

Chronology:

Historical context affecting Jews and descendants of Mariampole

COLOR CODED KEY:

WORLD-WIDE
UNITED STATES
MARIAMPOLE, LITHUANIA, AND RUSSIA
CHICAGO
MARIAMPOLE AID SOCIETY

- 1569** POLAND AND LITHUANIA UNITE AS A KINGDOM; JEWS PLAY A ROLE IN COLONIZING PARTS OF THE COUNTRY.
- 1654** THE SHIP "ST. CHARLES" BRINGS 23 JEWISH SETTLERS TO THE AMERICAN SHORES FROM RECIFE, BRAZIL.
- ASHER LEVY AND JACOB BARSIMON, THE FIRST JEWS IN AMERICA, ARRIVE IN NEW AMSTERDAM (LATER NAMED NEW YORK).
- 18th Century** JEWS SETTLE IN MARIAMPOLE, LITHUANIA ON THE LEFT BANK OF THE SHESHUPE RIVER.
- 1766** THE FIRST SYNAGOGUE IN MARIAMPOLE IS BUILT AND CONSISTS OF 347 JEWS.
- 1791–1917** EASTERN EUROPEAN JEWS ARE FORCED TO LIVE IN THE PALE OF SETTLEMENT.
- 1795** IN THE PARTITION OF POLAND, MARIAMPOLE, LITHUANIA BECOMES PART OF PRUSSIA.
- 1807** DURING THE NAPOLEONIC CONQUEST, MARIAMPOLE, LITHUANIA BECOMES PART OF THE DUCHY OF WARSAW, POLISH LITHUANIAN KINGDOM.
- 1815–1915** MARIAMPOLE IS UNDER RUSSIAN RULE.
- 1850s–60s** THE JEWISH POPULATION IN MARIAMPOLE GROWS UNRESTRICTED BY THE RUSSIAN RULER.
- 1856** THE JEWISH POPULATION IN MARIAMPOLE IS 2,853, ABOUT 81% OF THE TOTAL POPULATION.
- 1866** MARIAMPOLE IS INCLUDED IN THE SUVALKI GUBERNIA.
- LITHUANIAN IMMIGRANTS, INCLUDING MARIAMPOLERS FORM THE BETH HAMEDRASH HAGODOL SYNAGOGUE IN CHICAGO.
- 1869** THE MAIN ROAD FROM ST. PETERSBURG TO WARSAW IS CONSTRUCTED THROUGH MARIAMPOLE.
- 1868 & 1899** GREAT FIRES DESTROY THE MARIAMPOLE WOOD HOUSES WHICH ARE REPLACED BY STONE.
- 1870** SOME MARIAMPOLERS SETTLE IN CHICAGO AND FORM THE MARIAMPOL(E) OHAVE SHOLOM AS A BREAKAWAY FROM THE BETH HAMEDRASH HAGODOL SYNAGOGUE.

1881	AFTER THE ASSASSINATION OF THE RUSSIAN TSAR ALEXANDER II, HE WAS REPLACED BY HIS SON, ALEXANDER III, AN ANTI-SEMITIC TSAR.
1881–1884 1880–1925	THE POGROMS IN RUSSIA KILL JEWS IN MARIAMPOLE AND \ OTHER TOWNS. MANY MARIAMPOLERS LEAVE FOR AMERICA. THE MARIAMPOLER AND DESCENDANT POPULATION OF CHICAGO INCREASES. EIGHTY PERCENT OF CHICAGO'S JEWISH IMMIGRANT POPULATION ARE FROM EASTERN EUROPE.
Late 1880s	THE MARIAMPOLE JEWS LIVE UNDER THE RUSSIAN TSAR.
1881	THE JEWS IN MARIAMPOLE SUFFER DURING THE POLISH REBELLION; THE MARIAMPOLE RABBI APPROVES THE SETTLEMENT OF JEWS IN ISRAEL.
1892	OHAVE SHOLOM MARIAMPOL CONGREGATION MERGES WITH THE ANSHE KALVARIA TO FORM THE ANSHE SHOLOM CONGREGATION, COMPOSED OF MANY IMMIGRANTS FROM MARIAMPOLE .
1893–1894	THE WORLD'S COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION IS HELD IN CHICAGO.
1897	THE JEWISH POPULATION IN MARIAMPOLE IS 3,268, ABOUT 49% OF THE GENERAL POPULATION.
Feb. 1904– Sept. 1905	THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR IS FOUGHT.
1905	RUSSIA LOSES THE RUSSO-JAPANESE WAR. MARIAMPOLER JEWISH YOUTH PARTICIPATE IN THE SOCIALIST MOVEMENT AND REVOLUTION.
1903–1906	A WAVE OF POGROMS TAKES PLACE IN RUSSIA; JEWS TAKE UP ARMS TO DEFEND THEIR FAMILIES AND PROPERTY FROM ATTACKERS.
1907	THE MARIAMPOLER AID SOCIETY IS INAUGURATED IN CHICAGO AS GROUP OF MARIAMPOLERS MAKES A LOAN TO <i>LANDSMAN</i> (COUNTRYMAN) IN NEED, AT A MEETING HELD IN THE HOME OF GEDALIA AND GOLDIE WOLF.
Before WWI	MARIAMPOLE BELONGS TO THE SUWALKI PROVINCE IN POLAND; 5,000 JEWS LIVE THERE.
Aug. 1914– Nov. 1918	DURING WORLD WAR I, RUSSIAN OFFICERS PASS THROUGH MARIAMPOLE TO DRAFT MEN FOR MILITARY SERVICE REGARDLESS OF RELIGION.
1914–1918	DURING WORLD WAR I, THE GERMAN ARMY OCCUPIES LITHUANIA AND MANY JEWS ARE SENT TO SIBERIA.
Nov. 7, 1917	THE BOLSHEVIKS OVERTHROW THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT
Dec. 15	THE BOLSHEVIKS OFFER AN ARMISTICE TO GERMANY.
1918–1921	THE COMMUNIST RED ARMY FIGHTS WITH THE WHITE ANTI-REVOLUTIONARY FORCES.

