

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 Gurtian and the Gitlitz brothers (Sidney and Irving).

Several native Colchester Jews maintained law offices in town including Morris and Joseph Broder, Paul Grobert, 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
	<u>223</u>

(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 Finhorn 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 Bronstein and Colchester's Rabbi Mark L. Zelikowitz spearheaded the negotiations to no avail. The shietl 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 Jacter, a former Jewish activist in the education community.

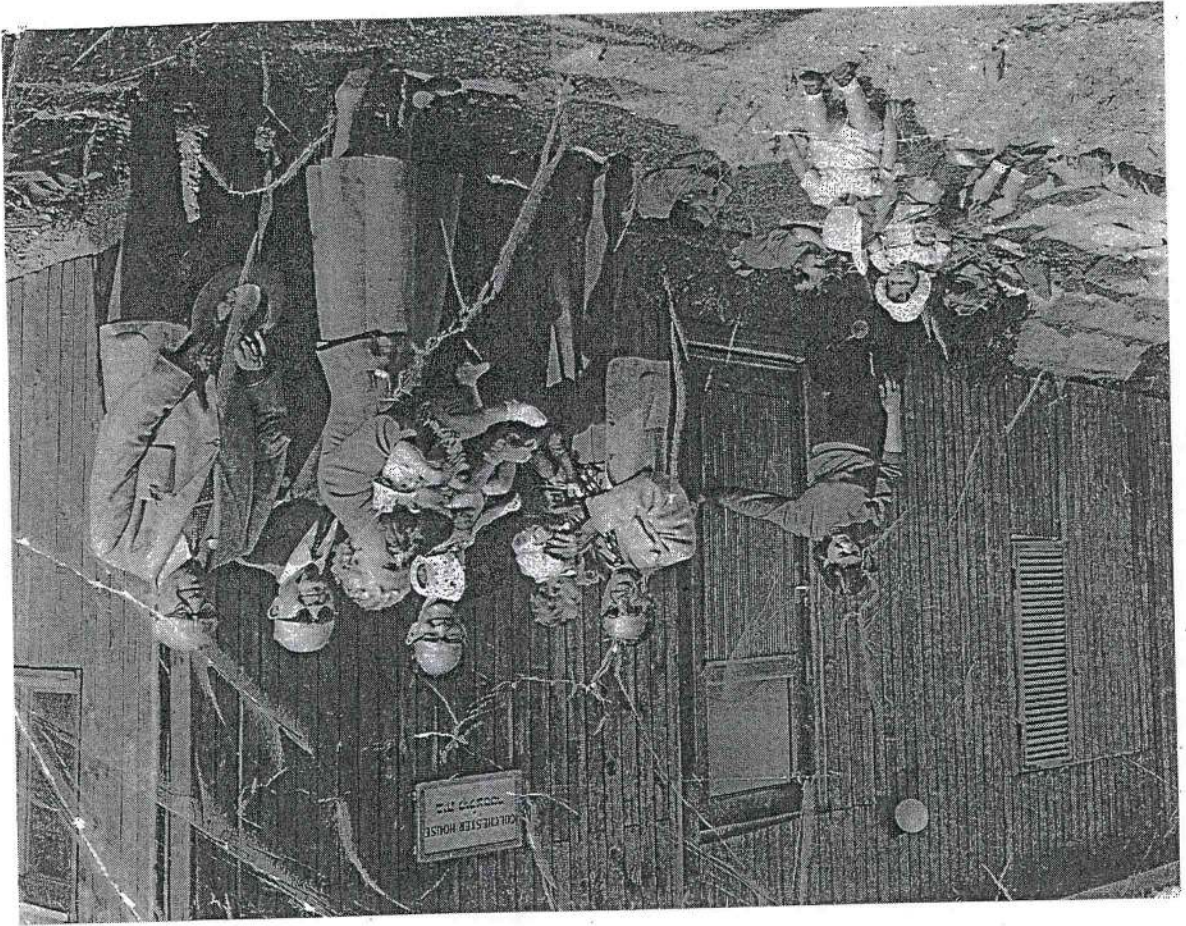
The decline in Jewish community life began in the eighties as the elderly population moved to South Florida and the younger generation scattered across the nation. Few new Jewish families settled in Colchester.

