

In the early 1920s, an amateur Yiddish drama group presented plays at Grange Hall. The programs were well received by the community.

Whereas the Knights of Pythias was not a Jewish organization per se, its membership as of the late 1920s was mostly Jewish. The Knights owned a building which served as a social center for Jewish males where the major activity was card playing at substantial stakes.

Jewish youth and young adults organized their social activities locally. It was the rare occasion that they would join with Jewish groups in nearby communities for dances or socials except for some joint affairs with Norwich youth.

Nor was there much interaction between the adult Colchester Jewry with the Jews in the surrounding environs (Moodus, Hebron, Amston, Norwich, Salem, Chesterfield, Lebanon, and Glastonbury). Colchester Jews were insular. They found social compatibility within the community and were for the most part not involved with the Jews in nearby areas.

As in the East European shtetls, the major social events related to the celebration of a wedding, a bris (circumcision of an eight day male) a bar mitzvah. While out of town relatives and friends were invited to these events, most of the attendees were local residents.

In interviewing Colchester Jews for this study, a near universal response was they enjoyed their childhood and adolescent experiences in Colchester. Whatever tribulations that may have faced their parents in earning a living did not impact on the youths' gratifications with their life style. They expressed a feeling of "gemutlichkeit", a sense of warm fellowship that pervaded their shtetl life. For them growing up in Colchester was no hardship. To the contrary, it seems to be a memory that they have cherished with eternal thanks.

CHAPTER SEVEN

JEWISH COMMUNITY LIFE SINCE WW II

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Colchester Jewry enjoyed unprecedented prosperity after the onset of WW II. With only some minor economic hiccups since 1941, Jews experienced a bountiful life in Colchester, far beyond the anticipation of the pioneering Jewish settlers a hundred years ago.

The Levine coat and Cohen dress manufacturing operations were substantially expanded. S&S leather goods (Schwartz and Sesserman) bought land and built new buildings to increase their manufacturing capacity to accommodate expanding marketing options. Liverant's antique sales soared after a national magazine featured its select inventory. The demand for automobiles and trucks brought buyers to Shuster's Chrysler/Plymouth agency and to Lazink's General Motors dealership. Shuster's trucking business grew by internal expansion and acquisitions. The firm established terminals in New England, the Middle Atlantic States and reached into several Southern cities. For a period, Shuster's trucking was the largest employer in Colchester. Currently, S&S holds that rank.

Agranovitch added more space for his variety store with the increased volume of business from the bus depot operation located at his site. The busses served passengers travelling from Hartford to New London. Notwithstanding the advent of television, the Markoff family continued to operate the only cinema in Colchester.

The new four lane highway that was built linking Hartford with New London relieved the traffic gridlock that tied up Colchester on summer weekends. Nonetheless, Harry's Stand run by Ruby Cohen did a thriving business.

Jewish retail merchants prospered as well. Ben Cohen, Zaydel Goldberg, the Deitch brothers, Hyman Alpert, operated successful grocery and butcher stores. In 1952, Irving Plotkin opened a jewelry store. The two largest pharmacies were operated by Harry Gurian and the Gitlitz brothers (Sidney and Irving).

Several native Colchester Jews maintained law offices in town including Morris and Joseph Broder, Paul Groobert, Melvin Scott, Louis Stone among others.

The two Jewish physicians were Dr. Irving Friedman and Dr. Irwin Israel. Unfortunately, both passed away in the seventies.

Except for Levy's Grand View Hotel, Jews abandoned the hotel and boarding house operations. More luxurious accommodations with professional entertainment and excellent athletic facilities were built in nearby Moodus and in the Catskill resort areas of New York State. The more prosperous Jewish clientele were attracted to these hotels with their lavish amenities.

Farmers abandoned their "koch-a leins" since they were not in dire need of the income and they observed no interest in this type of accommodations.

Jews entered new ventures. Dr. Friedman, David Hurwit and Irving Shapiro built convalescent homes to care for an ailing, aging population. Later, Mr. Hurwit and his two sons, Robert and James, built commercial property in the Greater Hartford area.

Al Goldstein who started his career hatching chickens switched to real estate development and management. He built a low income, federally sponsored housing complex in Colchester as well as a medical center off Broadway not far from the State Police Barracks. After Mr. Goldstein died in the nineties, his wife, Renee, and two sons have managed the property.

Hyman Stollman converted a segment of his family's farm property on Old Hebron Road into a nine hole golf course that has attracted many loyal local golfers.

The Jewish farmers, almost exclusively engaged in poultry farming, also prospered. About 20 post WW II Jewish refugees were assisted in purchasing farms in Colchester. With few exceptions, they proved to have been proficient in their new environment.

The local grain brokers (Broder, Cutler and Einhorn) also expanded their operations. As previously noted, they did not rely solely on the Jewish farmers for sales but catered to a Gentile clientele from Colchester and surrounding communities.

Commencing in the mid-seventies, the Jewish economic involvement in Colchester began to decline. Cohen's dress factory moved to Norwich and then went out of business. Levine sold out to new owners who are still operating but on a smaller scale. Shuster's trucking was acquired in a friendly buyout in the late eighties by a major transportation conglomerate. Gurian and Agranovitch shut down their operations. David Hurwit and Irving Shapiro sold out their properties and retired. Levy's Grand View and Markoff's cinema also closed operations.

Most of the Jewish grocery and butcher retailers went out of business. There is currently no kosher butcher in Colchester. Jews now shop for kosher meat in Hartford.

In the eighties, Colchester experienced a sharp influx of bedroom commuting families, primarily those employed in either the Greater Hartford area or New London and environs. New road transportation made convenient commuting to these areas. The new buyers were attracted by the more affordable housing in Colchester.

The price of farm land skyrocketed as farmers cheerfully sold out to real estate developers.

As occurred a hundred years ago, farming declined as aging farmers learned that their children were unwilling to continue the family farming tradition. Many of the Jewish farmers retired and departed for warmer climate, mostly in South Florida.

The housing boom in Colchester was responsible for the soaring rise in population. According to the 1990 census, there were 11,000 residents in Colchester.

However, the Jewish population dropped. This change in demographics is best reflected in the 1994 membership records of Congregation Ahavath Achim. (See Table 8 below).

TABLE 8
MEMBERSHIP CENSUS-1994
CONGREGATION AHAVATH ACHIM (a)

Members' Residence	Number of Members
Colchester	143 (b)
Lebanon (c)	19
Connecticut (d)	28
Florida	22
Other	11
	<hr/>
	223

(a) Data compiled from the membership roster printed in the synagogue's 1994-1995 calendar

(b) 53 couples and 39 singles

(c) Lebanon Jewry discontinued their synagogue activities in 1993 and decided to affiliate with Ahavath Achim

(d) Excludes those Jewish members from Colchester and Lebanon

As noted in Table 8, there are 143 Colchester residents who are members of the synagogue consisting of 52 couples and 39 singles.

Assuming an average of four persons per family, there are approximately 250 affiliated synagogue Jews. If Colchester Jewry is typical of national average of Jews joining synagogues as members,

then the current census for Colchester Jews is no more than 500 (probably a high estimate) or about four percent of the population.

Of the remaining Jews in Colchester, few are farmers. Most Jews are employed as professionals (lawyers, dentist, pharmacists) as entrepreneurs in various business ventures and as management or technical staff for manufacturing enterprises. Only the Einhorn family continues in the grain business. The Jewish community except for the S&S operation (the largest employer in Colchester) lacks the economic clout that once prevailed.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The first three decades in the post WW II period (1950-1980) proved to be the golden days for Colchester Jewry. With economic affluence came the ability to build community institutions.

The local Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) group supported enthusiastically the founding of the State of Israel and rallied the Jewish community to give generously to the United Jewish Appeal. Hadassah flourished as new members were recruited and the chapter met or exceeded its quotas for the several Hadassah projects. Hadassah also sponsored a Young Judea group under the supervision of a volunteer group leader from its ranks.

Shortly after the war, a local Jewish War Veterans post was organized but it did not survive beyond the fifties. (See Appendix C for a listing of 80 Colchester Jews who served in WW II. Note that three Jewish servicemen lost their lives during the war).

The crowning community achievement stemmed from the decision to tear down the Ahavath Achim building on Lebanon Avenue and replace it with a modern synagogue which included a sanctuary, social hall, kosher kitchen, library and conference room, meeting rooms and separate offices for the rabbi and synagogue staff.

In opting to build the new synagogue, the incumbent leadership at the time (Paul and Ben Schuster, Hy Levine and Edward Scott) recommended to eliminate the practice of separating men and women at religious services. They favored adding more English text during the services and preparing adolescent girls for their bat mitzvah.

These choices riled some elders who favored strict adherence to Orthodox rituals in the synagogue. Other dissenting voices opposed paying for the increased assessment and dues for building the new synagogue and for its upkeep. As a result, there were some defections to the Colchester Jewish Aid Congregation whose membership probably did not exceed thirty families.

Undeterred by the defections, the overwhelming majority of the synagogue members supported the building fund campaign. There was a joyous celebration in 1960 at the dedication ceremonies.

The Sisterhood's activities prospered in the new setting. A Men's Club was organized. The synagogue became a beehive for community functions and family affairs such as weddings, bar mitzvahs etc.

Zion Hall which served as the interim location while the new synagogue was built was closed and sold to S&S as an outlet store. (The mikveh was discontinued prior to WW II).

