

Tracing your Lineage

Can you trace your lineage back to a Patriot who served in the Revolutionary War?

A small sampling of Jewish Patriots:

Mordecai Abrahams (VA)
Abraham Alexander (SC)
Capt. Joseph Bloomfield (NJ)
Capt. Solomon Bush (PA)
David Nunez Cardoza (SC)
Gershom Cohen (SC)
Jacob Cohen (VA)
Isaac Da Costa (SC)
David Emanuel (GA)
Michael Gratz (PA)
Jacob Hart (MD)
Jacob Isaacs (RI)
Joseph Israel (DE)
Samuel Judy (NY)
Marks Lazarus (SC)
Hayman Levy (PA)
Samuel Mendes Marks (SC)
Philip Minnis (GA/SC)
Samuel Mordecai (SC)
Myer Myers (CT/NY)
Samuel Myers (NY)
Simon Nathan (PA)
Maj. Benjamin Nones (PA)
Jacob Phillips (SC)
Jonas Phillips (PA)
Solomon Pinto (CT)
Phillip Moses Russell (PA)
Haym Salomon (PA)
Gershom Mendes Seixas (CT/NY/PA)
Benjamin Mendez Seixas (NY)
Mordecai Sheftall (GA)

Eligibility for Membership

Any woman 18 years or older who can prove lineal, bloodline descent from an ancestor who aided in achieving American independence is eligible to join the DAR. She must provide documentation for each statement of birth, marriage, and death, as well as of the Revolutionary War service of her Patriot ancestor.

There are nearly 3,000 DAR chapters in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and several foreign countries.

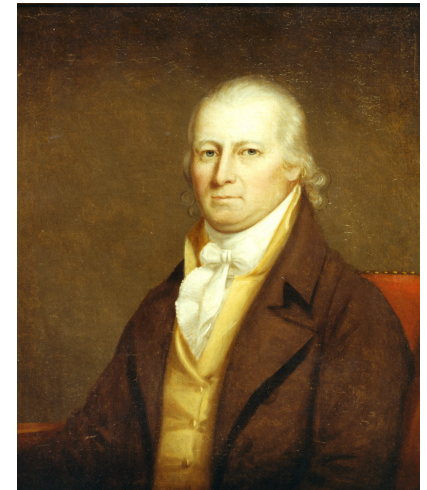
For more information, contact
Specialty Research Committee
Jewish Research
specialtyresearch@nsdar.org

www.dar.org/national-society/genealogy/specialty-research

National Society Daughters of
the American Revolution
1776 D Street, NW
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(202) 628-1776
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Researching Your Jewish Patriot



Jonas Phillips
1736 - 1803
*American Jewish Historical Society
Used with permission.*

Research Your Lineage

Getting Started

The first step is to collect information on your family. Start with yourself and work backwards, one generation at a time.

List the names, birth dates, marriage dates and death dates of your ancestors along with the location (town, county and state) where each event occurred.

In Jewish family research, names are particularly important. Religious names include two generations with the father named. This name is used on gravestones, circumcision records and yahrzeit memorial boards.

Begin collecting records such as birth, marriage and death certificates. Look for obituaries, wills and probate distributions, land records, newspaper articles, and synagogue and cemetery records.

Interview older members of your family, such as great-aunts and uncles as they may have additional information or documents.

Oral histories or family traditions may or may not be accurate, but often provide clues to finding the necessary documentation.

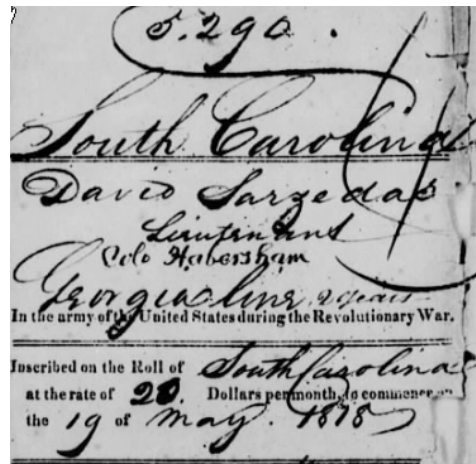
Establishing Your Patriot Ancestor

Who served and how did they serve?

During the American Revolution, Jews lived throughout the original thirteen colonies with the highest concentrations in Charleston, New York City, Newport, Philadelphia, and Savannah. Many went to Connecticut in the evacuation of New York City.

Although Jews were less than 1% of the population by 1775, their contributions to the Revolutionary War effort were significant. Jews served in the military, took the oath of allegiance, provided goods and supplies, lent money to the American cause, and more.

Many Jewish Patriots have already been proven, with more still to be documented.



Useful Sources

The following resources are available online or through interlibrary loan:

- ★ Bibliography of Materials Relating to Rhode Island Jews in Rhode Island Depositories, comp. Freda Egnal, RI Jewish Historical Notes, Vol. 4 No. 4, Nov. 1966
- ★ First American Jewish Families, 3rd ed., Malcolm Stern
<https://sites.americanjewisharchives.org/publications/fajf/>
- ★ Jews of Philadelphia: Their History from the Earliest Settlements to the Present Time, Henry Samuel Morais
- ★ Jews and the American Revolution: Haym Salomon and Others, Laurens R. Schwartz
- ★ New York Jews in the Struggle for American Independence, Leon Huhner
- ★ The Colonial American Jew, 1492-1776, Vol. III, Jacob R. Marcus
- ★ The Jews of South Carolina from the Earliest Times to the Present Day, Elzas A. Barnett
- ★ Unrecognized Patriots, The Jews in the American Revolution, Samuel Rezneck
- ★ Shapell Roster of Jewish Service in the American Civil War,
www.shapell.org/roster
- ★ JewishGen USA Database,
www.JewishGen.org/databases/usa/

Historic Preservation - Education - Patriotism