A History in our Time

Rabbis and Teachers
Buried at Hoop Lane Cemetery

A booklet to commemorate the 50th yahrzeit of Rabbi Dr Leo Baeck

Compiled by
Jon Epstein and David Jacobs

Published by the Leo Baeck College

Celebrating 50 Years
1956-2006
May God Remember

Now let us praise the famous
Our ancestors in their generations
The Lord displayed great glory through them,
His own greatness from the earliest times.
Some wielded authority like kings
And were known for their power.
Others gave counsel, because of their understanding
Foretelling the future as prophets.
Others guided people by their advice
By the sense and wisdom of their teaching.
Others composed melodies and tunes
Writing down their verses.
Others were successful and important,
Living peacefully in their homes.
All these were honoured by their generation,
And were a glory in their time.
Some of them left their name behind
So their praise can still be sung.
But there are some who have no memorial,
Who perished as if they had never been;
Who vanished as if they had never existed,
And also their children who followed them.

Ecclesiastes 11:1-9

RSGB Publications

Synagogue Review, September 1956, October 1956, January 1957, June 1965
Reform Judaism, Number 2, September 1996; Number 3, December 1996; Number 11, Winter 1998
A supplement published for the Leo Baeck College by the Jewish Chronicle, November 8, 1996

Obituaries
Guardian Friday December 7 1990 Eugene Heimler
Jewish Chronicle July 25 and August 1 2003 Linda Bayfield
Jewish Chronicle November 21 2003 Ben Segal
Jewish Chronicle July 16 2004 Albert Friedlander
The Times July 16 2004 Albert Friedlander
Leo Baeck College News Spring 1986
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Synagogue Histories

A Short History of the North Western Reform Synagogue 1933-1958 issued on the occasion of its silver jubilee, June 1958

50 years of Alyth: A Short History of the North Western Reform Synagogue, June Rose, London 1983

Towards the Golden Year: The First Half Century of Edgware and District Reform Synagogue, Sidney Budd, London 1985

Wimbledon and District Synagogue: a Historical Review 1949-1984, Marcus Bower
The first time I can remember the evocative power of being near someone's grave outside of family or at a funeral, was as a 10 year old wandering in Highgate Cemetery on a biology practical and seeing the graves of Karl Marx and Michael Faraday. The words on the tombstone, the dates and the time all had an effect. How much more so the peace and calm of cemeteries in which we can remember the contributions those that are buried there have made to the world.

Walking on Mount Herzl amongst the graves of Israel's former fallen Prime Ministers, politicians, heroes and others was an intensive emotional history lesson. Whilst I wanted to see the graves of those I know, I also wanted to know about the others, and for whom were they heroes.

To be in Prague in mid-Winter and watch a friend of mine sketching the graves of Rabbi Judah Loew and others in the Jewish Cemetery of so many centuries before, gave me a narrative and a sense of connection of Czech Jewry to the Jews of today. The fog and the snow creating a Dickensian memory that stays firmly with me until now.

To be in Kiev and to go to a Babi Yar memorial and be told that the real bodies are buried under a car park evoked another set of feelings within me.

Both Willesden, (the old United Synagogue cemetery) and Montagu Road, Edmonton, (the Western and Federation Cemeteries) can tell us many tales of Victorian and Edwardian Jewries.
Kaddish D’Rabanan

Let us magnify and let us sanctify the great name of God in the world which He created according to His will. May His kingdom come in your lifetime, and in your days, and in the lifetime of the family of Israel - quickly and speedily may it come. Amen.

May the greatness of His being be blessed from eternity to eternity.

Let us bless and let us extol. Let us tell aloud and let us raise aloft, let us set on high and let us honour, let us exalt and let us praise the Holy One - blessed be He! - though He is far beyond any blessing or song, any honour or any consolation that can be spoken of in this world. Amen.

For Israel and for the Rabbis, for their pupils, and the pupils of their pupils, who devote themselves to the study of Torah, in this place and every other place; let there be for them and for you great peace and favour, love and mercy, a life and fulfilment and of plenty, and redemption from their father who is in heaven. Amen.

May the name of the Lord be blessed from now and forever.

