

# Partnerships: Two archives, five collections, two DigiTool sites, one portal



THE LIBRARY OF THE JEWISH  
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
CENTER FOR JEWISH HISTORY

# Goals



- Grant from METRO – Metropolitan New York Library Council
- Digitize 8,000 archival documents from JTS and AJHS pre-1900 synagogue archival collections
- Make documents available
- Bring awareness to historical resources
- Create joint portal

19<sup>th</sup> century synagogues tell

New York City history



- Congregation Shearith Israel (AJHS)
- Congregation B'nai Jeshurun (JTS)
- Kane Street Synagogue (JTS)
- Congregation Ansche Chesed (JTS)
- Eldridge Street Synagogue (AJHS)

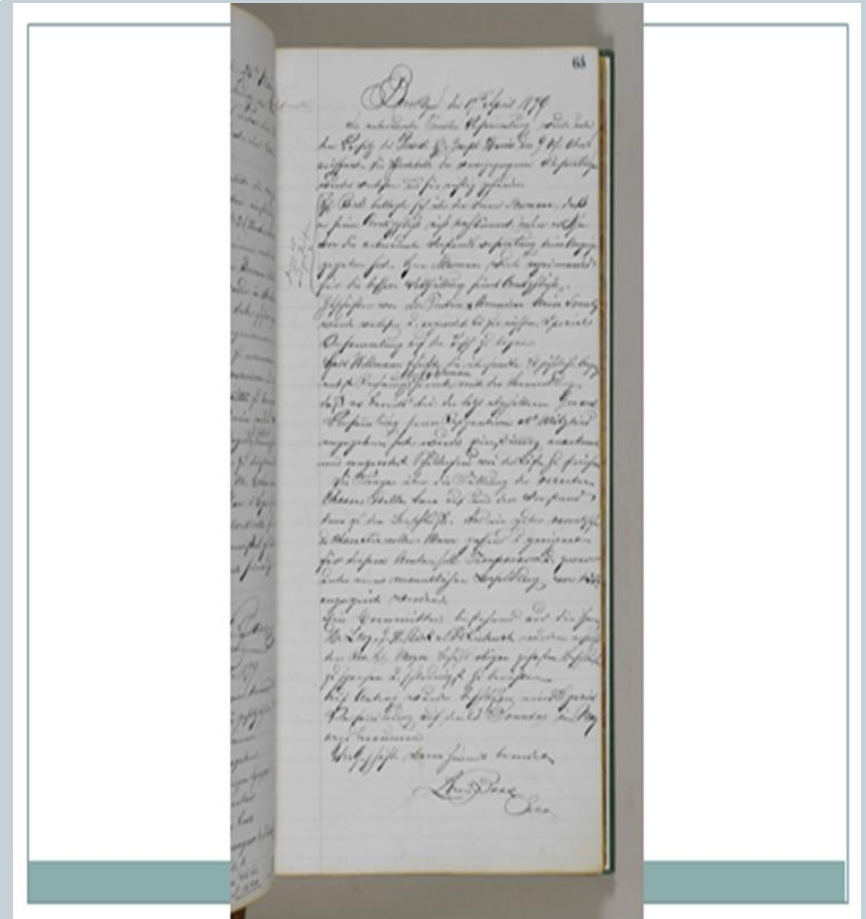
# Congregation B'nai Jeshrun

- Founded in 1825
- Second synagogue in New York; first to use the Ashkenazic ritual.
- Ninth synagogue to be founded in the United States.
- **Locations:**
  - Elm Street. Dedicated on June 29th, 1825
  - Greene Street between Houston and Bleecker (1850)
  - Thirty-fourth Street between Sixth and Seventh Avenues (1865)
  - Madison Avenue between Sixty-fourth and Sixty-fifth Streets (1885).
  - West Eighty-eighth Street between Broadway and West End Avenue (1917)
- **Documents digitized**
  - Charter, (certified copy), 1825
  - Cemetery documents
  - Death registration
  - Dedication service program for Madison Avenue Synagogue
  - Legal documents,
  - Congregational minutes
  - Religious school registration
  - Property receipts
  - Marriage certificates
  - Wedding book