- YOUNG MEN IN MARIAMPOLE ARE CONSCRIPTED FOR MILITARY SERVICE BY RED ARMY OFFICERS.
- 1919** THE FIRST HEBREW HIGH SCHOOL IN LITHUANIA IS ESTABLISHED IN MARIAMPOLE.
- IN AUGUST, the TREATY OF VERSAILLES, ENDING WORLD WAR I, ESTABLISHES NEW BOUNDARIES IN EUROPE.
- 1919–1940** LITHUANIA BECOMES AN INDEPENDENT STATE WHICH INCLUDES MARIAMPOLE.
- 1920** THE FIRST ELECTION FOR A LITHUANIAN PARLIAMENT TAKES PLACE.
- March 1922** THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS IS ESTABLISHED WHICH INCLUDES MARIAMPOLE, LITHUANIA.
- 1923** A RAILWAY IS CONSTRUCTED THAT CONNECTS THE TOWNS OF MARIAMPOLE AND KOVNO.
- THE JEWISH POPULATION IN MARIAMPOLE IS 2,545, 21% OF THE TOTAL POPULATION.
- 1925** 80% OF CHICAGO'S IMMIGRANT POPULATION ARE OF EASTERN EUROPEAN DESCENT.
- 1929** THE STOCK MARKET CRASHES IN OCTOBER AND SPARKS A DEPRESSION IN THE UNITED STATES AND AROUND THE WORLD.
- THE JEWISH PEOPLE'S BANK IN MARIAMPOLE HAS 524 MEMBERS.
- 1931** 35% OF THE 13,000 PEOPLE IN MARIAMPOLE ARE JEWISH.
- 1932** F. D. ROOSEVELT IS ELECTED PRESIDENT FOR HIS FIRST OF FOUR TERMS.
- 1933** THE NATIONAL PROHIBITION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IS REPEALED.
- 1939** F. D. ROOSEVELT'S NEW DEAL POLICIES ARE LAUNCHED.
- THE UNITED STATES BEGINS AN EIGHT-YEAR RECOVERY FROM THE GREAT DEPRESSION.
- ADOLF HITLER PROCLAIMS HIMSELF "FÜHRER OF GERMANY."
- 1939** HITLER'S GERMANY INVADES POLAND AND PRECIPITATES WORLD WAR II IN EUROPE.
- PHYSICAL OUTBURSTS AGAINST JEWS IN MARIAMPOLE LEAD MANY JEWS TO LEAVE.
- 1940** THE LAST CLASS GRADUATES FROM THE HEBREW HIGH SCHOOL IN MARIAMPOLE.
- THE UNITED STATES INITIATES A MILITARY DRAFT IN PREPARATION FOR WORLD WAR II.
- 1940–1941** LITHUANIA IS ANNEXED TO THE SOVIET UNION AND IN JUNE, LITHUANIA BECOMES PART OF THE SOVIET REPUBLIC.
- 1941–1944** THE GERMAN ARMY OCCUPIES MARIAMPOLE AND DESTROYS JEWISH BUILDINGS, KILLING JEWS.
- 1941** JUNE 22, GERMAN AIR STRIKES DESTROY THE TOWN OF MARIAMPOLE.
- THE JAPANESE BOMB PEARL HARBOR AND THE UNITED STATES ENTERS WORLD WAR II.