May great peace from heaven and the gift of good life be granted to us and to all the family of Israel. Amen.

May help is from the Lord alone, maker of heaven and earth.

May He who makes peace in the highest, in His mercy bring this peace upon us and upon all Israel. Amen.

In Montagu Road, I was once doing research with my Grandfather’s first cousin’s son, who had been Governor General of Australia. As we sought to find the graves of those who had passed away 100 years ago, we found that of my own grandfather. He had left us a book of clues, as he had planted 20 years before the same flora around the gravestones of all the members of our family. Our only mystery was to find which member of the family they were.

In this booklet, David Jacobs & Jon Epstein give us the chance to discover Hoop Lane. The memories of some, such as Rabbi Hugo Gryn, Rabbi Dr Albert Friedlander and Linda Bayfield, are still very much with us, whilst the memory of others may have faded. Many may not know that so many of the pioneers, builders and thinkers of British Reform Judaism lie at Hoop Lane. It is our heritage and our foundation. For some it may hardly seem history, but David and Jon have ensured that here we will have an opportunity to learn and to teach of Rabbi Dr Leo Baeck, Rabbi Dr Ignaz Maybaum, Dr Ellen Littmann and many others.

Let their memory be for a blessing, may we continue to learn from them, and not forget their contributions. May the mysteries of Hoop Lane begin to be told in this generation and in generations to come, and let us hope that our tapestry of Reform Judaism becomes ever richer.

Andrew Gilbert
Chairman RSGB 2003-2005
**Introduction**

A chance conversation and the wish to mark the 50th Anniversary of Rabbi Dr Leo Baeck’s death were the two catalysts for the production of this booklet. At Willesden Cemetery in April 2005, Andrew Gilbert, then Chairman of the Reform Synagogues of Great Britain, and David Jacobs were talking at the funeral of Rabbi Isaac ”Harry” Levy. They came up with the idea of creating a record of those buried at Hoop Lane Cemetery who were important figures in the development of progressive Judaism. At the same time there had been an awareness that 2006 was the year of both the 50th Anniversary of the death of Rabbi Dr. Leo Baeck and the founding of the College which bears his name. We are delighted that Andrew has agreed to write the foreword to this booklet.

Leo Baeck was not only a major figure in progressive Judaism on the continent before the Second World War, but came to this country as a refugee after the war, and was associated with Reform Judaism. As such, he was typical of a surprising number of rabbis buried at Hoop Lane who came as refugees, mainly before the war, and who played significant roles in developing progressive synagogues, both Reform and Liberal. Originally, the intention was to focus on Leo Baeck and these rabbis, but early on we decided to broaden the scope to include other men and women buried at Hoop Lane who made significant contributions to progressive Judaism. In their work with the movements (RSGB and ULPS), with synagogues all over the country and as scholars and teachers, these rabbis and educators had an enormous impact on the development of the Anglo-Jewish community.

**Key to map**

2. Baeck, Rabbi Dr Leo Row 87, Position 10
8. Dorfler, Rabbi Dr Aryeh Lawn section (LS) Row E, number 2.
10. Goulston, Rabbi Michael Row 1, Position 3.
11. Gryn, Rabbi Hugo Section H Row 153, number 11.
12. Heimler, Eugene (“John”) Row 17, Plot 42.
18. Littmann, Dr Ellen Row 73, Position 14.
20. Maybaum, Rabbi Dr Ignaz Row 153, Position 1L.
21. Reinhardt, Rabbi Harold ashes scattered on grave of Rev. Morris Joseph
22. Salzberger, Rabbi Dr Georg Row 137, Position 17.
24. Segal, Professor Ben Row 153, Position 1L.
25. van der Zyl, Rabbi Dr Werner Row 88, Position 10.
26. Wilde, Rabbi Dr. Georg Row 65, Plot 17.
It is our hope that this booklet will help remember them and their work. Brief biographical details and a photograph of their gravestone or memorial stone (in the case of cremation), together with its location in the cemetery, are included to encourage visitors and thus perpetuate their memory.