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.

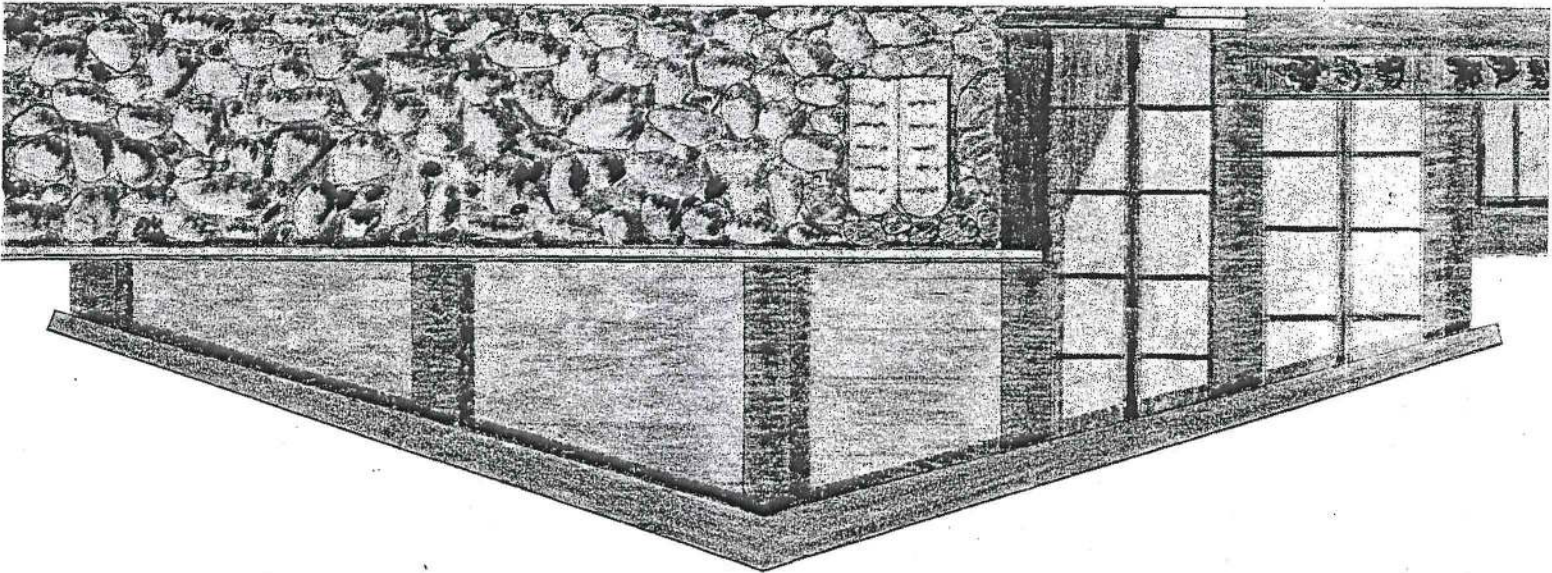
Unlike previous eras in Jewish communal life when a small clique of leaders dominated the decision making process, there appears to be at present a more collective leadership group who share their views and accept individual responsibility for specific community functions.

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.

AUGUST 28, 1960

Abavath Achim
Congregation

DEDICATION



Congregation Ahavath Achim COLCHESTER, CONNECTICUT

Officers 1959-1960

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

Board of Directors

Paul Schuster	Leon Levine
Benjamin Adler	Bernard Cooper
Edward Scott	Abe Einhorn
Ben Schuster	Israel Liverant
David Hurwit	Irving M. Shapiro
Irving Gitlitz	David Levine

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Mrs. Samuel Friedman	Morris Broder
Abe Einhorn	Israel Liverant; Irving M. Shapiro, Co-Chairmen
	Benjamin Adler
	Sol Sklar

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Ben Schuster, Vice Chairman	Hyman Levine, Vice Chairman
	Isidore Brounstein
	Hyman Falk
	Nathan Liverant
	Jack Berman