The Colchester Aid Society Congregation erected its building across the street from Zion Hall renting out its excess space during the day to the local school board for classrooms. In the late eighties, the congregation faced declining attendance and terminated services. Efforts for a reconciliation with Ahavath Achim did not succeed. However, a few congregants from the Aid Society made individual arrangements for affiliation with Ahavath Achim. The Aid Society continues to provide for burials at their Gillette Lane cemetery.

Ahavath Achim also sought in the fifties to invite the congregants from the surrounding communities (Lebanon, Amston, Hebron, Moodus and Chesterfield) to form a confederation for cooperative programs. Isadore Brounstein and Colchester's Rabbi Mark L. Zelkowitz spearheaded the negotiations to no avail. The shtetl mentality that prevailed in these satellite communities prevented an appreciation of the merits in sponsoring a confederation for mutual benefits.

These communities also had a small influx of refugee farmers after WW II who helped support the local synagogues.

In the post WW II period, Colchester Jewry increased their interest and participation in local political affairs, serving as both elected and appointed officials and as members of the school board. Jews were presidents of both the Democratic and Republican parties in Colchester.

Most notable was the political career of Ruby Cohen, the owner of Harry's Stand. After the war, Cohen was elected as the Colchester member of the State House of Representatives, a seat which he held for over thirty years. As he gained seniority in the State legislature, he was able to wield increasing power in the life of the community. This was particularly evident when the Governor of the State was a Democrat.

Cohen was responsible for legislation creating Day Pond State Park and acquiring the State armory garage next to Bacon Academy as well as five acres of land for one dollar! As chairman of the House Appropriation Committee, he had the ability to dip into the "pork barrel" and bring home the bacon for Colchester.

Thru his patronage influence, he was able to secure the appointment of his wife as postmistress of Colchester, a position which she held for twenty years.

After reapportionment extended the boundaries of his voting area beyond Colchester's borders, he faced more intense rivalry which was heretofore for him a "safe seat" in the legislature. A contributing factor to his ultimate defeat was internal strife within the Democratic Party leadership in Colchester.

While Democrats controlled in Hartford during most of this period, the Republicans occupied the White House in Washington D.C. during the Eisenhower-Nixon-Ford period and during the Reagan-Bush reign. Republican Jewish leaders in Colchester had access to the power brokers in the nation's capitol.

The policy of Colchester Jewry to maintain political contacts in both major political parties continued to be an effective strategy for securing their welfare.

Colchester Jews also assumed leadership roles in business and fraternal affairs in the community thru participation in such organizations as the Lions Club, the Masons, the Chamber of Commerce and the Colchester Historical Society. Thru these activities, they demonstrated a commitment to promote the welfare of the community.

The Jewish children in Colchester enjoyed the fruits of their parents' success. After WW II, Jews in larger numbers attended college. While in their growing years, they assisted in farm chores or helped in a family business, once they left for college many decided not to return and settled elsewhere. They opted for careers and found marital partners beyond their shtetl environment. Notwithstanding their near universal affirmation of contentment with growing up in Colchester, they sought broader horizons across the breadth of America.

Many of the second generation and few of the third generation who still reside in Colchester have some ties to a family business or venture where they now have an economic interest. To their credit, these "holdovers" have manifested a desire to assume leadership roles in synagogue and Jewish affairs.

Jews gained increasing access to leadership positions in educational affairs. Harold Judenfriend was allegedly the first Jewish faculty member at Bacon Academy. He was hired in 1947 after marrying a Colchester resident, Miriam Kirschner.

In addition to his academic responsibilities, Judenfriend who played on the City College of New York basketball team prior to WW II took on the volunteer assignment to coach the Bacon Academy basketball team. With only 50-60 boys eligible for the team, he nevertheless succeeded in developing squads which played in State tournaments. Many Jewish boys were star players on his teams.

Later in his career, Judenfriend was appointed principal of the elementary school in Colchester.

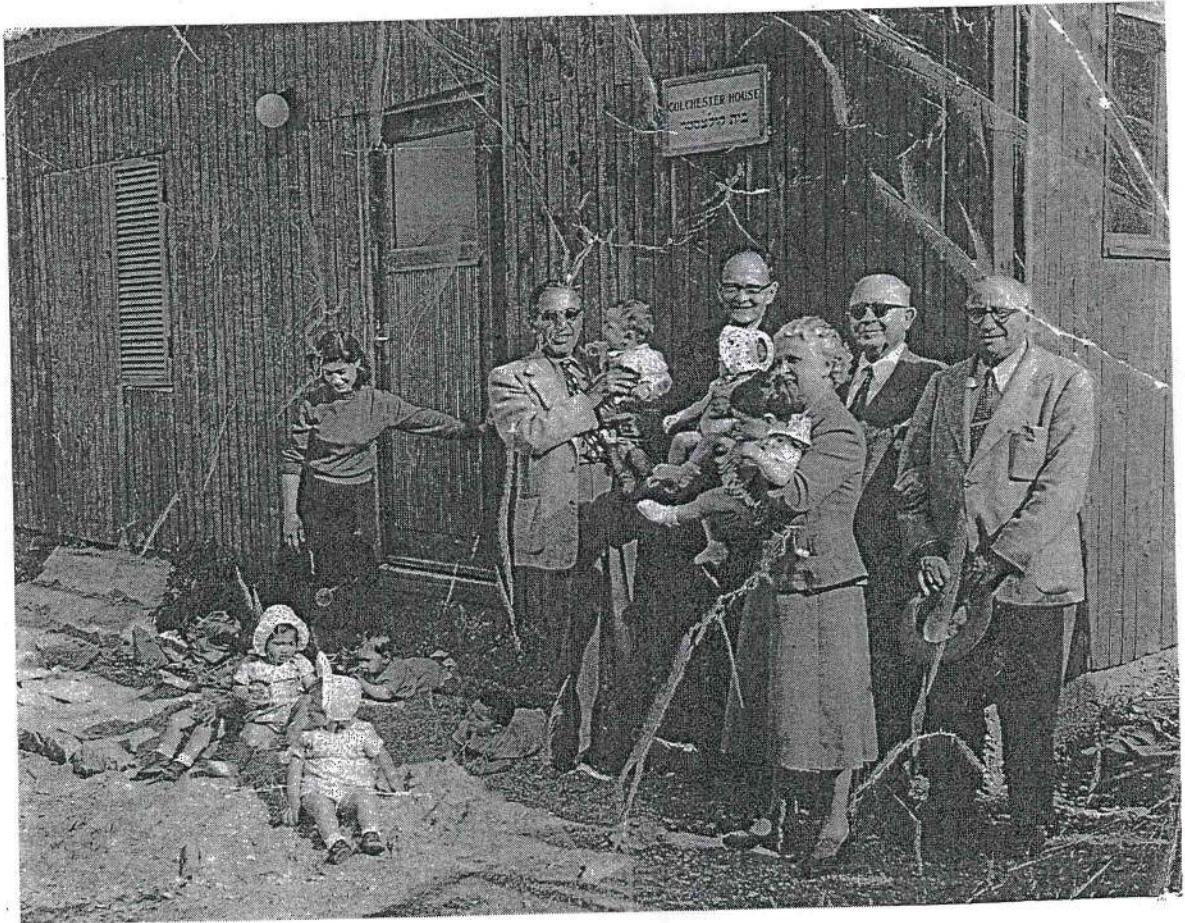
Jewish influence in school affairs can best be attested by the naming of the new Colchester elementary school for Jack Jackter, a former Jewish activist in the education community.

The decline in Jewish community life began in the eighties as the elderly population moved to South Florida and the younger generation scattered across the nation. Few new Jewish families settled in Colchester.

As noted previously, this demographic change has been a prime factor in the decline of the Jewish economic presence in Colchester. A concomitant development has been loss of vitality in Jewish communal life.

The only Jewish organization, other than Ahavath Achim, that meets regularly is Hadassah. Ties with the Hebrew Home for the Aged in New Haven have been severed.

A positive development was the decision by Colchester Jewry to affiliate with the Jewish Federation of Eastern Connecticut. The agreement entered into in 1993 requires that Colchester Jewry



Colchester House on Israeli Kibbutz sponsored by the Colchester
Branch, Zionist Organization of America

participate in raising funds for domestic and overseas programs with the other affiliates of the Federation. In turn, Federation thru its Jewish Family Service provides senior citizen services (trips, films, lectures, holiday observances, educational programs, Passover supplies) in cooperation with other member towns of the Federation.

