

Jewish Women in Boston History



From left: Senda Berenson, Mildred Albert, Molly Picon
(Picon image from: *Museum of Family History*)



From top: Jennie Barron, Mary Antin, Lina Hecht
(Hecht photo- Boston: Beckwith & Smith, 1889)

Jewish Women in Boston History has worked in close collaboration with the Vilna Shul and West End Museum. We are also a member organization under the umbrella of the Boston Women's Heritage Trail (bwht.org)

Interested in planning a special presentation or a walking tour for your group? Contact:

Helaine Davis and Linda Stern

Jewish Women in Boston History

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*Some vintage photos are courtesy of: Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University



Sophie Tucker, 1917

**Featuring programs
and walking tours that
highlight Boston's
groundbreaking
Jewish women**

Jewish Women in Boston History

Meet some of the women

Our multi-media programs and walking tours incorporate biographical information, anecdotes and quotations from some of the remarkable Jewish women who lived or worked in Boston during the 19th and 20th centuries. We started our research with the West End and have expanded into Beacon Hill, the South End, Back Bay and downtown Boston.

Featuring (but not limited to):

- **Jennie Loitman Barron:** The first fulltime female judge and Superior Court justice in Massachusetts
- **Fanny Goldstein:** The first Jewish female librarian to direct a Boston branch library and also compiled the first Judaica collection for Boston Public Library
- **Lina Hecht:** A philanthropist who founded settlement houses in order to help Eastern European immigrants adjust to life in America
- **Mary Antin:** An author who in 1912 published the quintessential memoir about her family's immigration from Russia to the United States
- **Rose Finkelstein Norwood:** A union organizer who participated in the 1919 Boston telephone operators' strike and later helped unionize the Boston Public Library and Jordan Marsh department store



Linda & Helaine with other board members of the Boston Women's Heritage Trail

Linda Stern and **Helaine Davis** present lively talks and walking tours featuring some of the noteworthy Jewish American women who helped to shape Boston's neighborhoods.

Walking tours focus on specific areas of the city—such as the West End, Beacon Hill and the Back Bay—and include information about the founding of Boston's Jewish community, as well as particular sites where some of the women lived or worked. Oral presentations illuminate the early Jewish community in Boston with visual images and audio clips. The programs may also be geared to spotlight women in specific areas of the city.

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Fall 2011 West End Walking Tour

Who are we?

Helaine Davis is the third generation of her family to live in Greater Boston. With a professional library background that includes work in art and other special collections in public, academic and museum settings, she currently works as a consultant librarian, assisting individuals with their research in genealogy, American history, rare books, decorative and fine arts.

Linda Stern, originally from Rochester, NY, has lived in Greater Boston for most of her adult life. She has worked in educational settings from pre-school through community college as both teacher and librarian. Linda has developed curricula for several special projects and worked extensively with primary sources related to the abolitionist, suffrage and transcendentalist movements.