

Montreal Beach Resort

Harry & Sophie Hirsch



Location

1025 Beach Ave
Cape May, NJ
Cape May County

The old Montreal Resort in the 1970s.

Years of Operation

1965 - Present
Sold to Madison Resort Company in 2022

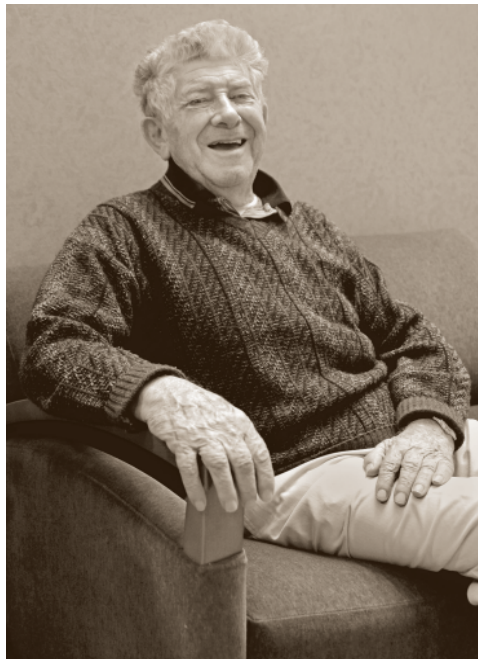
About Harry and Sophie Hirsch

Harry Hirsch (Hersik Hershkowitz) was born 1923 in Kouchiv, Poland. His parents, Jacob Mordechai and Torte Hershkowitz, had nine children, of whom only Harry and one brother survived the Holocaust. At sixteen, Harry was deported to several concentration camps, the last being Auschwitz-Birkenau. Sophie (Sofia Gross) Hirsch was born 1925 in Pinczow, Poland.



During the German occupation, Sophie and her brother Max were separated from their parents and younger brother, whom they would never see again. Sophie served with partisans. When Sophie and Max returned to their village after the war, they found their house occupied by Poles. Harry and Sophie Hirsch met in the Föhrenwald displaced persons camp in the American occupation Zone of Germany in 1947 and married later that year. They moved to Nordheim, Germany, where they operated a meat market until immigrating to Philadelphia, PA in 1951.

In 1953, they bought a chicken farm in Corbin City, New Jersey, which they operated



until 1961. As egg production became less profitable, they transitioned into food distribution with Harry's Eggs and Poultry in North Wildwood.

By 1966 they purchased land to build the Montreal Inn. As business owners and local residents, Harry and Sophie Hirsch were respected year-round residents of Cape May.

Sophie Hirsch passed away in 1975, when she was only 51 years old. Harry Hirsch passed away in 2011

Harry Hirsch,
Portraits of Resilience (2008)

The Montreal Beach Resort

When it opened in the late 1960s, the Montreal Beach Resort featured twenty-seven rooms. It was expanded to 70 rooms in the mid-1970s.

In 2010, shortly before Harry Hirsch passed away, the family renamed The Montreal Inn's restaurant Harry's Ocean Bar and Grille. Harry and Sophie's two sons assumed management of the business after Harry's death. In 2022, after 55 years of Hirsch family ownership, the property was sold to the Madison Resorts Company and Dan Alicea.

Cape May Community

There were four Holocaust Survivor owned hotels in Cape May: They included the Atlas Inn (Satt family), the Camelot Motel (Kejzman Family), and the Victorian Motel (Kejzman Family)

For more information see

South Jersey Holocaust Survivor Digital Archive, Sara and Sam Schoffer Holocaust Resource Center at Stockton University.

"Harry Hirsch." In *Portraits of Resilience: Holocaust Survivors of South Jersey*, 66-67. McLoughlin-O'Donnell, Maryann. Margate, NJ: ComteQ Pub., 2008.

KWY news interviews of Harry Hirsch.

Montreal Beach Resort Website
(<https://www.montrealbeachresort.com/about-us/montreal-resort-history-photos/>).

"Montreal in Cape May Sold to New LLC," *Press of Atlantic City*, January 26, 2022.

Stopya, D. (2016). *A Cape May Story - The story of the Montreal Inn*.

Photos Provided by the Hirsch Family.

Profile Contributors

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