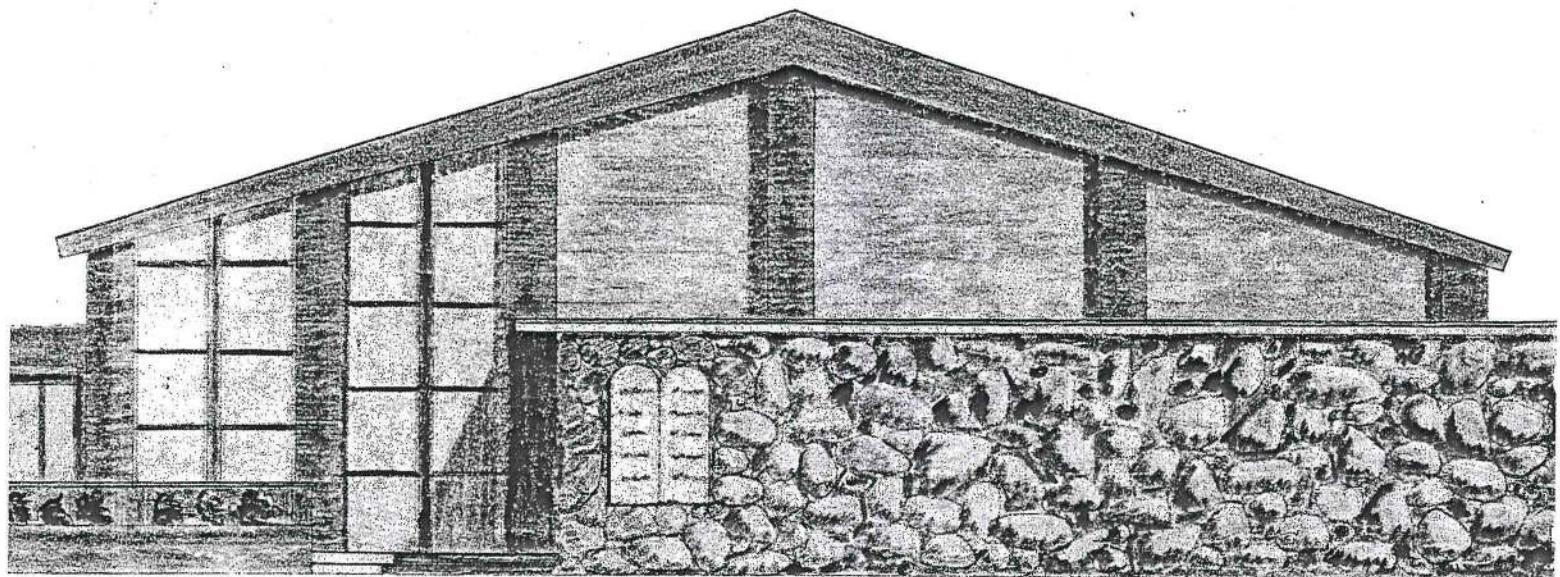
Ahavath Achim continues to serve as the focal point for Jewish activities. However, its financial survival depends in large measure on the generosity of many members who no longer reside in Colchester. The initiatives of the incumbent Rabbi Paula Reimers appear to have reinvigorated synagogue activities. Her announced resignation effective June 1995 will be a loss to the community.

At present, the Hebrew School has a total enrollment of 25 students which includes the kindergarten to second graders as well as the Sunday School class. Eight children will celebrate their bar mitzvah and bat mitzvah in 1995 and 1996.

The current synagogue leadership recognizes the need to increase its membership by reaching out to new Jewish arrivals in the community and gaining the interest of those who have left its ranks. Unfortunately, there remain some former members of the defunct Colchester Jewish Aid Congregation who have not joined Ahavath Achim.

Unlike previous eras in Jewish communal life when a small clique of leaders dominated the decision making process, there appears to be at present a more collective leadership group who share their views and accept individual responsibility for specific community functions.

While the community relies in some measure on the financial input from elders who have migrated from Colchester, these former leaders have properly refrained from involving themselves in the routine operations of the synagogue or other communal decisions. They have supported the incumbent leaders, mostly second and third generation Colchester family members, to set their own agendas for Jewish communal life. Among the current synagogue officers are recent arrivals, many of them women. Their leadership has been enthusiastically accepted.



DEDICATION

*Abavath Achim
Congregation*

AUGUST 28, 1960

Congregation Ahavath Achim

COLCHESTER, CONNECTICUT

Officers 1959-1960

President David Levine
Vice President Edward Scott
Treasurer Ben Schuster
Secretary Bernard Cooper

Officers 1960-1961

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Vice President Israel Liverant
Treasurer Benjamin Adler
Secretary Irving M. Shapiro

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Morton Turetsky
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Hyman Levine
Morris Broder

Benjamin Adler
Sol Sklar

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Ben Schuster, *Vice Chairman*

Building Committee

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Hyman Levine, *Vice Chairman*
Jack Jackter
Jack Berman

Isidore Brounstein
Hyman Falk
Nathan Liverant

Irving M. Shapiro
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Edward Scott
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Morton Turetsky
Irving Gitlitz

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Jack Jackter
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Miss Susan Schwartz
Mrs. Irving Gitlitz

Decorating and Furnishing Committee

Jack Jackter, *Chairman*

Landscaping Committee

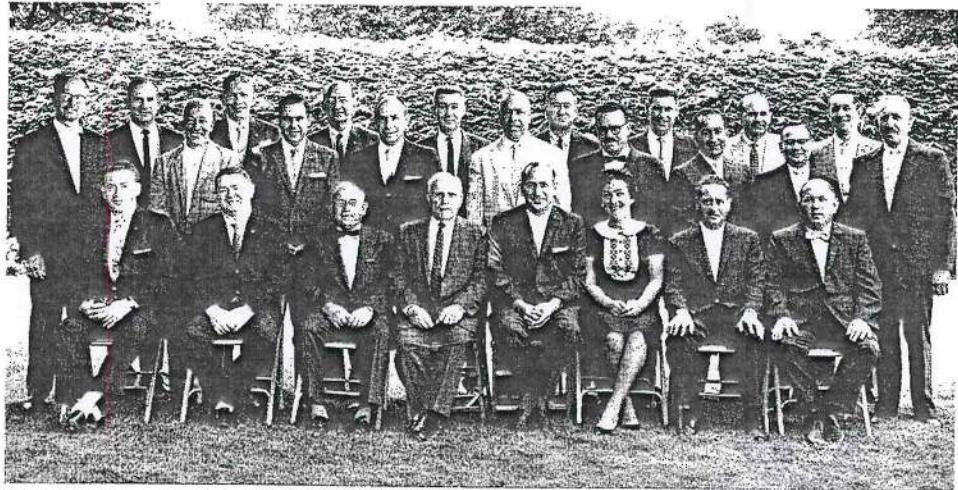
Jack Berman, *Chairman*

Program Committee

Paul Schuster, *Chairman*
Israel Liverant

Benjamin Adler
Mrs. Jack Lazinsk

Abe Einhorn
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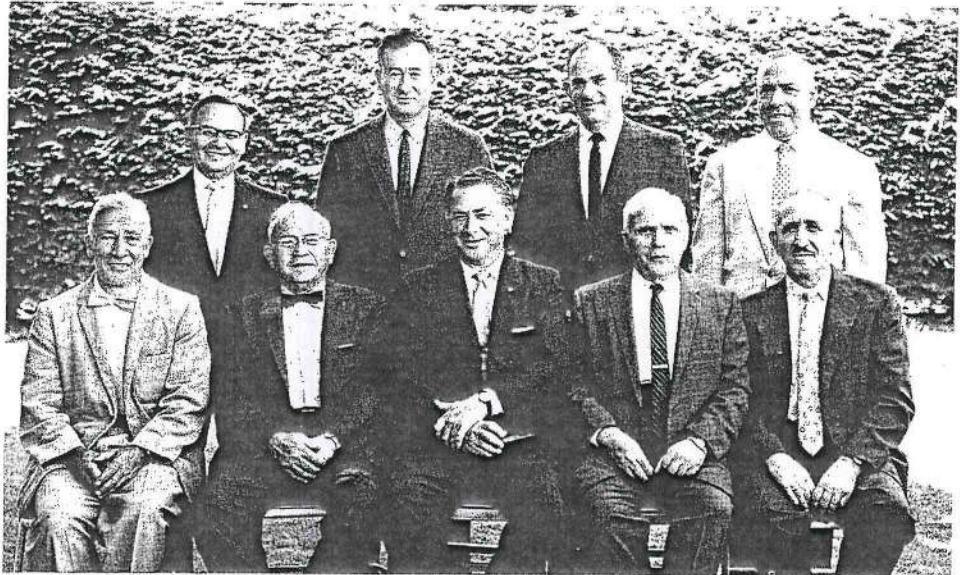


Finance Committee

First Row, left to right: David Hurwit, Bernard Cooper, Nathan Liverant, Isidore Brounstein, Paul Schuster, Mrs. Irving Gitlitz, Jack Lazinsk, Ben Schuster.

Second Row: Jack Berman, Abe Einhorn, Leon Levine, Jack Jackter, Morton Turetsky, David Flom, Irving Shapiro, Edward Scott.

Third Row: Theodore Rosoff, Hyman Levine, Hyman Schwartz, Morris Broder, David Levine, Hyman Falk, Sidney Einhorn, Israel Liverant, Benjamin Adler.



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Religious Education Committee

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Second Row: Abe Einhorn, Hyman Levine, Morris Broder, Benjamin Adler, Sol Sklar.



1994 - 1995

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Ex-Officio All Committees

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Mr. Burton Manevitch,
Leave of Absence
(Deceased)

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Mr. Louie Grinfeld

POLICY and PROCEDURE

Mr. Joseph Broder
Mr. Burton Manevitch,
Leave of Absence
(Deceased)

EPILOGUE

Twenty years before his election as President of the United States, Abraham Lincoln gave an address in celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of our nation's first constitutional government in 1789. In his opening remarks, he observed that the events of the present open our eyes to aspects of the past to which we were previously blind.

That has been my experience in writing this centennial history of Colchester Jewry. I have been a limited participant observer in the affairs of the Colchester Jewish community since 1952. With the benefit of forty years of hindsight and the recent four years of historical research on Jewish life in Colchester, I was able to formulate this coherent saga of the Jewish community's development as a modern shtetl.

The most startling revelation in this research was that Colchester Jewry thrived for one hundred years because its leaders adjusted from a nineteenth century, poverty stricken, East European shtetl environment into a twentieth century, thriving American capitalistic community without compromising their Judaic heritage. Notwithstanding this cataclysmic cultural transformation, Colchester Jewry retained the shtetl traditions of Yiddishkeit and Menschlichkeit and demonstrated as well their strong support for building a Jewish State.

