This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-St. Louis. If you would like more information, please contact us at stlouis@shsmo.org.

Introduction
Approximately 4 cubic feet

The Howard F. Baer Papers contain correspondence, photographs, and newspaper clippings documenting his activities as a member of the St. Louis Zoological Sub district Commission from 1979 to 1984 and his time as a Trustee of the Missouri Botanical Garden from 1937 to 1985. Also included in the collection is Baer's autobiography, An Ordinary Man.

Howard Feist Baer was a successful businessman and civic leader. In the late 1960s and early 1970s, he served on the St. Louis Zoological Commission during significant construction and renovation projects such as the Children's Zoo and Big Cat Country. From June to December 1972, he headed a campaign to broaden the base of tax support for the Zoo and St. Louis Art Museum to include St. Louis County. This culminated in the creation of the Zoo-Museum Tax District. Howard Baer also served on the St. Louis City-County Airport Commission/Authority from 1954 to 1970 but remained involved with plans concerning the expansion of Lambert Field until 1977. He also sponsored several sculpture shows and the development of Schoenberg Fountain at the Missouri Botanical Garden from 1965 to 1976. Other civic concerns of Howard Baer include Kiener Park and Aloe Plaza at Union Station. He won the St. Louis Award in 1969 and the Globe-Democrat Man-of-the-Year Award in 1971. Baer died December 30, 1998.

Donor Information
The papers were donated to University of Missouri by Howard F. Baer on May 31, 1979 (Accession No. SA2176). An addition was made on April 29, 1987 by Howard F. Baer (Accession No. SA2783). An addition was made on May 22, 1987 by Howard F. Baer (Accession No. SA2787). An addition was made on January 29, 1999 by Howard F. Baer (Accession No. SA3325).

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St. Louis Zoological Park
  1963-1978 (5 folders)
  Children’s Zoo, 1965-1970
  Big Cat Country, 1972-1976
  Zoo-Museum Tax District
Legal materials and correspondence, 1972-1974 (4 folders)
Diary, notes, and correspondence, no date

Other Civic Projects
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Missouri Botanical Garden,
   St. Louis Bicentennial Sculpture Show, September-November 1965
   Shoenberg Fountain, March 1972-August 1974
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Louis Baer memorial, Charleston, West Virginia, 1972-1976
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Personal Correspondence
St. Louis Award, congratulations, 1969 (4 folders)
St. Louis Globe-Democrat, Man of the Year Award, congratulations, 1971
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Box 2
Zoo-Museum Tax District congratulations, 1961-1978 (3 folders)
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Box 3
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   Retirement plan for employees, January 1, 1981
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Jewish Tercentenary Monument, 1986, 1989
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Box 5
Shaw’s Garden, Isabel A. Baer Memorial Garden, 1992
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   Correspondence, 1985-1994 (4 folders)
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