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MEDIA ADVISORY

**American Ancestors/New England Historic Genealogical Society Reopens Tuesday, June 22
Research Center and Wyner Family Jewish Heritage Center Archive Available by Appointment
Live Chat Service Offered Tuesday-Saturday**

June 16, 2021 – American Ancestors/New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) – a national center for family history, heritage, and culture – is reopening to the public on Tuesday, June 22.

Access to the Research Center, as well as the Wyner Family Jewish Heritage Center (JHC) archive will be available by appointment. The first-floor bookstore will be open to the public where visitors can learn more about the organization, purchase a wide range of materials, and explore available genealogical services. American Ancestors will also continue its live chat service, offered five days per week, **Tuesday – Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET** at americanancestors.org/chat



Research & Library Services Staff Members



Wyner Family Jewish Heritage Center

VISITING

Starting June 22, the **American Ancestors/NEHGS Research Center** is available to the public each week (except holidays) by appointment on:

Tuesday, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (ET)

Wednesday, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (ET)

Thursday through Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (ET)

Visitors can book an appointment online at my.americanancestors.org/overview/1633. Upon booking, a confirmation email will automatically be sent, which outlines arrival details, safety protocols, and procedures while visiting the Research Center.

The Wyner Family Jewish Heritage Center archives will be open to visitors on Thursdays, and research visits can be scheduled directly with JHC staff by emailing jhcreference@nehgs.org. Once staff have reviewed the request, a confirmation email will be sent with personalized details. Researchers are encouraged to visit JewishHeritageCenter.org to review finding aids for available collections prior to scheduling an appointment.

For general information including address and contact details, hours of operation, holidays, accessibility, photocopying requests, group visits, and more, please go to: americanancestors.org/visit

ADMISSION

Admission to the Research Center is free for American Ancestors/NEHGS members. Non-members are always welcome and may purchase a day pass for \$20. The general public can visit the first-floor bookstore and exhibition space at no cost.

Please note: the Rare Book and Manuscript Collections are available to members. Access is also provided to visiting scholars who have made arrangements with the library in advance by contacting library@nehgs.org.

There is no admission fee for accessing the JHC archives, but a pre-scheduled appointment is required.

MEMBERSHIP

For American Ancestors/NEHGS membership information or to contact Member Services please call 888-296-3447, email membership@nehgs.org, or visit: americanancestors.org/join.

HEALTH INFORMATION & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

As of June 1, American Ancestors/NEHGS no longer requires visitors and staff to wear masks, however they are welcome do so regardless of vaccination status. Mask wearing is encouraged in accordance with CDC guidelines for vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals. A supply of masks will be available onsite and there are continued, enhanced cleaning practices throughout the building.

Visitors are permitted to eat and drink inside the building in designated areas.

About American Ancestors and New England Historic Genealogical Society

American Ancestors is a national center for family history, heritage, and culture. It is the global brand of New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS), America's oldest and largest genealogical society (founded 1845). American Ancestors serves more than 350,000 members and millions of online users engaged in family history nationally and around the world through its website AmericanAncestors.org with more than 1.4 billion names in its databases. Its national headquarters, located in Boston's Back Bay, is home to a world-class research library and archive, an expert staff, and the Wyner Family Jewish Heritage Center. It maintains a publishing division which produces original genealogical research, scholarship, and educational materials, including the *Register*, the flagship journal of American genealogy since 1847; *American Ancestors*, its award-winning magazine; and *Mayflower Descendant*, a quarterly journal of Pilgrim genealogy and history.

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