For those who may challenge my perception that Colchester Jewry had projected this shtetl ambience, I want to cite a comment that appeared in a Works Progress Administration (WPA) report published in 1938 on historical developments in Connecticut. It refers to Colchester as "a settlement that has preserved its communal life and its religious unity in a way characteristic of old world Jewish colonies."

That statement is no longer accurate in portraying the current scene in Colchester as noted in the concluding section of the previous chapter.

Several questions have to be addressed in making a final assessment of this one hundred years of Jewish life in Colchester.

Foremost it is incumbent to look back and determine how farsighted was Baron de Hirsch's vision in establishing Jewish agricultural colonies such as Colchester. His simplistic theory in launching the Baron de Hirsch Fund was that the ghetto Jews from Eastern Europe would be transformed into assimilated Jews by settling them in rural communities where they could engage in productive work as farmers or artisans. Thru this dispersal of Jews, anti-Semitism would ipso facto disappear. A corollary assumption was that these transplanted Jews, when resettled, would discard their fanatical religious observances.

For all his genius in accumulating wealth, Hirsch has been judged by history as an inept sociologist and human relations analyst.

The experience of Colchester Jewry amply demonstrates that it was their East European religious and cultural baggage that they brought with them to America which accounts for their cohesion in their new environment. That heritage sustained them as they planted new economic roots in

Colchester. The financial help from the Baron de Hirsch Fund was merely a security blanket to assist the new immigrants to undertake farming ventures. More important for the new settlers were the advice and guidance from the Jewish Agriculture and Industrial Society (JAIS), the farmers' associations and the Yiddish press which provided valuable tips on how to cope with the myriad adjustments to agricultural life.

Contrary to Hirsch's expectations, Colchester Jewry did not assimilate, rather they integrated their lives with the local community. Retaining their primary Jewish identification, they became active participants in Colchester's communal affairs and formed alliances with the Gentile majority population. They did so without compromising their adherence to shtetl commitments. Colchester Jewry managed a bi-cultural existence finding no contradiction between their loyalty as Americans and their devotion to Judaic traditions.

Not all Jews retained the shtetl mentality. Starting with the second generation and accelerated with the third generation, Jews married Christians and left the fold. This phenomenon has been a recurrent happening throughout Jewish history on American soil. In recent years, several of the Christian partners in marriages have converted to Judaism. Others, while not converting, have approved raising the children in the Jewish faith. The overwhelming majority of Colchester Jews and their descendants have retained their Jewish identity.

The decline in the Jewish population in Colchester is attributed mainly to outmigration as Colchester children on entering adulthood have found new vistas for their future. This pattern of outmigration has been a constant process since Colonial days as evidenced by Colchester's census figures. The increases in Colchester's population (see Table 2 in Chapter Four) coincided invariably with the influx of new settlers and was not the result of internal growth.

Colchester faced few problems with overt anti-Semitism during the past one hundred years. Its absence was not due to Jewish assimilation as Hirsch predicted. More likely, it stemmed from the vital Jewish presence in Colchester's communal affairs. When anti-Semitism lacks the protection or covert support from government or communal leaders, its scourge of oppression has limited appeal. Anti-Semitism persists when the Gentile community provides overt or covert approval for anti-Semitic behavior.

In my interviews with Colchester Jewry, there was general consensus that they did not experience anti-Semitic episodes. However, three residents described incidents that merit reporting.

In the twenties, a gang of Gentile adolescents would hide near the Ahavath Achim synagogue and tweak the beards of the elderly Jews en route for the daily services. Some Jewish "enforcers" decided to handle the problem with "street justice." One day, the enforcers waited in ambush and then pounced upon the youth annoying the elderly. The perpetrators were hauled off to a secluded spot and administered severe beatings. That apparently ended the problem.

In the post WW II period, the Colchester School Board recommended that the town purchase a Jewish farmer's property as the site for a new school building. At the town meeting, the proposal to purchase the property was voted down by a slim margin. One Colchester Jew overheard the conversation after the meeting of opponents of the measure speaking in a foreign language in which the Jew was conversant. The opponents stated that they would never permit a Jew to make a profit

selling land to the town. Subsequently, with the boom in farm property starting in the seventies, the Jewish farmer sold his land at a much higher price than originally offered to the town.

In my interview with Rabbi Paula Reimers in 1994, she reported that Hebrew school children had related that Gentile children in their elementary school classes had made anti-Semitic remarks. She also received copies of hate literature that was distributed at a local supermarket.

These were obviously isolated incidents. Any overt anti-Semitic acts would probably be dealt with judiciously by competent police authorities. Colchester town officials and community leaders would publicly express their abhorrence at such behavior.

The ultimate question to be addressed is why did Colchester thrive as a community for one hundred years when most Jewish agricultural settlements did not succeed or underwent violent internal dissension.

In Chapter Three, the reasons why the agricultural colonies did not succeed were discussed. Contrary to the participants in these failed colonies, the Jewish settlers in Colchester did not find it difficult to adjust to the climate; they developed the necessary skills as farmers or artisans to make a living; they managed to find the capital for their enterprises; they did not complain of social or cultural isolation; they resolved internal bickering without resort to internecine warfare; they related well to the JAIS staff and other agency personnel which assisted them in adjusting to their new environment; they maintained their Judaic roots and replicated their traditions from shtetl life; they succeeded in bringing cohesion within the community for institutional growth.

It was the original Jewish settlers good fortune to find that the Colchester Yankee establishment welcomed their presence and countenanced their contribution to the revitalization of the local economy. Moreover, the Jewish children were afforded good educational opportunities and enjoyed a congenial social climate.

The Baron de Hirsch staff which selected Colchester for Jewish settlement merits praise for their wise choice.

Contrast the experience of Colchester Jewry with that of Jewish farmers who settled in Farmingdale, New Jersey and Petaluma, California. (Two recent publications listed in the bibliography describe life in these communities).

Comparing these two communities, the executive director of JAIS stated, "I know of only one other Jewish farm community whose fights were as bitter as those in Farmingdale, Petaluma in California. But it was worse in Petaluma." He was referring to the tar and feathering of one of the Jewish settlers!

As part of this study, I attempted to ascertain whether there were direct descendants currently living in Colchester of those Jewish settlers listed in the 1910 census. (See Appendix A). Apparently, very few qualify for this recognition.

The Lazinsk members living in Colchester include Howard Lazinsk, Martha Lazinsk and Arlene Lazinsk who are descendants of Abraham and Celia Lazinsk.

Jack Berman, now 90 years old, was born in Colchester and still resides there although he maintains a winter residence in Florida. Joseph Broder is the grandson of Leo Broder who came to Colchester in 1906. He practices law in Colchester but lives in Glastonbury. Perhaps after this study is published, others living in Colchester may come forth and confirm ties to the original settlers.

In retrospect, Baron de Hirsch deserves our plaudits for his generosity in seeking to settle Jews in agricultural colonies. However, his funding was only a drop in the bucket for his philanthropy affected only a minute percentage of the 1.5 million Jews who entered the United States between 1880 and 1910. The successful settlement of Jews on American soil in cities and towns alike reflects more on their initiative and endurance rather than on the charitable assistance which they may have received.

While Hirsch's funding served as a catalyst for some Jews to settle in agricultural colonies or receive manual training, the Jewish immigrants from the shtetls struggled mostly on their own or with assistance from relatives and friends to find their niche in the American promised land. They found methods to cooperate among themselves for self-improvement. Thus the overwhelming majority of these 1.5 million immigrants succeeded in the words of Frank Sinatra by "doing it their way."

Paradoxically, Baron de Hirsch rejected without remorse to help Jews who wanted to settle on farms (kibbutzim) in Palestine. He opposed Zionism and refused the plea from Theodore Herzl (they had only one meeting in 1895) to support a Jewish homeland in Palestine. History has judged that Herzl, the founder of modern Zionism, was a better nineteenth century prophet than Hirsch who in his private dreams probably considered himself the new Moses due to his Jewish philanthropy.

While Hirsch had the funds to help Jews, he lacked the vision. Herzl, on the other hand, had the vision, but lacked the financial resources. Herzl prevailed as the true prophet of the Jewish people in the twentieth century in contrast to Hirsch whose benefactions are, in comparison, a mere footnote in modern Jewish history.

When the Board of Trustees of the Baron de Hirsch Fund celebrated the fund's one hundredth anniversary in 1991, it had assets of six million dollars. Its most recent grant went to the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) to assist Soviet Jews to settle in the United States and for the establishment of a new Center for Regional and Community Development Policy at Ben Gurion University in Israel. The center seeks to develop policies and strategies for settling new immigrants in Israel in the Negev region. Hirsch's successors are supporting Zionism one hundred years after his death.

To sum up, Colchester Jewry thrived these past one hundred years because its leadership demonstrated a capacity to act as cultural chameleons. They had the ability to accommodate to the colorations of a changing social, economic, and political climate of American living in contrast to the parochial, conforming shtetl mentality in which their ancestors dwelled. The key to this insight to flow with the ever-changing communal life stemmed from the initiatives of those self-anointed Colchester Jewish leaders to develop strategies for acculturation. They accomplished this goal while retaining the "Yiddishkeit" and Menschlichkeit" of their shtetl heritage.

Notwithstanding the internal disputes which are inherent in all communal living, Colchester's Jewish leaders throughout this period were able to project a public image of unity and harmony. They avoided the self-destruction which prevailed in many of the other Jewish colonies.

