

**Congregation Ahavath Yisrael**  
**Jewish Historical Society of MetroWest Archives**

Prepared by Jennifer McGillan, April 12, 2005 Revised by Jill Hershorin, March 25, 2008

**Record Group: 1**

**Collection Number: 07-01**

**Creator:** Congregation Ahavath Yisrael

**Inclusive Dates:** 1981-2002

**Extent:** .5 box

**Abstract:** Congregational records for Congregation Ahavath Israel of Morristown, New Jersey. This collection includes information about the founding of the Congregation, programming activities and event photographs.

**Acquisition information:** Acquired by the Society in 2001.

**Preferred Citation:** Congregation Ahavath Yisrael Collection

**Access restrictions:**

The collections of the Society shall be available for examination and study by any member of the public under the normal security procedures and other special procedures established for the protection of the specific collections.

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**History:**

Congregation Ahavath Yisrael is a modern Orthodox congregation founded in 1979 and soon located at 7 Cutler Street in the city of Morristown, New Jersey. The congregation was founded when the "traditional" Beth Hamidrash minyan at the Morristown Jewish Center decided to split off from the main congregation to become Congregation Ahavath Yisrael. The congregation moved to Cutler Street in 1981 (where it remains today), under the guidance of their first rabbi Dale Polakoff, accompanied by a Sefer Torah donated by the Morristown Jewish Center. An Aron Kodesh, some chairs, reading tables, several hand-written Megillahs and two Yads were also rescued from a synagogue in Woodhaven, Queens, New York that had just closed, and are still in use by the congregation.

The congregation is particularly strong in the area of education, with Bar/Bat Mitzvah programs, a day school, high school, Yeshivot and Continuing Education programs for adults. The congregation also supports a wide variety of services,

including a library, a kosher market, an annual Simchat Torah singles weekend, Gan Eden (cleanup) Day, Shabbatons and annual participation in Project Summer Educational Enrichment and Development Experience (Project S.E.E.D.)

Most photographs are scanned images from unknown sources.

**Scope and Content:** The collection is comprised of paper and photographs, and is organized into five series as follows:

- I. Administrative
  - a. Bar-Bat Mitvah Guide
  - b. Building Dedication
  - c. Correspondences
- II. Events
  - a. Chanukah Dinner
  - b. Eighteenth Anniversary Dinner
  - c. Dinner – A Taste of England
  - d. Dinner – B’nai Israel of India
  - e. Dinner – Rabbi and Mrs. Arthur Fischer
  - f. Lecture – Arnold Berkowitz Memorial Lecture
  - g. Misc. Events
  - h. S.E.E.D. Program
  - i. Singles Shabbaton
- III. Press
  - a. Advertisements
  - b. Press Releases
- IV. Publications
  - a. Bulletins, 1992-2002
  - b. Misc.
- V. Photographs

**Conservation Notes:**

N/A

**Removals:**

One tzedakh box was removed from the collection previous to processing and transferred to the artifacts collection within the Archives. Unable to locate at the current time (3/08)

**Organization:**

The materials are organized alphabetically then chronologically within the series.