

Contents

A Hakdome 1

I. Castle Hill 3

- (1) The Old Jewish Quarter on Castle Hill 3
- (2) Jewish Cemetery in Krisztinaváros 5
- (3) New Jewish Quarter 7
- (4) The Jewish Prince of Buda 9
- (5) The Mendel Houses 14
- (6) “Great” Synagogue 15
- (7) Rabbinical Learning in Budavár 17
- (8) In Szent György utca 19
- (9) Jahudiler Mahallesi 22
- (10) The Settlement Flourished, like a Green Olive-tree 27
- (11) Next Year in Jerusalem 34
- (12) “Small” Synagogue: Medieval Jewish Prayer-house 35
- (13) The Gravestone of Lady Sarah (1656) 36
- (14) The Gravestone of Lady Freudel (1672) 36
- (15) Mazl Tov! 38
- (16) The Recapture of Buda (1686) 38

II. Óbuda 41

- (1) Institutions of a Jewish Community 42
- (2) The Óbuda Synagogue 44
- (3) Inscription on the Facade 49
- (4) The “Dressing” of the Torah 50
- (5) Jewish Burghers of Óbuda 52
- (6) The Jewish School Opened, Closed, then Reopened Again 57
- (7) The 1838 Flood of Pest-Buda 58
- (8) The New Cemetery of Óbuda 60
- (9) A Noted Rabbi of Óbuda: Gyula Wellesz (1872–1915) 62
- (10) Rabbi Münz as Supervisor of the Jews of Pest 63

III. Király utca: The Old-Old Jewish Quarter of Pest 67

- (1) Marketers, Innkeepers 67
- (2) The Orczy House 71
- (3) Synagogue and Temple in the Orczy House 75
- (4) Prayer-houses in Király utca and Its Neighborhood 82
- (5) The Orczy Café 84
- (6) Out of the Ghetto 87
- (7) The Pest Reform Society 96
- (8) In 1848, in front of the Orczy House 100

IV. The Jewish Triangle in Pest 105

- (1) Synagogue or Temple? 105
- (2) The Dohány utca Synagogue 107

- (3) A Small Portrait Gallery of the Rabbis of Dohány utca 113
- (4) The Reading of the Torah 117
- (5) Rejoicing of the Torah 120
- (6) General Jewish Congress, 1868/69 121
- (7) What is Jewish? 127
- (8) Theodor Herzl in Pest 127
- (9) The Rombach 132
- (10) In the Synagogue 138
- (11) The Priestly Blessing 142
- (12) Tallit, Tefillin—Shema, Kaddish 143
- (13) Orthodox Synagogue in Kazinczy utca 147
- (14) Mikveh 150
- (15) Wedding 151

V. Erzsébetváros 157

- (1) Shops and Nightclubs, also Cafés, Restaurants, etc. 157
- (2) Purim in Király utca 165
- (3) 4 Holló utca 169
- (4) Secondhand Bookstores, Book Sellers 173
- (5) Hebrew Printing Houses 175
- (6) The Jewish Home: the Mezuzah 179
- (7) Oneg Shabbat 180
- (8) Havdalah 182
- (9) Hanukkah 182
- (10) Seder 184
- (11) Jewish Names 190
- (12) Berit, Pidyon ha-ben, Bar mitzvah 191
- (13) Kosher and Treyfe 193
- (14) A Hat, a Skullcap 196
- (15) The Synagogue in Vasvári Pál utca 197
- (16) Sukkot 198

VI. Józsefváros 201

- (1) The Rabbinical Seminary of Hungary 201
- (2) Hungarian National Museum: A Roman Gravestone from Aquincum 212

VII. Terézváros 214

- (1) Sugár út / Andrássy út 214
- (2) Wahrmann Palace 214
- (3) 43 Andrássy út and Two Neighboring Buildings, nos. 39 and 41 217
- (4) The Transformation of Terézváros 218
- (5) The Baumgarten Foundation 218
- (6) Parisiana 220
- (7) Two Jewish Journals: *Egyenlőség* and *Múlt és Jövő* 222
- (8) Café “Japán” and Ernst Museum 223
- (9) Behind Andrássy út 224
- (10) The Synagogue in Dessewffy utca 226
- (11) A Kosher Eatery: “The Nizsel” 226