We owe a great debt of gratitude to those who have helped us in producing the booklet. Many, including relatives of those remembered in the booklet, have provided information. Nadya Nicola (Co-ordinator for Leo Baeck College of their 50th Anniversary celebrations) and Pamela Hartog (DEPD) have been invaluable in making our collection of photos and text into a coherent whole. Ian Spinks (of the Movement for Reform Judaism’s IT team) was instrumental in printing the booklet and we were supported throughout by Miriam Kramer, Chair of LBC’s 50th Anniversary committee and Rabbi Dr Michael Shire, the Acting-Principal of LBC. The staff of both Hoop Lane and Edgwarebury Cemeteries have been most helpful in providing answers to our many questions.

This booklet has been made possible through the generosity of Julia de Paula Hanika, a relative of Rabbi Dr Leo Baeck, and Mike Frankl, in memory of his parents, aunt and uncle who are buried at Hoop Lane. To mark the 50th Anniversary of Leo Baeck’s death, the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany has contributed to the restoration of his grave.

David Jacobs and Jon Epstein
The origins of the Hoop Lane Cemetery

The Jewish Year Book for 5658, only the second of a series which still continues, included the following in the section headed “a glance at 5657”, which covered developments in the year from July 1896:

“... a new cemetery at Golders'-green [sic] was also made ready for its melancholy purpose this last year. This cemetery has the curious distinction of being used by both the Orthodox Sephardim and the Reform Congregation of the West London Synagogue of British Jews.”

This records the opening of the cemetery in farmland near the hamlet of Golders Green. The West London Synagogue had previously sought permission to bury their dead there and on 17 May 1894 approval was given for a cemetery to be established on the selected site, an “area of 15 acres, 3 roods and 38 poles” situated at the corner of Temple Fortune Lane and Hoop Lane. On 21 December

Rabbi Dr Georg Wilde
9.05.1877 - 08.04.1949
Row 65, Plot 17.

Rabbi Dr Wilde was born in Meseritz, in the province of Posen and studied in Breslau. He served as rabbi in Magdeburg for 32 years until Kristallnacht on 9 September 1938. He was sent to Buchenwald, then came to England before the war.
Rabbi Dr Werner van der Zyl 11.09.1902 -10.04.1984
Row 88, Position 10.

Rabbi Dr van der Zyl was born in Schwerte. He began training as a חַזָּן at the Hochschule fur die Wissenschaft des Judentums in Berlin, and then transferred to the rabbinic programme and graduated in 1929. He obtained a Doctorate from Giessen University in 1931. He served as rabbi at Friedenstempel in Berlin from 1932 to 1935 and at the Neue Synagogue Oranienburgerstrasse in Berlin from 1935 to 1939.

He preached on 17 February 1938 with Gestapo members at the back of the synagogue and was later imprisoned in Hanover. He was rescued with his family by Lily Montagu and arrived in England in March 1939. He went on to serve as rabbi at North Western Reform Synagogue from 1943 to 1958.

He was the leading figure in the founding of the Leo Baeck College and was its first Director of Studies in 1956. He was Senior Rabbi of West London Synagogue from 1958 to 1968, when he retired.

1894, West London Synagogue purchased the site at a cost of £3000. On 23 April 1896, West London sold 8 acres of the site to the Congregation of Spanish and Portuguese Jews of London, and thus the “curious distinction” referred to in the Jewish Year Book was established.

In 1902, the Crematorium opened on the other side of Hoop Lane, at a time when the Underground had still not reached Golders Green. It was following the arrival of the “Hampstead Tube” in 1907 that the fields surrounding the Cemetery and Crematorium began to be rapidly covered with housing, particularly by the Hampstead Garden Suburb. In 1936, a section of the West London Synagogue’s land was used to build the North Western Reform Synagogue and in 1973 the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue sold 1.46 acres of their land for housing, to be built on Temple Fortune Lane.

Address:
Hoop Lane Cemetery, Hoop Lane,
London NW11 7NH

Nearest Underground:
Golders Green (Northern Line)
Hyman Arbeid  
20.10.1908 - 16.12.1985  
New Columbarium Row E, Position 14.