Building Committee

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Irving M. Shapiro	Jack Jacker
David Flom	Hyman Levine, Chairman
Edward Scott	David Hurwit, Vice Chairman

Finance Committee

Paul Schuster, Chairman	Morris Broder
William Wener, Treasurer	Sidney Einhorn
Mrs. Irving Gitlitz, Secretary	Abe Einhorn
Ben Schuster	Israel Liverant
Edward Scott	David Levine
Hyman Schwartz	David Levine
Leon Sesezman	Theodore Rosoff
Edward Levine	Morton Turetsky

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Hyman Schwartz, Chairman	Morris Broder
Bernard Cooper	Leon Levine
Benjamin Adler	Abraham Slopak

Decorating and Furnishing Committee

Jack Jacker, Chairman

Landscaping Committee

Jack Berman, Chairman

Program Committee

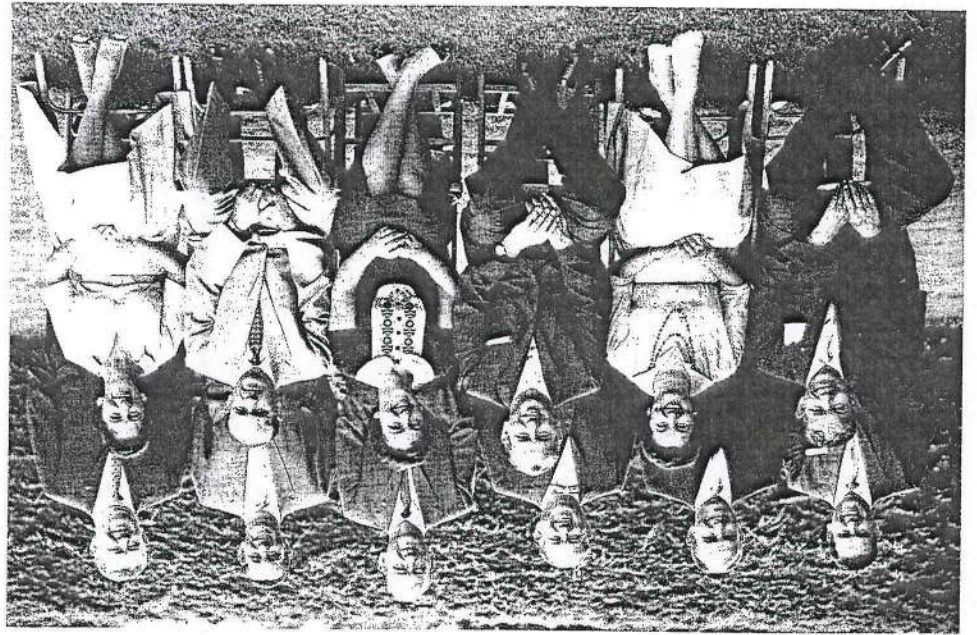
Paul Schuster, Chairman	Benjamin Adler	Mrs. Jack Lazinski
Israel Liverant	Mrs. Jack Lazinski	Abe Einhorn
		Mrs. Irving Gitlitz

Officers 1960-1961

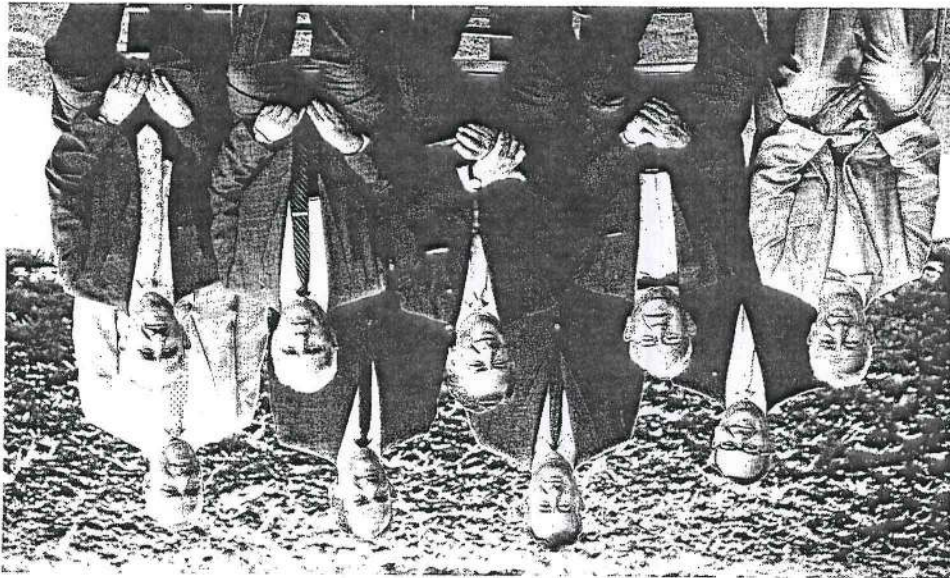
President Paul Schuster
 Vice President Israel Liverant
 Treasurer Benjamin Adler
 Secretary Irving M. Shapiro

