

Hallowed Ground in Louisville—1832

Louisville, Kentucky, represented the Far West in 1832, but the town was not too far west for a Jewish businessman named Henry Hyman — probably a Cincinnati — to settle there and embark upon an enterprising career during the 1830's, 1840's, and 1850's as restaurateur, confectioner and grocer, lottery broker, and clothing merchant. Hyman's advertisement in Louisville's first city directory, compiled in 1832, came to the notice of the American Jewish Archives through the courtesy of Mrs. Dorothy Thomas Cullen, Curator and Librarian of the Filson Club in Louisville:

WESTERN COFFEE-HOUSE, AND HYMAN'S ALTAR.

South side of the Market House, between 4th and 5th streets.

Since Hyman's torch e'er now is beaming,
Shedding its refulgent light around;
Since golden rays from it are streaming,
Prepare to tread the hallowed ground.

This establishment will hereafter be conducted by HENRY HYMAN, individually, who, thankful for past favors, hopes, by his exertions, to merit a continuance of that support which has hitherto been so liberally bestowed. His house has been recently re-fitted in a splendid and superior style. No pains or expense have been spared, to render it one of the most comfortable *Restorateurs* in the Western country. His *Saloon* (up stairs) being large and comfortable, is well calculated for large *Dinner* and *Supper Parties*; and the adjacent rooms being handsomely furnished, and retired, are well adapted for small *Music* or *Singing Parties*. His *Bar*, as formerly, will be regularly supplied with a general assortment of the best *Liquors* in the country. He always keeps on hand a large stock of the richest and purest *Wines* — which will be sold by the single bottle or dozen — Among them are *Sparkling Champaigne*, *Golden Sherry*, *Old Port*, *Old Madeira*, *Bordeaux*, etc., etc.

There will also be kept a regular *Ordinary*, from 6 o'clock A.M., until 12 P.M., abounding with *Beef Steaks*, *Cold Hams*, *Turkeys*, *Ducks*, *Geese*, *Fowls*, *Partridges*, and every delicacy that can be procured in the Louisville market.