In the early 1950s, Hyman Arbeid was the Honorary Secretary and then Vice Chairman of the Association of Synagogues of Great Britain, the forerunner of Reform Synagogues of Great Britain. He was Warden and Chairman of the Executive at West London Synagogue and involved with Leo Baeck College from its start. In 1969 Arbeid became Chairman of the Leo Baeck College Appeal. He was the Chairman for 6 years, and later Vice President of the College.

Linda Bayfield  
Row 4, Position 2.

Linda was educated at Woodford County High School for Girls and Kings College London (BA in English and PGCE). She worked as a teacher at JFS (Jews’ Free School) for 3 years, before moving with her husband, Rabbi Tony Bayfield, to Weybridge, where she was full-time rebbetzin while he served North West Surrey Synagogue for 11 years.

When the family returned to London, she became a teacher at Akiva School, the first Progressive Jewish primary school, located at the Manor House. She became Deputy Head, for 8 years, and then Head of Akiva, from 1996-2000. During that time, she built close ties with other faiths.

Linda was the mother of 3 children: Lucy, formerly a teacher at Clore Shalom School (one of the other two Progressive Jewish primary schools) and a Governor of Akiva School from 2006; Daniel, a former pupil at Akiva and a trustee of the Reform Foundation, and Rabbi Miriam Bayfield, also a former pupil at Akiva School.

Professor Ben Segal  
21.6.1912 - 23.10.2003  
Row 153, Position 11.

Prof Segal was born in Newcastle upon Tyne. He was a brilliant student at Cambridge University and obtained a D Phil at Oxford University. Between 1939 and 1941 he served with the Government of the Sudan and was an Intelligence Officer in the MEF from 1942 to 1944. He worked 200 km behind enemy lines for 3 months between March and May 1942 in North Africa. With 2 others, Lt Segal moved from cave to cave while observing enemy movements. He was taken in and out by the Long Range Desert Group. In October 1942 he was again sent in, but this time only just managed to remain ahead of the searching Italians, and his team moved hundreds of kilometers between hideouts while still sending radio messages to Cairo. In November 1942, together with friendly Senussi tribesmen, he took the surrender of the Italian garrison at Derna and released some POWs in hospital there.

He lectured at the School of Oriental and African Studies for over 30 years as Reader in Aramaic and Syriac (1955 - 1961) and then Professor of Semitic Languages (1961 - 1979). In 1979 he worked as a lecturer in Aramaic, Ain Shams University, Cairo. He served as Principal of the Leo Baeck College from 1982 to 1985, during which time he oversaw the move to the Manor House site. He was President of Leo Baeck College - Centre for Jewish Education from 1985 to 2003.

He was a member of the Jewish Chronicle Trust from its establishment in 1969 until 1987, Vice President of RSGB from 1985 to 1991 and President of North Western Reform Synagogue between 1976 and 2003.

His books include “A History of the Jews of Cochin” (1993).
Rabbi Dr Georg Salzberger  
Row 137, Position 17.

Rabbi Dr Salzberger was born in Ulm. His father was a rabbi. The family moved to Erfurt when he was 3 years old. He attended the Hochschule fur Wissenschaft des Judentums, where he was awarded סְמִיכָה. He gained his PhD from Heidelberg University. He served as a rabbi for 30 years in Frankfurt. During the First World War he served as a Feldrabbiner, earning the Iron Cross. After Kristallnacht, he was taken to Dachau. He was released as a result of the efforts of his wife Natalie and the family came to England in April 1939.

On 28 April 1939, he led the 6th service on Friday night at the Liberal Jewish Synagogue for the “Friendship Club”, the forerunner of Belsize Square Synagogue. He then became the first rabbi of Belsize Square Synagogue until his retirement in 1956.

Rabbi Salzberger preached over the High Holydays in Berlin every year until he was in his late 80s. He was very active in inter-faith work, receiving the Buber-Rosenzweig medal, among other honours.

Reverend Ernest Sawady  
27.02.1916 - 14.08.1956  
Row 86, Position 18.

