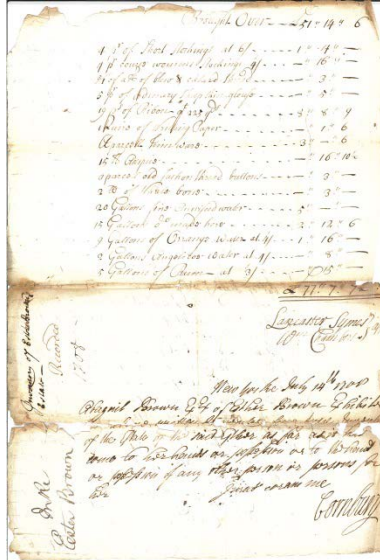




THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

**A Finding Aid to the
Leo Hershkowitz Collection**

Manuscript Collection No. 418



Collection Summary

Title	Leo Hershkowitz Collection
Dates	1682-1752
Collection Number	MS-418
Repository	The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
Creator	Hershkowitz, Leo [Collector]
Extent	2 linear feet (1 oversize box)
Language of the Material	English

Administrative Information

Scope and Content The Leo Hershkowitz Collection was compiled by Dr. Leo Hershkowitz, an esteemed historian of American and specifically New York Jewry, through his employer, Queens College in New York City. The records were originally obtained through the New York Court of Appeals who were deaccessioning a portion of their records. Dr. Hershkowitz then studied and transcribed these inventories.

The first Jews to settle in New Amsterdam were Spanish and Portuguese Sephardic refugees from Brazil in 1654. By the late seventeenth century the community had formed a synagogue. After a few decades the majority of the Jews in New Amsterdam were of Ashkenazic or central and eastern European descent though the synagogue and community rituals remained dominated by Sephardic traditions. Some of the outstanding leaders of the kehillot of this era have their estate inventories included in this collection. Among these are Nunes, Pinheiro and Buono families, although Asser Levy stands out as a prominent business, political and communal leader.

This collection contains ten inventories of colonial New York Jews. These inventories, though somewhat difficult to read because of handwriting styles or the wear of time, contain valuable information on the households of the merchant class of Jews in New York. Each of these lists the property and assets of the deceased as well as any debts incurred.

Terms of Access The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.

Preferred Citation Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Leo Hershkowitz Collection and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-418. Leo Hershkowitz Collection. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Provenance Received from Leo Hershkowitz, Freeport, N.Y., 2005.

Processing Information Processed by Christine Schmid, December 2005.

Index Terms

Subjects Jews -- New York (State) -- New York / United States -- History -- Colonial period, ca. 1600-1775

Personal Names Brown, Ester / Bueno, Joseph / Elias, David / Levy, Asser, -1681 / Levy, Samuel / Marquis, Isaac Rodrigues / Nunes, Joseph / Pinheiro, Isaac / Samuell, Judah

Series A. General, 1682-1752

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 1. Brown, Ester, 1708 July 1

Box 1. Folder 2. Bueno, Joseph, 1708 November 10

Box 1. Folder 3. Elias, David of Southampton, Suffolk County, 1723 December

Box 1. Folder 4. Financial record, New York State, 1752

Box 1. Folder 5. Levy, Asser, 1682 April 24

Box 1. Folder 6. Levy, Samuel, 1721 March 9

Box 1. Folder 7. Marquis, Isaac Rodrigues, 1707 January 19

Box 1. Folder 8. Nunes, Joseph, 1705 October 8

Box 1. Folder 9. Pinheiro, Isaac. Inventories, 1709/1710 February 22

Box 1. Folder 10. Samuell, Judah, 1702 December 2