



Revisiting (the History) of Jewish Chelsea – Online Program Announcement – April 27, 2025

Dear Friends,

I am very pleased to announce ***Revisiting (the History of) Jewish Chelsea***, an hour-long online exploration of the Jewish past of Chelsea, lovingly called 'the Jerusalem of Massachusetts.' on Tuesday, May 13 at 7:00 pm ET, with Dr. David E. Kaufman.

Dr. Kaufman will treat this remarkable history in multiple contexts, ranging from how the Chelsea experience exemplifies the Jewish relationship to cities throughout history to his own family history in the Chelsea Jewish community. He is an established American Jewish historian who earned his PhD at Brandeis University in 1994. During his graduate studies, he focused on the history of the Jewish communities of the Boston area and became well known as a popular lecturer and tour guide of Jewish neighborhoods. In the authoritative volume *The Jews of Boston* (CJP, 1995), he published his first major article on the synagogues of Boston. He is also a 'son of Chelsea' as his great grandfather was Asher Bookstein, the unofficial Sofer Stam (Torah scribe) of the Chelsea Jewish community. Dr. Kaufman is excited to be returning to the Walnut Street Shul to give an online talk in which he will give context to his family history by recounting the greater, and often unappreciated, history of the Jews of Chelsea, Massachusetts. Dr. Kaufman was our featured speaker for Chelsea Jewish Heritage Day in September 2024. For those who have attended programs with our partner, the Orange County Jewish Community Scholar Program, you will also recognize Dr. Kaufman as a frequent and particularly eloquent speaker there.

You may register online - walnutstreetsynagogue.com/2025-programs-may

Please consider a donation to the Walnut Street Synagogue to enable us to continue providing high quality online and in-person programming. Details are provided here - walnutstreetsynagogue.com/giving.

Watch for details of an in-person film screening and discussion of ***Shared Legacies***, a film about Black-Jewish cooperation during the civil rights movements of the 1960s. The program will take place on Sunday afternoon, June 8, at the Williams School in Chelsea.

Please join us. I hope to see you online on May 13!

L'Shalom,

Edward Medros
President, Walnut Street Synagogue