Only a medieval Nostradamus would have the chutzpah to predict with certainty the next hundred years of Colchester Jewry. If the past one hundred years can be viewed as prologue for the future, then many realities have to be recognized.

Without an influx of new Jewish residents, the current decline in Jewish population in Colchester which became manifest in the past two decades will continue.

The process now in progress to coopt the small Jewish communities of Eastern Connecticut into a federated alliance should be encouraged. Colchester Jewry has the infrastructure and potential leadership to serve as the hub for Amston, Lebanon, Moodus, Salem, Chesterfield and Hebron. A wider linkage with the Jewish communities of Norwich and New London should be explored. The alleged obstacles of poor transportation which prevailed a century ago and isolated Colchester Jewry is no longer a factor. Institutional myopia in these small towns surrounding Colchester has to be overcome in order to form a viable conglomerate.

Failure to accommodate to the twenty-first century realities of American Judaism can spell the demise of the religious and cultural life that flourished in this century.

Colchester Jewry provided a beacon of light in the past one hundred years. It has the opportunity to do so for the next one hundred years.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

While it is customary to include this section prior to the Prologue in the opening pages of the book, I decided to add this insert at the conclusion following the Epilogue.

My rationale stems from the belief that the reader who has absorbed the history of Colchester Jewry can better appreciate the efforts of those who contributed to bringing this project to fruition.

Above all, the kudos go to those families, the pioneers as well as the influx of newcomers throughout the decades, who sustained the Jewish community for the past one hundred years. Thru their commitment and sacrifices, they are the true heroes of this saga. Without them, there would be no history to record.

It is also necessary to acknowledge the assistance of the current generation of Colchesterites who cooperated in this rewarding adventure.

Foremost, I want to recognize those individuals whom I interviewed or provided me with pertinent historical material and photos. They include (in no order of preference) Hy and Minna Levine, Mel and Mary Jane Scott, Rabbi Paula Reimers, Helen Piekarz, Paul and Phyllis Schuster, Ben and Ida Schuster, Israel and Johanna Liverant, Jack and Betty Berman, David and Sarah Hurwit, Harold Judenfreund.

I extend my appreciation to those Colchester residents, past and present, who have attended the annual winter luncheons in Boca Raton, Florida for their encouragement to complete this study. Unwittingly, they have in their conversations with me provided valuable insights about their experiences in Colchester.

Adam Schwartz sent me a copy of a paper that he wrote while a student at Harvard in the 1980s with reference to Colchester Jewry. Some data and evaluations from his research are included in this history. Of equal significance was the bibliography in his paper which contained valuable leads for further investigation.

The reader will note that in the contents of this history, I omitted direct quotes from most of the individuals who served as source references. This was necessary to assure that their candid responses would not cause them any embarrassment and create controversy. I take full responsibility for evaluating their statements to me. This enabled me to reach conclusions and make assessments as to the realities of Jewish community life in Colchester. If there are any criticisms in this regard, the burden rests with me to counter or explain offending assertions.

During the four years spent researching this study, I had the fortuitous cooperation of the following agencies: the Town Clerk's office in Colchester, the Jewish Section, New York Public Library, the Archives of the Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati, Ohio, National Archives, Washington D.C., American Jewish Historical Society, Waltham, MA., Graduate Center Library, City University of New York, American Jewish Committee Library, New York, N.Y.

Not being a computer maven, I relied on Mike Wright and Tom Greenberg for assistance in preparing the text. The staff associated with Hadeira Press took responsibility for the final publication.

My former faculty colleague, the retired dean of research for the City University of New York, Dr. Lawrence Podell, who has been a volunteer editor on my previous books, fulfilled the same role for this undertaking. I have been fortunate to have had his wise counsel once again.

Since 1954, I had the good fortune of engaging the administrative services of Mrs. Y. Bailor in my many enterprises. Like Dr. Podell, she participated in my prior publications and likewise assisted me in this study.

I coopted the services of my father-in-law, Edward Scott, to accompany me in conducting interviews. He provided valuable background resource material on Jewish life in Colchester. He was the arbiter to help unravel conflicting information concerning Colchester Jewry.

He and his late wife, Malvena, were stalwarts of the Jewish community for over fifty years.

Finally and most significantly, were I not married to the former Betty Scott from Colchester, I would never have undertaken this history of Colchester Jewry. She made me an integral member of the Jewish community and permitted me to share in its glory. She encouraged me to engage in this study. As in my other literary ventures, she assisted in collecting the data and read and reread every draft before final printing. Without her cogent input and critical evaluations, the study would not have been concluded.

While I had the good fortune of wonderful cooperation from many sources, only I can assume responsibility for the contents of this sentimental journey of Colchester Jewry. I do so with great pride and a sense of real accomplishment.

S.S.W.

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APPENDIX A

1910 CENSUS OF COLCHESTER JEWRY

	NAME	AGE	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	YEAR ENTERED USA
Adelman	Charles	24	Russia	1905
Adelman	Louis	24	Russia	1905
Annenberg	Simon	42	Russia	1886
Annenberg	Jennie	38	Russia	1890
Annenberg	Sarah	15	USA	
Annenberg	Israel	13	USA	
Annenberg	Dora	12	USA	
Annenberg	David	7	USA	
Annenberg	Raymond	4	USA	
Atlas	Eli (a)	35	Russia	
Belkin	Joseph	60	Russia	1895
Belkin	Rachel	60	Russia	1895
Benowitz	Joseph (b)	40	Russia	1905
Berger	Harry	34	Russia	1890
Berger	Becky	35	Austria	1890
Berger	Pauline	12	USA	
Berger	Charles	11	USA	
Berger	Florence	7	USA	
Berger	Abraham	2	USA	
Berger	Ruth	2	USA	
Berger	Marion	1	USA	
Cohen	Benjamin	21	Russia	1895
Cohen	Rose	19	Russia	1895
Cohen	Louis	21	Russia	1892
Cohen	Bessie	16	Russia	1893
Cohen	Beatrice	2	USA	
Cohen	Jacob	1	USA	
Cohen	Michael	70	Russia	1878
Cohen	Ida	42	Russia	1890
Cohen	Philip	18	USA	
Cohen	Lazarus	17	USA	
Cohen	Samuel	42	Russia	1889
Cohen	Dora	45	Russia	1889
Cohen	Michael	19	USA	
Cohen	Bessie	8	USA	
Cohen	Benjamin	4	USA	
Cohen	Rose	4	USA	

(a) boarder with Benjamin Dembo (b) brother of Rose Grief

Bernstein	Louis	39	Russia	1889
Bernstein	Rose	39	Russia	1903
Bernstein	Anne	12	USA	
Blumenfeld	Samuel	34	Russia	1902
Blumenfeld	Minnie	32	Russia	1902
Blumenfeld	Rose	8	Russia	1902
Blumenfeld	Dora	6	USA	
Blumenfeld	Sarah	5	USA	
Blumenfeld	Frank	3	USA	
Botnick	Joseph	58	Russia	1902
Botnick	Mollie	57	Russia	1902
Botnick	Clara	13	Russia	1908
Brizen	Hyman (c)	16	Russia	1910
Broder	Leo	37	Russia	1901
Broder	Fannie	29	Russia	1898
Broder	Herman	2	USA	
Broder	Jacob	6 mos.	USA	
Brodsky	Louis	28	Russia	1898
Brodsky	Rebecca	29	Russia	1892
Brodsky	Samuel	4	USA	
Brodsky	May	2	USA	
Brodsky	Lillian	6 mos.	USA	
Brown	Philip (d)	20	Russia	1904
Chiginsky	Abe	24	?	?
Chiginsky	Hannah	25	?	?
Chiginsky	Rena	2 mos.	USA	
Chiginsky	Morris (cousin)	26	?	?
Chiginsky	Esther	22	?	?
Chiginsky	Mollie	4	?	?
Chiginsky	Hannah	2	?	?
Chiginsky	Minnie	1 mon.	USA	
Chiginsky	Hyman	24	Russia	1906
Chiginsky	Rebecca	21	Russia	1906

(c) nephew of Ben Gershowitz

(d) lived as boarder with Nathan Lerner

Berman	Charles	54	Russia	1897
Berman	Rachel	44	Russia	1901
Berman	Jacob	19	Russia	1899
Berman	Dora	18	Russia	1901
Berman	Fannie	17	Russia	1901
Berman	Rose	7	USA	
Berman	Harry	32	Russia	1904
Berman	Rose	29	Russia	1904
Berman	Lizzie	6	Russia	1904
Berman	Nathan	3	USA	
Berman	Sarah	1	USA	
Berman	Jacob	33	Russia	1896
Berman	Bella	29	Russia	1896
Berman	Reuben	8	USA	
Berman	Myra	6	USA	
Berman	Sarah	3	USA	
Berman	Mandell	1	USA	
Berman	Wolfe (brother)	36	Russia	?
Berman	? (sister-in-law)	33	Russia	?
Berman	Rose	13	USA	
Berman	Rebecca	9	USA	
Berman	Hyman	5	USA	
Berman	Ruth (niece)	7	USA	
Berman	Sarah (niece)	6	USA	
Berman	Isaac (brother)	30	Russia	?
Berman	Connie (Isaac's wife)	28	Russia	?
Berman	Nathan	3	USA	
Berman	Sarah	1	USA	
Berman	Jacob	49	Russia	1904
Berman	Fannie	43	Russia	1904
Berman	Jerry	17	Russia	1904
Berman	Sadie	6	Russia	1904

