



Inventory of the Church and Synagogue  
Archives of Mississippi  
Jewish Congregations and Organizations

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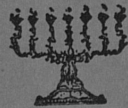
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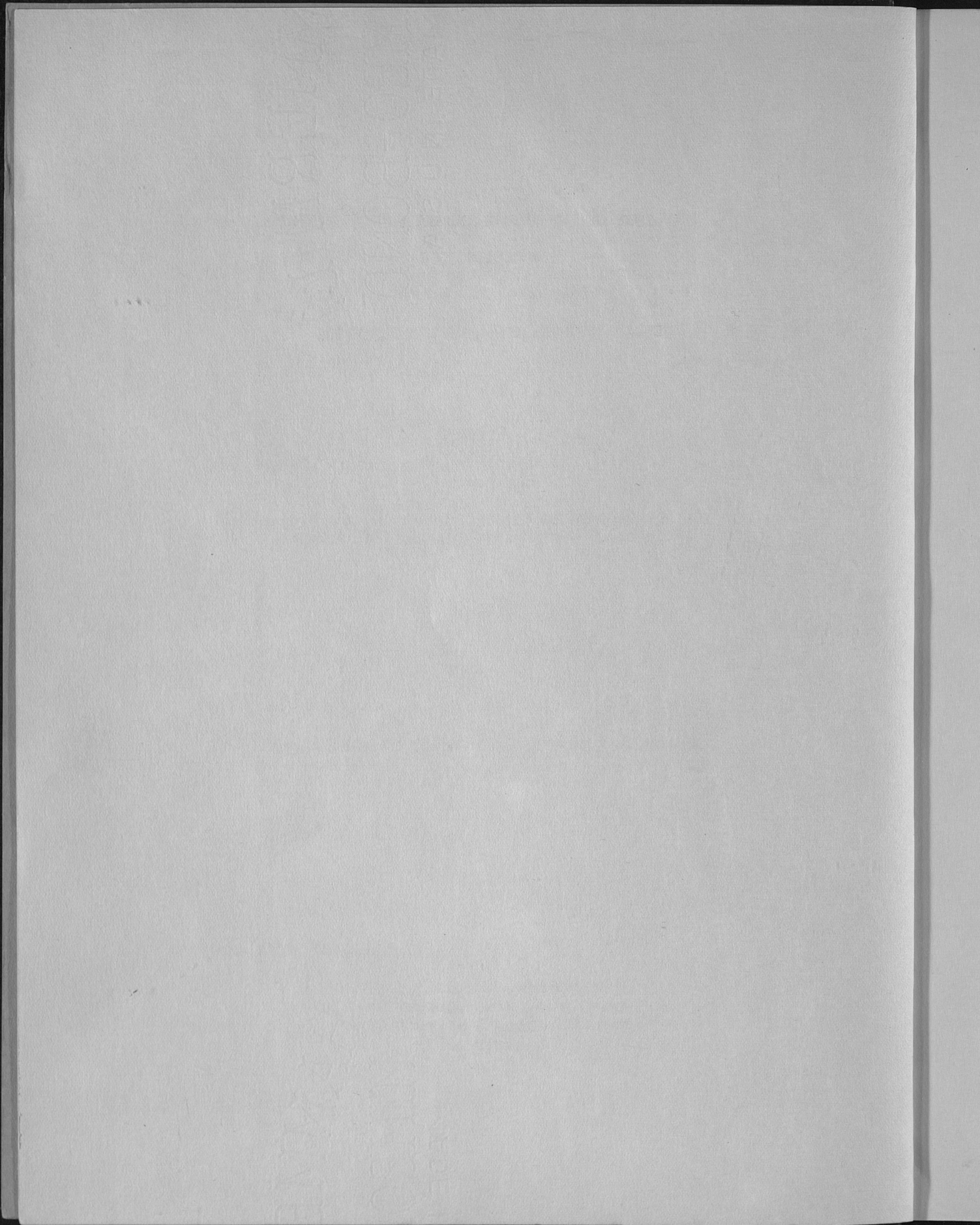
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Mississippi State Conference B'nai B'rith  
Jackson, Mississippi



INVENTORY OF THE CHURCH AND SYNAGOGUE ARCHIVES

OF MISSISSIPPI

JEWISH CONGREGATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Prepared by

The Mississippi Historical Records Survey Project  
Division of Professional and Service Projects  
Work Projects Administration

Sponsored

by

Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Jackson, Mississippi  
Mississippi State Conference  
B'nai B'rith  
November 1940

The Historical Records Survey Program

Sargent B. Child, National Director  
John C. L. Andreassen, Regional Supervisor  
Robert E. Strong, State Supervisor

Research and Records Section

Harvey E. Becknell, Director  
Willis B. Hazelton, Regional Supervisor  
Felix J. Underwood, Jr., State Supervisor

Division of Professional and Service Projects

Florence Kerr, Assistant Commissioner  
Leo G. Spofford, Chief Regional Supervisor  
Ethel Payne, State Director

WORK PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION

Howard O. Hunter, Acting Commissioner  
Lawrence Westbrook, Regional Director  
Roland B. Wall, State Administrator

## FOREWORD

Any organization or individual having -- however limited -- a hand in the preparation of this volume, or in its publication, may feel a just pride in being associated with so valuable a project.

As a co-sponsor, The Mississippi State Conference of B'nai B'rith considers itself privileged in the opportunity of such association.

Nothing short of prodigious labor was involved in the research that made this volume possible. Workers throughout the state who have taken considerable pains with their contributions are to be warmly congratulated.

Never before has so comprehensive and so accurate a survey been made of the collective endeavors of Jews in this state. Only one other state -- Michigan -- has such a Jewish Inventory prepared by a State Historical Records Survey Project, according to our information.

If any of the details presented should be discovered to be incomplete, this is no more than testimony to the vast scope of the endeavor. The scientific procedures employed measure up to high standards of historiography.

Here are the objective data that bespeak the moral and spiritual contributions of the descendants of an ancient people, the adherents of a significant historical religion, to the welfare of a great commonwealth.

This presentation is a symbol of the finest spirit of Democracy, promulgated of old by the Founding Fathers of America and infused, ineluctably, in the very bone and marrow of this blessed country's daily life.

STANLEY R. BRAV  
Rabbi  
Chairman, Mississippi  
STATE CONFERENCE OF B'NAI B'RITH

## PREFACE

The Historical Records Survey Projects of the Work Projects Administration are engaged, as one phase of their extensive program, in preparing and publishing inventories of the church archives of all denominations. The Inventory of Jewish Congregations and Organizations is the second of this nature published in Mississippi by the Mississippi Historical Records Survey Project. It is hoped that it will be of service to the clergy, members of religious organizations, students of the social sciences, and those engaged in genealogical research. Information contained in this inventory has been acquired by personal interview and by research in printed sources, and in church, county, and State archives. In view of the nature of this undertaking, there will likely be certain omissions and deficiencies, but the Survey has made every effort to attain the highest degree of accuracy.

The careful and meticulous initial research and the field work in the counties, and the organizing of the data contained in this volume were done under the supervision of Nash K. Burger, Project Technician. Other members of the Mississippi staff who made excellent contribution to the inventory were: Connie Z. Pearson, unit foreman; Virginia Plyler; Fred Boacham; Elmise Fant; William M. Price; and Catherine Shields. Much of the original research in the counties was prosecuted by field workers, working in their own communities.

The Mississippi Historical Records Survey Project wishes to express its deep appreciation of the interest manifested in this inventory by individuals throughout the State, and for the contributions they made toward its publication. For the assistance given by Dr. D. H. Orkin, former secretary of the Mississippi State Conference of B'nai B'rith, and Meyer A. Lewis, Jr., present secretary; and by the many Rabbis who edited and reviewed the entries for each Congregation and Organization, we are profoundly grateful.

We wish also to thank the officials of the Work Projects Administration, and Dr. William D. McCain, Director of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History and official sponsor of the project, who have given the Survey their cordial cooperation; and the co-sponsor, The Mississippi State Conference of B'nai B'rith, whose support made the publication of this inventory possible.

The Mississippi Historical Records Survey Project has followed general regulations and procedures applicable to all WPA project units. The inventory was prepared in accordance with technical instructions received from the Washington office of the Historical Records Survey Projects. Donald A. Thompson, assistant archivist in charge of church archives, reviewed the volume before publication. In addition, the Mississippi Survey has profited in all phases of its work by the constructive advice and criticism of John C. L. Andreassen, regional supervisor of the Survey.

A list of publications issued by the Mississippi Historical Records Survey Project appears after the index of the volume.

Robert E. Strong,  
State Supervisor  
The Mississippi Historical Records  
Survey Project

219 East Capitol St.  
Jackson, Mississippi  
November 1940

EDITORIAL NOTES

Organization Dates

The general plan of entry places the congregations in chronological order of organization. Formal congregational organization for regular religious services frequently came some time after organization of a cemetery or of a benevolent society. However, the date given is, so far as it is possible to ascertain it, the date after which religious services were more or less regular.

Form of Entry

The entry for each congregation or organization adheres to a uniform style. Following the entry number appear the name of the congregation or organization, the organization date and date of demise (if inactive), the street address, and city or town, and county in which the organization is located. Each entry is divided into two or three paragraphs. The first paragraph gives, wherever possible, the organization history, the building history, the first settled rabbi, and the present rabbi. The second paragraph gives bibliography pertaining exclusively to the particular congregation. The third paragraph is devoted to the records of the congregation.

Mississippi Law Pertaining to Religious Organizations

Religious bodies in Mississippi may be incorporated.

In Mississippi all corporations are formed only under the general laws (Const., 1890, sec. 178). Charters of incorporation are approved by the Attorney-General, signed by the Governor, and recorded by the Secretary of State, as well as in the office of the clerk of the chancery court as recorder in the county of the domicile of the corporation (Code 1930, sec. 4131). Prior to the adoption of the Constitution of 1890, charters for corporations were in many cases granted by specific acts of the Legislature.

Religious bodies may, under certain conditions, acquire property by devises and bequests, although, prior to 1940, such bequests had been generally prohibited. (For a more detailed study of the mortmain law and other statutes relating to religious organizations in Mississippi, see Mississippi Historical Records Survey Project, Inventory of the Church Archives of Mississippi, Protestant Episcopal Church, Jackson, 1940, pp. iv-v)

Extinct Congregations

Congregations no longer active are denoted by an asterisk and completed dates.

Abbreviations

c.	.....	about
Const.	.....	Constitution
ed.	.....	editor
<u>Ibid.</u>	.....	in the same place
L. M.	.....	Laws of Mississippi
Miss.	.....	Mississippi
n. d.	.....	no date

Editorial Notes

n. p. .... no place of publication  
n. pr. .... no printer  
op. cit. .... in the work cited  
p. pp. .... page, pages  
sec. .... section  
sic. .... thus, according to copy  
vol., vols. .... volume, volumes

Symbols

-- ..... to date or current  
\* ..... inactive congregation  
WPA ..... Work Projects Administration



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### HISTORICAL SKETCH OF JEWS IN MISSISSIPPI

That there were individual Jews among the early settlers in the French, Spanish, and English colonies in the lower Mississippi valley is evident. In 1724, Governor Bienville promulgated, in the name of Louis XV, a set of laws known as the "Black Code," the first provision of which declared that all Jews were to be expelled from the colony of Louisiana. This included the present state of Mississippi.<sup>1</sup> After 1763, the southern half of the present state was a part of British West Florida and the presence of Jews in the colony is indicated by the issuance of an order forbidding them to vote.<sup>2</sup> A Jew, Palachio, is mentioned as in New Orleans in 1766,<sup>3</sup> and Jews by the name of Israel, Solomon, and Depalachio were in Mobile in 1765.<sup>4</sup>

In 1789, Major Samuel S. Forman of New Jersey wrote that, "in the village of Natchez resided Monsier [sic] and Madam Masanteo<sup>5</sup>--Spanish Jews, I think--who were the most kind and hospitable of people."<sup>6</sup>

Mississippi did not become an American territory, in fact, until 1798 and a state in 1817. In the 1820's, the number of Jews in the entire United States was estimated at 6,000.<sup>7</sup> Probably not over 100 of these were living in Mississippi. As to when Jewish services were first held within the boundaries of Mississippi no record has been preserved. It was likely in the early years of the nineteenth century and certainly in the Natchez section.<sup>8</sup> These first services were undoubtedly Orthodox (see Entry 5).

