Guide to the James Silverberg Papers 1941-1994
# Table of Contents

Descriptive Summary                                      3  
Information on Use                                        3  
Access                                                    3  
Citation                                                  3  
Biographical Note                                         3  
Scope Note                                                3  
Related Resources                                         4  
Subject Headings                                          4  
INVENTORY                                                 4  
Series I: Writings                                        4  
  Subseries 1: Dissertation, "Peasant Behavior and Its Caste Relevancy: the Koli of Kassandra" 5  
  Subseries 2: General Files                               5  
Series II: Correspondence                                 6  
Series III: Research Materials                            7  
  Subseries 1: Field Research Materials - Bakrana (Gujarati Village) 7  
  Subseries 2: Field Research Materials - Kasandra (Gujarati Village) 8  
  Subseries 3: Field Research Materials - Koli Status and Caste System 8  
Series IV: General Files                                  9  
  Subseries 4: General Field Research Materials            9  
  Subseries 5: General Files                               11  
Series IV: General Files                                  12  
  Subseries 1: Others' Writings                            13  
  Subseries 2: Materials Related to Gitel P. Steed         14  
  Subseries 3: General Files                               14  
  Subseries 4: Pottery                                    15  
Series V: Oversize                                        15  
Series VI: Restricted                                     16
Descriptive Summary

Identifier: ICU.SPCL.SILVERBERGJ

Title: Silverberg, James. Papers

Date: 1941-1994

Size: 27 boxes (14.5 linear feet)

Repository: Special Collections Research Center
University of Chicago Library
1100 East 57th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract: James Silverberg, Professor of Anthropology department at the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee. As a graduate student he accompanied Gitel P. Steed on the Columbia University Research in Contemporary India Field Project. The bulk of the papers are related to the India Field Project. Additionally, there are files regarding the creation and organization of the Steed archive. There is also a small collection of Silverberg’s writings and correspondence.

Information on Use

Access

Series VI contains financial material that is restricted until 2039.

Citation

When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Silverberg, James. Papers, [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

Biographical Note

There are few biographical materials housed in the James Silverberg Papers. He worked with Gitel P. Steed as a graduate student, traveling with her to Gujarat, India, as part of the Columbia University Research in Contemporary India Field Project. He was accompanied by his wife, Donna. Silverberg later taught at the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee. He died in 2001.

Scope Note

The James Silverberg Papers contain 14.5 linear feet of material and roughly cover 1941-1994, though the bulk of the materials were generated between the late 1940s and late 1970s. The collection consists largely of Silverberg’s research materials, which include: field notebooks, quantitative data, surveys, maps, reports, interview transcriptions, etc. These materials relate exclusively to his work in India, though they do cover several different research trips. Much of
the qualitative data should prove useful and interesting to researchers interested in 20th century India and, especially, the Indian caste system.

In addition, the Papers house a small collection of writings and correspondence. The former contains typescript and reprint copies of Silverberg's work, both published (articles) and unpublished (talks, conference papers), as well as related correspondence. The latter contains a mix of personal and professional correspondence. The James Silverberg Papers also include a series of general files in which materials unrelated to the established taxonomy of the collection can be found.

Related Resources
The following related resources are located in the Department of Special Collections:

http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/select.html

Gitel Steed. Papers

Subject Headings
• Silverberg, James
• Steed, Gitel Poznanski
• Caste -- India
• Gujarat (India) -- Social life and customs
• India -- Economic conditions -- 1947-
• India -- Religion
• India -- Social life and customs

INVENTORY
Series I: Writings
Subseries 1: Dissertation, "Peasant Behavior and Its Caste Relevancy: the Kolis of Kassandra"

Box 1
Folder 1
Correspondence, notes, partial draft typescript, 1957-1961
Box 1
Folder 2
Partial copy, notes, undated
Box 1
Folder 3-5
Complete copy, 1961
Box 1
Folder 6-7
Chapter one, "General Setting: The Land, the Village Community, and the Koli Castes," typescript, notes, undated
Box 1
Folder 8
"Multiplicity and Cross Caste Duplication of Koli Economic Roles - First Draft (Second Copy)," typescript, notes, undated

Box 2
Folder 1
"Kolis as Service Recipients," typescript with commentary, undated

Box 2
Folder 2
"Koli Production Roles," typescript, notes, undated

Box 2
Folder 3
"Koli Proprietary Roles," typescript, notes, undated

Box 2
Folder 4-7
Typescript titled "Koli Social Roles," undated

Box 2
Folder 8-9
Typescript titled "Kolipatel Political Roles," notes, undated

Box 3
Folder 1-4
"Probably Chapter 4 or 5: Political Roles," typescript, notes, undated

