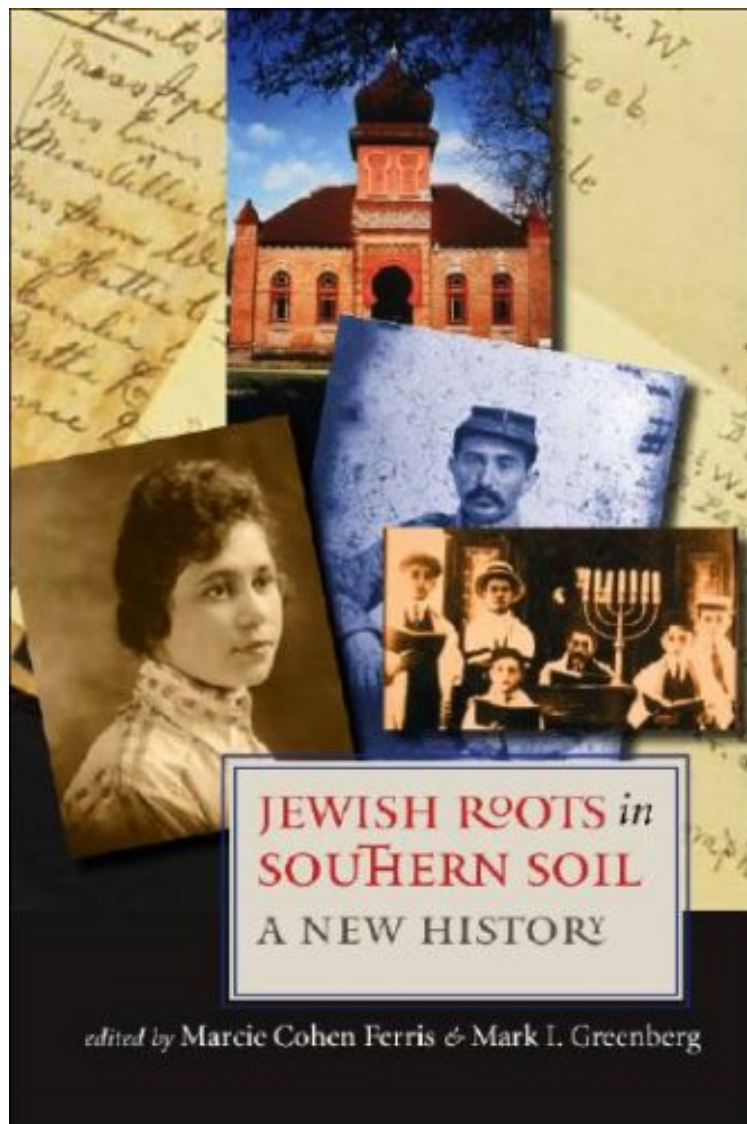


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## Jewish Roots in Southern Soil: A New History (Brandeis Series in American Jewish History, Culture, and Life)

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**From Brand: Brandeis : Jewish Roots in Southern Soil: A New History (Brandeis Series in American Jewish History, Culture, and Life)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Jewish Roots in Southern Soil: A New History (Brandeis Series in American Jewish History, Culture, and Life):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy CustomerNice book, Quite a bit of insight into southern life. not what I was looking for though.2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. great gift for Southern JewsBy R.I gave this book to my father, whose Jewish family has lived in eastern Arkansas for several generations. Within a few minutes, he'd found a picture of his uncle's brother who'd owned a small store in Mississippi. I am looking forward to reading this book myself, but haven't gotten around to it yet. However, it appears to touch on a lot of elements of the Southern Jewish experience which I hadn't realized were so universal. When you grow up in the only Jewish family in a small town, it doesn't occur to you that lots of other small towns probably have their own Jewish families which might be similar to yours in many ways. Anyway, my dad loves it.1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Great essays for those familiar with the fieldBy Evan FranklAs could be expected from an academic press, this collection of essays is for people with a background knowledge of the subject. I wouldn't start here. But if you like "The Provincials" or "The Lonely Days Were Sundays", then this is a great place to continue.

Jews have long been a presence in the American South, first arriving in the late seventeenth century as part of exploratory voyages from Europe to the New World. Two of the nations earliest Jewish communities were founded in Savannah in 1733 and Charleston in 1749. By 1800, more Jews lived in Charleston than in New York City. Today, Jews comprise less than one half of one percent of the southern population but provide critical sustenance and support for their communities. Nonetheless, southern Jews have perplexed scholars. For more than a century, historians have wrestled with various questions. Why study southern Jewish history? What is the southern Jewish experience? Is southern Jewish culture distinctive from that of other regions of the country, and if so, why? *Jewish Roots in Southern Soil: A New History* addresses these questions through the voices of a new generation of scholars of the Jewish South. Each of this book's thirteen chapters reflects a response with particular attention paid to new studies on women and gender; black/Jewish relations and the role of race, politics, and economic life; popular and material culture; and the changes wrought by industrialization and urbanization in the twentieth century. Essays address historical issues from the colonial era to the present and in every region of the South. Topics include assimilation and American Jewish identity, southern Jewish women writers, the Jewish Confederacy, Jewish peddlers, southern Jewish racial identity, black/Jewish relations, demographic change, the rise of American Reform Judaism, and Jews in southern literature.