First Row, left to right:
 David Hurwit, Bernard
 Cooper, Nathan Liverant,
 Isidore Brounstein, Paul
 Schuster, Mrs. Irving Gil-
 litz, Jack Lazinski, Ben
 Schuster.
 Second Row: Jack Ber-
 man, Abe Einhorn, Leon
 Levine, Jack Jackter, Mor-
 ton Turetsky, David Flom,
 Irving Shapiro, Edward
 Scott.
 Third Row: Theodore Ros-
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 Schwartz, Morris Broder,
 David Levine, Hyman
 Falk, Sidney Einhorn, Is-
 rael Liverant, Benjamin
 Adler.

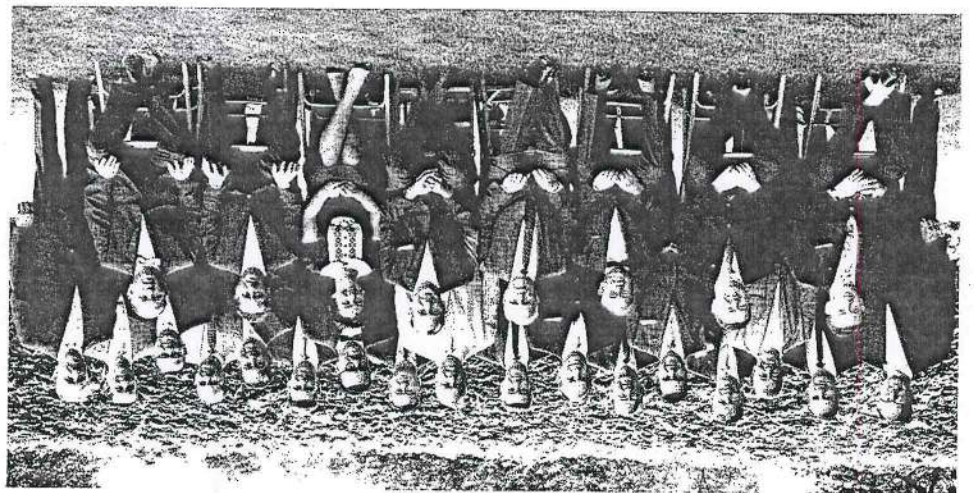
*Dedication Journal
 and Program
 Committees*