Cutler	Pincus	39	Russia	1888
Cutler	Dora	39	Russia	1889
Cutler	George	15	USA	
Cutler	Louis	12	USA	
Cutler	Mary	10	USA	
Cutler	Samuel	8	USA	
Cutler	Sarah	6	USA	
Davidson	Harris	38	Russia	1892
Davidson	?	38	Russia	1900
Dembo	Benjamin	45	Russia	1892
Dembo	Mary	48	Russia	1892
Dembo	Rose	18	Russia	1892
Dembo	Joseph	14	USA	
Dembo	David	12	USA	
Dembo	Annie	10	USA	
Dembo	Esther	7	USA	
Digitzter	Aaron	24	Russia	1908
Digitzter	Anna	23	Russia	1908
Elgart	Abraham	28	Russia	1891
Elgart	Jennie	26	Russia	1892
Elgart	Nelson	7	USA	
Elgart	Benjamin	3	USA	
Elgart	Philip	6 mos.	USA	
Elgart	Harry	36	Russia	1889
Elgart	Gussie	34	Russia	1889
Elgart	Anna	11	USA	
Elgart	Jacob	9	USA	
Elgart	Rose	5	USA	
Elgart	Mildred	2	USA	
Elgart	Abraham	1	USA	
Epstein	Harry	34	Russia	1893
Epstein	Ida	34	Russia	1893
Epstein	Lewis	8	USA	
Epstein	Morris	6	USA	
Epstein	Bessie	4	USA	
Friedman	Israel	54	Russia	1895
Friedman	Eva	46	Russia	1901
Friedman	Samuel	15	Russia	1901
Friedman	Harry	15	Russia	1901
Friedman	Gussie	12	Russia	1901
Friedman	Rachel	7	USA	
Friedman	Lee	48	Russia	1903
Friedman	Ella	45	Russia	1906
Friedman	Samuel	11	Russia	1906

Glanbinger	Elias	30	Austria	1895
Glanbinger	Jennie	29	?	?
Glanbinger	Moses	7	USA	
Glanbinger	Helen	4	USA	
Glanbinger	Nathan	1	USA	
Gelbert	Charles	22	USA	
Gelbert	Bessie	21	Russia	1903
Gelbert	Minnie	4 mos.		
Gelbert	Samuel	28	Russia	1889
Gelbert	Rose	30	Russia	1889
Gelbert	Jennie (sister)	15	USA	
Gershowitz	Ben	42	Russia	1906
Gershowitz	Henny	42	Russia	1906
Gershowitz	James	23	Russia	1907
Gershowitz	Hyman	22	Russia	1906
Gershowitz	Sarah	18	Russia	1909
Gershowitz	Sophia	12	Russia	1909
Gershowitz	Louis	10	Russia	1909
Gershowitz	Harry	7	Russia	1909
Gershowitz	Isadore	4	Russia	1909
Gerstein	Jacob	39	Russia	1901
Gerstein	Deborah	37	Russia	1902
Gerstein	Rose	13	Russia	1902
Gerstein	Anne	11	Russia	1902
Gerstein	Lillian	8	USA	
Gerstein	Hyman	5	USA	
Gerstein	Joseph	2	USA	
Gilman	Harry	27	Russia	1898
Gilman	Sarah	23	Russia	1900
Gilman	Abraham	6 mos.		
Gittelman	Pincus	30	Russia	1907
Gittelman	Rose	32	Russia	1907
Gittelman	Bertha	13	Russia	1907
Gittelman	Annie	10	Russia	1907
Gittelman	Sophia	8	Russia	1907
Gittelman	Morris	6	Russia	1907
Gittelman	Mary	2	USA	
Glass	Max	31	Russia	1894
Glass	Rebecca	31	Russia	1891
Glass	Gertrude	6	USA	
Glass	Harry	4	USA	
Glass	David	2	USA	
Goldman	I.	45	Russia	1891
Goldman	Katie	47	Russia	1891
Goldman	David	19	USA	

Goldstein	Samuel	24	Russia	1905
Goldstein	Ida	22	Russia	1905
Goldstein	Abram (brother)	28	Russia	1902
Goldstein	Rose	28	Russia	1905
Goldstein	Lewis	8	USA	
Goldstein	Mike	3	USA	
Gordon	Meyer	60	Russia	1892
Gordon	Deb	55	Russia	1897
Green	Samuel	28	Russia	1894
Green	Bessie	31	Russia	1895
Green	Edward	5	USA	
Green	Benjamin	3	USA	
Green	Joseph	1	USA	
Greenberg	Israel	51	Russia	1892
Greenberg	Bessie	45	Russia	?
Greenberg	Mary	9	USA	
Greenberg	Rose	7	USA	
Greenberg	Morris	40	Russia	1897
Greenberg	Flora	35	Russia	1900
Greenberg	Harry	22	Russia	1900
Greenberg	Mary	19	Russia	1900
Greenberg	David	17	Russia	1900
Greenberg	Nathan	42	Russia	1888
Greenberg	Anna	35	Russia	1888
Greenberg	Sam	17	USA	
Grief	Aaron	70	Russia	1885
Grief	Rose	57	Russia	1890
Groobert	Harry	32	Russia	1892
Groobert	Esther	35	Russia	1894
Groobert	Annie	10	USA	
Groobert	Louis	9	USA	
Groobert	Hyman	7	USA	
Groobert	Lillian	5	USA	
Groobert	Helen	3	USA	
Groobert	Lawrence	1	USA	
Groobert	Samuel	1 mon.	USA	
Grossman	Israel	56	Hungary	1875
Grossman	Minnie	51	Hungary	1875
Gushotzer	Lewis (e)	21	?	?
Gushotzer	Sam (e)	17	?	?
Gushotzer	Ida (f)	12	?	?
Gushotzer	Michael (e)	9	?	?

(e) nephew of Max Shatakoff

(f) niece of Max Shatakoff

Guttenberg	Joseph	33	Russia	1896
Guttenberg	Yetta	30	Russia	1896
Guttenberg	Jacob	9	USA	
Guttenberg	Bertie	6	USA	
Guttenberg	Mary	1	USA	
Gwirtzman	Meyer	36	Russia	1909
Gwirtzman	Lena	30	Russia	1908
Hauser	Rebecca (g)	21	Russia	1906
Hershatter	Barney	45	Russia	1877
Hershatter	Ida	36	Russia	1892
Hershatter	Lewis	16	USA	
Hershatter	Frances	15	USA	
Hershatter	Abe	11	USA	
Hershatter	Max	9	USA	
Hoberman	Abraham	35	Russia	1891
Hoberman	Rebecca	35	Russia	1891
Hoberman	Louis	14	USA	
Hoberman	Gertrude	13	USA	
Hoberman	Eva	11	USA	
Hoberman	Benjamin	10	USA	
Hoberman	Samuel	7	USA	
Hoberman	Sarah	5	USA	
Hoberman	Moses	6 mos.	USA	
Horowitz	David	36	Russia	1890
Horowitz	Bessie	32	Russia	1893
Horowitz	Benjamin	13	USA	
Horowitz	James	11	USA	
Horowitz	Jacob	10	USA	
Horowitz	Ida	8	USA	
Horowitz	Ella	6	USA	
Horowitz	Rose	4	USA	
Horowitz	Ruth	6 mos.		
Horowitz	Harry	35	Russia	1890
Horowitz	Gussie	33	Russia	1893
Horowitz	Samuel	13	USA	
Horowitz	Kate	11	USA	
Horowitz	James	10	USA	
Horowitz	Louis	6	USA	
Horowitz	Jacob	4	USA	
Horowitz	William	2	USA	
Horowitz	Joseph	48	Russia	1908
Horowitz	Rebecca	45	Russia	1908
Horowitz	Rubin	24	Russia	1908
Horowitz	Jerome	19	Russia	1908
Horowitz	Annie	16	Russia	1908
Horowitz	Sadie	14	Russia	1908

(g) relative of Morris and Ida Parness

Jaffe	Abram	24	Russia	1906
Jaffe	Rose	20	Russia	1906
Jaffe	Philip (brother)	23	Russia	1907
Jaffe	Nathan	40	Russia	1901
Jaffe	Mary	31	Russia	1901
Jaffe	Mollie	12	Russia	1901
Jaffe	Lena	9	Russia	1901
Jaffe	Michael	2	USA	
Jaffe	H.?	6 mos.	USA	
Kalishman	Isaac	36	Russia	1906
Kalishman	Sarah	30	Russia	1906
Kalishman	Ida	7	Russia	1906
Kalishman	Samuel	5	USA	
Kalishman	Samuel	39	Russia	1906
Kalishman	Bessie	32	Russia	1906
Kalishman	Ida	11	Russia	1906
Kalishman	Sophie	8	Russia	1906
Kalishman	Samuel	7	Russia	1906
Kalishman	Max	5	Russia	1906
Kalishman	Rosie	3	USA	
Kalishman	Minnie	1	USA	
Kampinisch	William	32	Russia	1902
Kampinisch	Yetta	32	Russia	1904
Kampinisch	Fannie	8	Russia	1904
Kampinisch	Fred	4	USA	
Kampinisch	John	2	USA	
Kampinisch	Esther	2 mos	USA	
Kantrowitz	Aaron	44	Russia	1902
Kantrowitz	Ida	44	Russia	1905
Kantrowitz	Isadore	20	Russia	1905
Kantrowitz	Bertha	15	Russia	1905
Kantrowitz	Morris	12	Russia	1905
Kantrowitz	Harry	8	Russia	1905
Kantrowitz	Hyman	1	USA	
Kaplan	Julius	40	Russia	1897
Kaplan	Nettie	40	Russia	1897
Kaplan	Charles	15	Russia	1897
Kaplan	Isadore	8	USA	
Kater	Hyman	33	Russia	1904
Kater	Sarah	32	Russia	1906
Kater	Harry	8	Russia	1906
Kater	Samuel	3	USA	
Katz	Frieda (h)	12	USA	
Katz	Louis (i)	42	Russia	1896