Points of early Jewish settlement connected by river or land travel with Mississippi were: New Orleans, where the well-known Judah Touro settled in 1802; Montgomery, Alabama, on the site of which, Abraham Mordecai settled in 1789; and Cincinnati and Louisville, points of embarkation for many settlers coming down the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to the lower south.<sup>9</sup>

It was as peddlers and small merchants that most of the early Jews of Mississippi supported themselves. The greater part were from Germany, although a few of the very earliest were from England. These German Jewish immigrants were hard-working, enterprising men, who, as often as not, started out with no more stock than could be carried on their backs.<sup>10</sup>

1. Charles Gayarre, A History of Louisiana, New Orleans, 1903, (4th Edition), 4 vols., I, 362.
2. Peter J. Hamilton, Colonial Mobile, Boston and New York, 1910, 543.
3. Ibid., 256.
4. Ibid., 295.
5. The name is given as Monsanto, in the Spanish records at Natchez. See, Chancery Clerk, Adams County, Natchez, "Translations of the Spanish Records", Book C., p. 315.
6. Samuel S. Forman, Narrative of a Journey Down the Ohio and Mississippi in 1789-90, Cincinnati, 1888, 56.
7. Simon Wolf, The American Jew as Patriot, Soldier and Citizen, Philadelphia, 1895, 67. Hereafter cited as, Wolf.
8. Joseph Dunbar Shields, Natchez, Its Early History, Louisville, 1930, 40-41.
9. Lee J. Levinger, A History of the Jews in the United States, Cincinnati, 1930, 150-154. Hereafter cited as, Levinger.
10. Ibid., 180-189.

## Historical Sketch

The establishment of cemeteries usually preceded the organization of congregations. In 1849, Jacob Cohen and Jacob Schwarz, peddlers, bought at Woodville (Entry 14) a small piece of land for fifty dollars, wherein they buried a fellow peddler, Henry Burgance.<sup>1</sup> This land is still used as a cemetery. Likewise, early Jewish settlers at Grand Gulf bought a cemetery, which was abandoned when the inroads of the Mississippi river brought an end to the life of that river port (see Entry 9).<sup>2</sup> Natchez Jews bought a cemetery and began organization in 1840, completing the organization of Congregation B'nai Israel (Entry 6), 1843. Deeds to the Jewish property in Port Gibson (Entry 9) have not been located, but organized Jewish life there certainly dates to pre-Civil War times. The Vicksburg and Columbus congregations likewise date from the 1840's (Entries 7 and 8 respectively). A cemetery was bought at Jackson in 1854 and Congregation Beth Israel organized in 1861 (Entry 10).

By 1861, Jews were established with congregations or as individuals in most of the towns in the state. In the War Between the States, they enlisted from all parts of Mississippi to assist the Confederacy, although many of these Jews were of European or even of Northern origin. Simon Wolf has listed 158 Jewish soldiers from Mississippi in the Confederate Army,<sup>3</sup> but his list is clearly not complete. It is possible to discover from almost any county furnishing Jewish soldiers to the Confederate Army, names not on Mr. Wolf's list.<sup>4</sup>

Max Frauenthal, who enlisted at Summit, Miss., with several other Jews, is one Jewish Confederate soldier whose exploits have been recorded. On the outbreak of the war he enlisted in Company A, Sixteenth Regiment, Mississippi Volunteers. Frauenthal fought under Gen. Stonewall Jackson in the valley of Virginia, and served till the end of the war, escaping with slight wounds. Gen. Ewell is quoted as saying of him, "If I had ten thousand men like Frauenthal I would drive the Yankees into the Potomac before night." Frauenthal particularly distinguished himself at the "Bloody Angle" in the battle of Spottsylvania Court House (May 12, 1864). Colonel A. T. Watts, (who was a private in the same company as Frauenthal) wrote after the war that "Frauenthal, a little Jew, had the heart of a lion. For several hours he stood at the immediate point of contact (the apex of the angle) under the most terrific hail of lead, and coolly and deliberately loaded and fired without cringing."<sup>5</sup>

Mississippi sent also five Jewish brothers to the war. One of these was arrayed on the side of the Union against his four Confederate brothers, an example of the spirit of loyalty to conviction. They were: Edward Jonas, 50th Illinois Infantry; S. A. Jonas, Julian Jonas, and Major Charles H. Jonas, all in Barksdale's Mississippi Regiment, and Benjamin F. Jonas, who enlisted in a Louisiana regiment. Major Isaac Scherck, on the staff of General Hardee, was one of the highest ranking Jewish officers from Mississippi.<sup>6</sup>

1. W. Wilner, "Mississippi" in The Jewish Encyclopedia, New York, 1916, XII vols., VIII, 619.  
2. Ibid. No deed found.  
3. Wolf, 424.  
4. For example, I. Moise (Pike County); Godfrey Frank (Boliver Coun-

ty); Jacob and Aaron Rosenbaum (Kemper County) were Confederate soldiers not listed by Wolf.  
5. Henry Cohen, "Max Frauenthal", The Jewish Encyclopedia, New York, 1916, XII Vols., V, 502.  
6. Wolf, 109

### Historical Sketch

Of great embarrassment to the Federal government, in 1862, was an order issued by General U. S. Grant barring all Jewish traders from his part of the South, which included Mississippi. General Grant had been troubled by traders going with the troops, some of whom speculated in cotton and traded with the Confederacy.

Numbers of these speculators and traders were Jews from Cincinnati.<sup>1</sup> Grant's orders in November and December, 1862, showed an increasing tendency to place the entire blame on Jews.

His communication from Oxford, Miss., to the Assistant Secretary of War, Dec. 17, was as follows:

Hdqrs. Thirteenth A. C., Dept of the Tenn.,  
Oxford, Miss., December 17, 1862

Hon. C. P. Wolcott,  
Assistant Secretary of War, Washington, D. C.:

I have long since believed that in spite of all the vigilance that can be infused into post commanders, the specie regulations of the Treasury Department have been violated, and that mostly by Jews and other unprincipled traders. So well satisfied have I been of this that I instructed the commanding officer at Columbus to refuse all permits to Jews to come South, and I have frequently had them expelled from the department, but they come in with their carpet-sacks in spite of all that can be done to prevent it. The Jews seem to be a privileged class that can travel everywhere. They will land at any wharf on the river and make their way through the country. If not permitted to buy cotton themselves they will act as agents for some one else, who will be at a military post with a Treasury permit to receive cotton and pay for it in Treasury notes which the Jew will buy up at an agreed rate, paying gold.

There is but one way that I know of to reach this case; that is, for Government to buy all the cotton at a fixed rate and send it to Cairo, Saint Louis, or some other point to be sold. Then all traders (they are a curse to the army) might be expelled.

U. S. Grant,  
Major General<sup>2</sup>

The same day Grant issued the following order expelling all Jews from his Department.

General Orders )  
No. 11 )

Hdqrs. 13th A. C., Dept of the Tenn.  
Holly Springs, December 17, 1862

1. James Wilford Garner, Reconstruction in Mississippi, New York, 1901, pp. 30-31. Under the Direction of the Secretary of War, by Lieut. Col. Robert N. Scott, Third U. S. Artillery, Washington;
2. The War of the Rebellion: Prepared, 1887, Series I, volume XVII, Part II, 421-422

### Historical Sketch

The Jews, as a class violating every regulation of trade established by the Treasury Department and also department orders, are hereby expelled from the department within twenty-four hours from the receipt of this order.

Post commanders will see that all of this class of people be furnished passes and required to leave, and any one returning after such notification will be arrested and held in confinement until an opportunity occurs of sending them out as prisoners, unless furnished with permit from headquarters.

No passes will be given these people to visit headquarters for the purpose of making personal application for trade permits.

By order of Maj. Gen. U. S. Grant:

Jno. A. Rawlins,

Assistant Adjutant-General<sup>1</sup>

This discriminatory order directed against Jewish traders and no others was revoked after an appeal to President Lincoln by Northern Jews.<sup>2</sup>

After the Civil War, the migration of Jews into Mississippi was continued and several new congregations were formed. Temple Beth Israel, Meridian (Entry 11) was started in 1868 and Ohel Jacob Synagogue (Entry 15) in the same city, was begun in 1880. Organized Jewish services in Canton (Entry 12) began in 1877. The Hebrew Union Congregation, Greenville, (Entry 16) an outgrowth of Jewish services begun in 1869, was organized in 1880.

In this period, on July 8, 1873, a nation-wide association of Jewish congregations, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, was formed "composed chiefly of the Reform element, and established largely through the persistent efforts. . . of Isaac M. Wise."<sup>3</sup>

Moritz Loth, president of Rabbi Wise's congregation in Cincinnati, in his annual message of Oct. 10, 1872, had recommended that the five Cincinnati congregations join in a call, for the organization meeting. The call was issued March 30, 1873. Delegates from 34 congregations met in Cincinnati, July 8, adopted the title and later incorporated.

The objects of the organization were: to establish and maintain institutions for instruction in the higher branches of Hebrew literature and Jewish theology, with the necessary preparatory schools in such cities of those states as may be hereafter designated; to provide means for the relief of Jews from political oppression and unjust discrimination, and for rendering them aid for their intellectual elevation; to promote religious instruction and encourage the study of the Scriptures and of the tenets and history of Judaism.

To achieve these objects, plans for the Hebrew Union College were begun by the first council, which met in Cleveland in July 1874; a Board of Delegates

1. Ibid., 424.

2. Levinger, 198-200.

3. Leo Wise, "Union of American

Hebrew Congregations", Jewish Encyclopedia, XII Vols., New York, 1916, XII, 344.

## Historical Sketch

on Civil Rights was created with its seat in Washington, D. C., Simon Wolf being its chairman; and a Board of Managers on Synagogue and (Sabbath) School Extension, was placed in charge of the work formerly carried on by the Hebrew Sabbath-School Union of America, which went out of existence in January 1905.

The Union is governed by a council which meets biennially, the members of which are elected by the various congregations. Men or women may serve. During the intervals between the meetings of the council the Union is governed by an executive board, elected by the council. This executive board elects the Board of Governors of the Hebrew Union College and the Board of Managers of Synagogue and (Sabbath) School Extension.<sup>1</sup> Mississippi Reform congregations at Cleveland, Greenville, Greenwood, Hattiesburg, Jackson, Lexington, Meridian, Natchez, Port Gibson, and Vicksburg have joined the Union. Permanent organization of the Mississippi-Louisiana-Arkansas region of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations was achieved at a meeting in Vicksburg, in February 1940.<sup>2</sup>

Early Jewish services in the State, at such centers as Natchez, Woodville, and Vicksburg were Orthodox, but, at present, most congregations follow the Reform rites and, as indicated above, many are members of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. At Clarksdale (Entry 19) Orthodox, Reform, and Conservative rituals are used in the same building. Ohel Jacob Congregation, Meridian (Entry 15), and Ahavath Rayim congregation, Greenwood (Entry 17) are definitely Orthodox congregations in the State today. The Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America was organized in 1898 and incorporated in New York in 1915.<sup>3</sup> Both Mississippi Orthodox congregations belong to the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations.

As the number of congregations in the State has increased Jewish Auxiliary organizations have become more active. The International Order of B'nai B'rith now has 13 lodges in Mississippi (Entry 1); the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, established in 1913, now has 16 affiliates in the State (Entry 2). Hadassah, the women's Zionist organization of America, has three chapters in Mississippi (Entry 3), while the State organizations of Jewish Youth, banded together in 1940 to form the Mississippi Federation of Temple Youth (Entry 4), which consists at present of 7 chapters.