Rev Sawady was a student at Judische Lehrerbildungsanstalt, Berlin, where his teachers included Rabbi Dr Leo Baeck and Rabbi Dr Maybaum. He came to England before the war, and was naturalized. He was a teacher in a London County Council (LCC) school and a volunteer in the National Fire Service. In 1944 he assisted at St. George’s Settlement Synagogue. He studied psychology at London University. He contributed to the development of the Youth Association of Synagogues of Great Britain (YASGB) in the late 1940s and attended the Ashover, Derbyshire, summer school in 1949. Between 1946 and 1956 he served as Minister at St. George’s Settlement Synagogue. He was particularly described as very good with children.

Rabbi Dr Leo Baeck  
23.05.1873 - 02.12.1956  
Row 87, Position 10  
Rabbi Dr Baeck grew up in Lissa, then the German province of Posen (now Poland). His father was a rabbi.

At 18, he completed training in Breslau and at the Lehreranstalt, later the Hochschule fur die Wissenschaft des Judentums, in Berlin. He was the Rabbi for 10 years in Oppeln and 5 in Dusseldorf. He published “The Essence of Judaism” in 1905. Baeck served as army chaplain from 1914 to 1918. After the war, he lectured and later became the administrator at the Hochschule. In 1922, he was appointed President of the Union of German Rabbis and, in 1924, Grand President for Germany of Order of Bnai Brith until 1937. In 1933, he was elected President of Reichsvertretung der Juden in Deutschland, representing all German Jewry, and in 1939 he became President of the World Union for Progressive Judaism.

Baeck came to England with other German Jews but returned to Germany before the War. In January 1943, after being arrested 5 times (the first time in 1935 for sending a prayer of comfort to all synagogues), he was sent to Theresienstadt, where he was a member of the “Council of Elders of the Self-Government”. He was told he would be shot the next day, but was saved by the liberating Russians. He remained until the camp was dissolved and saved camp guards from being lynched. He then came to London to join his daughter’s family. He examined Charles Berg for סְמִיכָה (ordination) in October 1952 (with Rabbi Dr Katten and Rabbi Dr Loewenstamm), the first non-Orthodox ordination in England. Rabbi Dr Baeck went on to become President of ASGB (later RSGB) and of North Western Reform Synagogue (NWRS).
Rabbi Charles Berg
1911 - 24.11.1979
Row D, position 2.

Rabbi Berg was born Karl Rauchtenberg in Treptow and studied law at University of Heidelberg 1930 -1933. In 1939 he was imprisoned in Sachsenhausen concentration camp, but was allowed to leave for England before the outbreak of the war. He became assistant to Rabbi Van der Zyl at the Kitchener Camp for refugees and then volunteered for the Army, in which he served for 5 years. While an interpreter at the end of the war, he recalled participating in the interrogation of Konrad Adenauer. Having begun his rabbinic training at the Hochschule in Berlin, he continued his studies privately with individual teachers. In 1952, after being examined by Rabbi Dr Leo Baeck, Rabbi Dr Lowenstamm and Rabbi Dr Katten, he received סְמִיכָה (ordination). His was the first non-orthodox rabbinic ordination in England. He served as minister at Bournemouth Reform Synagogue 1948 - 1952 and rabbi at Wimbledon Reform Synagogue 1952 - 1974.

Rabbi Curtis Cassell
1912 - 1998
Upper Columbarium A35.

Rabbi Cassell was a student of Rabbi Dr Leo Baeck. He was also ordained (and married) by him, and was a graduate of the Hochschule in Berlin. He succeeded Ignaz Maybaum as rabbi in Frankfurt, and came to England with his wife in 1939. He served in the Armed Forces during the war between 1940 and 1945.

Rabbi Cassell served as rabbi of Glasgow Progressive Synagogue from April 1945 to 1948 and was second minister at West London between 1948 and 1957.

From 1957 - 1977 he was rabbi in Bulawayo, Rhodesia (Zimbabwe).

Rabbi Harold Reinhart
1891 - 17.08.1969

Rabbi Reinhart grew up in Portland, Oregon. He studied at the Universities of Cincinnati and Chicago, and then Hebrew Union College (ordained in 1915). He served as a Reform rabbi in Gary, Baton Rouge and Sacramento.

