



MAY 27 1987

May 25, 1987

Mr. Sheldon J. Godfrey
Barrister & Solicitor
49 Front Street East
Toronto, Ontario
M5E 1B3

Dear Mr. Godfrey:

I wish to acknowledge your letter of April 28, 1987.

I am enclosing a copy of the document which you requested with the caveat that the opinions and enclosures expressed therein do not reflect the opinions or views of the Jewish Historical Society of Halifax or its officers or members.

Yours very truly,

Martin E. Herschorn
President

424-4033
FA



HISTORY & HERITAGE

The Jewish Community of Nova Scotia



The Jewish Historical Society of Halifax was incorporated in May of 1973 to bring together those people interested in history, and especially in the history of the Jews in Nova Scotia. The society's major objectives are to discover and collect relevant material, to provide for the preservation of this material and to make it accessible to those who wish to examine or study it. The society believes that understanding the history of our community is basic to our democratic way of life and promotes a greater appreciation of our heritage.



The Jewish Historical Society of Halifax gratefully acknowledges the support of the Department of the Secretary of State of Canada, the Nova Scotia Department of Culture, Recreation and Fitness, the Atlantic Jewish Council, the Canadian Jewish Congress (National Small Communities Committee), the Noa and Sara Heinish Foundation Trust, and the efforts of many dedicated volunteers who have made this exhibition possible.

April, 1987 CE
Nisan, 5747



An exhibition presented by
The Jewish Historical Society of Halifax



he exhibition, History and Heritage: The Jewish Community of Nova Scotia, is the

culmination of a two-year mission by the Jewish Historical Society of Halifax. Members of the society diligently and lovingly gathered memorabilia, asked questions, and documented material. Today they can say with pride, "Happy are we. How goodly is our portion, how pleasant our lot, how beautiful our heritage."

The exhibition tells the story of immigrant stock from Central and Eastern Europe, who transplanted their heritage, their customs and their practices in a new land ... and they bore fruit. Once settled in the towns and villages of Nova Scotia, they looked beyond their own family and their own people, and like all immigrants who came, made a contribution to the cultural and social fabric of this province.



The history of the Jewish people spans more than 4000 years. The exhibit represents an illustrated narrative that travels along a Ribbon of Time. It begins by identifying landmark events in the history of the Jews beginning with the patriarch Abraham and leading up to the eighteenth century when Jews who suffered oppression in Central and Eastern Europe, sought refuge in America. They came. They planted the seeds of freedom and enterprise that were denied them in the 'old country'.



Who were these early Jewish settlers? Where did they settle? The exhibit seeks to answer these questions using ship manifests, marriage contracts, family portraits, and scenes of life in Halifax as well as small communities such as Springhill, Glace Bay, and Yarmouth. Throughout, there is evidence of the ties to an ancient tradition. At the same time, the newcomers realized that they must contribute to the economic, cultural, and social progress of the community in which they lived, and they did this with vigor and commitment.



"The ideas and ideals of a people may give it significance but its group habits give it life." This expression can find no better meaning than in the Jewish people's commitment to its religious Festivals and Holy Days. The exhibition reflects this bond through a variety of illustrations, ceremonial objects and artifacts. In addition, the role of the Synagogue in the life of the immigrants is graphically depicted.



A wise sage of old once said: "The Jewish home has rarely been his castle; throughout the ages it has been something far higher — his sanctuary". The home, the cornerstone of Jewish family life, and the rituals associated with birth, bar and bat mitzvah, marriage, death and mourning are recreated in the Cycle of Life. This cycle, along with two other significant events — the Holocaust, and the establishment of the State of Israel add a further dimension to the history and heritage exhibit.



SEP 28 1987

September 23, 1987

Mr. Sheldon J. Godfrey
Barrister & Solicitor
49 Front Street East
Toronto, Ontario
M5E 1B3

Dear Mr. Godfrey:

My apologies for the delay in replying to your letter of August 11, 1987.

Unfortunately, I can be of no assistance to you. The whereabouts of Jan Goeb are unknown to any of the current members of our Society. Further, the Society has no additional information concerning the reference at the bottom of page 14 of Jan Goeb's work.

Yours very truly,

Martin E. Herschorn
President

SHELDON J. GODFREY, M.A., LL.B.
BARRISTER & SOLICITOR

5-16
49 FRONT STREET EAST
TORONTO, ONTARIO
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TELEPHONE: (416) 362-7788

August 11, 1987

Mr. Martin Herschorn
President
The Jewish Historical Society
of Halifax
1515 South Park St., Suite 304
HALIFAX, N.S.
B3J 2L2

Dear Sir:

I called you when I was in Halifax at the end of July, but found you were away on vacation.