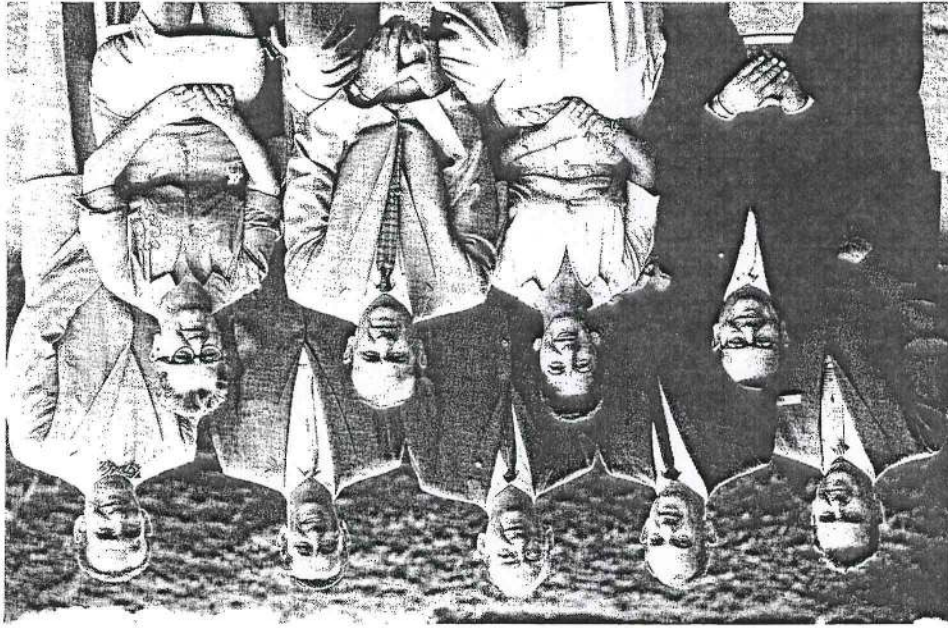


Building Committee
 First Row, left to right:
 Jack Berman, Nathan Liv-
 erant, David Hurwit, Isi-
 dore Brounstein, Edward
 Scott.
 Second Row: Irving Sha-
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 Levine, Jack Jackter.



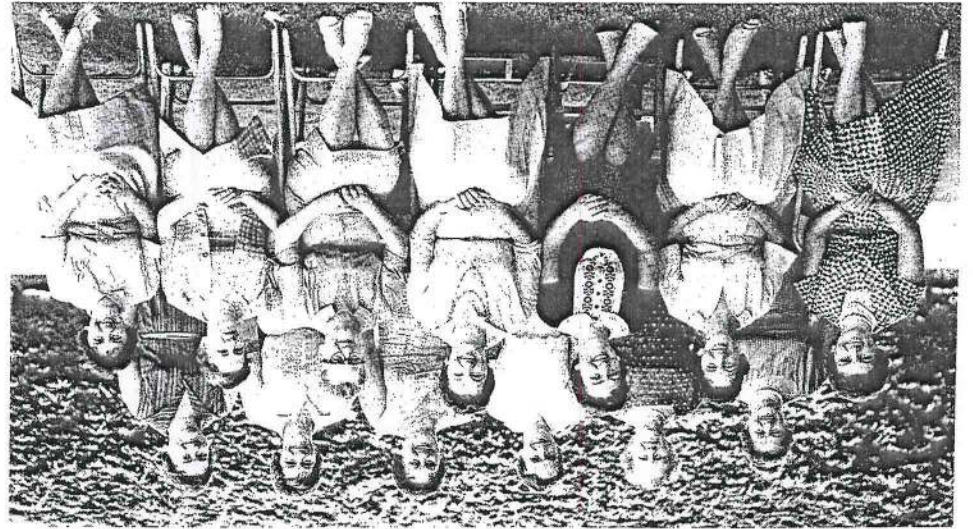
Finance Committee
 First Row, left to right:
 David Hurwit, Bernard
 Cooper, Nathan Liverant,
 Isidore Brounstein, Paul
 Schuster, Mrs. Irving Gil-
 litz, Jack Lazinski, Ben
 Schuster.
 Second Row: Jack Ber-
 man, Abe Einhorn, Leon
 Levine, Jack Jackter, Mor-
 ton Turetsky, David Flom,
 Irving Shapiro, Edward
 Scott.
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 Schwartz, Morris Broder,
 David Levine, Hyman
 Falk, Sidney Einhorn, Is-
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 Adler.





