

The Soil From Which They Grew

The History of The Alliance Colony

By Jarrett Ross

Background

- Haskalah
- Am Olam

Failed Colonies

- Sicily Island, Louisiana (1881-1882)
- Cremieux, South Dakota (1882-1885)
- Bethlehem Judea (1882-1885)
- New Odessa, OR (1883-1888)
- Arkansas (1883-1884)

Colony Sponsors

- The Russian Jewish Refugee problem
- Alliance Israélite Universelle (AIU)
- Hebrew Emigrant Aid Society (HEAS)
- Jewish Agricultural and Industrial Aid Society (JAIAS)
- Baron de Hirsch fund
- Clash of Ideals

Arrival

- Multiple groups
- Castle Garden
- Jersey Central Railroad to Bradway Station
- First families arrive in NJ in May 1882
- Untouched Land

Early Years (1882-1890)

- Communal work system abandoned
- Difficult first years
- More religious than other Colonies
- Alliance Land Trust
- Location, Location, Location

Local Support and Education

- Non-Jewish Locals
- The Leach Brothers
- Farming Guidance
- Education

Brotmansville

- Abraham Brotman comes down from NY
- Baron de Hirsch Fund
- Brotmansville Synagogue B'nai Moshe (1901)
- Industrial and Agricultural Community
- Norma created soon after

Middle Years

- Economic difficulties
- Further Sponsor Funding

Industrial Expansion

- 1938 Loan Restructure
- Subsidy agreement with Abraham Brotman
- Manufacturing Expansion in Carmel, Rosenhayn, and Norma
- Decline of Agriculture
- Alliance Canning factory built in 1901
- Golden Age of Alliance

Slow Decline

- Decrease in population after WW1
- End of Aid for Expansion
- Slight Increase in Jewish Refugees from 1930-1950
- Center of Jewish life changed to Vineland
- Alliance viewed as 'gone' by 1932

Yoval – Jubilee 1932

1982 and 2007 Reunions

Connecting with Descendants

Revitalization

- Alliance Community Reboot (ACRe)
- The Alliance Colony Foundation
- Moses Bayuk House

2018 Reunion

Links

The Alliance Colony Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1509601965747670/>

The Alliance Colony Geni Project

<https://www.geni.com/projects/The-Alliance-Colony/42642>

First Chapter in a New Book by Rich Brotman

<https://vimeo.com/222691402>

Alliance Cemetery

<http://alliancecemetery.com/>

Alliance, Norma, and Brotmanville Kehila Links

https://kehilalinks.jewishgen.org/NJ_Farms/Alliance.html

Digitized copy of the 1932 Yoval Book

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B6TiN7NYBULLbnpXazV6eVExVVU/view>