

NEW-YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM & LIBRARY

The First Jewish Americans: Freedom and Culture in the New World
On View October 28, 2016 – March 12, 2017

Selected PR Images

How did Jewish settlers come to inhabit—and change—the New World? Jews in colonial America and the young United States, while only a tiny fraction of the population, significantly negotiated the freedoms offered by the new nation and contributed to the flowering of American culture. The First Jewish Americans: Freedom and Culture in the New World follows the trajectory of a people forced from their ancestral lands in Europe, as well as their homes in South America and the Caribbean, to their controversial arrival in New Amsterdam in 1654 to the unprecedented political freedoms they gained in early 19th-century New York, Philadelphia, and Charleston. In this groundbreaking exhibition, rare portraits, drawings, maps, documents, and ritual objects illuminate how 18th- and 19th-century artists, writers, activists, and more adopted American ideals while struggling to remain distinct and socially cohesive amidst the birth of a new Jewish American tradition. The exhibit is based primarily upon loans from the Princeton University Jewish American Collection, gift of Mr. Leonard L. Milberg, Class of 1953, and Mr. Leonard L. Milberg's personal collection.

Luis de Carvajal the Younger (ca. 1567-1596)
Memorias autobiographical manuscripts, ca. 1595,
with devotional manuscripts
Manuscript leaves, 3 volumes, each stitched into
plain wrappers
Courtesy of the Government of Mexico.



Suriname map, 1718.
Nieuwe Kaart van Suriname vertonende de
stromen en land-streken van Suriname, Comowini,
Cottica, en Marawini, Amsterdam, 1718.
Collection of Leonard L. Milberg.



Camille Pissarro (1830-1903)
Two Women Chatting by the Sea, St. Thomas, 1856
Oil on canvas
National Gallery of Art, Collection of Mr. and Mrs.
Paul Mellon
Image courtesy National Gallery of Art.



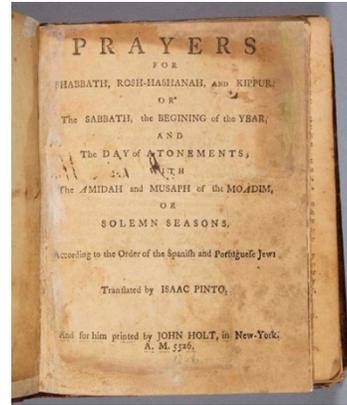
Gerardus Duyckinck I (1695-1746)
Jacob Franks (1688-1769)
Oil on canvas
Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art,
Bentonville, Arkansas.



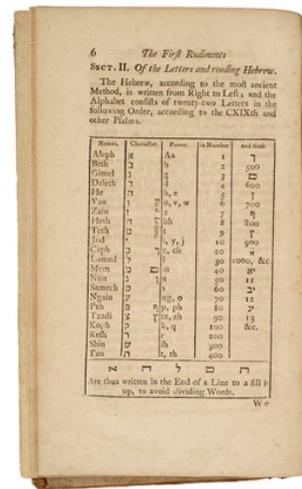
Gerardus Duyckinck I (1695-1746)
Mrs. Jacob (Abigaiil Levy) Franks (1696-1756)
Oil on canvas
Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art,
Bentonville, Arkansas.



Isaac Pinto, trans.
Prayers for Shabbath, Rosh-Hashanah, and Kippur . . . according to the Order of the Spanish and Portuguese Jews. New York, A.M. 5526 [1766].
 Princeton University Library. Gift of Leonard L. Milberg, Class of 1953, in honor of his grandchildren: Beverly Allison Milberg, Ava Miriam Milberg, Emmett Nathaniel Milberg, William Nathan Milberg, Charles Bennett Milberg, Samantha Eve Shapiro, and Nathan Busky Shapiro.



Samuel Johnson
An English and Hebrew Grammar, 1771
 Belonged to John Pintard, the founder of the New-York Historical Society in 1804
 New-York Historical Society Library.



