

HIGHLIGHTS FOR MUSEUM TOURS

1. Upon entry to the Museum proceed to the Torahs on display to begin.
2. Follow the route of the tour as shown below.
3. Read quotes and intro text at the top of each theme area as you come to them.

TORAHS – Show and briefly discuss. Proceed to Timeline

TIMELINE – Point out dates/events up through 1733, show boat, talk about journey; skip to 1742 and tell story of Battle of Bloody Marsh of the War of Jenkins Ear (Portuguese Jews left). Proceed to Primary Sources.

PRIMARY – Mention all items on panel and in case briefly because it's rare for a congregation to have such a complete collection of primary sources related to its history. Proceed to Building For a Congregation.

BUILDING – Mention objects/images on the graphic panel. Emphasize Sheftall Sheftall's invitation and organ story; path to reform (1868 sermon); 1820 building dedication speech and Madison's response; 1876 synagogue. Proceed to A Colonial Congregation.

COLONIAL – Show objects/images on graphic panel and tell stories; all are important because it's so rare in Jewish American History to have early things like this to show. Proceed to An American Congregation.

AMERICAN – Show items in cases and images on graphic panels. Emphasize chanukiyah and circumcision kit; letter from Levi Sheftall to Washington; Presidential letters (Washington, Jefferson, Madison); Mordecai Sheftall; Sheftall Sheftall; Monticello (Uriah Phillips Levy and mother); Civil War (Robert E Lee, Phoebe Pember, Eugenia Phillips, Samuel Yates Levy); Solomon Cohen; Herman Myers; WWI and WWII involvement (Rabbi Solomon and W Guthman). Proceed to A Congregation for Generations.

GENERATIONS (holidays and life cycle events of CMI families) – As time permits choose any or all items from the following: Sabbath lamp (seder photo on panel); Haggadah; early prayer books; shofar; Havdalah set; Megillah; Ketubah/community wedding ring/wedding photo; bar mitzvah invitation; confirmation (photo, invitation, chain); Matzah cover; Miss Daisy story; Byck walking stick. Emphasize these as generation to generation events. Proceed to A Modern Congregation.

MODERN – Girl Scouts (certificate, camping trip, badge); Rabbi Solomon (rabbinical school graduation photo); cooperation with neighboring churches (article and letter); Shalom Y'All Food Festival; Interfaith activities (photo of Rabbi Haas with Christian minister and Moslem imam). Case under renovation, currently contains a historic Tzedakah box from 19th c.