The membership of Jewish congregations in Mississippi was 746 in 1906; 1,928 in 1916; 2,871 in 1926; and 2,897 in 1936.<sup>4</sup> In 1936, 15 congregations reported owning buildings for worship, and the value of the 13, whose value was reported, was \$227,500.<sup>5</sup>

Jewish expansion in the latter part of the nineteenth and the twentieth

1. Leo Wise, "Union of American Hebrew Congregations," Jewish Encyclopedia, XII Vols., New York, 1916, XII, 344.
2. Anonymous, "Unit of Hebrew Group Organized", in Jackson Clarion Ledger, Feb. 12, 1940.
3. Letter of Leo S. Hilsenrod, Executive Director, Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, to Ethel

4. United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, Census of Religious Bodies, 1936: Jewish Congregations, Washington, Government Printing Office, 1940, p. 3.
5. Ibid., p. 5.

Payne, Jackson, July 1940.

## Historical Sketch

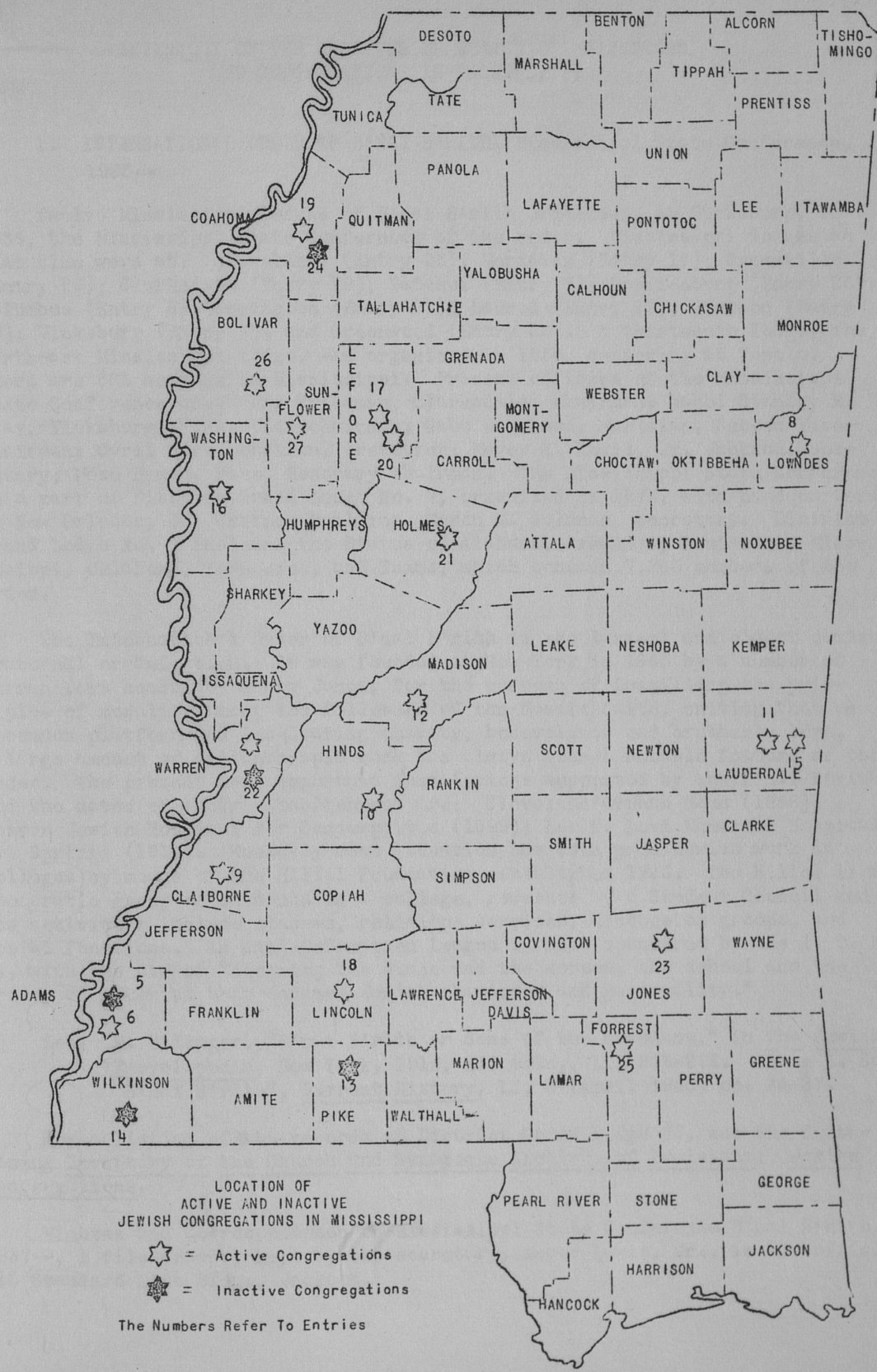
century has continued generally over the State but has been most marked in the Delta section, where all the towns of any size and most of the smaller settlements have a number of successful and energetic Jewish business and professional men, many of whom, in addition, own farms and plantations or engage in the buying and selling of cotton. The success of Jewish merchants in the Delta, where the Negro population is greater than the white, has been laid by a recent scholar to the fact that "the Jews have treated negroes with courtesy, or at least without discourtesy, in strictly business relations," and that the Jews, "bargain with the negroes and the negroes like this. . . Southern whites tend to be brusque and 'take-it-or-leave-it' with the negro, while Jews are more considerate, putting business before caste principles."<sup>1</sup>

In recent years, in every phase of Mississippi's business or social life Jews have been active and influential. The place taken in business and community life in the cities of the State, for example, is a notable one. Active in many fields in the State's three largest cities have been members of the Dreyfus, Lehman, Hart, Aschor, Engel, Kahn, Orkin, and Lewis families of Jackson; the Rothenberg, Threefoot, Marks, Rosenbaum, Klein, Myer, and Winter families of Meridian; and the Rice, Switzer, Weil, Fried, Kline, and Toller families of Vicksburg. At least two Mississippi Jews of today are nationally known: David Cohn, of the Delta, for his writing, and Lehman Engel, of Jackson, for musical composition and direction. Earlier, in the latter years of the nineteenth century, Rabbi Herman M. Bion of Vicksburg, had achieved a reputation as a poet and novelist, his Ben-Beer, A Story of the Anti-Messiah,<sup>2</sup> published 1891, being especially popular.

While participating actively in the general life of the State, Mississippi Jews have retained an attachment to their family and religious customs. A recent study of Jewish family solidarity in a Mississippi city made by Rabbi Stanley R. Brav, of Vicksburg, gave "definite credence to the popular assumption of strength in Jewish family solidarity." Dr. Brav's study discovered also, however, that that family solidarity "is more relative than it is real. . . one is not impressed. . . with an amazing amount of, what might be called, 'absolute' family solidarity. . . Certainly the strength of Jewish family life in Vicksburg on the Mississippi today, is not the strength of the Jewish family in the ghetto of Presburg on the Danube in the 16th and 17th century."<sup>3</sup>

1. John Dollard, Caste and Class in a Southern Town, Yale University Press, New Haven, 1937, 129-130.
2. Ben-Beer; A Story of the Anti-Messiah in two divisions. Pt. 1 Lunar intaglios, The man in the moon, a counterpart of Wallace's

- "Ben-Hur." Pt. 2 Historical phantasmagoria. The wandering gentile, a companion to Sue's "Wandering Jew". Baltimore, I. Frodenwald Company, 1891, ix, 528 pp.
3. Stanley R. Brav, Jewish Family Solidarity, Vicksburg, 1940, 68-69.





INVENTORY OF THE ARCHIVES OF JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS  
AND CONGREGATIONS IN MISSISSIPPI

1. INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF B'NAI B'RITH, Mississippi State Conference,  
1935--

Twelve Mississippi lodges of B'nai B'rith organized, at Vicksburg, in 1935, the Mississippi State Conference of the order. Mississippi lodges at that time were at: Cleveland (Entry 26); Meridian (Entry 11); Greenville (Entry 16); Clarksdale (Entry 19); Natchez (Entry 6); Hattiesburg (Entry 25); Columbus (Entry 8); Lexington (Entry 21); Laurel (Entry 23); Jackson (Entry 10); Vicksburg (Entry 7); and Greenwood (Entry 20). A thirteenth lodge, the Northeast Mississippi lodge, was organized in 1938, centering at Tupelo. There are 621 members in Mississippi. Present officers of the Mississippi State Conference are: Max Friedman, Clarksdale, chairman; Rabbi Stanley R. Brav, Vicksburg, First Vice-chairman; Gabe Jacobson, Meridian, Second Vice-chairman; Cyril Hart, Jackson, treasurer; Meyer A. Lewis, Jr. Jackson, secretary; Mose Hyman, Pace, Honorary chairman. The Mississippi State Conference is a part of District Grand Lodge No. 7, organized in 1873, with headquarters at New Orleans, 331 Whitney Building, Myron M. Goldman, secretary. District Grand Lodge No. 7 includes the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Texas, which contain 7,280 members of the order.

The International Order of B'nai B'rith is the largest and oldest Jewish fraternal organization. It was founded at New York in 1843 by a number of German Jews headed by Henry Jones, for the purpose of instilling the principles of morality among the followers of the Mosaic faith, uniting them on a common platform and inculcating charity, benevolence and brotherly love. A large amount of philanthropic work has always been a notable feature of the order. The present most important institutions supported by the B'nai B'rith and the dates of their establishment are: Cleveland Orphan Home (1868); Denver Jewish Hospital for Consumptives (1899); Leo N. Levi Memorial Hospital, Hot Springs (1914). Recently much attention has been paid Jewish work in colleges by means of the Hillel Foundation established 1923. The Hillel is a democratic group of students in a college, governed by a Student Council and its activities include classes, religious services, discussion groups, and social functions. An Anti-Defamation League is also sponsored by the I. O. B. B., with the aim of "clearing the stage and the screen, the school and the press, of material that defames Jewish character and personality."

See: M. Ellinger, "B'nai B'rith or Sons of the Covenant," in The Jewish Encyclopedia, New York, 1916, XII vols., II, 275-276. Abram L. Sacher, "B'nai B'rith", Current History, LI, 8 (April 1940) pp. 24-27.

For a listing of the records of District Grand Lodge #7, see the forthcoming Inventory of the Church and Synagogue Archives of Louisiana: Jewish Congregations.

Minutes and Correspondence of Mississippi State Conference B'nai B'rith, 1937--, 1 file drawer, kept by the secretary, Meyer Lewis, Jr., in his office, 815 Standard Life Bldg., Jackson.

Mississippi Lodge (Vicksburg), organized 1867: Minutes and Cash Book, 1937--, 1 vol., kept by the secretary, Sam Albrecht, at his home, 1405 Mulberry St.

Ezra Lodge (Natchez), organized 1870: Cash Book and List of Members, 1896-1905, 2 vols., kept by Rabbi Meyer Marx, at the temple (See Entry 6); Minutes, 1940--, 1 vol., includes list of members and financial records, kept by Herman Wasserman, Franklin and Commerce Sts.

Joseph Herz Lodge (Columbus), organized 1871: Minutes, 1879--, 1 vol., containing also members and financial records, kept by Morris Lee Rosenzweig, in the Lodge Room in the basement of the temple.

Deborah Lodge (Greenville), organized 1871: Minutes, 1910--, 1 vol., containing also list of members, kept by H. Stein, 207 Washington Ave.

Manassah Lodge (Jackson), organized 1873: Minutes, 1873-98; 1898-1930; 1930--, 3 vols., all containing some financial records, volumes I and II kept by the treasurer, S. Cyril Hart at the Capitol National Bank; Vol. III kept by the secretary, Ben Himelstein, Deposit Guaranty Bank Bldg. Membership Applications, 1873-1909; 1916; 1918-31 (1918-31 incomplete), 1 vol. kept by the treasurer, S. Cyril Hart, at the Capitol National Bank.

\*Judith Lodge (Canton), organized 1868: Minutes, 1905-34, 1 vol., kept by Julius Loeb, at his store, Liberty and Center Sts. Incorporation: L. M. 1871, pp. 538-39.