Myer Myers
Rimonim, 1765-1776.
 Silver and brass with parcel gilding.
 Congregation Shearith Israel, New York City.



Shearith Israel Torah Scroll

Vandalized by the British during the Revolutionary War

Collection of Congregation Shearith Israel.



Abraham Gomez, Moses Gomez Jr., Uriah Hendricks, et al.

Address of Loyalty to the Conquerors, Admiral Richard Howe and General William Howe, New York, October 16, 1776

New-York Historical Society Library.



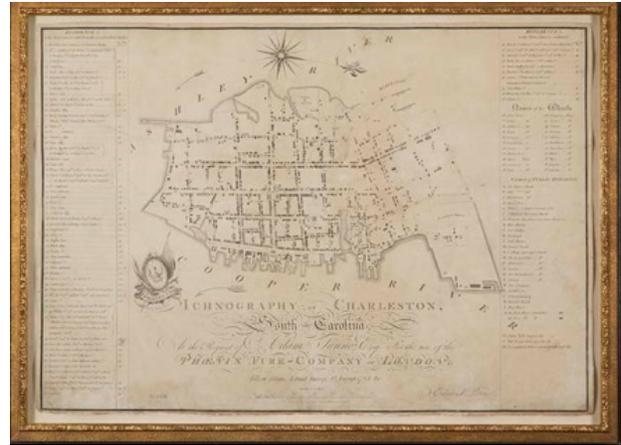
Thomas Sully

Rebecca Gratz, 1831

Oil on panel. The Rosenbach Museum and Library.



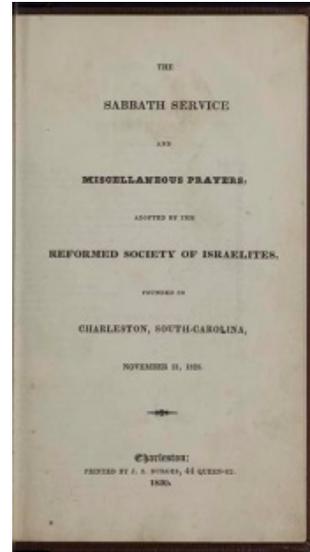
Edward Petrie
*Map: Ichonography of Charleston showing the
synagogue, 1790*
Collection of Leonard L. Milberg.



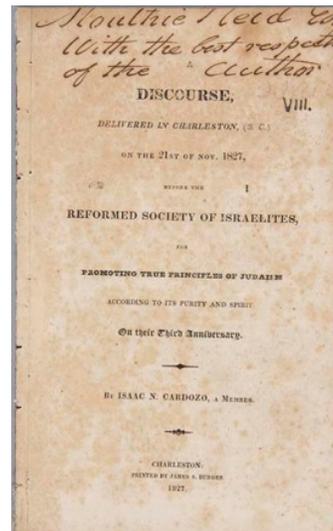
Solomon Nunes Carvalho
Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim, Interior, 1838
Oil on canvas
Collection of Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim.



Isaac Harby
Manuscript Prayer Book, ca. 1825
The College of Charleston
Gift of Temple Sinai, Sumter, South Carolina.



Isaac N. Cardozo (1792–1855)
A Discourse, Delivered in Charleston, (S.C.) on the 21st of Nov. 1827, before the Reformed Society of Israelites, for Promoting True Principles of Judaism according to Its Purity and Spirit, on Their Third Anniversary
Charleston, 1827
Princeton University Library. Gift of Leonard L. Milberg, Class of 1953, in honor of his grandchildren: Beverly Allison Milberg, Ava Miriam Milberg, Emmett Nathaniel Milberg, William Nathan Milberg, Charles Bennett Milberg, Samantha Eve Shapiro, and Nathan Busky Shapiro.



Louis Moreau Gottschalk
Locket with photo
The Historic New Orleans Collection.

