

**Benjamin Shapiro oral history with Harry Etscovitz, 1982**

**MCC-00021**

**Finding Aid**

**Prepared by Mark MacPhee and Lisa Ornstein, December 2, 2004;  
revised by Kathryn Donahue, August and November 2013  
Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes  
University of Maine at Fort Kent  
Fort Kent, Maine**

**Title:** Benjamin Shapiro oral history with Harry Etscovitz

**Creator/Collector:** Shapiro, Benjamin

**Collection number:** MCC-00021

**Dates:** 1982

**Extent:** 3 audiocassettes (.15 cubic feet)

**Provenance:** Material was acquired from Roger Paradis, March 1991. Material was submitted for a course with Roger Paradis at the University of Maine at Fort Kent, Spring 1982.

**Language:** English

**Conservation notes:** None.

**Access restrictions:** No restrictions on access.

**Physical restrictions:** None.

**Technical restrictions:** An audiocassette player is required to access this collection.

**Copyright:** Copyright has not been assigned to the Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes. All requests for permission to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted in writing to the Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes

**Citation:** Benjamin Shapiro oral history with Harry Etscovitz, MCC-00021, Acadian Archives/Archives acadiennes, University of Maine at Fort Kent

**Separated materials:** Not applicable.

**Related materials:** Not applicable.

**Location of originals:** Not applicable.

**Location of copies:** Not applicable.

**Published in:** Not applicable.

**Biographical information:**

No biographical information for Benjamin Shapiro is available.

Harry Louis Etscovitz was born in Brooklyn, New York on December 8, 1920, the son of Jacob and Bessie Plesset Etscovitz. He graduated from Fort Kent High School and attended Harvard College, graduating with honors in 1952. On November 20, 1952, he married Marilyn E. Goldman of Lewiston, Maine. Etscovitz served as a U.S. Naval officer during World War II. Upon returning to Fort Kent, he owned and operated Etscovitz Chevrolet and Valley Motors from 1945 to 1986. In addition, he was a co-owner of the Fort Kent Telephone Company, president of Esco Potato Brokerage Company, and president of Etscovitz Potato Company. Etscovitz was a member of the Fort Kent town council, a member and past president of the Fort Kent Chamber of Commerce, a trustee of the Fort Kent Library, and a member of the University of Maine at Fort Kent Foundation Board. He also served on the Board of Directors of the Northern Maine Medical Center, appointed in 1971. He was also a member of the Fort Kent Golf Club, the Lions Club, and the Fort Kent Masonic Lodge No. 209 AF & AM. Etscovitz erected the Fort Kent historic monument commemorating the early Jewish settlers of the town on the former site of a synagogue. Harry Etscovitz died on October 30, 2000, in Fort Kent.

***Scope and content:***

This collection consists of three C-60 audiocassettes containing two interviews conducted by Benjamin Shapiro with Harry L. Etscovitz of Fort Kent, Maine, regarding his life experiences, Judaism and the Jewish community in the Saint John Valley.

***Inventory:***

Items 1-3:                    3 audiocassettes