Asaph Lodge (Meridian), organized 1877: Minutes, 1907--, 2 vols., kept by secretary, A. C. Silverman, at his office at Peoples Gas Company.

Albert Weiler Lodge (formerly Mark Stein Lodge) (Greenwood), organized 1894: Minutes, 1939--, 1 vol., kept by Harry Diamond, Whittington Bldg.

\*Abram Lodge (Brookhaven), organized 1898: Inactive. No records found.

Hattiesburg Lodge (Hattiesburg), organized 1908: Minutes, 1935--, 1 vol., kept by secretary, Gus K. Marks, at his home, Southern Ave.

Laurel Lodge (Laurel), organized 1910: B'nai B'rith Records, 1939--, 1 vol., includes members, minutes, and financial matters, kept by president, Dave Matison, at Fine Brothers-Matison Co.

Isador Hyman Lodge (Lexington), organized 1926: List of members, 1935--, 1 vol., includes also financial records, kept by Nathan Schur, Lexington.

Delta Lodge (Clarksdale), organized 1927: Minutes, 1927--, 4 vols., kept by the secretary, Harry Magdovitz, 374 Issaquena Ave.

Adath Israel Lodge (Cleveland), organized 1928: Minutes, 1929--, 1 vol., includes list of members, kept by the secretary, Marcel Davidow, Cleveland.

Northeast Mississippi Lodge (members from thirteen north Mississippi towns), organized 1938: Minutes, 1938--, 1 vol.; Membership Ledger, 1938--, 1 vol.; Financial Records, 1938--, 1 vol., all kept by the secretary-treasurer, Sol Weiner, 128 Main St., Tupelo.

2. NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE SISTERHOODS, Mississippi State Federation, 1924--.

Organized 1924 by delegates from Sisterhoods at Meridian, Jackson, Lexington, Natchez, Vicksburg, Yazoo City and Canton. The organizing meeting was held in the Edwards Hotel, Jackson, with Mrs. A. H. Schwartz, Jackson, as chairman.

In the latter years of the 19th century, there sprang up in large and small cities all over the country, groups of what were then known as "Jewish Ladies' Aids" or "Jewish Ladies' Benevolent Societies." They were comprised mainly of wives of the members of the congregations and the work which they did was largely of a philanthropic nature.

As years went on and the needs of the congregation grow, gradually these societies began to become definitely interested in promoting congregational interest. For instance, their members raised funds to buy a new Altar Cloth or furnish a Torah. They also taught in the Sabbath School and arranged entertainments for the children. Finally they became so definitely a factor in congregational life that these women's adjuncts felt the need of a central organization.

On January 21st, 1913, fifty-two representatives of women's organizations from congregations met in Cincinnati at the call of Mr. J. Walter Freiberg, then president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. It was at this meeting that the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods was formed with Mrs. Abram Simon of Washington as president. Six National Committees were organized to carry on the work.

Projects of the National Federation are: to assist the Hebrew Union College, located in Cincinnati, and the oldest American Hebrew Theological Seminary; to intensify Jewish knowledge, observance, and adjustment and to serve Jewish and humanitarian causes; to cooperate with Jewish and non-Jewish organizations in educating for Peace and Social Betterment; to extend through local members Jewish hospitality to students and to sponsor Youth Activities; to create in Braille a Jewish library for the Jewish blind of the world; to assist in the religious and social adjustment of new Americans, cooperating with existing agencies. Miss Jane Evans is Executive Director of the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, which maintains headquarters in the Merchants Building, Cincinnati.<sup>1</sup>

The Mississippi Sisterhoods who have affiliated with the National Federation and the dates of affiliation: Canton (1930); Clarksdale (1934); Cleveland (1927); Columbus (1927); Corinth (1935); Drew and Ruleville (1927); Greenville (1920); Greenwood (1919); Hattiesburg (1930); Jackson (1917); Lexington (1922); Laurel (1926); Meridian (1914); Natchez (1914); Riverside (1927); Vicksburg (1927).

Minutes of the Mississippi Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, 1924--, 1 vol., kept by Mrs. A. H. Schwartz, honorary life-president, Tombigee and S. Congress Sts., Jackson.

1. This historical sketch of the National Federation of Temple Sister-

hoods is based largely on information furnished by Miss Evans.

Canton Sisterhood, organized 1889: Temple Sisterhood Minutes, 1910--,  
1 vol., kept by Miss Bertha Loeb, 141 E. Peace St.

Clarksdale Sisterhood, organized 1934: Minutes of Temple Sisterhood,  
1935--, 1 vol., kept by Mrs. Harry Labens, secretary.

Cleveland Sisterhood, organized 1920: Adath Israel Temple Sisterhood,  
Minutes, 1927--, 1 vol., kept by Mrs. W. E. Kent, president.

Columbus Sisterhood, organized 1927: Minutes of Temple Sisterhood,  
1932--, 6 vols., kept by Mrs. Morris L. Rosenzweig, 501 S. Second St.

Northeast Mississippi Sisterhood (members from thirteen north Mississippi  
towns), organized 1936: Sisterhood Records, 1938--, 1 vol., includes minutes,  
members, financial records, kept by Mrs. Marion Peltz, 506 N. Robins St.,  
Tupelo; Sunday School Records, 1938--, 1 vol., kept by Mrs. Sol Weiner, 502  
N. Robins St., Tupelo.

Drew-Ruleville Sisterhood, organized 1915: Secretary's Ledger, 1915--,  
1 vol., contains minutes and members, kept by Mrs. H. Arst, secretary, Drew.

Greenville Sisterhood, organized 1920: Sisterhood Minutes, 1929--, 1 vol.,  
kept by the secretary, Mrs. Rosa L. M. Raphael, 910 Arnold Ave.

Greenwood Temple Sisterhood, organized 1898: Sisterhood Minutes, 1931--,  
2 vols., and Sisterhood Treasurer's Book, 1919--, 1 vol., both kept by Mrs.  
Max Levitt, 509 W. Washington St.

Hattiesburg Sisterhood, organized 1914: Sisterhood Minutes, 1914--,  
1 vol., kept by Mrs. Herman Katz, secretary, at her home, W. Pine St.

Jackson Sisterhood, organized 1900: No records kept.

Lexington Sisterhood (Julia Lewis Sisterhood) organized 1910: Sisterhood  
Minute Book, 1927--, 1 vol., kept by Mrs. Herman Flowers, secretary, at her  
home.

Laurel Sisterhood, organized 1915: Temple Sisterhood Minutes, 1932--,  
1 vol., kept at the temple by Hannah Weiss, secretary.

Meridian Sisterhood, organized 1906: Minutes of Temple Sisterhood, 1938--,  
3 vols., kept by Mrs. Louis Rothenberg, at her home, 2103 Fourteenth St.

Natchez Sisterhood, organized 1914: Minutes, 1936--, 1 vol., kept by Mrs.  
Meyer H. Marx, 311 Jefferson St.

Riverside Sisterhood (Rosedale and vicinity), organized 1926: Minutes,  
1926--, 1 vol., kept by Mrs. Samuel Baskin, Beulah.

Vicksburg Sisterhood, organized 1903: Minutes, 1940--, 1 vol., kept by  
Mrs. L. R. Fischel, 2310 Drummond St.; Financial Records, 1940--, 1 vol., kept  
by Mrs. Leon Fischel, Cherry St.

3. HADASSAH, The Women's Zionist Organization of America.

There are three chapters of Hadassah in Mississippi, all of them organized in 1939. These are at Clarksdale, (Entry 19) Hattiesburg, (Entry 25) and Jackson (Entry 10). There has been no attempt, as yet, to create a State organization; the three chapters being affiliated directly with the national Hadassah, with headquarters at 1860 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

Hadassah was founded in 1912 by Miss Henrietta Szold. The aim was to assist in securing and maintaining a home for the Jewish people in Palestine. Its initial program was to send two public health nurses into Palestine to help alleviate some of the suffering and the results of physical backwardness which then obtained in the Holy Land. As the war advanced, and conditions in Palestine became worse, as refugees streamed into the country, Hadassah's program of public health expanded. Hadassah opened hospitals, instituted sanitation work, founded infant welfare stations, initiated a school hygiene service, organized anti-malaria campaigns and waged a continuous fight against trachoma, the frightful eye disease which is the scourge of the Near East. After the war, all these services were expanded. Hadassah opened the first tuberculosis hospital in Palestine at Safed. In less than ten years after the Great War, the organization had brought to Palestine a complete health service based on the latest preventive and curative medical techniques practiced in the United States. Hadassah has assisted in transferring to Palestine youthful Jewish refugees, as the sole American agency for Youth Aliyah (Youth Migration) in this country. In five and a half years, a little less than six thousand children have been transferred from Eastern and Central Europe and settled in Palestine's agricultural colonies and trade schools under the care of the Youth Aliyah movement. Hadassah guarantees these young people maintenance and education throughout a two-year period of training. At the conclusion of the period of training with its well-rounded program of practical work and vocational and academic studies, the Youth Aliyah child is fully equipped to enter the life of Jewish Palestine.

Clarksdale Chapter, organized 1939: Minutes, 1939--, 1 vol., kept by the secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Morris Binder, 314 Cypress St.

Jackson Chapter, organized 1939: Minutes, 1939--, 1 vol., kept by the recording secretary, Mrs. Max Berman, Edwards Hotel; Members, Officers, Committees, 1939--, 1 vol., kept by corresponding secretary, Mrs. Sam Vitoff, 755 Lorraine St.; Treasurer's Report, 1939--, 1 vol., kept by the treasurer, Mrs. Albert M. Rosenfield, Hawthorne Drive.

Hattiesburg Chapter, organized 1939: Minutes, 1939--, 1 vol., kept by the secretary, Mrs. Arthur Brodey, in her home, Second Ave.

4. MISSISSIPPI FEDERATION OF TEMPLE YOUTH, 1940--.

Organized February 11th, 1940, in Vicksburg, by representatives of the Vicksburg, Greenwood, Jackson and Clarksdale youth organizations. Joe Hyam, president of the Greenwood Young Peoples' League, presided, and appointed Edith Tonkel, president of the Clarksdale Temple of Youth League, as temporary secretary. The first meeting after organization was at Jackson, Sunday, April 21st, 1940. Approximately 150 members of Temple Youth Groups in Mississippi met in this first Annual Convention. A Constitution, drafted by the

Clarksdale League, was adopted, and the following officers were elected: Saul Fried, president, Vicksburg; Sylvia Baskind, vice-president, Clarksdale; Maud Rosenbaum, secretary-treasurer, Meridian. The convention was held at the Heidelberg Hotel. Jewish Youth groups represented were: Clarksdale, Greenville, Greenwood, Jackson, Laurel, Hattiesburg, Meridian and Vicksburg.

Constitution of Mississippi Federation of Temple Youth, 1940, 2 pp., typewritten, copy in possession of each local secretary. The copy in possession of Jack Millstein, at The Parisian, Jackson, is the original.

Clarksdale Temple Youth League, organized 1939: Minutes, 1939--, 1 vol., kept by secretary, Edith Bloom; Financial Records, 1939--, 1 vol., kept by treasurer, David Califf.

Greenville Young Men's Hebrew Association, organized 1890: Minutes, 1926--, 1 vol., kept by secretary, Bernie Goodman.

Greenwood Young Jewish People's League, organized 1938: Minutes, 1938--, 1 vol., including constitution and members, kept by Mary Louise Rogers, 302 E. Front St.

Jackson Temple League, organized 1939: Minutes of Club Meetings, 1939--, 1 vol., and Minutes of Meetings of Board of Trustees, 1939--, 1 vol., both kept by secretary, Pearl Cohen, 730 East Fortification St.; Financial Records, 1939--, 1 vol., kept by treasurer, Bernice Brod, at Millstein's Inc., Capitol St.; Correspondence and Miscellaneous Records, 1939--, 1 file box, kept by president, Jack Millstein, at The Parisian, Capitol St.

Laurel-Hattiesburg Jewish Youth Organization, organized 1940: Minutes, 1940--, 1 vol., kept by secretary Stanley Cohen, at his home, Hardy St., Hattiesburg.

