

FLOOR TWO

The People's Republic

Home and Neighbourhoods

Galkoff's and the Secret Life of Pembroke Place

Galkoff's and the Secret Life of Pembroke Place was a two year research project between the Museum of Liverpool and Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. Supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, it focused on two main heritage assets; the tiled green frontage of Galkoff's butcher's shop and Watkinson's Terrace, Liverpool's last example of Victorian 'slum' courtyard housing.

Through the project, many stories and memories from the Liverpool Jewish community were collected and documented. As part of the exhibition, you will have the opportunity to hear oral histories and view memories of the community captured live in ink.



Galkoff tiles

At the heart of the exhibition is a reconstruction of a Liverpool landmark, Galkoff's Kosher butcher's shop frontage. The beautiful emerald green tiles were added in 1933 and have undergone careful conservation, or in some cases replacement where the damage was too great. From a mammoth 855 tiles, 113 have been replaced. The result is an impressive life-size reconstruction of the façade with the original gold Art Deco embellishments and Hebrew signage stating 'Kosher'.

Alongside the tiles, related objects, images and even a Galkoff family tree help tell the story of how owner Percy Galkoff set up shop in Liverpool.



Coat and Knife used at Galkoff butcher's shop

Objects 4 & 5 in display case

Issy Silver's butcher's coat and knife were used at Galkoff's butcher's shop. Issy Silver worked there from the late 1940s and became a business partner ten years later. He worked at the shop for over 30 years, until it closed in the 1970s. These objects were kindly donated by Elaine Cohen, Issy Silver's daughter.

Model of Galkoff shop

Object 3 in display case

"I was inspired to make it simply by walking past this building on a number of occasions. I became fascinated by the wonderful tiles which seemed to possess an impossible amount of shades of green as they glistened in the sun."

Andrew Blanchard (Head of Technology at King David High School, Liverpool) made this model around 2008.

Shop lease for Galkoff's butcher shop

Object 8 in display case

Kindly donated by Ivor Galkoff, Percy Galkoff's grandson.

Find out more

Further information about the Jewish Community in Liverpool can be found at:

Merseyside Jewish Community Archives
Liverpool Record Office
www.liverpool.gov.uk/libraries-and-archives/archives-local-and-family-history

Merseyside Jewish Community official website
www.liverpooljewish.com

Deane Road Cemetery www.deaneroadcemetery.com

Liverpool Old Hebrew Congregation and Princes Road Synagogue www.princesroad.org

Chicken Soup and Scouse, a DVD of the history of the Liverpool Jewish Community from the 1700s to the present day www.chickensoupandscouse.com

Museum of Liverpool

Liverpool Jewish Community trail

Liverpool has one of the oldest Jewish communities in Britain. The earliest settlers were Jewish traders in the 1700s. Over time new waves of Jewish migration shaped and changed the community further. Today, Jewish people continue to contribute widely to life in the city and leave their mark on Liverpool.

Jewish, Black*, Irish, and other histories are found throughout the museum. From time to time, different communities may feature in special exhibitions.



Look out for this symbol to help you find the items on the trail.

*Black refers to people with African heritage.