(h) stepdaughter of Solomon Simon

(i) boarder living with Max Shatakoff

Katz	Samuel	28	Russia	1905
Katz	Rose	29	Russia	1897
Katzman	Maurice	?	Russia	?
Katzman	Rachel (wife)	?	Russia	?
Katzman	Rose	16	?	
Katzman	Lillian	14	?	
Katzman	Harry	13	?	
Katzman	William	11	?	
Katzman	Anna	9	?	
Katzman	Isadore	8	?	
Katzman	Samuel	7	?	
Katzman	Gertrude	6	?	
Katzman	Mollie	4	?	
Katzman	Bertha	1	?	
Kaufman	Irving	26	Russia	1906
Keverteskey	? (husband)	38	Russia	1904
Keverteskey	? (wife)	34	Russia	1907
Keverteskey	Harry	12	Russia	1907
Keverteskey	Hyman	10	Russia	1907
Keverteskey	Samuel	8	Russia	1907
Keverteskey	Lillian	1	USA	
Kirschbaum	Morris	36	Austria	1897
Kirschbaum	Gussie	34	Austria	1900
Kirschbaum	Rose	18	Austria	1900
Kirschbaum	Frieda	16	Austria	1900
Kirschbaum	Samuel	9	USA	
Kirschbaum	Dorothy	7	USA	
Kirschbaum	Blume	4	USA	
Kirschbaum	Edward	2	USA	
Kramer	Harry	27	Russia	1906
Kramer	Yetta	23	Russia	1906
Kramer	Jenny	2	USA	
Kramer	Rose	6 mos.	USA	
Kramer	Morris (brother)	23	Russia	1905
Kupferman	Bessie (j)	55	Russia	1896
Kupit	Harry (k)	14	?	?
Lazinsk	Abraham	45	Russia	1880
Lazinsk	Celia	40	Russia	1884
Lazinsk	Joseph	20	USA	
Lazinsk	Martha	14	USA	
Lazinsk	Harry	11	USA	
Lazinsk	Ruth	7	USA	
Lazinsk	John	5	USA	
Lazinsk	Ella	3	USA	
Lazinsk	Esther	6 mos.	USA	

(j) mother-in-law of Samuel Millner (k) nephew of David Levine

Lerner	Nathan	40	Russia	1897
Lerner	Mollie	39	Russia	1900
Lerner	David	19	Russia	1900
Lerner	Lewis	10	USA	
Lerner	Philip	4	USA	
Lerner	Morris	3	USA	
Levi	Solomon	25	Russia	1897
Levi	Anna	30	Russia	1899
Levine	David	78	Russia	1894
Levine	Hyman	28	Russia	1894
Levine	Louis	26	Russia	1906
Levine	Lena	22	Russia	1909
Levine	Zadel	4	Russia	1909
Levine	Mike	47	Russia	1877
Levine	Gussie	43	Russia	1878
Levine	Henry	18	USA	
Levine	Israel	16	USA	
Levine	Morris	13	USA	
Levine	David	11	USA	
Levine	Rose	8	USA	
Levine	Gertrude	6	USA	
Levine	Samuel	4	USA	
Levine	Jacob	2	USA	
Levine	Samuel	52	Russia	1885
Levine	Bessie	52	Russia	1885
Levine	Lizzie	25	USA	
Levine	Rose	16	USA	
Lichtenstein	Max	31	Russia	1891
Lichtenstein	Rose	30	Russia	1893
Lichtenstein	Sally	10	USA	
Lichtenstein	Gertrude	8	USA	
Lichtenstein	Minnie	4	USA	
Lichtenstein	Bernard	3	USA	
Lichtenstein	Isadore	1	USA	
Ligomshe	Sam	33	Russia	1904
Ligomshe	Leila	33	Russia	1904
Ligomshe	Mike	6	USA	
Ligomshe	Sam	1	USA	
London	Hyman	43	Poland	1905
London	Sarah	43	Poland	1905
London	Joseph	17	Poland	1905
Lubchansky	Mary	39	Russia	1893
Lubchansky	Fannie	12	USA	
Lubchansky	Rose	9	USA	
Lubchansky	Morris	7	USA	

Lulpin	Sam	21	Russia	1889
Millner	Samuel	26	Russia	1900
Millner	Lena	26	Russia	1896
Minsh	Joseph	52	Russia	1892
Minsh	Bella	49	Russia	1892
Minsh	Anna	24	Russia	1892
Minsh	Lena	22	Russia	1892
Minsh	Louis	20	Russia	1892
Minsh	Ida	15	USA	
Minsh	Barnett (nephew)	29	Russia	?
Mintz	Hyman	50	Russia	1887
Mintz	Ida	44	Russia	1891
Mintz	May	18	USA	
Mintz	Jennie	15	USA	
Mintz	Nellie	14	USA	
Mintz	Isadore	35	Russia	1888
Mintz	Ida	30	Russia	1895
Mintz	Joseph	6	USA	
Mintz	Samuel	4	USA	
Mintz	Rose	3	USA	
Mintz	Louis	53	Russia	1888
Mintz	Anna	57	Russia	1891
Mintz	Benjamin	30	Russia	1891
Mintz	?	28	Russia	1891
Mintz	Rose	16	USA	
Marovitz	Ida (1)	20	?	?
Neleber	Simon	45	Russia	1889
Neleber	Isaac	21	USA	
Neleber	Harry	19	USA	
Neleber	Lewis	15	USA	
Neleber	Annie	12	USA	
Neleber	Sarah	11	USA	
Parness	Morris	42	Russia	1904
Parness	Ida	42	Russia	1906
Parness	Becky	21	Russia	1906
Parnias	Maurice	40	Russia	1909
Parnias	Ida	40	Russia	1909
Parnias	Philip	22	Russia	1909
Parnias	Dora	22	Russia	1909
Parnias	Frank	21	Russia	1909
Parnias	Ben	18	Russia	1909
Parnias	Fannie	14	Russia	1909

(1) niece of Hyman Levine

Pirel	Harry (m)	38	Russia	1909
Pirel	Katie (m)	16	Russia	1909
Pomerantz	Morris	45	Poland	1906
Pomerantz	Ida	41	Poland	1904
Riakecha	Fannie	57	Russia	1889
Rabus	Isadore (n)	6	USA	
Rabus	Louis (n)	2	USA	
Rosen	Mike	41	Russia	1892
Rosen	Bessie	40	Russia	1896
Rosen	Max	19	Russia	1896
Rosen	Joseph	13	USA	
Rosen	Lena	11	USA	
Rosen	Mendel	8	USA	
Rosenberg	Fannie (o)	66	Russia	1903
Rosenthal	P. ? (p)	15	USA	
Rosenthal	Gertie (q)	11	USA	
Rosenthal	Sidney (p)	9	USA	
Ruboy	Samuel (r)	28	Russia	1905
Rumholtz	Julius	46	Germany	1900
Rumholtz	Anna	37	Germany	1900
Rumholtz	Julian	17	Germany	1900
Rumholtz	William	1	USA	
Satagorsky	Dora (s)	28	Russia	1909
Satagorsky	Charles (t)	6	Russia	1909
Satagorsky	Ben (t)	5	Russia	1909
Satagorsky	Isadore (t)	4	Russia	1909
Satagorsky	Mollie (t)	2 mos.	USA	
Satagorsky	Frank	22	Russia	1906
Satagorsky	Benjamin	20	Russia	1906
Satagorsky	Fannie	14	Russia	1906
Sainer	Lazarus	36	Russia	1894
Sainer	Gussie	34	Russia	1894
Sainer	Annie	15	Russia	1894
Sainer	Samuel	7	Russia	1894

(m) boarder living with Aaron Digitzer

(n) grandson of Fannie Riakecha

(o) mother-in-law of Louis Bernstein

(p) grandson of Samuel and Bessie Levine

(q) granddaughter of Samuel and Bessie Levine

(r) handyman who lived with Samuel Millner

(s) daughter of Morris and Ida Parness

(t) grandchild of Morris and Ida Parness

Savitt	Lena	21		
Savitt	Mary	5		
Savitt	Fréda	2		
Scalbrin	Morris	41	Russia	1902
Scalbrin	Elizabeth	38	Russia	1904
Scalbrin	Samuel	14	Russia	1904
Scalbrin	Elizabeth	12	Russia	1904
Scalbrin	Louis	9	Russia	1904
Scalbrin	Hyman	5	USA	
Scalbrin	Fannie	3	USA	
Schliverman	Anna	46	Russia	1900
Schliverman	Isadore	22	Russia	1900
Schliverman	Morris	17	Russia	1900
Schliverman	Hyman	12	Russia	1900
Schmulowitz	Benjamin	46	Russia	1909
Schmulowitz	Fannie	44	Russia	1909
Schmulowitz	Charlie	14	Russia	1909
Schmulowitz	Joseph	13	Russia	1909
Schmulowitz	Sarah	12	Russia	1909
Schwartz	Haim	40	Russia	1894
Schwartz	Fannie	38	Russia	1897
Schwartz	Lizzie	10	USA	
Schwartz	Moses	8	USA	
Schwartz	Jacob	5	USA	
Schwartz	Rose	21		
Schwartz	Ruth	5		
Schwartz	male ?	1		
Schwartz	William	63	Germany	1890
Schwartz	Adele	63	Germany	1892
Schwartz	Godfrey	25	Germany	1892
Shatakoff	Jacob	74	Russia	1892
Shatakoff	Lena	60	Russia	1892
Shatakoff	Max	25	Russia	1892
Shirkosky	Mark	43		
Shirkosky	Anne	43		
Shirkosky	Martha	8		
Siegel	Max	37	Russia	1895
Siegel	Mollie	35	Russia	1898
Siegel	Abraham	13	Russia	1898
Siegel	Rose	10	USA	
Simon	Abraham	40	Russia	1888
Simon	Flora	42	Russia	1888
Simon	Harry	10	USA	
Simon	Dora	8	USA	