Meridian Youth Group, organized 1939: Minutes, 1939--, 1 vol., and correspondence, 1939--, 1 folder, both kept by secretary, Margie Goldin, 1618 26th Ave.; Financial Records, 1939--, 1 vol., kept by Marvin Fink, 2515 6th St.; Miscellaneous Folder, 1939--, 1 folder, contains correspondence and some financial records pertaining to national, State, and local Federation, kept by president, Maud Rosenbaum, 2100 23rd Ave.

Vicksburg Junior Congregation, organized 1937: Minute Book, 1937--, 1 vol., and Cash Book, 1937--, 1 vol., both kept by the secretary-treasurer, Betty Emily Hirsch, at her home, 2222 Cherry St.

5. \*ORTHODOX CONGREGATION, c.1800-c.1910, Union St., Natchez, Adams County

Just when Orthodox services were first in Natchez is not known. There were Jews here certainly as early as 1798 and probably earlier. Services were likely held by the beginning of the nineteenth century, and there is tradition of an early cemetery on the south-end of Canal St. At one time services were conducted in an improvised synagogue over a store on the north side of Franklin St., between Union and Rankin Sts., the exact location not now known. By the 1880's the congregation was holding services over No. 3 Engine House of the Natchez Fire Department on Union St. between Main and

Franklins Sts. About 1910, due to removal of members and the growth of Reform Judaism, the Orthodox congregation became inactive. If there was a resident rabbi, his name is not now known.

See: Edith Wyatt Moore, "Temple B'nai Israel," Natchez, 1940, 6 pp. in possession of the author, Natchez.

6. CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL, (Children of Israel), 1840--, Commerce and Washington Sts., Natchez, Adams County.

Organized in 1840. In that year a cemetery was purchased, which now occupies a narrow, walled strip in the central portion of the city cemetery. Location of first services not known. In 1867, a brick temple, dedicated 1872, was erected on Commerce and Washington Sts. It burned in 1904. On July 1st., 1904 the corner-stone was laid for the present synagogue on the same site, and the following year, March 25th, it was dedicated. The architecture is classic, with round dome, and colored glass windows. B'nai Israel Congregation joined the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, October 5th, 1873. Ezra Lodge, No. 134, B'nai B'rith was organized in 1870 (See Entry 1). A Temple Sisterhood was organized in 1914, which affiliated with the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods in 1914 (See Entry 2). There were fifty-four contributing members from Natchez in the congregation in 1939, in addition, there are some thirty-five members living in the nearby towns of Ferriday (La.) and Lorman, Bude, and Fayette. First settled rabbi unknown. Present rabbi is Meyer H. Marx.

See: Edith Wyatt Moore, "Temple B'nai Israel," Natchez, 1940, 6 pp., in possession of the author, Natchez.

Congregational Minutes, 1878--, 3 vols., kept by Mrs. Miriam Hiller, 517 Madison St.; Register, 1911-23, 1938--, 2 vols., includes marriages, members, deaths, kept at the temple, by Rabbi Marx; Financial Records, 1909-31, 4 vols., also kept by Rabbi Meyer H. Marx; Deeds: Deed Book 00, p. 603, in office of chancery clerk of Adams County, Natchez.

7. CONGREGATION ANSHE CHESED, (Men of Kindness), 1841--, 1209 Cherry St., Vicksburg, Warren County.

Organized in 1841. From the organization date until 1868, services were held in various homes and in a building on Levee St., owned by one of the members, B. Yoste. In 1868, after sufficient funds had been raised to build a synagogue the cornerstone of the present building was laid, and a temple built, being dedicated May 16th, at 1209 Cherry St. In that year, the first settled rabbi, Bernard Harold Gotthelf, took charge of the congregation. In 1893, the original building was remodeled. It is the present building, of brick construction, Gothic architecture, with Sunday School rooms and a study in the basement. Anshe Chesed Congregation became a member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, April 25th, 1874. The congregation possesses five scrolls of the Torah, the oldest of which is said to be at least two centuries old. Mississippi Lodge, of B'nai B'rith, was begun in 1867 (See Entry 1). A Sisterhood organized in October 1903, became affiliated with the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods in 1913 (See Entry 2). A Junior Congregation was organized in 1937 (See Entry 4). Also in 1937 was organized the Jewish Welfare Fed-

eration. Dr. Stanley Rosenbaum Brav, is the present rabbi. The temple has its own cemetery, located near the National Military Park, Clay Street Extension. There were 118 contributing members listed in 1939. A one-story stucco residence for the rabbi was obtained in 1937, at 3207 Drummond St.

See: Stanley R. Brav, Jewish Family Solidarity, Myth or Fact?, Vicksburg, Nogales Press, 1940, 130 pp.  
H. P. Chapman and J. F. Battaile, Vicksburg and the Yazoo Delta, Vicksburg, 1895, 105-108.

Minute Book, 1930--, 1 vol., kept by Sam Albrocht, Secretary, at his home, 1405 Mulberry St.; Confirmation and Marriage Records, 1895--, 3 vols., (incomplete) kept by Rabbi Stanley R. Brav, in his study, at the temple; Financial Records, 1927--, 1 vol., kept by Sam Albrocht, in his home, 1405 Mulberry St.; Records of the Jewish Welfare Federation, 1937--, 1 bundle, includes correspondence, minutes, and miscellaneous papers, kept by Dr. Brav in his study at the synagogue. Record Rabbi Sol L. Kory Library, 1938--, 1 vol., showing donations, purchases, expenditures, kept by Dr. Brav in his study. Deeds: Book EE, pp. 662-663; Book FF, pp. 178-179 in office of the Chancery Clerk, of Warren County, Vicksburg. Incorporations: Secretary of State, Jackson, Record of Incorporations, Book 1, p. 169; L. M. 1871, 551.

8. CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL (Children of Israel), 1845--, Second Ave., and Eighth St. N., Columbus, Lowndes County.

Organized 1845. German Jews and Jews from Alsace had come to Columbus as early as 1836. First services were held in private homes and later in the second story of the Odd Fellow's Building on the corner of 2nd Ave., N. and 8th St. A cemetery was bought in 1850. In 1908, the old Methodist Church on Second Ave., N. was purchased and remodeled. For many years services were conducted by laymen. First settled clergyman was Rabbi Joseph Herz, 1881-1911. The temple is a Gothic building constructed of brick and stone with tower at front, stained glass windows and walnut pews. Present clergyman, Rabbi Bernard Adler, a native of Fuerth, Germany, 603 Second St., S. The congregation has not joined the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. The Columbus Temple Sisterhood was organized in 1927 (see Entry 2); members are from Columbus, Starkville, West Point, Macon, and Aberdeen. Organization of Joachim Lodge, B'nai B'rith, was begun in Oct. 1871 and completed in 1872; the name has since been changed to Joseph Herz Lodge (see Entry 1) and, like the Sisterhood, includes members from towns other than Columbus.

See: Dr. W. L. Lipscomb, History of Columbus, Press of Dispatch Printing Co., 1909, Birmingham, Ala., pp. 113-114.

Minutes, 1850--, 3 vols.; Register, 1870--, 2 vols., (containing list of confirmations and members) all kept by the secretary-treasurer, Isidor Rubel, at his home, 802 N. Second Ave.; Financial Records, 1879--, 1 vol.; Sunday School Records, 1879--, 1 vol. (containing members and finances), kept by Secretary-treasurer, Morris Lee Rosenzweig, in the church basement; Deeds: Deed Book 30, p. 295, (cemetery); Book 89, p. 374, in office of the chancery clerk of Lowndes County, Columbus.



9. CONGREGATION GEMILUTH CHASSED (Deeds of Charity), 1859-- , Church St., Port Gibson, Claiborne County.

Organized in 1859, some of the organizers removing here from Grand Gulf, where Jewish settlers had purchased a cemetery. (See p. 3). First services were held in the old Odd Fellow's Hall on Fair St. The first and present synagogue was erected on Church St., in 1892. It is a building of mixed architecture, stained-glass windows with rounded transoms, and a Moorish-type dome over the front entrance. At the dedication of the temple, an ancient silver crown, breastplate, and scepter for the Torah were given by Mrs. Isador Newman, as a memorial to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Keifer. The first settled rabbi, was Rabbi Mischnik, an Austrian; whose tenure and first name are not now known. A cemetery was purchased in 1871 on Margeral St. Gemiluth Chassed joined the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, November 25th, 1874. Eleven contributing members were reported in 1939. The congregation has no rabbi at present, services being held by laymen, chiefly in recent years by Karl Weil.

Record Book, 1859-69, 1 vol., list of members, and financial record, kept by Mrs. Samuel Weil, at her home, 904 Walnut St.; List of Members, 1935-- , 1 vol., kept by Mrs. B. H. Levy; Deeds: Land Deed Record, Book II, p. 510 (Cemetery); Book 3-A, p. 326; Book YY, p. 583, in office of the chancery clerk of Claiborne County, Port Gibson. Incorporations: L. M., 1870, 444-445.

10. CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL (House of Israel), 1861-- , Woodrow Wilson Ave., Jackson, Hinds County.

Organized 1861. The first building, a frame structure, stood somewhat south of the corner of S. State and South Sts., and was burned in 1863 by Federal troops at the capture of Jackson. A new building, one-story with raised basement, of brick and stone construction was built and dedicated in 1874 at the corner of S. State and South Sts. It was repaired and renovated several times. At the time of its sale and dismantling, in 1940, it was the oldest religious edifice in Jackson. In 1940, the congregation bought from the State of Mississippi a temple site on Woodrow Wilson Ave. and erected its present building. A cemetery, in use today, bounded by N. State, N. President, Pinchurst, and Webster Sts. was purchased in 1860.<sup>1</sup> First settled rabbi unknown, but among the earliest rabbis were Dr. S. (?) Meyer and Dr. Nachman J. Bonson. From time to time, lay members have conducted the services, among them being Isidore Strauss, Aaron Lehman, and Laz Kahn. Present Rabbi, Meyer Lovitt, 1929-- . There are 72 members. Manassah Lodge, B'nai B'rith, was organized in 1873 (See Entry 1). A Temple Sisterhood was organized 1900 and affiliated with the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods in 1917 (See Entry 2). A Jackson Temple League (Youth group) was organized January 1st., 1939. (See Entry 4).

See: Kate M. Power, "A History of the Jewish Congregation in Jackson," in Jackson Daily News, June 7th., 1936.  
Frances Davis, "Historic Temple Here Yields to Growth", in Jackson Daily News, May 12th., 1940.

1. This is the date on the deed recorded in office of the chancery clerk of Hinds County at Raymond, Book 28, p. 4, but the Jewish Encyclopedia also speaks of an 1854 cemetery (see page 3 and footnote 1) of which there is now no record.

Congregational Minutes, 1908--, 2 vols.; Financial Records, 1925--, 1 vol.; Records of Members and Deaths, 1928--, 1 vol., all preceding records kept by the secretary, Julius E. Hatry, at his office, S. State and Pearl Sts., Deeds: Deed Record, Book 30, p. 378; Book 28, p. 4, in office of the chancery clerk of Hinds County, Raymond; Deed Record, Book 12, p. 438; Book 333, p. 211, in office of chancery clerk of Hinds County, Jackson; L. M., House Bill 761, Session 1940; Incorporation: Secretary of State, Jackson, Record of Incorporations, Book 1, p. 142.

11. CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL, (House of Israel), 1868--, 11th St. and 24th Ave., Meridian, Lauderdale County.