DESCENDANTS OF MARIAMPOLER JEWS JOIN THE U.S. MILITARY. THESE SERVICEMEN ARE LATER RECOGNIZED IN THE MARIAMPOLER AID SOCIETY BULLETINS WITH SOME SERVICEMEN NOTED FOR THEIR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE.

- 1942** HITLER LAUNCHES A PROGRAM CALLING FOR THE EXTERMINATION OF THE JEWS.
- JAPANESE AMERICANS IN THE UNITED STATES ARE FORCIBLY REMOVED TO INTERNMENT CAMPS.
- U.S. FUEL OIL, GASOLINE, SHOES, AND FOOD ARE RATIONED TO CONSERVE FOR THE MILITARY.
- 1944** ALBERT MARGOWSKY, IMMIGRANT FROM MARIAMPOLE BEGINS PUBLISHING THE MARIAMPOLER AID SOCIETY BULLETINS (M.A.S.)
- CONGRESS PASSES THE GI BILL OF RIGHTS FOR THE RETURNING VETERANS.
- 1945** THE UNITED STATES DETONATES THE ATOMIC BOMB ON HIROSHIMA LEADING TO THE JAPANESE SURRENDER.
- WORLD WAR II ENDS.
- 1946** THE COLD WAR BETWEEN THE U.S.S.R. AND THE UNITED STATES AND ITS ALLIES BEGINS.
- 1948** PRESIDENT HARRY S. TRUMAN ORDERS AN END TO SEGREGATION IN THE ARMED FORCES AND IN THE FEDERAL BUREAUCRACY.
- THE STATE OF ISRAEL DECLARES ITS INDEPENDENCE.
- 1950–1975** THE U.S. IS INVOLVED IN THE VIETNAM CONFLICT.
- 1952** THE U. S. TESTS THE HYDROGEN BOMB.
- 1950–1953** THE U. S. ENGAGES IN THE KOREAN WAR BETWEEN THE COMMUNIST NORTH AND ANTI-COMMUNIST SOUTH.
- 1956–1989** MARIAMPOLE UNDER SOVIET RULE IS CALLED "KAPSUKAS," NAMED AFTER THE LITHUANIAN UNDERGROUND COMMUNIST LEADER.
- 1961** THE BERLIN WALL IS ERECTED TO SEPARATE THE COMMUNIST EAST AND THE DEMOCRATIC WEST GERMANY.
- 1962** THE CUBAN MISSILE CRISIS THREATENS THE UNITED STATES AND THE WORLD.
- 1965** HAROLD PASSMAN ASSUMES PUBLISHING THE M.A.S. BULLETINS AFTER HIS COUSIN, ALBERT MARGOWSKY'S DEATH.
- 1967** THE SIX-DAY WAR IS FOUGHT IN MIDDLE EAST BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE UNITED ARAB REPUBLIC STATES.
- 1972** THE U.S. AND SOVIETS AGREE TO CURTAIL THE PRODUCTION OF NUCLEAR ARSENALS.
- 1975** AFTER HAROLD'S DEATH, HIS SON, DAVID PASSMAN, CHICAGO-BORN MARIAMPOLE DESCENDANT, CONTINUES PUBLISHING M.A.S. BULLETINS.

- 1978** PRESIDENT J. CARTER NEGOTIATES THE CAMP DAVID ACCORDS THAT END HOSTILITIES BETWEEN COUNTRIES OF PRIME MINISTER M. BEGIN OF ISRAEL AND PRESIDENT A. SADAT OF EGYPT.
- 1989** THE BERLIN WALL FALLS AND EAST AND THE WEST GERMANY UNITE.
- 1990** IN MARCH, LITHUANIA BECOMES INDEPENDENT.
- 1991** THE UNITED STATES AND ALLIES LAUNCH "OPERATION DESERT STORM," THE PERSIAN GULF WAR.
- 1997** THE PUBLICATION OF M.A.S. BULLETINS ENDS.
- 2003** THE U.S. AND ITS ALLIES WAGE THE SECOND GULF WAR IN IRAQ.
- 2004** LITHUANIA JOINS NATO AND THE EUROPEAN UNION.