In March 1929 he was installed as Senior Minister of West London Synagogue (WLS) to succeed Rev. Morris Joseph. In 1933 he took the first service of the community which later became North Western Reform Synagogue (Alyth), and he wrote to all WLS members in the Golders Green area inviting them to become involved with the new synagogue.

He helped many of the 35 German Reform rabbis who came to Britain before the Second World War and established “The 1933 Club” at WLS, a social and welfare centre for Jewish refugees. He also initiated the Monday Circle - weekly meetings and seminars for the refugee rabbis. He provided jobs at WLS for Rabbis Italiener, Katz and Cassell as Assistant Ministers and for other rabbis as teachers, including Curtis and Katten. He was also partly responsible for other placements, including Curtis and Katten to St. George’s Settlement, Van der Zyl to NWRS, Cassell to Glasgow, and Maybaum to Edgware.

In 1948 he established the Reform בית דין Beth Din. In July 1957 he resigned as Senior Minister of WLS and became rabbi of Westminster Synagogue, founded by group of his supporters from WLS as an independent Reform Synagogue.

He expressed a wish to have his ashes scattered at the grave of Rev. Morris Joseph - there was a quiet, private ceremony at which this was done.
Rabbi Dr Arthur Loewenstamm
Row 73, Position 14.

Rabbi Dr Loewenstamm was born in Ratibor (Silesia) and studied at Breslau Theological Seminary. He served as rabbi in Pless (Silesia) for over 20 years, from 1917 to 1939. He came to England as a refugee in 1939 and worked as the Director of Studies of the Society of Jewish Studies, based at West London Synagogue.

He examined Charles Berg in October 1952 for סמיכת (ordination) (with Rabbi Dr. Leo Baeck and Rabbi Dr Katten). This was the first non-Orthodox ordination in England.

Rabbi Dr Ignaz Maybaum
02.03.1897 - 24.03.1976
Row 39A, Position G.

Rabbi Dr Maybaum was born in Vienna, served in the Austrian army and studied in Germany. He served as rabbi in Frankfurt-on-the-Oder, Bingen and Berlin and came to Britain in 1939 with wife and children where he worked as a rabbi with refugees. He was the Assistant Minister at West London Synagogue in 1958 and the first rabbi of Edgware and District Reform Synagogue.


Rabbi Dr Aryeh Dorfler
Row 80A, Position 29.

Rabbi Dr Dorfler was a תלמוד lecturers at Leo Baeck College. He worked on Prayers for the Pilgrim Festivals, published 1965.

He was author of an article in Living Judaism in support of training women as rabbis.

Reverend Philip Cohen
06.07.1908 - 03.11.1985
Row 59, Position 7.

Rev Philip Cohen was born in Manchester and served as rabbi at the Central Synagogue before and after the War. During the war, he was a Chaplain to HM Forces. He was the rabbi of the Liberal Jewish Synagogue between 1947 and 1958, after which he served as rabbi at North Western Reform Synagogue until 1972.

Rabbi Michael Curtis
Row 124, Position 26.

Rabbi Michael Curtis came to the UK as a refugee from Germany before the war and taught at West London Synagogue. He was Assistant Minister at West London Synagogue from 1948 to 1971. Between 1948 and 1972, he served as Clerk to the Reform ייבוד Beth Din. In 1964, he produced a two-year calendar of תורה Torah and הAPTERו Haftarah readings, replacing the previous annual one.
Rabbi Dr Albert Friedlander  
10.05.1927 – 16.07.2004

Lawn section (LS) Row E, number 2.

Rabbi Dr Friedlander was born in Berlin. Aged 11, he left Germany with his family, for Cuba, and then entered the USA in 1940 to stay with a foster father. He studied at Chicago University and Hebrew Union College and was ordained in 1952.

He held posts in Arkansas and Pennsylvania, then was assistant student Chaplain at Columbia University, where he was awarded his PhD. He came to Britain in 1966 to be rabbi of Wembley and District Liberal Synagogue.

Between 1971 and 1997, he served as rabbi of the Westminster Synagogue (following Reinhart), then emeritus rabbi. He was a lecturer at Leo Baeck College between 1967 and 1971, academic director 1971 to 1982 and Dean 1982 to 2004.

