

Beth Israel Cemetery Association
Jewish Historical Society of MetroWest Archives
Prepared by Jill Hershoin (June 2011)

Record Group: 5

Collection Number: 26-96

Creator: Beth Israel Cemetery Association

Inclusive Dates: 1906-2009

Extent: 7 cf

Abstract: Assorted materials from Beth Israel Cemetery Association

Acquisition information: Acquired by the society in 1996 and throughout the years since

Preferred Citation: Beth Israel Cemetery Association

Access restrictions:

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History:

Originally incorporated in 1903, the cemetery was known as the Morristown Hebrew Cemetery Association until 1927. The name was changed to Beth Israel Cemetery Association at that time. It is governed by a Board of Trustees. In 1927 those Trustees were elected by the Independent Order Brith Abraham #375 (IOBA 375) and by the House of Israel. An Associate trusteeship was established for women to serve. Their duty was to take charge of charity work such as raising money “for erecting headstones for the non-affording”. Women could attend meetings, express opinions, but not vote.

The Board of Trustees is made up of representatives from the Morristown Jewish Center – Beit Yisrael and Temple B’nai Or of Morristown. The cemetery also serves Congregation B’nai Israel of Basking Ridge.

(Source: <http://www.bethisraelcemetery.com/>)

Scope and Content:

This collection contains documents from the early years when the organization was known as the Morristown Hebrew Cemetery Association. The certificate of incorporation as well as lease agreements between the Association and the I.O.B.A. are found within this collection. Also included are four folders of sketches, schematics, letters and construction costs for member's gravesite foundations, markers and monuments. These folders are not arranged in any particular order. In addition, the "maps" sub-series contains plot location maps and are not arranged in any particular order.

The "General Subjects – A-Z" files contain assorted items including: correspondence and deeds with plotters; estimates and other items from Knoble Construction Company, who digs and places caskets in graves; and miscellaneous general subjects.

The minutes show that in 1910 the Morristown Hebrew Cemetery Association decided to sell its plots to the I.O.B.A. Later minutes contain typical items such as motions, by-laws, rules and regulations, fees and board members and officers' listings.

Removals: None**Organization:**

Alphabetical, then chronological

This collection is comprised of paper and photographs and is divided into six series as follows:

- I. Administrative
- II. Finance
- III. General Subjects
- IV. Legal
- V. Membership
- VIII. Morristown Hebrew Cemetery Association