Subseries 2: General Files

Box 3
Folder 5
"Background Chapter - First Part (1953)," typescript, notes, 1953

Box 3
Folder 6
"Diverse Field Techniques in India," meeting of CSAS, Urbana, IL, 1953

Box 3
Folder 7

Box 3
Folder 8
"Caste-Ascribed 'Status' versus Caste-Irrelevant Roles," Man in India, publication, 1959

Box 3
Folder 9
"Eye-witnessing Modes of Production in Indian Villages in Order to Introduce a Solar Energy Technology," 10th International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences, typescript, 1978

Box 3
Folder 10
Lecture re development and the role of personality in an historical-functional context, delivered to Barrett’s culture-personality class, notes, undated
Box 3
Folder 11
Notes for talk delivered to the Asia Club, undated

Box 3
Folder 12
"Introductory Statement," typescript, notes undated

Box 3
Folder 13
Unidentified typescripts, undated

Box 4
Folder 1-6
Notecards for unidentified work, undated

Series II: Correspondence

Box 5
Folder 1
Correspondence, 1953-1997

Box 5
Folder 2-3
Correspondence regarding research in India, 1949-1952
• SEE ALSO Series III: Research

Box 5
Folder 4-5
Correspondence regarding Gitel Steed papers and the preparation of a Steed biography, 1986-1987
• Correspondents include: James Silverberg, McKim Marriott, Robert Steed, and Riva Berleant-Schiller
• SEE ALSO Series I: General Files, Subseries II: Materials Related to Gitel P. Steed

Box 5
Folder 6
Marriott, McKim, correspondence regarding Steed-Columbia India Field Project Archive and Silverberg’s appointment to the University of Chicago’s Committee on South Asian Studies, 1988-1993

Box 5
Folder 7
Silverberg, Donna, 1952

Box 5
Folder 8
Steed, Gitel P., 1952-1971
• SEE ALSO Series I: General Files, Subseries II: Materials Related to Gitel P. Steed

Box 5
Folder 9
Steed, Robert, 1971-1985
• SEE ALSO Series I: General Files, Subseries II: Materials Related to Gitel P. Steed

Box 5
Folder 10
Series III: Research Materials

This series contains materials related to Silverberg’s research in India. The bulk of these materials were generated as part of the India Field Research Project, headed by Gitel P. Steed. They have been separated according to geographic region and theme: Bakrana, Kasandra, caste system, and unknown or general India. The first two Subseries are named for villages located in the state of Gujarat. Subseries III deals specifically with the caste system, a major theme in Silverberg’s research. Finally, the materials whose geographical provenance is unknown or which relate to India generally have been housed together in Subseries IV, though it is probable that they were generated in either Bakrana or Kasandra. Researchers are advised to examine the materials in Subseries IV should they be interested in Subseries I, II or III.

Subseries 1: Field Research Materials - Bakrana (Gujarati Village)

Box 6
Folder 1-8
  Transcripts of interviews conducted in Bakrana, 1950
Box 6
Folder 9
  Field notes, 1950
Box 7
Folder 1-11
  Field notes, 1950
Box 8
Folder 1-5
  Field notes, 1950
Box 8
Folder 6
  "India Gujarat Bakrana," computer disks, 1950
Box 8
Folder 7
  Informant List, undated
Box 8
Folder 8
Box 9
Folder 1
  Photographs of Bakrana, 1979
Box 9
Folder 2-3
  to archive on Bakrana, undated
Box 9
Folder 4
  Description of curing ceremony, undated
Subseries 2: Field Research Materials - Kasandra (Gujarati Village)

- Box 9, Folder 7: Notes on Kasandra, 1950
- Box 9, Folder 8: Notes on caste subdivisions, 1950
- Box 9, Folder 9-13: Notes on in visiting, out visiting, the ritual cycle, and the agricultural cycle, 1958-1959
- Box 9, Folder 14: Notes and partial typescripts on social rules and behavior, correspondence, undated
- Box 9, Folder 15: Maps, undated

Subseries 3: Field Research Materials - Koli Status and Caste System

- Box 9, Folder 16-19: Questionnaires on Koli status in various areas of Gujarat, commentary on these questionnaires, related correspondence, 1950-1953
- Box 10, Folder 1-6: Field notes on caste system in Gujarat, collected in multiple villages, typed on 5x7 note cards, 1952
- Box 11, Folder 1: Field notes on caste system in Gujarat, collected in multiple villages, typed on 5x7 note cards, 1952
- Box 11, Folder 2: Notes, interview transcript, list of contacts for Bucknow-Bombay trip, 1952
- Box 11, Folder 3: Notes on Kolis in India, census data, 1952
- Box 11, Folder 4-8: Notes on Koli social roles, related correspondence, charts, 1960
Box 11
Folder 9
Notes on Gitel P. Steed’s "Caste and Kinship in Rural Gujarat: The Social Use of Space," 1969