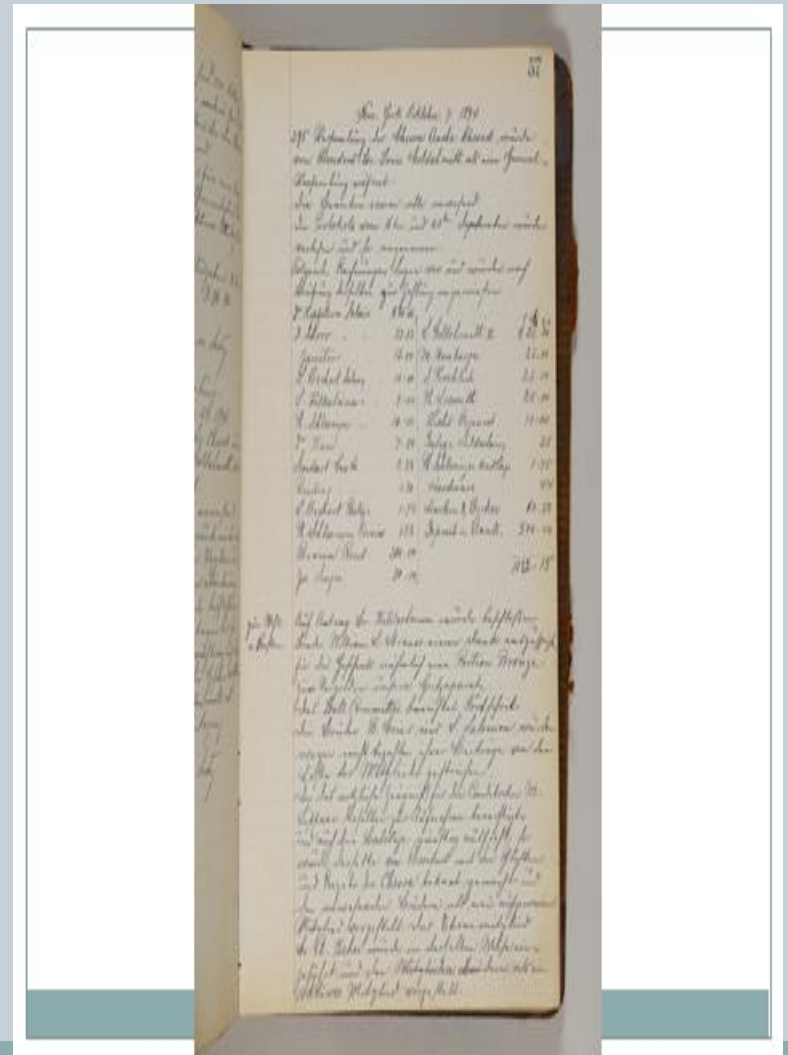
# Kane Street Synagogue

- Established 1856
- Oldest continuously operating synagogue in Brooklyn
- Locations
  - State Street and Boerum Place (1956)
  - 236 Kane Street (1905)
- Documents
  - Cash books, 1856-1891
  - Membership receipts, 1880-1895
  - Minutes , 1860-1888



# Congregation Ansche Chesed

- Founded in 1876
- Locations:
  - 86th Street and 3rd Avenue
  - East 112th Street
  - Seventh Avenue and 114th Street (1908)
  - West End Avenue and 100th Street (1927)
- Documents digitized
  - Membership Records (1896 – 1899)
  - Board of Directors records (1890 – 1900)



# Cooperative Ventures



- Shared workflows
- Using same standards:
  - metadata
  - finding aids
  - digitization
- Shared portal
- Assessment

# Shared workflow



- Collection level records
- EAD encoding for finding aid
- Metadata for individual items
- Digitization



[Simple Search](#) [Advanced Search](#)

Select collection: All JTS Collections GO  
 A word or phrase:  Contains Exact Starts With  
 Recent additions: [Dr. Georgette Bennett and Dr. Leonard Polonsky Digitization Project](#)

## Browse Collections



[Archives](#)

Archives of The Jewish Theological Seminary, The Ratner Center for Conservative Judaism and the Music Archives.



## Bookplates

2,500 bookplates from the Leah Mishkin Collection.



Ephemera (pamphlets, brochures, etc.)

Short printed documents such as pamphlets, brochures or sheets on specific topics related to the mid-to-late twentieth century Jewish experience. This collection is meant to document, identify, publicize and preserve these publications. The items often contain obscure and hard to find information such as occasional prayers, lectures, programs for events. The content is in English and in Hebrew.



### Holiday Cycle

Document relating to the Jewish and United States public holidays. Primarily special prayers and services for holidays.



