“Anyone researching the history of the American Jewish community will benefit from this treasure trove of primary sources.”

Jonathan D. Sarna
A comprehensive digital resource
A uniquely interactive and indispensable journey into America’s Jewish History

Based on a rich variety of original manuscript collections from the American Jewish Historical Society in New York, this indispensable resource offers captivating insights into the everyday lives of the American Jewish population over three centuries; from their first arrival in New York in 1654 to the integral part that they play today.

Charting the Jewish Diaspora from the earliest settlements through to the mass European influx of the early twentieth century, Jewish Life in America will appeal to researchers of all aspects of this diverse and extensive cultural heritage.

Key benefits:

Interactive Maps
- Display rare historical census data in an attractive and engaging visual format
- Show the distribution and settlement patterns of the Jewish population across the USA, and the World

Interactive Chronology
- Learn more about Jewish history in America and across the world
- Provides historical context and links to collections

Biographies
- Read about the lives of many pre-eminent Jews who feature in this resource

Essays
- Written by leading academics in the field of Jewish History
- Provide context and links to documents discussed

External Links
- Links to approved and useful scholarly websites

Visual Resources Gallery
- Fascinating photographs illustrate everyday life in the Lower East Side of New York and the activities of the Baron de Hirsch Fund

My Archive functionality
- Build your own personalised area
- Save searches and documents to refer to later
- Create bespoke image slideshows
Scope of the material

Early Personal Collections include:
- Gomez Family
- Franks Family
- Levy Family of New York
- Moses Family of New York
- Jacques Judah Lyons

Nineteenth Century Personal Collections include:
- Emma Lazarus
- Isaac Leeser
- Jonas Philips Levy
- Moss Family

Twentieth Century Personal Collections include:
- Louis Marshall
- Jefferson Monroe Levy
- Philip Cowen
- Bernard C. Ehrenreich
- Solomon Robert Kagan

Institutional Collections include:
- American Jewish Historical Exhibition
- American Jewish Tercentenary
- Baron de Hirsch Fund
- Board of Delegates of American Israelites
- Industrial Removal Office
- Jewish Immigration Information Bureau

Material can be viewed and organised by key themes:
- Business, Industry and Enterprise
- Civil Rights and Liberties
- Culture, Literature and the Arts
- Early Jewish Experience
- Everyday Life: Personal and Family Narratives
- Immigration and Settlement
- Politics and the Law
- Reflections on the Jewish Experience
- Religion, Tradition and Community
- War, Conflict and Persecution
- Welfare, Health and Education

All images are full-text searchable and digitized in colour. All of the collections have been digitized in their entirety.
Powerful new search features
Our new software allows easy search techniques

Introducing new features in Jewish Life in America:
- New software powers an updated ‘smooth-zoom’ image viewer
- Search results listings feature ‘snippets’ of text
- Highlighted hits are seen on the original image

Simple, easy search process to find your chosen subject

- Improved smooth-zoom viewer
- Snippets of text
- Highlighted original

“It’s a scale-breaking 12 out of 10”
Library Journal, eReviews

Editorial Board

Hasia R. Diner
Hasia Diner is the Paul S. and Sylvia Steinberg Professor of American Jewish History at New York University, with a joint appointment in the Department of History and in the Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies. She is also the Director of the Goldstein-Goren Center for American Jewish History at NYU.

Jonathan D. Sarna

For more information or to request a free trial, please visit our website

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