Box 11
Folder 10
Typescript titled "A Note on the Koli Status in Dhanpur Mahal," undated

Box 11
Folder 11-13
Notes on caste and Kolis, undated

Box 11
Folder 14
Notes on Koli ideological and intellectual roles, undated

Box 12
Folder 1-2
Notes on caste system in Bakrana, separated into the following categories: Rules & History, Dress & Hair-style, Occupations, and Miscellaneous, undated

Subseries 4: General Field Research Materials

Box 12
Folder 3-4
Census handbooks for Ahmedabad District, 1941, 1951, 1961

Box 12
Folder 5
Notes on psychological tests administered to villagers, 1949-1950

Box 12
Folder 6
Notes on logistics of research in India (number of researchers, hours needed, topics covered, etc.), 1950

Box 12
Folder 7
Inventories of clothing and equipment taken to India, itemized expense account, 1950-1951

Box 12
Folder 8
Abstracts from Silverberg’s field diary, 1950

Box 12
Folder 9-11
Field notebooks, 1950-1951

Box 13
Folder 1
Research notes on India, charts, graphs, drawings, 1950-1951

Box 13
Folder 2
Drawings, 1951

Box 13
Folder 3
  Notes, both handwritten and typed, and bibliography on Gujarat, 1951-1952

Box 13
Folder 4
  Census data for different areas of India, Silverberg’s notes on this data, 1951, 1971

Box 13
Folder 5
  Field notebooks, 1952

Box 13
Folder 6
  Slide list (no slides included) titled "156-326: Peoples and Cultures of South Asia," 1952, 1979

Box 13
Folder 7
  Transcripts and cassettes of interviews, 1970
  • This item has been reformatted for access.

Box 13
Folder 8-9
  Photographs of India, sent from Gitel Steed to Silverberg, 1971

Box 14
Folder 1-2
  India: Research materials related to study of energy resources, in particular the use of solar energy: Interview notes, correspondence, photograph, reports, notes, articles, 1976-79

Box 14
Folder 3
  Land utilization survey conducted in Adon, India, undated

Box 14
Folder 4
  Notes on the conclusions of Silverberg's dissertation research, undated

Box 14
Folder 5
  Notes on farmer conflict in Durban, undated

Box 14
Folder 6
  Bibliography for dissertation research, undated

Box 14
Folder 7
  Photocopy of unidentified field notebook, undated

Box 14
Folder 8
  Notes on the Gujarati language, undated

Box 14
Folder 9
  Notes on the Jajmani system, undated

Box 14
Folder 10
Unidentified kinship chart, undated
Box 14
Folder 11
Handwritten notes housed in folder titled "Historical Records (Khata Vati etc) for Village Study," undated
Box 14
Folder 12
Maps of peninsular Gujarat, undated
Box 14
Folder 13
Road map of Delhi Province, undated

Subseries 5: General Files

Box 15
Folder 1
One copy of Survey of India: Map Catalogue, 1945
Box 15
Folder 2
Collection of academic articles on various aspects of Indian culture and politics, notes, 1946-1957
Box 15
Folder 3
Newspaper clipping from The Times of India, 1952
Box 15
Folder 4
India map book, 1952
Box 15
Folder 5
Newspaper clippings of articles on India, 1958
Box 15
Folder 6-7
Materials regarding Camilo Torres, a Columbian Catholic priest turned guerrilla:
Correspondence (including correspondence with Torres), newspaper clippings, one copy of
The Catholic Worker (periodical), 1965-1973
Box 15
Folder 8
Map of the Valley of Puebla, Mexico, 1968
Box 16
Folder 1
Box 16
Folder 2
One copy of Guide to the Albert Mayer Papers on India, 1977
Box 16
Folder 3
Collection of published writings related to agriculture in India, 1977-1978
**Series IV: General Files**

This series contains a miscellany of materials. The first subseries is devoted to writings written by authors other than Silverberg. Subseries II contains materials related to Gitel P. Steed. While materials pertaining to Steed can be found throughout the James Silverberg Papers, the bulk of these materials have been housed here. Subseries III includes materials that do not fit within the established taxonomy of the collection: miscellaneous photographs, unidentified writings and notes, and press items. Of interest in this subseries are the diaries of Silverberg’s wife, Donna. These diaries were written while Mrs. Silverberg was in India, accompanying her husband on the India Field Research Project. Lastly, Subseries IV contains several pottery items whose use and provenance are undetermined.
**Subseries 1: Others’ Writings**