JTS Theses

Theses submitted by JTS students in partial fulfillment of their requirements for



[Judaica Americana](#)

A unique set of pamphlets published between 1725 and 1900 in Colonial America and the

Search **W-All Words= kane street** in **'General Silo'** Collection [ Sorted by: Ranking ]

[Brief view](#) [Table view](#) [Full view](#)

Record 1 of 7

[Refine](#)

Ranking ▼

1 2 3 4 ▶



**Object**



Finding Aids - EAD ()

**Creator/Author**

**Kane Street** Synagogue (Baith Israel-Anshei Emeth), Brooklyn, NY

**Title**

**Kane Street** Synagogue (Baith Israel-Anshei Emeth), Brooklyn, NY Records

**Date**

1856-1980

**Description**

The Records of the **Kane Street** synagogue span the years 1856 to 1980. They consist, in the main, of the synagogue's financial records, seat books and minutes, as well as records of its sisterhood, Talmud torah, Sunday school, library and cemetery. A centennial banquet book, 1956, includes a brief history of the congregation. Also included is an 1898 volume of the Mishneh. The 1992 addition to the collection consists of miscellaneous letters, High Holiday registers, financial reports, forms, accounts, by-laws, and other documents. Of particular interest among these items is a sisterhood minute book spanning the years 1912-1920.

**Local Subject**

Synagogues -- New York (state)

**Language**

Materials in English, Yiddish, and German

**Genre**

Archival Collection

**Extent**

5.5 linear ft. (76 Volumes and 1 Box)

**Publisher**

The Library of the Jewish Theological Seminary

**Contributor**

Digitization and metadata creation funded by METRO; Digitization by Dwight Primiano Photography

**Conditions on Use**

Reproduction of fragile items is not permitted; consult the Librarian about literary rights.

**Record number**

79652

**Relation**

Selected items digitized

**Relation**

Early New York Synagogues

**Title**

**Kane Street** Synagogue (Baith Israel-Anshei Emeth), Brooklyn, NY Records

**Creator**

**Kane Street** Synagogue (Baith Israel-Anshei Emeth), Brooklyn, NY

**Type**

Archival Collection

View Details:



## Kane Street Synagogue (Baith Israel-Anshei Emeth), Brooklyn, NY Records

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

## Guide to the Kane Street Synagogue (Baith Israel-Anshei Emeth), Brooklyn, NY Records, 1856-1980

## Collection Overview

<b>Gift of:</b>	Stanley Friedman, president, April 9, 1987; Rabbi Debra Cantor, February 12, 1992
<b>Title:</b>	Guide to the Kane Street Synagogue (Baith Israel-Anshei Emeth), Brooklyn, NY Records,
<b>Dates:</b>	1856-1980
<b>Repository:</b>	Jewish Theological SeminaryThe Joseph and Miriam Ratner Center for the Study of Conservative Judaism
<b>Quantity:</b>	5.5 linear ft. (76 Volumes and 1 Box)
<b>Location:</b>	Special Collections Reading Room, Jewish Theological Seminary Library
<b>Publisher:</b>	Jewish Theological Seminary

## Historical Statement:

The Kane Street Synagogue, also known as Baith Israel-Anshei Emeth, was founded in Brooklyn in 1856. It is the oldest continuously operating synagogue in Brooklyn, and a founding member United Synagogue, the Conservative movement's organization of synagogues.

Kane Street's original name was Baith Israel. It was also referred to as the Bechum Schule reflecting its location at the corner of State Street and Bechum Place in Brooklyn's Bechum Hill neighborhood. The congregation assumed its present name when it merged with Talmud Torah Anshei Emeth, formerly of Degraw Street, in 1908.

The synagogue purchased the building it currently inhabits at 735 Kane Street in 1905. The building, formerly a church, was built in 1855. The building was renovated and rededicated in 1953.

One of the synagogue's early rabbis was Aaron Wise, father of Steven S. Wise. Israel Goldfarb, TTS class of 1902, served as its rabbi from 1905 to 1955. The synagogue founded its Sunday school in 1852, its Talmud Torah in 1905 and its sisterhood in 1908.

## Collection Description

The Records of the Kane Street synagogue span the years 1856 to 1980. They consist, in the main, of the synagogue's financial records, seat books and minutes, as well as records of its synagogue Talmud Torah, Sunday school, library and cemetery. A centennial banquet book, 1956, includes a brief history of the congregation. Also included is an 1898 volume of the Mishneh.

The 1992 addition to the collection consists of miscellaneous letters, High Holiday registers, financial reports, forms, accounts, by-laws, and other documents. Of particular interest among these items is a sisterhood minute book spanning the years 1912-1920.