Rabbi Friedlander was also involved in interfaith relations and German -Jewish reconciliation and was President of the Council of Christians and Jews 2003-2004. He edited “Out of the Whirlwind” in 1968 and was honoured with an OBE in 2001.

Rabbi Dr Max Katten  
05.10.1892 - 14.08.1956

Row 89, Position 8.

Rabbi Dr Katten came to England as a refugee before the war and taught at West London Synagogue. In October 1952 he examined Charles Berg for סמיכה (ordination) with Rabbi Dr Leo Baeck and Rabbi Dr Loewenstamm. This was the first non-Orthodox ordination in England.

He was Principal Lecturer in מדרש at Leo Baeck College.

Rabbi Dr Arthur Katz  
17.08.1908 – 18.05.1996

Row 99, Position 11.

Rabbi Dr Katz was born into a rabbinic family in Prague and graduated from Prague University. In 1933 he received סמיכה from Chust Yeshiva and a PhD from Charles University, Prague. Between 1933 and 1939 he served as rabbi to two communities near the Austrian border.

He left Czechoslovakia on the day the Germans marched in, and for a while assisted the Chief Rabbi of Flanders. He came to London in 1939, and then taught evacuated children. He was assistant to Rabbi Dr. Reinhart at West London Synagogue from 1942 to 1947. Between 1950 and 1982 he held the post of first minister of Hendon Reform Synagogue. He was succeeded by his son, Rabbi Stephen Katz.

Dr Ellen Littmann  
20.06.1900 – 10.05.1975

Row 135, Position 17.

Dr Littman was born in Danzig. She was a graduate of the Hochschule fur die Wissenschaft des Judentums in Berlin.

When she moved to London, she taught Bible studies at Leo Baeck College.
Reverend Bruno Italiener
06.02.1881 - 17.07.1956
Row 86, Position 11.

Rev Italiener was born in Burgdorf, near Hanover. His father was a minister. He studied in Breslau and became an army chaplain in World War I. He served as rabbi in Darmstadt for 20 years from 1907, and as rabbi of Hamburg Tempel from 1928 to 1939. He was then rabbi of the Settlement. Between 1941 and 1949 he was Assistant Minister at West London Synagogue, a post created especially for him. He was also rabbi of Southport Reform Synagogue.

Reverend Morris Joseph
28.05.1848 - 17.04.1930
Row 17 Position 12

Rev Joseph was educated at Westminster, Jews' Free School and Jews College. He was Minister at North London Synagogue from 1868 to 1874 and Minister at the Old Hebrew Congregation, Princes Road, Liverpool, between 1874 and 1882. His position as proposed minister of the new Hampstead Synagogue was not sanctioned by the Chief Rabbi, because of views at variance with traditional Judaism, for example, favouring instrumental music in the Shabbat service.

A collection of sermons, “The Ideal in Judaism”, published in 1893, was influential in his appointment to West London Synagogue (WLS) where he was appointed Second Minister and subsequently became Senior Minister. “Judaism as Creed and Life” (1903) was a very highly regarded discussion of Judaism. In 1911 he delivered the hesped (memorial address) for the late Chief Rabbi, Dr Hermann Adler. He retired as Senior Minister of WLS in 1925, but continued to serve the community. He contributed to the development of the new WLS prayer book, published in 1931, particularly the writing of new prayers. He was opposed to Zionism.

He was cremated and his ashes were buried at Hoop Lane.

Rabbi Michael Goulston
12.12.1931 - 30.01.1972

After school, Rabbi Michael Goulston went into the family firm. His first real Jewish education began when he joined Junior Membership at West London Synagogue and attended Youth Association of Synagogues of Great Britain (YASGB) summer schools, where he learnt from, among others, Rabbis Baeck, Maybaum, Reinhardt and Van der Zyl. He edited the YASGB newsletter.

In 1953 he went to Montreal, where he was involved with the National Federation of Temple Youth. Rabbi Goulston started his rabbincic studies at Leo Baeck College (then known as the London Theological Seminary) in September 1956, as one of the first intake together with Michael Leigh and Lionel Blue. He also became Chairman of the Youth Section of the World Union of Progressive Synagogues.