Organized in 1868. The congregation worshipped in a room on the second floor over Carney's grocery store, at the corner of 6th St. and 22nd Ave., which was sold in 1904. Two years later the present building was erected, on 11th St. and 24th Ave., and in that year dedicated. It is modeled after the Parthenon, and is considered one of the most complete temples in the south. The temple has two scrolls of the Torah, one covered with crimson velvet for the usual services, one, covered with white satin, for the greater feasts. The first settled rabbi, was Rabbi Dave Bergman, coming to Beth Israel soon after its organization and remaining here until 1874. On August 27th of that year, the congregation joined the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Temple services follow the Union Prayer-Book. Asaph Lodge, B'nai B'rith, was organized in 1877 (see Entry 1). In the same year the Hebrew Young Men's Literary and Dramatic Association, was incorporated, "for the purpose of mutual improvement in the arts and sciences." This club is not now active and none of its records, except of its incorporation, have been found. A Sisterhood organized in 1906, affiliated with the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods in 1914 (see Entry 2). In 1939, the Youth Group of Temple Beth Israel was organized (see Entry 4). There were 108 contributing members listed in the congregation in 1939. Rabbi William Ackerman, the present rabbi, has served the congregation since 1924. Members of Congregation Beth Israel join with those of Congregation Ohel Jacob (Entry 15) in the work of Jewish auxiliary organizations.

Minute Books, 1926--, 2 vols., kept by William Oppenheim; Confirmation and Members, 1924--, 1 vol.; Sunday School Records, 1924--, 1 vol., both kept by Rabbi William Ackerman, in his home, 1112 24th Ave.; Financial Records, 1935--, 3 vols., kept by Louis Rothenberg, 2103 Fourteenth St.; Incorporation: Secretary of State, Jackson, Record of Incorporations, Book 1, pp. 341-342 (Young Men's Literary and Dramatic Ass.); Book 12, p. 345; Deeds: Deeds Book Y, p. 227; Book 58, p. 620; Book 69, pp. 293-95; Book 74, p. 96; Book 98, p. 298, in office of chancery clerk of Lauderdale County, Meridian.

12. CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL (Children of Israel), 1877--, Academy and Liberty Sts., Canton, Madison County.

Organized in 1877, in which year the present synagogue was erected, on Academy and Liberty Sts. A cemetery had been purchased by Canton Jews in 1870. The temple is a simple frame building. In 1878, a severe yellow fever epidemic caused a lapse in services. The first settled rabbi was Rabbi Joseph Sopher, 1879-80. In charge of B'nai Israel Congregation today is Rabbi Max Lewinthal. There are thirty-five members. The congregation has not joined the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, although the Hebrew Union Prayer-Book

is used for services. A Sisterhood, organized in 1889, joined the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods in 1930 (see Entry 2). Judith Lodge, B'nai B'rith organized 1868, was incorporated 1871, but has been inactive since 1934 (Entry 1).

See: Mrs. Pauline Michel, "History of Temple B'nai Israel", in Madison County Herald, March 23rd, 1934.

Minute Books, 1910--, 1 vol., in care of Rabbi Max Lewinthal; Temple Sisterhood, 1910--, 1 vol., and Record of the Cemetery Association, 1910--, 1 vol., both kept by Miss Bertha Loeb, 141 E. Peace St.; Deed: Deeds, Book U, p. 120 (cemetery); Book LL, p. 134 (synagogue), in office of chancery clerk of Madison County, Canton. Incorporations: Secretary of State, Jackson, Record of Incorporations, Book 1, pp. 305-06.

13. CONGREGATION OHAVEH SCHOLEM (Lovers of Peace), c.1870-c.1910,  
Baldwin St. and Illinois Central Railroad, Summit, Pike County.

Organized c.1870, by which time a sizeable Jewish community had grown up in Summit. A frame temple was erected soon after organization on the corner of Baldwin St. and the Illinois Central Railroad. This building was destroyed by a tornado in May 1924, although the congregation had already become inactive some years before. In the 1890's there were twenty families connected with the temple. Services were conducted at various times by Rabbi Louis Myers, who left Summit in the 1890's and later by Louis Aaronson, layman of Summit. Occasional services were also held by visiting rabbis, notably Dr. Herman Bien, Vicksburg.

No records found. Record of deed destroyed in courthouse fire, 1882.

14. \*CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL (House of Israel), 1878-c. 1910, Main St.,  
Woodville, Wilkinson County.

Organized 1878, an outgrowth of the Woodville Hebrew Educational Association established 1876. There had been a Jewish cemetery in Woodville since 1849 (see p. 3), and services since the 1850's. First services were orthodox but there was an increasing reform element in the congregation. A synagogue was erected, soon after organization, on Natchez St. This building was destroyed by fire in February, 1896, and a cornerstone for a new one on the same site laid July 30th, 1896. The only settled rabbis whose names are now known are Rabbis Max Moses and Henry Cohen, the latter serving the congregation in the early twentieth century. Due to removals, the congregation declined. The building was sold and moved to Main St., where it was used, first as a school, then as a theater. It burned in the 1930's.

See: Anonymous, "The Jewish Synagogue," Woodville Republican, July 19th, 1924.

Deeds: Deed Record, Book P, p. 591 (cemetery); Land Record, Book AA, p. 480; Book ZZ, p. 287 (addition to cemetery), in office of the chancery clerk, Wilkinson County, Woodville.

15. CONGREGATION OHEL JACOB (Praying Room of Jacob), 1880-- , 2515 6th St., Meridian, Lauderdale County.

Organized 1880 with Rabbi Samuel Goldstein in charge. First services were held in the Pythian Hall, 22nd Ave. and 9th St., and in the Odd Fellow's Hall, 23rd Ave. and 7th St. Services today are held in the residence of Mr. Louis Davidson, 2515 6th St. Both Minhag Sephardim and reform rites are used. A perpetual light is kept burning over the two scrolls of the Torah in the temple. The present rabbi is Hirsch Zissman, 28th Ave. and 16th St. The congregation owns a cemetery, next to that of Temple Beth Israel (Entry 11) on Marion Road. Members of Congregation Ohel Jacob join with those of Congregation Beth Israel (Entry 11) in the work of Jewish auxiliary organizations.

Congregation Minutes, 1935-- , 1 vol., kept at 629 25th Ave., by secretary, Saul Feinstein; Financial Records, 1930-- , 1 vol., kept by treasurer, Louis Goldin, at Meridian Hide and Fur Co., 26th Ave.

16. HEBREW UNION CONGREGATION, 1880-- , Main and Hinds Sts., Greenville, Washington County.

Organized 1880. As early as 1869, there were a number of Jewish families here, served until 1879 by Rabbi Charles Rawitzor of Memphis, who also taught a German-English school in Greenville, and this small congregation was known as B'nai Israel. In 1873, he confirmed five persons. This congregation was weakened by the yellow fever epidemic in 1878. Formal organization as the Hebrew Union Congregation finally took place in 1880. Dr. Joseph Bogen was the first settled rabbi, (1881-1901). Soon thereafter a lot and church building on the corner of Main and Hinds Sts., were purchased. The building was enlarged and remodeled in 1884, and in 1900 was sold and removed, to make room for the present temple, erected on the same site. This is a brick and stone structure, of Grecian architecture with memorial windows, which was dedicated on October 26-27, 1906. It was repaired and redecorated after a Mississippi river flood in 1927 and again in 1939. The present Ark and one of the three Torahs have been in use since 1882. The congregation have their own cemetery, located on State Highway 1, adjoining the Greenville city cemetery. The Hebrew Union Congregation became a member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, January 5th, 1903. A Young Men's Hebrew Association was organized in 1890, being first called the Harmony Club, later the Olympia Club. It is now a member of the Mississippi Federation of Temple Youth (see Entry 4). There were 130 contributing members reported in the Congregation in 1940. The present rabbi is Rabbi Samuel A. Rabinowitz. Deborah Lodge, No. 161, of B'nai B'rith was organized in 1895 (see Entry 1). The Hebrew Union Temple Sisterhood was organized in 1920, and affiliated with the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods the same year (Entry 2). An earlier woman's group, the Hebrew Ladies' Home Association had been incorporated in 1890.

See: Nathan Goldstein, "Golden Jubilee of the Hebrew Union Temple," Daily Democrat, Jan. 12th, 1931, Greenville.

Minute Books, 1880-1937, 5 vols., kept by Maurice Bergman, president, in vault in his office, Poplar St.; 1937-- , 1 vol., kept by Herman Solomon, secretary, at his home 705 Fairview Ave.; Confirmation Records, 1922-- , 1 vol.; Deaths, 1925-- , 1 vol.; Marriages, 1925-- , 1 vol.; Members, 1880-- , 3 vols., kept

by Rabbi S. A. Rabinowitz; Financial Records, 1880--, 3 vols., kept by Isador Roman; Deeds: Deed Book M2, p. 582; Book N2, p. 98; Book O2, p. 21; Book Q2, p. 297; Book L2, p. 477; Book 103, p. 25, (new cemetery property), in office of chancery clerk of Washington County, Greenville; Incorporations: Secretary of State, Jackson, Book 1, pp. 469-71; Book 4, pp. 268-69 (Hebrew Ladies' Home Ass.).

17. CONGREGATION AHAVATH RAYIM (Beloved Friendship), 1893--, Market and George Sts., Greenwood, Leflore County.

Organized in 1893, although orthodox services were held in private homes at least as early as 1891. From organization until 1923, services were held in the Masonic Hall. The first settled rabbi was Dave Schapperstein, 1914-23. A synagogue, still in use, was erected in 1922, and dedicated January, 1923. It is a brick structure of Gothic architecture. There are four large columns at the front of the building. A Ladies' Auxiliary was organized Jan. 14th, 1908. Present rabbi, is Philip Danziger. Thirty-five members were reported in 1940. There are three Torahs, one brought from Europe by the father of Jake and Abe Kantor, the two latter of whom gave it to the synagogue; one was given by Mr. and Mrs. Ike Gelman, on their silver-wedding anniversary; and a third was bought by the congregation.

Minutes, 1914--, 4 vols., include financial records, kept at the synagogue by B. Garlove; Ladies' Auxiliary Minute Book, 1921--, 1 vol.; Financial Records, 1908--, 2 vols., and List of Members, 1933--, 1 vol., both kept by Mrs. Harry Goldberg, 805 Dewey St.; Deeds: Deed Book 49, p. 422; Book 55, p. 544, in office of chancery clerk of Leflore County, Greenwood.

18. CONGREGATION B'NAI SHOLOM (Children of Peace), 1894--, Chickasaw and S. Church Sts., Brookhaven, Lincoln County.

Organized 1894. The organization of the temple was aided by Rabbi Isadore Lowenthal, of Nashville, Tenn. However, Jews had settled here as early as 1852 engaging in the mercantile business. First services were held in private homes, and elsewhere, by Rabbi Solomon Lowenthal. A cemetery, adjoining the city cemetery, was obtained in 1861. The present temple, was erected in 1896 and dedicated on May 27th of that year. It is of frame, Gothic architecture with stained glass windows, a steeple, but no bell. There has never been a resident rabbi. The congregation of 26 members is served from Natchez by Rabbi Meyer H. Marx, who holds services twice each month. The congregation has not joined the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Abram Lodge, B'nai B'rith, was organized in 1898 (Entry 1), but is now inactive.

Temple Minutes, 1927--, 1 vol.; Roll of Members, 1939--, 1 vol., and Financial Records, 1939--, 1 vol., all kept by Mrs. Eli Buckman, in her home, S. Jackson St.; Deeds: Land Deeds Conveyance, Book 12, pp. 299-300, Deeds, Book 12, p. 343 (cemetery); Vol. 11, p. 45, in office of chancery clerk of Lincoln County, Brookhaven.

19. CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL (House of Israel), 1896--, Catalpa and Choctaw Sts., Clarksdale, Coahoma County.

Organized in 1896, and services conducted in various homes, by the lay members. In 1910, the Jewish Ladies' Aid Society was organized for helping

needy Jewish persons. In 1910 also, the first synagogue was erected on Delta Ave. This building is now being used as a B'nai B'rith Home. The present building, of Moorish design, was built and dedicated in 1929. It is of brick construction, with two domes and memorial windows. The Rev. M. Lupchansky served the congregation from 1907 to 1912 and was succeeded by the Rev. A. H. Freyman, 1912-32. Delta Lodge, B'nai B'rith was organized January 2nd, 1910; until 1927, the name was Clarksdale Lodge (see Entry 1). Rabbi Jerome Gerson Tolochko, was the first resident rabbi, 1932-40. Beth Israel has a membership of 14 families and Sunday School enrollment of 147 students. An interesting fact regarding this temple is that all three denominations of the Jewish faith: The orthodox, the conservative, the reformed, find free expression under one roof. Of the five scrolls of the Torah belonging to the temple, all save the first, which was purchased in 1905 by the congregation, were gifts of individual members or groups in the congregation. Orthodox services are conducted according to Minhag Ashkonaz rites, while the reformed services use the standard reformed services as set forth by the Central Conference of American Rabbis. The congregation has not joined the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. A Sisterhood organized in 1934, joined the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods the same year, (see Entry 2). Present rabbi: G. J. Feigon, 1940--.