## Restrictions

## Restrictions:

Reproduction of fragile items is not permitted; consult the Librarian about literary rights.

## Volume List

## Account Books, 1856-1980; n.d.:

[KS 9281 \(cash book\) 1856-1875](#)

[KS 92814 \(cash book\) 1875-1891](#)

[KS 9282 \(membership receipts\) 1880-1895](#)

- [Collection Overview](#)
- [Historical Statement](#)
- [Collection Description](#)
- [Restrictions](#)

## Volume List

Account Books, 1856-1980; n.d.:  
 Book of Life, 1910  
 Cemetery Records, 1919-1930; n.d.  
 Centennial Banquet, 1956  
 Dinner Dance and Journal Subscriptions, 1972  
 Girl Scout Troop 28 (roll book), 1920s-1930s  
 Junior Aid Society, minutes, 1916  
 Library Records, 1889-1904  
 Minutes, 1850-1954  
 Mishneh, Sefer Mishim (Vina), 1898  
 Sisterhood Records, 1903-1933  
 Sunday School Records, 1889-1937  
 Talmud Torah, 1903-1934

Membership Receipts, 1880-1895, Kane...

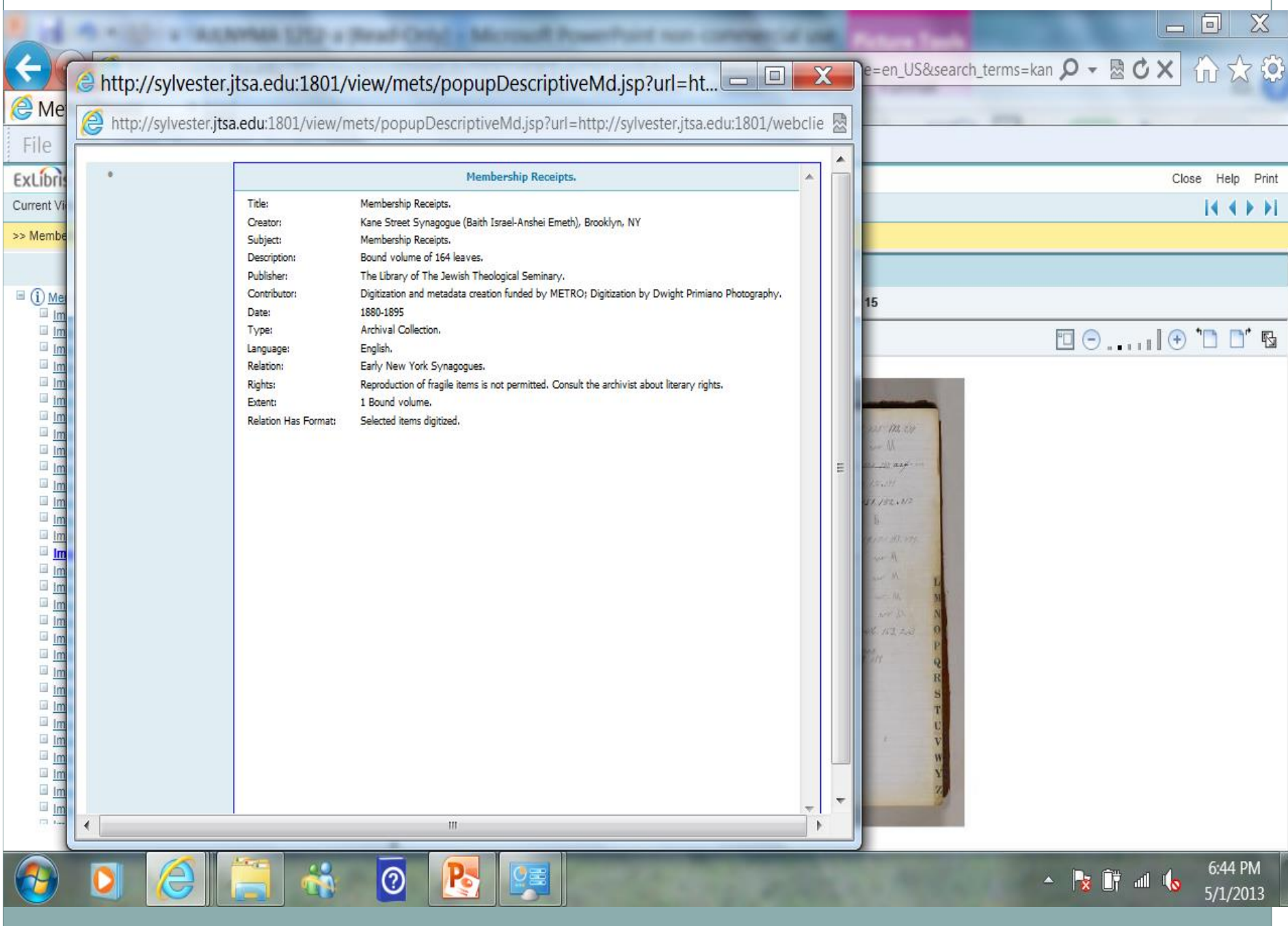
- Image 1
- Image 2
- Image 3
- Image 4
- Image 5
- Image 6
- Image 7
- Image 8
- Image 9
- Image 10
- Image 11
- Image 12
- Image 13
- Image 14
- Image 15
- Image 16
- Image 17
- Image 18
- Image 19
- Image 20
- Image 21
- Image 22
- Image 23
- Image 24
- Image 25
- Image 26
- Image 27
- Image 28
- Image 29
- Image 30