VIII. The Pest Jewish Community 253

- (1) 12 Síp utca 254
- (2) Assembly Hall 256
- (3) The Sequence of the Rashekols 257
- (4) Population 262
- (5) Prayer Groups, Organizations, Institutions 265
- (6) The Jewish Hospital 274
- (7) Schools 276
- (8) Zsidó Gimnázium: The Jewish Secondary / High School 281
- (9) The Age of Design and Construction 287
- (10) The Heroes' Temple 293
- (11) Hungarian Jewish Museum / National Jewish Religious and Historical Collection 297
- (12) Sabbatarian Codices 300
- (13) Goldmark Hall 301
- (14) Time Reckoning, Calendar, Luah 304
- (15) Order of Holidays 306
- (16) Beyond Nagykörút, the Outer-Erzsébetváros 316

IX. Lipótváros, Új-Lipótváros 319

- (1) The Plan that Was Never Realized: The Lipótváros Synagogue 323
- (2) The Library of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences 327
- (3) Aurél Stein (1862–1943) 332
- (4) Kagál and the *Nyugat* 333
- (5) The Bourgeois Casino of Lipótváros 334
- (6) The Pulitzer House 335
- (7) Új-Lipótváros 336
- (8) Alfréd Hajós Swimming Pool 339

X. Józsefváros, beyond the Boulevard 341

- (1) Jewish Quarter of the Petit Bourgeois 342
- (2) The Refuge of the Belzer Rebe in Pest 344
- (3) The Former Apartment of Sándor Scheiber 347
- (4) Sephardi Prayer-house 348
- (5) Teleki tér 348
- (6) Anti-Semitic Party in the Pub 349

XI. Neighbors of the Pest Jewish Community 350

- (1) Buda 350
- (2) Újpest 355

XII. Pest, 1944, Ghetto 359

- (1) Laws against the Jews 359
- (2) Theater of the Exiled 364
- (3) Forced Labor Service 369
- (4) The Era of Catastrophe, I 370
- (5) Yellow-star Houses 382
- (6) The Era of Catastrophe, II 383
- (7) Death March 389
- (8) Righteous Gentiles 394
- (9) Protected Houses 401

- (10) Red Danube 407
- (11) The Glass House 408
- (12) Terrible Responsibility 411
- (13) In the Ghetto (December 5, 1944–January 18, 1945) 413
- (14) Fateless 424
- (15) Briha: A Chapter from the So Far Unwritten History of Hungarian Jews after World War II 424

XIII. Jewish Cemeteries 426

- (1) Death 426
- (2) The Hevrah Kaddishah 427
- (3) Purification of the Dead 428
- (4) The Cemetery 429
- (5) Funeral 430
- (6) Mourning 431
- (7) Visiting the Grave 432
- (8) Gravestone, Inscription 433
- (9) Symbols on Gravestones 434
- (10) The Old Orthodox Cemetery in Csörsz utca 436
- (11) The Cemetery in Salgótarjáni utca 439
- (12) The Cemetery in Kozma utca 442
- (13) The New Orthodox Cemetery 445

XIV. Jewish Life in Budapest Today 446

- (1) Some Recent Events Indicating the Changes in the Setting of the Jewish Community 446
- (2) What Is the Situation Today? 454
- (3) Ashkenazi and Sephardi—or How to Pronounce the Hebrew of the Bible? 457
- (4) The Yiddish in Pest 461
- (5) Jewish Hospitality 463
- (6) Tshulent and Gefilte Fish 465

XV. The Invisible Jewish Budapest 468

- (1) Houses, All Over the City 469
- (2) Hebrew or Yiddish Loanwords in Hungarian 476
- (3) The Jewish Joke 482
- (4) Corpus Juris Hungarici 485
- (5) Still Visible, But Not What It Used to Be 486

XVI. Comments on the Illustrations 498

XVII. Bibliography 546

Index 566