In 1938, the Mississippi Institute of Jewish and Cognate Studies was organized and incorporated as a part of Beth Israel's educational system, the object of which was to train Sunday School teachers, as well as to impart information of a religious nature to those who desire it. The degree of Bachelor of Hebrew History and Literature is conferred. It is planned also to issue the additional degree of Bachelor of Comparative Religion. The varied curriculum of the Institute has been taught by not only Rabbi Tolochko as Dean but by a faculty of non-Jews, including Protestant, Roman Catholic, and Episcopal clergymen. A mimeographed volume of lectures given at the Institute was issued in 1939 (see Bibliography, p. 33). A Clarksdale Temple Youth League was organized January 12th, 1939 (see Entry 4). A chapter of Hadassah, national women's Zionist organization, was also organized in 1939 (see Entry 3).

See: Rabbi J. Gerson Tolochko, Beth-Israel Anniversary Issue, June, 1939, Clarksdale, n. pr., 54 pp.

Minute Books, 1929--, 2 vols., kept at the temple, by secretary, Sam Abrams; Confirmation Records, 1934--, 1 vol.; Marriages, 1933--, 1 vol.; Funeral Records, 1932--, 1 vol.; Sunday School Records, 1932--, 1 vol., all kept by Rabbi G. J. Feigon, in the temple; Financial Records, 1933--, 2 vols., kept by Harry Magdovitz, treasurer, in the temple; Minutes of Ladies' Aid Society, 1929--, 1 vol., kept by secretary-treasurer, Mrs. W. Levine; Records of the Mississippi Institute of Jewish and Cognate Studies, 1939--, 1 loose-leaf vol., contains names of students, officers, graduates, minutes, kept in the study of rabbi, in the temple; Deed: Deed Book 97, p. 532, in office of chancery clerk of Coahoma County, Clarksdale; Incorporation: Secretary of State, Jackson, Record of Charters, 1938-39, p. 384 (Institute of Jewish and Cognate Studies).

20. CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL (House of Israel), 1897--, Williamson and W. Washington Sts., Greenwood, Leflore County.

Organized October 6th, 1897. The congregation purchased the old Episcopal Church of the Nativity building, on Main St. in 1902 (See Inventory of the Church

Archives of Mississippi: Protestant Episcopal Church). In 1914, this building was destroyed by fire and the lot was sold. The present temple, on Williamson and W. Washington Sts., was completed and dedicated in March 1918. It is of brick construction, with stained-glass windows, and numerous other memorials and a pipe organ. An organization for the women of Temple Beth Israel, the Hebrew Ladies' Sewing Society was organized October 24th, 1898 and continued thus to at least 1905. The woman's work of the temple then developed into a Ladies' Aid and, in 1919, as the Temple Sisterhood, became affiliated with the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods (See Entry 2). The Albert Weiler Lodge (formerly Mark Stein Lodge), B'nai B'rith, was organized in 1894 (See Entry 1). A Jewish Young People's League was organized September 1938 (See Entry 4). Beth Israel Congregation joined the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, October 17th, 1904. Services follow the Union Prayer Book. Millard Kronachor Weiler is president of the congregation. There never has been a resident rabbi. The rabbi from Hebrew Union Temple, Greenville, has charge of the services here, at present, and for the last five years, has been Rabbi Samuel A. Rabinowitz. Twenty-three members were reported in 1940. Of the two Torahs, or scrolls of the law, owned by the temple, one is said to be 150 years old.

See: Anonymous, "Beth Israel Temple," Greenwood Commonwealth, Oct. 7th, 1897.

Minute Book, 1939--, 1 vol., kept by Mrs. August Thalheimer, W. Market St.; Financial Records, 1919--, 1 vol., kept by Joe Hyman, treasurer, in his home, George St.; Deeds: Deed Book 22, p. 320; Book 23, p. 98; Book 42, pp. 566-567; Book 49, p. 422; Book 55, p. 544, in office of chancery clerk of Leflore County, Greenwood.

21. CONGREGATION BETH-EL (House of God), 1904--, Spring St., Lexington, Holmes County.

Organized in 1904 and on February 19th, of that year, the congregation joined the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. In 1905, on a lot donated by Mr. Morris Lewis, the present temple was erected, on Spring St. It is a small frame structure, with an entrance hall, Sabbath School rooms on either side, and eight memorial windows. Rabbi A. Brill, was the first rabbi, 1905-11. He was succeeded by Rabbi Sol Kory, now deceased. Rabbi Stanley R. Brav, of Vicksburg, serves the temple today. There were 30 members in 1940. The Julia Lewis Sisterhood, succeeding a Ladies' Aid Society, organized in 1910, joined the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods in 1922 (See Entry 1). Services in the temple follow the reform rite of the Union Prayer Book.

No records kept. Deed: Deed Book 21, p. 639, in office of the chancery clerk of Holmes County, Lexington.

22. \*CONGREGATION AHAVAS ACHIM ANSHEL, [AHAVAS ACHIM] (Brotherly Love) 1900-c.1906, Vicksburg, Warren County.

Organized in 1900. In 1906, the congregation was chartered by the State as an orthodox congregation, although orthodox services had been held previously in Vicksburg. At the time of incorporation services were being held

in the old Masonic Temple Bldg., at Washington and Grove Sts. President was Samuel Marcus, who was one of the incorporators. Other incorporators were: M. Borkin, Ike Pearham, M. Marcus, Joe Barkin, I. Kaufman, Alexander Astrov, I. Shempert, Jacob Spiel, Jacob Cohn, Michael Sparr, I. Rigler, Leon Pogafsky, M. Apteker. This congregation was extremely short-lived.

Incorporation: Secretary of State, Jackson, Record of Incorporations, Book 14, p. 419.

23. CONGREGATION KNESESSETH ISRAEL, (Congregation of Israel), 1906--,  
5th Ave. and 8th St., Laurel, Jones County.

Organized 1906. The first building, a frame structure, was located on the corner of 5th and Short 6th Sts. The present temple, at 5th Ave. and 8th St., was begun in 1931, completed and dedicated in April 1932. It is a small structure of Gothic architecture. A Sabbath School has been maintained since organization of the congregation. In 1915, the women of the church organized a Temple Sisterhood which affiliated with the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods in 1926 (see Entry 2). Laurel Lodge, B'nai B'rith, was also organized in 1910 (see Entry 1). The congregation has never had a full time rabbi, being served by the rabbi from Hattiesburg, at present Rabbi Arthur Brodey. There is a Jewish cemetery adjoining the Laurel city cemetery. The congregation is a member of the Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations of America and joined the Union of American Hebrew Congregations in 1940, although the reform prayer-book had already been in use.

Temple Register, 1907--, 5 vols., including financial records, kept by Dave Matison, president, in the temple; Minutes Hattiesburg-Laurel Zionist District, 1936--, 1 vol., kept by the secretary, Herman Katz, at his home, W. Pine St., Hattiesburg; Deeds: Deed Book A, p. 203; Book U, p. 82, in office of chancery clerk of Jones County, Laurel; Incorporation: Secretary of State, Jackson, Record of Incorporations, Book 14, pp. 121-122.

24. \*CONGREGATION KANELAS JAKEF (Congregation of Jacob), c.1905-c.1915,  
Clarksdale, Coahoma County.

Organized c.1905. In September 1910, the congregation was incorporated, with Joe Binder, B. Loverson, I. Kantrowitz, A. Shepshelowitz, W. Binder, and M. Loverson, as incorporators. Services were held in the Knights of Pythias Hall. In 1910 the congregation merged with Clarksdale's Beth Israel congregation and a temple built (see Entry 19).

Incorporation: Secretary of State, Jackson, Record of Incorporations, Book 17, p. 209.

25. CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL (Children of Israel), 1915--, W. Pine  
St., Hattiesburg, Forrest County.

Organized September 5th, 1915, first services being held in the Odd Fellow's Hall, on Front St. There had been Jews in Hattiesburg as early as 1901, in which year Maurice Dreyfus came from Brookhaven to operate a saw and planing mill. From early times both reform and orthodox services have been held. During the World War several hundred Jewish soldiers at nearby Camp



Shelby were ministered to and entertained by the Hattiesburg congregation. The present synagogue, on W. Pine St., is the original. The land for same was purchased March 4th, 1919 and the present building was erected in 1920. It is a simple, frame structure painted white, with an auditorium, and Sunday School and assembly rooms in the basement. The material from the Jewish Welfare Board hut at Camp Shelby, recreation hut during the World War, was used in the erection of the synagogue. A cemetery was purchased on June 20th, 1935. The Hattiesburg Temple Sisterhood was organized October 22nd, 1914. This Sisterhood joined the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods in 1930 (see Entry 2). Hattiesburg Lodge, B'nai B'rith, was organized in 1908 (see Entry 1). B'nai Israel joined the Union of American Hebrew Congregations February 13th, 1934. A Hattiesburg chapter of Hadassah was organized in 1939 (see Entry 3), and a Jewish Youth group in 1940 (see Entry 4). The first ordained resident rabbi took charge in September, 1935, when Rabbi Arthur Brodey, the present rabbi, took charge of the congregation and religious school as a reform rabbi. Orthodox services are still held from time to time, conducted by Sam Eisman, layman; but orthodox and reform constitute one congregation. Thirty-six families, comprising 140 persons are reported in 1940.

See: Arthur Brodey, "B'nai Israel Congregation," in Hattiesburg American, September 19th, 1936.

Minute Book, 1915--, 1 vol., kept by Herman Katz, in his home, W. Pine St.; Confirmation Records, 1935--, 1 vol., kept by Rabbi Arthur Brodey, in his home, Second Ave.; Financial Records, 1925--, 2 vols., kept by treasurer, Paul Waldoff, in his office, Mobile St.; Sunday School Records, 1935--, 1 vol., kept by Rabbi Arthur Brodey, in his home, Second Ave.; Hattiesburg Jewish Welfare Fund Minutes, 1936--, 1 vol., including also financial records, kept by president, Max M. Mabel, in his office in the Forrest Hotel; Minutes Hattiesburg-Laurel Zionist District, 1936--, 1 vol., kept by secretary, Herman Katz, at his home, W. Pine St.; Incorporation: Secretary of State, Jackson, Record of Charters, Book 31, p. 433; Deed: Book 20, p. 156 (temple); Book 48, p. 54, in office of chancery clerk of Forrest County, Hattiesburg.

26. CONGREGATION ADATH ISRAEL, (Congregation of Israel), 1923--, Bolivar and Shelby Sts., Cleveland, Bolivar County.

Organized February 12th, 1923. Services were held in the High School auditorium for four years. In 1927, a synagogue, of mingled classical and Moorish design was erected on the corner of Bolivar and Shelby Sts., and dedicated on March 10th of that year. Rabbi Jacob Halevi, was the first settled rabbi, 1928-31. The congregation joined the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, November 9th, 1934, and the Union Prayer-Book is used. A Sisterhood, organized in 1920, joined the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods in 1927, and includes members from Cleveland, Shaw, Boyle, Merigold, Shelby and Pace (see Entry 2). Adath Israel Lodge, B'nai B'rith, was organized in 1928 (see Entry 1). The congregation had 70 contributing families in 1940. The present rabbi is Rabbi Newton J. Friedman.

Minute Book, 1928--, 1 vol.; Confirmation Records, 1928--, 1 vol.; Financial Records, 1928--, 1 vol., all kept by secretary, Ben Sklar, in his store, Ruleville, Miss.; Deed: Deeds, Book M4, p. 429, in office of chancery clerk of Bolivar County, Cleveland.