No metadata

Image 15





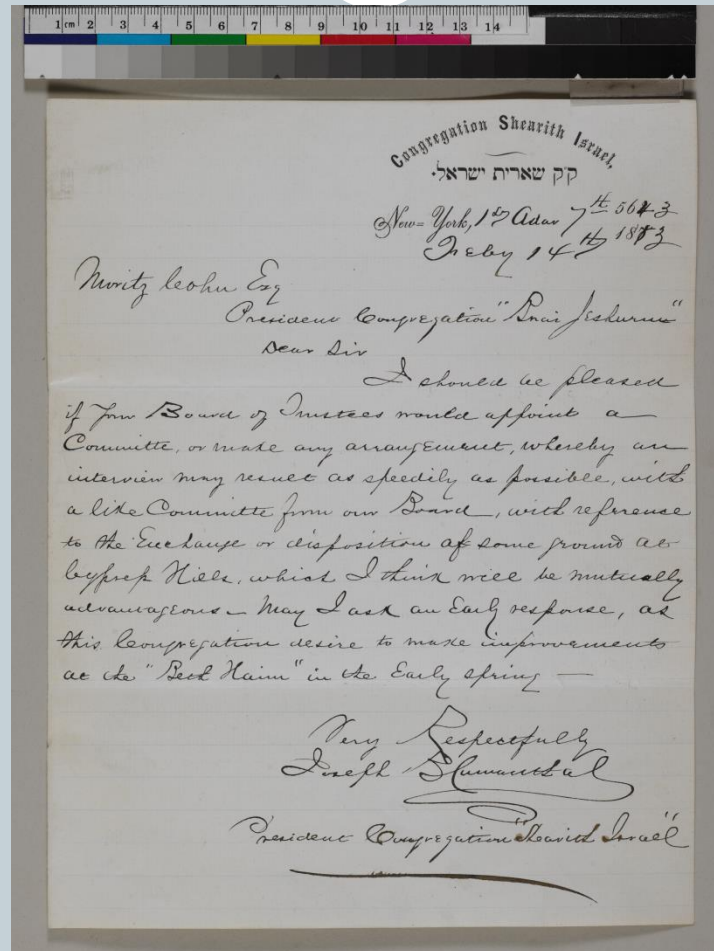


**Membership Receipts.**

Title: Membership Receipts.  
Creator: Kane Street Synagogue (Baith Israel-Anshei Emeth), Brooklyn, NY  
Subject: Membership Receipts.  
Description: Bound volume of 164 leaves.  
Publisher: The Library of The Jewish Theological Seminary.  
Contributor: Digitization and metadata creation funded by METRO; Digitization by Dwight Primiano Photography.  
Date: 1880-1895  
Type: Archival Collection.  
Language: English.  
Relation: Early New York Synagogues.  
Rights: Reproduction of fragile items is not permitted. Consult the archivist about literary rights.  
Extent: 1 Bound volume.  
Relation Has Format: Selected items digitized.



# Congregation B'nai Jeshurun and Congregation Shearith Israel – cooperative cemetery plots



# Portal



- Provided access to CJH
- Tested
- Assessment

# Some of the issues



- Metadata creation learning curve
- Limited budget
- Upgraded server and needed to redirect



# Conclusion



- Digitize more objects from these collections
- Digitize from other collections
- Partner with other institutions

# Thank you



- Naomi Steinberger
- [nsteinberger@jtsa.edu](mailto:nsteinberger@jtsa.edu)