Solomon	Abraham	22	Russia	1902
Solomon	Pauline	21	Russia	1904
Solomon	Sidney	6 mos.	USA	
Solomon	Joseph	60	Russia	1902
Solomon	Jennie	60	Russia	1902
Solomon	Isaac	19	Russia	1902
Solomon	Louis	35	Russia	1896
Solomon	Ida	38	Russia	1896
Solomon	Bernard	15	USA	
Solomon	Hyman	8	USA	
Solomon	Rose	8	USA	
Sonnenthal	Esther (u)	19	Austria	1906
Stern	Samuel	33	Russia	1891
Stern	Lena	23	USA	
Stern	Nelson	4	USA	
Stern	Anna	2	USA	
Stock	Max	29	Austria	1885
Stock	Dora	27	?	1890
Stock	Ida	5	USA	
Stock	Blanche	4	USA	
Stock	Freda	2	USA	
Stock	Rebecca (v)	55	Austria	1885
Stock	Frank (w)	?	?	?
Super	Abraham	56	Russia	1900
Super	Anne	56	Russia	1900
Tabaken	Harris	55	Russia	1890
Tabaken	Fannie	54	Russia	1895
Tannenbaum	Louis	22	?	?
Topacky	Sam	75	Russia	1892
Topacky	Frieda	70	Russia	1892
Weiner	Charles	60	Russia	1890
Weiner	Mary	56	Russia	1892
Weiner	Pauline (x)	70	Russia	1896
Weinstein	Abraham	36	Russia	1895
Weinstein	Lena	36	Russia	1895
Weinstein	Hyman	12	USA	
Weinstein	Daniel	10	USA	
Weinstein	Jake	8	USA	
Weinstein	Minnie	6	USA	
Weinstein	Nettie	5	USA	
(u) sister of Sarah Wolf	(v) mother of Max Stock			
(w) son of Rebecca Stock	(x) mother of Yetta Guttenberg			

Wolchansky	David	66	Russia	1889
Wolchansky	Ida	61	Russia	1890
Wolchansky	Samuel	21	Russia	1889
Wolf	Morris	27	Austria	1904
Wolf	Sarah	23	Austria	1905
Wolf	Abraham	5 mos.	USA	
Wolf	Samuel (y)	23	Austria	?
Worman	Herbert	44	Austria	1900
Worman	Rose	44	Austria	1908
Worman	Joseph	18	Austria	1908
Worman	George	16	Austria	1908
Worman	Sophie	9	Austria	1908
Worman	Sonia	5	Austria	1908
Worman	Wanda	1	USA	
Yahrman	Benjamin	53	Germany	1872
Yahrman	Minnie	54	Germany	1872
Yahrman	Augustus	22	USA	
Yahrman	Frank	21	USA	
Yahrman	Charlotte	16	USA	
Yahrman	Lillian	12	USA	
Yelensky	Samuel	65	Russia	1903
Yelensky	Bertha	60	Russia	1904

Addendum:

Levine	Tillie	34	Russia	1897
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(y) brother of Morris Wolf

(z) boarder living with Benjamin Dembo

APPENDIX B
DEED FOR ACHIM AHAVATH CEMETERY 1894

for divers good causes and considerations
 thereunto moving, especially for Three hundred dollars received to the full satisfaction of
The Love of Brotherhood Cemetery Association of Colchester
County of New London and State of Connecticut
being in Hebrew name Achim Achimai
have remised, released, and forever quit-claimed, and do by these presents, for ourselves and heirs justly and absolutely remise,
release, and forever Quit-Claim unto the said Love of Brotherhood Association
their
heirs and assigns forever, all such right and title as we the said Abram Appel Avron Apfel
saul a Lantz have or ought to have in and to a certain piece of land in
located in Colchester bounded and described as follows: comming at the north east
corner of land owned and occupied by Michael Clifford, on the west side of
New London Turnpike road, so called thence northerly by said New London
pike road, past the first stone wall running westerly on land of grantor
the second stone wall running westerly on land of grantor, thence westerly
west pentioned stonewall, to a stone wall running southerly thence by
west mentioned stonewall, to a wall running easterly thence by east mentioned
wall easterly, to a stonewall running southerly thence by east
extened the wall to land owned or occupied by Michael Clifford and thence
land owned by Michael Clifford to place of begining containing
acres more or less, with a dwelling house thereon this deed not to
debar us from any rights or priviledges we have as members of love of
brotherhood association the above being land conveyed to us by
John Bennett reference being had to said deed
To have and to hold the premises unto them the said grantees
and to their heirs and assigns, to the only use and behoof of the said grantees
their heirs and assigns, forever; so that neither we the said grantees
nor any other person or persons in our name and behalf, shall or will hereafter claim or demand any right or title to the premises or
any part thereof, but they and every of them shall by these presents be excluded and forever barred.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seal this 27th day of August
 in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety four.

Signed, Sealed, and Delivered,

in presence of

Geo. O Jackson
Erastus J Day

Abram Appel S. S.
Avon Apfel S. S.
Saul A Lantz S. S.

SEAL

SEAL

SEAL

STATE OF CONNECTICUT,

COUNTY OF NEW LONDON } ss.

Colchester Aug 27 A. D. 1894

PERSONALLY APPEARED Abram Appel avon Apfel a tony
 signer and sealer of the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged the same to be their free act and deed before me,

Erastus J Day Notary Public
 Justice of the Peace.

Received for Record 27 day of Aug 1894 and Recorded by Cott Davley Town Clerk.

APPENDIX C

LIST OF JEWISH MILITARY PERSONNEL COLCHESTER, CT. WORLD WAR II

Benjamin Adler	Nathan Lerman
David Adler	Nelline Lerman
Richard Adler*	Gerald Levine
Edward Agranovitch	Harold Levine
Jack Berman	Lester Levine
Louis Berman	Louis Levine
Morris Brounstein	Melvin Levine
Aaron Cohen	Morris Levine
Alex Deitch	Seymour Levine
Sam Diamond	Morris Levitoff
Benjamin Dinnerstein	Louis Levy
Hyman Feldman	Rubin Levy
Joseph Felner	Abraham Liverant
Alex Getzoff	Benjamin Liverant
Harry Glass	Philip Liverant
Bernard Goldberg	Israel Liverant
David Goldberg	Frederick London
Eugene Goldberg	Leon London
William Goldberg	Samuel Maiofes
Milton Gottlieb	Sidney Maiofes
Paul Groobert	William Miller
Seymour Gutman	Joseph Mintzer
Philip Hartman*	Philip Mullis
David Heller	Seymour Neleber
Morris Heller*	David Pogolosky
Hans Hirschman	Louis Sarinsky
David Horwitz	Yale E. Schnader
Oscar Horwitz	Paul Schuster
Reuben Jaffe	Melvin Scott
Sam Jaffe	William Seger
Irving Katz	Irving Shapiro
Benjamin Kebotznick	Allen Shedroff
Nathan Kebotznick	Leon Shedroff
Abraham Kirschner	Eli Slopak
Rubin Klein	Leo Slopak
Leonard Kloskow	Jack Sobel
Max Korman	Arthur Solomon
Irwin Korpsan	Nelson Stern
Ernestine Lefkowitz	Anita Vallen
Eugene Lefkowitz	David Wollack

*deceased while in service

Appendix D

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Aleeyah Practice in synagogue where a worshiper is given privilege to chant sacred prayers

Ashkenazi Jew Refers to Jews who since medieval days resided in Great Britain, Holland, Belgium, France, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Eastern Europe and Russia

Bris Religious ceremony where circumcision is performed, usually on eighth day after birth

Chazzan Cantor who chants prayers at religious services

Cheder Hebrew school

Chevra Kadiasha Jewish burial society

Gemutlichkeit German expression signifying kindness and goodwill to all

Koch-a lein Boarding house arrangement where families have cooking and dining privileges

Menchlichkeit Admonition that to be a true Jew, a person should be moral, law-abiding, and respectful in society

Mikveh site where women take their ritual baths

Minyan Required ten persons in Jewish religion to hold prayer services

Sephardic Jews Those Jews who in medieval days lived in Spain, Portugal, North Africa, Turkey, Greece, Italy. Many spoke Ladino as their mother tongue.

Schechita Jewish ritual law for slaughtering animals

Shtetl Town or village in Eastern Europe where Jews resided and manifested a traditional way of life

Tummler Yiddish expression for an activist, hustler, gadfly

Tzedakah Charitable giving in the spirit of fulfilling justice to the unfortunate in society

Yiddishkeit Upholding Jewish traditions in communal living