27. CONGREGATION BETH EL (House of God), 1940--, no present building, Indianola, Sunflower County.

Organized January 21st, 1940, by Rabbi Newton J. Friedman, of Cleveland. First services were held, twice monthly on Sunday afternoons, in the Masonic Hall on Main St., through April 1940, and in the American Legion Hut in May. There is a Junior Congregation which meets twice a month. Plans are now being made for the erection of a building, to be completed by the fall of 1940. The membership in 1940 was 40 families from Indianola, Moorhead, Isola, Belzoni, Inverness and Sunflower.

List of Temple Members, 1940--, 1 vol.; Temple Financial Records, 1940--, 1 vol., both kept by Miss Maurine Weinberg.

TABULATION REGARDING SETTLEMENT OF INDIVIDUAL JEWS  
IN THIRTY-SIX TYPICAL MISSISSIPPI COUNTIES NOT CONTAINING SYNAGOGUES

COUNTY	APPROXIMATE YEAR OF SETTLEMENT OF FIRST JEWS	FROM WHERE EMIGRATED	OCCUPATIONS	OTHER INFORMATION
Amite	1848	Unknown	Peddler Merchant	Samuel Isaacs granted license to peddle in county 1848. Abram Hiller sold his mercantile business in Liberty, 1852. Kahnville was named for a Jewish merchant, Louis Kahn.
Attala	Early 1850's	Germany, via New Orleans and Natchez, later some from Russia	Merchant Livery-stable owner, Cattle-dealer, Cotton buyer	Mrs. Lena Falk, organized Red Cross in Kosciusko, helped organize Garden Club. Members of the Simon, Abram, Lowenberg, families have been active in public life in the county.
Carroll	1876	Unknown	Merchant	Ike Summerfield, and family settled Carrollton 1876, Emmanuel Peavy (E. Peavy and sons) were merchants in 1881.
Chickasaw	1836	Germany, later some from Portugal	Merchant	Simon Myers was second merchant to locate in Houston, the county-seat. Later moved to Okolona. Other Jewish families: Micklenburger, Rosumbum, Rubel, Elias.
Clarke	1890	Unknown, later from Kentucky, Ohio	Merchant Owner of Cotton-mills	One of first Jews, John Champenois, became member of Board of Supervisors. Oscar Berman of Ohio and A. C. Frank of Kentucky were owner and Superintendent of the Stonewall Cotton Mills, at Stonewall.
Clay	Jews were in the	Unknown	Merchant Musician	Marcus Katz, 1885-1911, conducted services in

Tabulation Regarding Settlement Of Individual Jews

COUNTY	APPROXIMATE YEAR OF SETTLEMENT OF FIRST JEWS	FROM WHERE EMIGRATED	OCCUPATIONS	OTHER INFORMATION
Clay (con- tinued)	county at its organi- zation, 1872			Masonic Hall, Commerce St., West Point, Isadore Frenkle organized band at West Point, directed Methodist choir. Barney Semmelman Legislator, 1916; Captain U. S. Army, France, 1918.
Copiah		Poland Alsace Germany	Planter Merchant Hotel-operator	Loeb and Marx families owned plantations and slaves before 1861. Isidore Loeb was town-treasurer at Hazlehurst in 1880's. Henry Loeb was Hazlehurst town-clerk, 1887-1919. Paul Kemp now Alderman and Carroll Kemp now Attorney for town of Hazlehurst. Other families: Presser, Phelps, Levi, Jacoby, Daniels, Wickert, Litchenstein, Morris, Jonas, Kahn, among others.
Franklin	1885	Unknown	Farmer Merchant	Only four families of Jews ever settled in county: Moses family as farmers, 1885, near Hamburg. In 1914, Kahn and Shiff families settled at Eude, and Mrs. Carrol Scott, at Eddiceton.
George	1893	Unknown	Merchant	Joseph and Fannie London bought land and were operating a mercantile business in Lucedale, 1898. Mr. London one of the organizers of Bank of Lucedale, 1903.

Tabulation Regarding Settlement Of Individual Jews

COUNTY	APPROXIMATE YEAR OF SETTLEMENT OF FIRST JEWS	FROM WHERE EMIGRATED	OCCUPATION	OTHER INFORMATION
Greene	No Jews seem ever to have settled in Greene County			
Harrison	1855	Chiefly New Orleans	Merchants	There was formerly a Jewish cemetery on Reynoir St., Biloxi, Deeded to L. Klopman and other officers of the Congregation of the Hebrew Society of New Orleans, Aug. 25, 1853, "to be used as a burying ground until there shall be a Synagogue in the Town of Biloxi" (Chancery Clerk, Harrison County, Gulfport, Deed Book 6, pp. 518-520), Jewish Families: Shaffer, Kuhn, Bornstein, Picord, among others.
Humphreys	1880	Poland	Merchant	Morris Cohn came to Belzoni in 1880, and was later an Alderman of the town.
Jasper	No Jews seem ever to have settled in Jasper County.			
Jefferson	1820's	Unknown	Merchant Cattle-raiser Banker	First Jews settled Rodney when that was an important river town, now live chiefly in Fayette. Families: Rubbel, Eisemon, Strauss, Cohn, Hirsch, Krauss, Ferdinand Krauss, a Confederate soldier.
Kemper	Before 1861	Germany via New York	Peddler Merchant Land-owner	Marx Rosenbaum and wife arrived Kemper County. Itinerant peddler, finally built own store. One son, Charles,

Tabulation Regarding Settlement Of Individual Jews

COUNTY	APPROXIMATE YEAR OF SETTLEMENT OF FIRST JEWS	FROM WHERE EMIGRATED	OCCUPATION	OTHER INFORMATION
Kemper (continued)				became wealthiest merchant and land-owner in county. Two sons, Jacob and Aaron, killed in Civil War. Jacob Jonas postmaster at Su-carnocchee, 1871 to World War. At time of death oldest postmaster in U. S. Joe Cramer has been president of the Scooba Bank and trustee of the agricultural High School.
Lafayette	1870's	Unknown	Merchant	Few Jews in county. Jewish family names: Friedman, Bernstein, Coleman, Friend, Myers, Glick, Brenner, Berryman.
Lamar	1906	Louisiana, Sumrall, Miss.	Jeweler Merchant	Bornhardt Wolf, Jeweler, arrived 1906; Zacharius Cohen, merchant, arrived Lumberton, 1912. Other families: Adlor, Scidlor, Beck, Rubenstein, Caperton, Greenburg, Pellman.
Lawrence	There is no record of Jews settling in Lawrence County			
Lee	1870	Germany originally	Merchant	Emil Straus one of earliest settlers. Abe Plough of Chomical Co., Memphis, lived Green St., Tupelo, in 1890's. Other names: Demuth, Romansky, Franks, Matz, Weiner, Bloom, Peltz, Shorman, Weil.
Marion	1859	Unknown	Merchant	Names: Myers, Wigransky
Marshall	1857	Alsace Russia		I. C. Levy from Alsace in 1857, enlisted Confederate Army. Raphael Shumakor

Tabulation Regarding Settlement Of Individual Jews

COUNTY	APPROXIMATE YEAR OF SETTLEMENT OF FIRST JEWS	FROM WHERE EMIGRATED	OCCUPATIONS	OTHER INFORMATION
Marshall (continued)				came in 1867 from Russia. Beginning 1900, Jewish services held in Shumaker home by I. D. Blumenthal and Shumaker. Other names: Levy, Sossol, Groskind, Leibson, Myers, Barnett.
Newton	1900	Unknown later, Austria, Kentucky	Merchant	Mose Wise and Joo Eagle (Eagle and Wise) merchants. Other names: Lavene, Feldman, Kasden.
Panola	1870	Unknown	Merchant	Settled Batesville. Attend services in Memphis.
Perry	1861	Poland England	Merchant	Dave Danziger, Poland, first Jew in county. Sam Goldstein (under name of Mair Cahon) from England, 1873. Other names: Forbert, Pollock.
Pontotoc	1840	Germany via Philadelphia later, Memphis	Merchant	Henry Bissinger, a foot-peddler, 1840's. Later went into business, with Wolf Steppacher. Other names: Rauch, Gordon (see Pontotoc Progress, Aug. 24, 1939).
Prentiss	1870	Germany Russia	Merchant Cotton-buyer	Jesuis (Jake) Mendel settled Baldwyn, 1870. Simon Kartuskey arrived 1900. Other names: Kastleman, Feldman.
Rankin	No Jews seem to have settled permanently in Rankin County.			
Scott	1860's	Unknown Poland	Saloon-keeper Merchant	Names: Abraham, Barnett, Fleischman.

Tabulation Regarding Settlement Of Individual Jews

COUNTY	APPROXIMATE YEAR OF SETTLEMENT OF FIRST JEWS	FROM WHERE EMIGRATED	OCCUPATION	OTHER INFORMATION
Sharkey	1870's	Unknown	Merchant Liquor-dealer Planter	N. Picard was first circuit and chancery clerk, 1876. S. Dover, treasurer of county, 1900. G. Blum, treasurer of county, 1898. Other names: Ostroffsky, Samai, Pearl, Dietzer, Klaus.
Tate	1875	Russia Lithuania	Merchant Physician	Simon Lesser settled Coldwater, 1875. Other names: Friedlander, Kahn, Frank, Goldstein, Kallar, Yaffio, Stein.
Tippah	1870	Unknown	Peddler	Leon Gans one of few Jews to settle in county, 1870. Numerous peddlers worked county, one, Henry Simon, enlisted Confederate Army (See <u>Police Minutes</u> , Tippah County, Vol. I, p. 255).
Tishomingo	Unknown	Unknown	Merchant	No permanent Jewish residents. One family in County at present (Iuka).
Union	1880	Unknown	Merchant	Family names: Kalisky, Leibson, Rosenthal, Sherman, Bergen.
Webster	1890	Elsewhere in Mississippi New York	Merchant	Louis Soligman settled Eupora, 1890. Other names: Philips, Weisberg.
Yalobusha	1850		Peddler Merchant	Leopold Newburger settled Coffeeville, 1850, peddler, then janitor, then clerk, Son, Ezekiel, had mercantile business but moved to St. Louis later.
Yazoo	1865	Unknown	Merchant	Several Yazoo County Jews in Confederate Army, Emile Schaeffner (or Schaefer, see Wolf <u>op. cit.</u> , p. 219).



Tabulation Regarding Settlement Of Individual Jews

COUNTY	APPROXIMATE YEAR OF SETTLEMENT OF FIRST JEWS	FROM WHERE EMIGRATED	OCCUPATION	OTHER INFORMATION
Yazoo (con- tinued)				Dave Wolerstein, died 1936, was Yazoo City Secretary of Commerce. A part of the city cemetery is set apart for Jews (Plat Book 3, p. 4). Occasional services have been hold since 1865, at present by a lay-man, Nathan Ostrov, in the Masonic Temple.

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1841	Anshe Chesed	Vicksburg	7	15
1845	B'nai Israel	Columbus	8	16
1859	Gemiluth Chassed	Port Gibson	9	17
1861	Beth Israel	Jackson	10	17
1868	Beth Israel	Meridian	11	18
c.1870	*Ohaveh Scholem	Summit	13	19
1877	B'nai Israel	Canton	12	18
1877	*Hebrew Young Men's Literary and Dramatic Ass.	Meridian	11	18
c.1878	*Beth Israel	Woodville	14	19
1880	<del>Ohel</del> Jacob	Meridian	15	20
1880	Hebrew Union	Greenville	16	20
1893	Ahavath Rayim	Greenwood	17	21
1894	B'nai Sholom	Brockhaven	18	21
1896	Beth Israel	Clarksdale	19	21
1897	Beth Israel	Greenwood	20	22
1904	Beth-El	Lexington	21	23
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1906	*Kahelas Jakef	Clarksdale	24	24
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1938	Mississippi Institute of Jewish and Cognate Studies, Clarksdale		19	21
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\* Inactive Congregations, Institutions, or Organizations

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*Ohavoh Scholem	Summit	13	19
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