In any event I had the opportunity of seeing the wonderful History and Heritage Exhibition that your historical society presented at the Nova Scotia Archives, and had, as well, an opportunity of seeing some of the documents in the archives' file which they had apparently obtained from your society.

I have one question arising out of the Jan Goeb manuscripts on the Maritime Jewish Community that you were good enough to send me in May. If you could advise me how to reach him I could write him directly.

My question relates to Mr. Goeb's information at the bottom of page 14 of his manuscript that in 1769 Samuel Hart gave his five year old son, Moses Montague Hart, to his brother Montague to raise and educate, and that Moses Montague never returned to Canada. While Mr. Goeb cites the Samuel Hart Probate Court records (H-42) as the authority for this and other information, I believe he must have some additional reference for the facts outlined above.

Any assistance you can give me in this connection would be greatly appreciated.

Yours very truly,

SJG:mt

Sheldon J. Godfrey

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June 26, 1987

Mr. Martin E. Herschorn
President
The Jewish Historical Society
of Halifax
1515 South Park St., Suite 304
HALIFAX, N.S.
B3J 2L2

Dear Mr. Herschorn:

Thank you for your letter of May 25th and the enclosed article by Jan Goeb on the Jews of Atlantic Canada. I expect to be in Halifax on July 27th and 28th, doing some research and would very much appreciate speaking to you at that time.

Does the Jewish Historical Society of Halifax have a collection of documents that I could see? Are there any catalogues or indexes of what you have available?

Yours very truly,

SJG:mt

Sheldon J. Godfrey

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April 28, 1987

The Jewish Historical Society
Suite #304
1515 S. Park Street
HALIFAX, N. S.
B3J 2L2

Dear Sirs:

I understand that there is a pamphlet entitled
The Maritime Jewish Community by Jan Goeb, which information
was obtained from Jews of Atlantic Canada, no published date.

Would you have any information relating to this
article which could be photocopied for me. I would, of course,
be pleased to pay your photocopying charges.

Any help you can give me would be greatly appreciated
and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours very truly,

SJG:mt

Sheldon J. Godfrey



HISTORY AND HERITAGE
THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF NOVA SCOTIA

KEY TO PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Memorials for towns where entire Jewish population was murdered, Jerusalem
2. Grandparents, Lithuania, 1890
3. Jewish Newspaper, New York, May, 1983
Headline - Kischenev Pogrom
4. Teacher, Kovno, Poland, 1880
5. Russia, 1870
6. Conscripts, Russian Army, 1915
7. Poland, 1910
8. Russia, 1905, Shane Family
9. Halifax, 1909, Goldberg Family
10. Halifax, Mr. & Mrs. Moses Newman
11. New Waterford and Inverness, 1920, Finestein Family
12. New Waterford, 1918, Rose (Cleaner) Schwartz and friends
13. Whitney Pier, 1914
14. Sydney, 1921, I. Nathanson Family
15. Halifax, 1928, H. Pascal Family
16. Halifax, 1920, J. Garson Family
17. Clark's Harbour, 1904
18. Halifax Directory, 1873
19. Capitol Stores Limited proprietors, established 1934
20. Liverpool, 1921
21. Glace Bay, 1909, Pedlar
22. Whitney Pier, 1910, E. Feder, Jeweller
23. Halifax, 1942, J. Gordon Family
24. Pictou, 1910, Freeman wedding
25. Glace Bay, 1909, meeting
26. Halifax, 1925, Alberstat wedding
27. Halifax, 1927, Birthday Party
28. Ladies Aid Society, Halifax, 1964
29. Business Promotion, Sydney
30. Business Promotion, Sydney
31. Yarmouth, 1914
32. Conter Brothers, New Waterford, 1939
33. Percy Gaum, Whitney Pier
34. Hebrew School, Glace Bay
35. Sports, Beth Israel Synagogue, Halifax
36. Camp Kadimah
37. Robie Street Synagogue, Halifax, 1952
38. Beth Israel Synagogue, Halifax
39. Y Follies, Halifax, 1948
40. Y Follies, Halifax
41. Sydney, 1944
42. Camp Kadimah, recent photograph
43. Camp Kadimah Board of Management, 1957
44. Ketubbah, Marriage Contract, created in 80 B.C.E. spelling out legal obligations of husband to wife
45. Passover Seder, Cohen Family, Yarmouth, 1952
46. Passover Seder, Canadian Jewish Congress Hostel, Halifax, 1943
47. Jewish Cemetery, Sydney
48. Congregation Temple Sons of Israel, Sydney
49. Daily Service, Beth Israel Synagogue, Halifax
50. Congregation Sons of Israel, Glace Bay
51. Service of Thanksgiving on cessation of World War II, Robie Street Synagogue, Halifax, 1945