Partnerships: Two archives, five collections, two DigiTool sites, one portal
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
19th 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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Object</th>
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<td>Creator/Author</td>
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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, 1966, 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.

Description

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 (Baal Shem Tov), Brooklyn, NY Records
Creator: Kane Street Synagogue (Baal Shem Tov), Brooklyn, NY
Type: Archival Collection
Kane Street Synagogue (Baith Israel-Anshei Emeth), Brooklyn, NY Records

Collection Overview

Gift of:

Title:
Guide to the Kane Street Synagogue (Baith Israel-Anshei Emeth), Brooklyn, NY Records

Dates:
3050-1980

Repository:
Jewish Theological Seminary-The Joseph and Miriam Rabiner Center for the Study of Conservative Judaism

Quantity:
5.5 linear ft. (76 volumes and 2 boxes)

Location:
Special Collections Reading Room, Jewish Theological Seminary Library

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 of the United Synagogue, the Conservative movement's organization of synagogues.

Kane Street's original name was Baith Israel. It was also referred to as the Bocum Schufl reflecting its location at the corner of Etcot Street and Bocum Place in Brooklyn's Bocum Hill neighborhood. The congregation assumed its present name when it merged with Tahmid Torah Anshei Emes, formerly of Dagrav Street, in 1908.

The synagogue purchased the building it currently occupies at 335 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 Synagogue S. Wise. Israel Goldfisch, ITS class of 1862, served as its rabbi from 1935 to 1955. The synagogue founded its Sunday School in 1862, its Talmud Torah in 1900, 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, estate books and minutes, as well as records of its charitable activities. Rechronized and described in 1996, it includes a history of the congregation. Additionally included is an 1898 volume of the Midrash.

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 stamped minute book spanning the years 1912-1920.

Restrictions:

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Reproduction of fragile items is not permitted; consult the librarian about library rights.

Volume List

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

KS 9281 (cash book) 1863-1875
KS 92814 (cash book) 1873-1891
KS 9282 (membership receipts) 1880-1895
Membership Receipts, 1880-1895, Kane Street Synagogue, Brooklyn, NY > Image 15

No metadata
Membership Receipts.

Title: Membership Receipts.
Creator: Kanie Street Synagogue (Beth 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: 1800-1895
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

New York, 14th Adar 7566

Dear Mr. Cohen,

I am pleased to receive your letter of January 14th, 1813.

I understand that you have in mind the purchase of a plot of land for a cemetery.

I am pleased to inform you that the Board of Directors has authorized the formation of a committee to make any necessary arrangements for the purchase of the land.

I hope that we can anticipate your presence in New York at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Name]

President, Congregation Shearith Israel
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