In 1958 he married Jacqueline Malinsky and in the following year, moved to study at Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati, and also did a degree at the University of Cincinnati. In 1963 he was ordained as a rabbi and accepted the post of rabbi at Southport New Synagogue. In 1966 he founded the journal “European Judaism”. He later became rabbi at Middlesex New Synagogue, which doubled in size during his time there. In December 1968 he moved to West London Synagogue to work with Rabbi Hugo Gryn.

Throughout this time, Rabbi Goulston taught at Leo Baeck College and developed Jewish Heritage in Sight and Sound and The Shmueli Family Hebrew teaching programme.
Rabbi Hugo Gryn
25.06.1930 – 18.08.1996
Row 1, Position 3.
Rabbi Hugo Gryn was born in Berehovo, Czechoslovakia. He survived concentration camps at Auschwitz, Lieberose, Sachsenhausen, Mauthausen and Gunskirchen. He came to Britain at the age of 15, and then fought in the Israeli War of Independence. Rabbi Gryn studied at the Hebrew Union College, supported by the forerunner of the Women of Reform Judaism of the Union for Reform Judaism. In 1957 he received סְמִיכָה (ordination) and went on to serve the Indian Jewish community between 1957 and 1960. From 1960 to 1964 he was Executive Director of the World Union for Progressive Judaism and Executive Director of the Joint Distribution Committee. He became the rabbi at West London Synagogue in 1964 and in 1990 was appointed President of RSGB. He was honoured with a CBE in 1992. Rabbi Gryn also worked as a broadcaster, particularly on “Thought for the Day” and “The Moral Maze”.

Eugene (“John”) Heimler
27.03.1922 – 04.12.1990
Section H Row 153, number 11.
Eugene Heimler was born in Szombathely, Hungary. In 1944, he was sent from the ghetto to Auschwitz, Buchenwald, and other camps. He managed to escape from a death march near the Czech border and was taken to join partisans. He returned to Budapest and studied for a diploma in social science. He left Hungary in 1947 when Communists took over and came to study in London where he trained as a psychiatric social worker. From 1951 to 1953. Between 1953 and 1965 he worked for Middlesex County Council, latterly as head of social work and was appointed Consultant to the World Health Organisation in 1964. In 1970 he was made Professor of Human Social Functioning in Calgary. He went on to found the Heimler Foundation, based at the Sternberg Centre. His books include “Night of the Mist” about his Holocaust experiences.

Sir Basil Lucas Quixano Henriques
17.10.1890 – 02.12.1961
Row 17, plot 42.
Educated at Harrow and University College, Oxford, Sir Basil spent his lifetime working in the East End of London. In 1914, encouraged by Claude Montefiore, he founded a boys' club in Cannon Street Road, dedicated to improving the lot of young Jews in the East End. He followed it by founding a similar club for girls. He married Rose Loewe in 1917, who had been the first social worker at the girls' club. During the war, he was commissioned in the Buffs and was moved to train on the then new and secret tanks, despite being 6' 3" in height. He was wounded while driving a tank into action in 1916. He was twice mentioned in dispatches.

In 1918 he published “Prayers for Trench and Bench” for use by Jewish soldiers, elements from which were later included in the Settlements סידור (prayer book).

In 1919, together with his wife, he established the Oxford and St. Georges Settlement and Synagogue at 26A Betts Street in London’s East End and they lived on the premises. Both West London Synagogue and the Liberal Jewish Synagogue donated money to help establish it.

In 1929, the Settlement moved to a former school in Berner Street, London E1(later renamed Henriques Street). These premises were known as the Bernhard Baron Settlement, after the donor of money for the purchase, who was head of the Carreras tobacco empire.

On 12 July 1936, he took part in the consecration service at NWRS. He retired from the Settlement in 1948. For many years, until he retired in 1955, he was Chairman of the East End Juvenile Court, which sat at Toynbee Hall. He was knighted for services to youth welfare. His funeral was attended by Rabbi van der Zyl, Rabbi Reinhart, Rev Rayner and Rev Lasker.