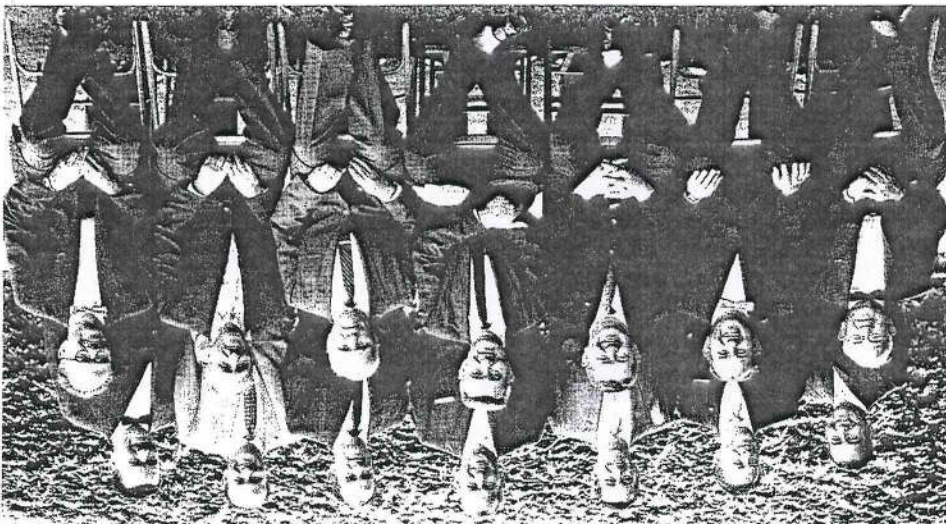
*Religious Education
Committee*

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Lazinski, Israel Liverant,
Mrs. Samuel Friedman.
Second Row: Abe Ein-
horn, Hyman Levine, Mor-
ris Broder, Benjamin Ad-
ler, Sol Sklar.



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Mrs. Edward Scott, Mrs.
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Second Row: Mrs. Philip
Scott, Mrs. Isidore Broun-
stein, Mrs. Jerome Squire,
Mrs. Ben Schuster, Mrs. Irv-
ing Plotkin.



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David Levine, Isidore
Brounstein, Edward Scott,
Theodore Rosoff.
Second Row: David Flom,
David Hurwit, Benjamin
Adler, Paul Schuster, Hy-
man Levine, Israel Liver-
ant, Morton Turetsky.

1994 - 1995

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Mr. Jay Einhorn
Mr. Steven Schuster
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 shetl 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 Gastonbury. 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 Judenfrend.

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, New York, N.Y.

S.S.W.

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 cooped 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.

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1910 CENSUS OF COLCHESTER JEWRY

APPENDIX A

NAME COUNTRY OF ORIGIN AGE YEAR ENTERED

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

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

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

(c) nephew of Ben Gershowitz
(d) lived as boarder with Nathan Lerner

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(1) niece of Hyman Levine

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

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

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

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

Town Clerk

1894 and Recorded by

day of

Justice of the Peace

Notary Public

Constance D. Day

and seal of the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged the same to be their free act and deed before me,

PERSONALLY APPEARED, above signed and sealed a wife
COUNTY OF NEW HAVEN } ss. *Constance D. Day*
STATE OF CONNECTICUT }
A. D. 1894

SEAL
SEAL
SEAL

Alfred A. Day
Constance D. Day
Alfred A. Day

Alfred A. Day
Constance D. Day
Alfred A. Day

In presence of

Signed, Sealed, and Delivered

In the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety four
the 27 day of August
We have hereunto set our hands and seals this

any part thereof, but they and every of them shall by these presents be excluded and forever barred.

for 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

and to those hereunto assigns, forever, so that neither we the said

do have and in hold, the premises unto them the said

and to those hereunto assigns, to the only use and behoof of the said

grantor

and to those hereunto assigns, to the only use and behoof of the said

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grantor

DEED FOR ACHIM AHAVATH CEMETERY 1894

APPENDIX B

Three hundred dollars

received to full satisfaction of

The Board of Trustees of the

County of New Haven and State of

and heirs justly and absolutely remise,

release, and forever Quit-Claim into the said

their

have or ought to have in and to

with a certificate bounded and decided, or taken

any land owned and occupied by Michael Clifford, on the west side of

in Garden Street, so called, hereinafter by said new

make road part the first street running westerly on land of grantor

the second street running westerly on land of grantor

not mentioned street, to a street running westerly there by

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APPENDIX C

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

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

*deceased while in service

Appendix D

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

- Aleyah** 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 eight day after birth
- Chazzan** Cantor who chants prayers at religious services
- Cheder** Hebrew school
- Chevrá Kadisha** 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
- Menschlichkeit** 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