

B'nai Abraham Virginia Minnesota

Jewish Settlers 1

Iron ore was discovered on the Mesabi Range in 1892. Quickly a remote region of northeastern Minnesota populated primarily by lumberjacks and fur traders was transformed into a bustling industrial area occupied by mining company executives, thousands of miners, and others who came to provide needed services and goods. By 1910, over 77,000 people lived on the Mesabi Range; of that number nearly 1,000 were Jewish.

The Range's first Jewish settlers arrived within a year of the discovery of iron ore, setting up shops on the Main Streets of towns and villages that were being established throughout the region.**

http://ww2.postbulletin.com/imagegallery/gallery/Post Bulletin_photos/News/p135zhrmcyzfx16232008195645.jpg

** http://ironrangejewishheritage.org/Centennial-related/history-handout.pdf

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2/3/3/3/0/0/	Jewish Settlers 2
	The discovery of iron ore in northeastern Minnesota in the late 19th century opened the floodgates for thousands of immigrants seeking employment in the newly opened mines. Amongst the earliest to arrive were Jewish settlers, many of who became merchants on main street catering to the needs of the miners and their families. Settling primarily in four communities: Chisholm, Eveleth, Hibbing and Virginia, the Jewish families lived in relative isolation from major Jewish centers.**

http://ironrangejewishheritage.org/Photographs/Ben-Walt-Store.jpg

** http://ironrangejewishheritage.org/community.html

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Jewish Bris Celebration

<u>Celebration of Phillip Cohen's bris</u> at the <u>Cohen</u> home, <u>Eveleth</u>, <u>Minnesota</u>. The <u>picture includes</u> <u>several generations of Cohens</u>, <u>standing on a porch</u>, <u>including a set of Old-World-looking grandfathers</u>. The <u>mohel wears</u> the <u>tallis</u> and <u>kippa</u>: he <u>performed</u> the <u>ritual circumcision</u> at the <u>bris</u>. <u>1908</u>.**

http://farm3.staticflickr.com/2798/4418709275_03459352c8.jpg

** http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/jhs/id/99

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