**Box 17**
Folder 4  
Folklore Notes: Vol. I - Gujarat, 1914

**Box 17**
Folder 5  
Review of Werner Levi’s Free India in Asia: Clipping, 1953

**Box 17**
Folder 6  
Reprint copy of Margaret Mead’s "Manus Restudied: An Interim Report," 1954

**Box 17**
Folder 7  

**Box 17**
Folder 8  
Lore (publication of the Milwaukee Public Museum), 1958

**Box 17**
Folder 9-10  
Papers from a symposium titled "Caste in India," abstracts, list of participants, correspondence, notes, name tag, 1958-1959

**Box 18**
Folder 1  
Human Organization (journal), 1963

**Box 18**
Folder 2  
Copies of Gerald D. Berreman articles published by the South Asia Series of the Center for South Asian Studies, University of California - Berkeley, 1966-1972

**Box 18**
Folder 3  

**Box 18**
Folder 4  
Copies of publications put out by the Appropriate Technology Development Association (India), 1978

**Box 18**
Folder 5  
Review of William L. Kolb’s "The Structure and Functions of Cities": Reprint, undated

**Box 18**
Folder 6-8  
Reprints and photocopied papers, published and unpublished, 1959-1984

**Box 19**
Folder 1-6  
Reprints and photocopied papers, published and unpublished, 1959-1984

**Box 20**
Folder 1-6
Reprints and photocopied papers, published and unpublished, 1959-1984

**Box 21**

**Folder 1-2**

Reprints and photocopied papers, published and unpublished, 1959-1984

**Subseries 2: Materials Related to Gitel P. Steed**

**Box 21**

**Folder 3**

Newspaper clipping of story on Gitel Steed, 1949

**Box 21**

**Folder 4**

Typescript copy of report prepared by Gitel P. Steed in relation to the Research in Contemporary India Field Project, 1950

**Box 21**

**Folder 5**

Gitel P. Steed’s data index as sent to Dr. Kardiner, 1952

**Box 21**

**Folder 6-7**

Transcripts of lectures delivered by Gitel P. Steed at Columbia University as part of "Sociology 311-312: Techniques of Psychodynamic Analysis of Culture: Illustrated by Aspects of Primitive and Contemporary Societies," 1953

**Box 21**

**Folder 8**

Materials related to Silverberg’s bequest to the Gitel P. Steed Papers at the University of Chicago Special Collections: Request to view Gitel P. Steed Papers at The University of Chicago Special Collections, notes, correspondence, 1994

- SEE ALSO Series II: Correspondence

**Box 22**

**Folder 1-2**

Materials regarding the India archives at the Regenstein Library’s Special Collections: Notes, inventories, 1994

- SEE ALSO Series II: Correspondence

**Subseries 3: General Files**

**Box 22**

**Folder 3**

Notes on the organization of Silverberg’s research files, 1950

**Box 22**

**Folder 4**

Newspaper clipping of cartoon, 1950

**Box 22**

**Folder 5-6**
Donna Silverberg, diaries, 1950-1951

Box 22
Folder 7
Copies of feature story on Silverberg’s dissertation research, published by the University of Wisconsin - Madison, 1952

Box 22
Folder 8
Newspaper clipping of story on Silverberg, 1952

Box 22
Folder 9
Xth International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences:
Correspondence, notes, copy of Silverberg’s "Intercultural Communication among Anthropologists: Tower of Babel or Siblinghood of Humanity?” 1978

Box 22
Folder 10
Typescript titled "Notes from Public Opinion Quarterly, winter 1952-53," undated

Box 22
Folder 11
Unidentified photos, undated

Box 22
Folder 12
Unidentified photocopied excerpt, undated

Box 23
Folder 1-4
Unidentified miscellaneous notes, undated

Subseries 4: Pottery

Box 24
Brown shell/pod with a carved surface, undated

Box 24
Ceramic bell, painted in blue and green, undated

Box 24
Hollow coconut, filled with pottery fragments, undated

Box 24
Small ceramic bowl with painted exterior, undated

Box 24
Two smaller ochre ceramic goblet-shaped items with decorated surface and ashen interior, undated

Box 24
Wine skin

Box 25
Brown ceramic goblet-shaped item with ashen interior, undated

Series V: Oversize

Box 26
Notes on Koli vocabulary regarding kinship, diagrams, photographs, undated
Box 26
Hand drawn map of India, undated

Series VI: Restricted
Box 27
Folder 1-2
Materials related to research funding, [Restricted 50 years: financial records] 1978-1989
• 12