

The Czech Torah Scroll

A connection to our past.

This Torah Scroll came to Congregation Beth Emeth from the Czech town of Melnick. It was one of many Jewish communities destroyed by the Nazis during World War II. Part of the campaign carried out by the Nazis was the gathering of Torah Scrolls, their ornaments and vestments, books and other ritual items from synagogues in Czechoslovakia in preparation for a permanent exhibition in Prague of the works of exterminated people.

These Jewish treasures remained in Prague at the end of the war. Over time, they began to deteriorate through lack of use and sufficient resources to restore them. In 1964, 1,564 surviving scrolls were sent to the Westminster Synagogue in London, where they were catalogued, restored – when possible – and made available to synagogues around the world.

This Scroll written in 1850, is on permanent loan from the Czech Memorial Scrolls Trust at the Westminster Synagogue. In 1991, it was presented to Congregation Beth Emeth in memory of Max and Kate Weinberg, by their children in gratitude for being welcomed, like many other families, by Congregation Beth Emeth and the Albany Jewish community upon their arrival in 1940 as refugees from Nazi Germany.

This sacred scroll, a survivor of the Holocaust, will forever be a living memorial to

the Jewish community of Melnick and to all victims of the Holocaust. Most of all, it will be a living reminder of the imperishable truths it contains that have preserved the Jewish people for over five millennia.



The display case was provided through generous contributions from the Ellen Herkowitz Judaica Art Fund and the Congregations 1992 Yom Kippur Appeal.

The Czech Torah Scroll MST#645 is on permanent loan from the Memorial Scrolls Trust in London.

Learn more: www.memorialscrollstrust.org

MEMORIAL SCROLLS TRUST

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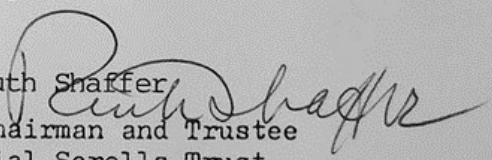
June 1991

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This is to certify that Scroll No⁶⁴⁵ is the
Hebrew Pentateuch and has been saved from the
Nazis in Czechoslovakia. This Scroll has been
assigned on PERMANENT LOAN by the Memorial
Scrolls Trust to

Congregation Beth Emeth
100 Academy Road
Albany, New York 12208
U.S.A.

This Scroll is of emotional and sentimental
consideration and is used in Synagogues for
religious and educational purposes

Ruth Shaffer

Joint Chairman and Trustee
Memorial Scrolls Trust

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