this website?

Most of the digitized photographs and documents found on this website are found in the Rauh Jewish Archives housed in the Library and Archives at the Heinz History Center. Visitors are welcome to visit the Library and Archives at the Heinz History Center and request materials from a reference librarian. Occasionally, digitized materials found on this website came from other institutions; however their location can be identified by the citation included with each digitized item. Check the Library and Archives hours of operation to plan your visit to the Rauh Jewish Archives at the Heinz History Center.

What is a Finding Aid?

The Rauh Jewish Archives collects photographs, archival material, books, and publications that document Jewish life in western Pennsylvania. When archival materials and photographs are donated to the Rauh Jewish Archives, a detailed inventory, or finding aid, is created by an archivist. The finding aid allows researchers to gain an understanding of the history of the collection and provides a detailed list of the collection's contents. The finding aid is also useful for identifying specific items a researcher may want to request from the reference librarian when visiting the Rauh Jewish Archives at the Heinz History Center.

When I open and pdf file, it is out of focus. How can I correct that?

The settings on your Adobe Acrobat reader may cause the digitized file to appear out of focus. This can usually be corrected by adjusting the "zoom" settings on your Adobe Acrobat reader.

Why are only some synagogues listed in the timeline?

At this time, only the synagogues that have archival records in the Rauh Jewish Archives are included in the timeline. We are working to include all of Pittsburgh's synagogues in the near future. If your congregation has materials to donate, please contact the Rauh Jewish Archives.

Is every charitable Jewish organization and institution listed on this website?

The goal of this website is to digitize and showcase the many photographs and archival documents found in the Rauh Jewish Archives. Some Jewish organizations, institutions, and people are not included in the timeline because they are not found in the Rauh Jewish Archives. If you have materials you would like to donate relating to Jewish philanthropy in Pittsburgh, please contact the Rauh Jewish Archives.

Will this website be updated?

Yes, we will update this website with additional digitized materials and relevant collections and materials are donated to the Rauh Jewish Archives.

I have materials relating to Jewish philanthropy in Pittsburgh. How do I donate them to the Rauh Jewish Archives?

Please contact the Rauh Jewish Archives to discuss donating any materials to the archives.

How do I get a copy of a photograph I've seen on this website?

Follow the links to photograph reproduction order procedures that are found under "research help" on this website or on the Heinz History Center website at www.heinzhistorycenter.org.