Dedication

Temple Beth-El

September 7, 1947

HORNELL, NEW YORK
History

According to the records obtained from the historian of the city of Hornell, Hornellsville, N. Y., had families of Jewish faith as far back as 1852.

The first record of a Jewish congregation is found in the county clerk's office of Steuben county dated Nov. 2, 1869, and herewith is a complete copy of such a record.

CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

of the Congregation of "AHAVATH ACHIM" at Hornellsville, N. Y.
State of New York
Steuben County

We, the undersigned, two of the male members of the church and congregation hereinafter mentioned, do certify that on the 10th day of October, 1869, the male persons of full age belonging to a church and congregation in which divine worship is celebrated according to the rites of the Jewish Church and not already incorporated, met at the place of public worship heretofore occupied by the said church in the village of Hornellsville, County and State aforesaid. That public notice of the time and place when the election would be held, and fifteen days before the election, and that such notification was given for two successive Sabbaths or days on which such church and congregation met for public worship preceding the day of the election for the purpose of incorporating themselves and did then and there elect by a majority of votes, Benjamin Wiley, Jacob Corn and Solomon Ossoskie, trustees of said church and congregation.

And that the said persons did then and there determine by the like majority votes, that the said Trustees and their successors should forever hereafter be called by and known by the name or title of the trustees of the congregation of "AHAVATH ACHIM."

Witness our hands and seals this 22nd day of Oct., 1869.

Signed and sealed in presence of:
S. OSSOSKIE  (Seal)
B. WILEY  (Seal)
H. HOLLIDAY

Steuben County, ss.

On this 22nd day of October, 1869, personally appeared before me, HOMER HOLLIDAY, to me known, who being by me duly sworn did depose and say that he resides in the village of Hornellsville, in said county, that he is acquainted with Solomon Ossoskie and Benjamin Wiley and knows them to be the persons who executed the foregoing certificate; that he was present and saw them, and each of them, sign, seal and execute the same, and that they and each of them acknowledged the execution thereof to him, whereupon he became the subscribing witness thereto.

Recorded Steuben County Clerk's Office Nov. 2, 1869, 3:00 p. m., in Liber 2 of Church Records at page 2674

H. HOLLIDAY, Justice of the Peace said County.
President's Message

Records disclose that the first effort to organize a Jewish church, or congregation, dates back to the year of 1869. Hornell, was then known as the village of Hornellsville, and furthermore, records show that there was no permanent place of worship; the members met as they could, from time to time, at various places, usually a rented hall, until the year 1938. Rabbi Pink of Buffalo, N. Y., was invited here and he organized the Erlich Hebrew Centre, and from that time on, the congregation felt the need for a permanent place of worship.

It was not an easy task, as we had so few to help, but what seemed at first to be a hopeless task, developed into a reality, because each and every member of the congregation, their wives, their children, took a real interest. Time meant little; money was given and finally we have come to the dedication of our Temple Beth-El.

To say that this is a real accomplishment would be little, my co-workers. Each and every one of you are worthy of the highest praise that can be bestowed upon you, and I feel sure that the pioneers, if a message could be sent by them, would say "Well done, my brothers."

The Temple is completed, it belongs to you. Use it in the name of God, and you and your children will be blessed for ever and ever.

To our many friends who have so kindly contributed towards this Dedication Journal, the appreciation of myself and the congregation is beyond words. It makes us feel proud to live in a community such as Hornell.

Charles Wineburg.
OFFICERS AND MEMBERSHIP OF TEMPLE BETH EL
HORNELL, N. Y.

FRANK SPITULNIK, HONORARY PRESIDENT
CHARLES WINEBURG, PRESIDENT
MAX ARNOW, VICE-PRESIDENT
ISADORE SPITULNIK, SECRETARY
HYMAN JACOBSON, TREASURER

TRUSTEES

BENJAMIN KATZ
BENJAMIN SPITULNIK
MURRAY STEVENS
HENRY GERRY

MAX ARNOW
HARRY ABELSON
ARTHUR ABELSON
MORRIS BARASH
BENJAMIN BEAR
MORRIS BEAR
JEROME CROPP
HAROLD COMMINS
WILLIAM DOSH
DR. RALPH DIAMOND
IRVING FREEDMAN
MAX GOODMAN
HENRY S. GERRY
DR. KARL HERZ
HYMAN JACOBSON
BENJAMIN KATZ
MAX I. LANDMAN, SR.
SAM LELAND

BUILDING COMMITTEE

J. J. SOPPE
JOSEPH CROPP
HARRY MILLER

MAXWELL LANDMAN
NATHAN LANDMAN
HARRY SPITULNIK
ISADORE SPITULNIK
GUS VEIT
CHARLES WINEBURG
MURRAY STEVENS
SOL SPITULNIK
DANIEL LEWINSON
NORMAN SPIRO
DR. ALF KAGEN
SAM JAFFE

* Deceased
As we dedicate this House of God, we wish to recognize those who deserve a major portion of the credit for the erection of this edifice:

President Charles Wineburg, under whose guidance the church was completed. He gave freely of his time and efforts and overcame the many obstacles accruing with a project of this nature.

Joseph Cropp, Chairman of the Building Committee, nurtured the plans and construction and devoted many hours to the successful culmination of the task.

Frank Spitulnik, Honorary President, an honor bestowed upon him for his many years of faithful service: an honor richly deserved.

Mrs. Gus Miller, President of the Sisterhood, whose organization shares great credit for the construction and upkeep of the Temple.

To these, and the many others, this Temple is a monument to their unselfish efforts.

FRANK SPITULNIK

JOSEPH CROPP

MRS. GUS MILLER
In Appreciation

of the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Max I. Landman, who gave the land on which Temple Beth-El stands, and who also contributed substantially to its construction, the congregation here records their gratitude.

Compliments of

MR. AND MRS. CHARLES F. PHILLEY

Life Insurance

Better is he who gives little to charity from money honestly earned, than he who gives much from wealth gained through fraud.

—KHELET RABBIN