

## Jacob (Jack) Beverstein

[Go to personal file](#)

After graduating in medicine at Bologna in 1938, Jacob Beverstein emigrated to Great Britain, and then embarked for Canada in 1940 with his step-brother Lothar.

[Link to other connected Lives on the move:](#)

### From Germany to Italy

Jacob was born in 1912 in Wenkheim, a small village near Würzburg, the son of Hugo, a butcher, and Selma Heymann. His mother died in 1918, whereas his father was deported from the Warsaw ghetto and did not survive the Holocaust<sup>1</sup>. Jacob attended the Oberrealschule in Halberstadt, Saxony, and in 1932 he enrolled at the Faculty of Medicine in the University of Berlin, where he completed the first year course; in the academic year 1933-34 he transferred to Florence, where he studied up to year five, with an interval at Leipzig in year three; lastly he moved to Bologna for his final year and graduated on 11 July 1938 with a dissertation on the clinical usefulness of bronchography («L'utilità clinica della broncografia»), receiving a mark of 110. From July 1938 to January 1939 he held an internship at the Ospedale di San Giovanni in Persiceto and in Imola<sup>2</sup>.

### The emigration trail

He then emigrated to Great Britain: leaving Genoa on the Johan De Witt, a ship of the Nederland Royal Mail Line, he arrived in Southampton on 29 March

---

<sup>1</sup> Cf. *Stern & Löbl Families Database* <<http://sternmail.co.uk>> (accessed 31 March 2019); *The Central Database of Shoah Victims' Names, ad nomen* <<https://yvng.yadvashem.org>> (accessed 31 March 2019). Hugo Beverstein was born in 1882 in Bevern, near Holzminden.

<sup>2</sup> Cfr. the materials in ASUFi, AC, SS, f. «Beverstein Jacob»; ASUBo, *Archivio studenti, Medicina e chirurgia*, f. 10644, «Beverstein Jacob». Cf. also *Jüdische Studierende an der Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität zu Berlin 1933 bis 1938* <<https://www.hu-berlin.de>>.

1939<sup>3</sup>. He was placed in Kitchener Camp, at Sandwich in Kent, a camp used for Jewish refugees<sup>4</sup>. With the onset of World War II, he was released on 14 December from internment as an enemy alien, since he was now a refugee; he moved to Ferring, in West Sussex, seeking work. On 3 July 1940 he set sail for Canada on the Ettrick, in the company of his brother Lothar (1921-2016), whom he had met again in London; their sister Ella Beverstein Kuvelmann (1914-2002) was living in Long Island<sup>5</sup>. He first settled in Toronto; in 1945 he appears to be working as a doctor at St Joseph's Hospital in London, Ontario; he later transferred to York, in the same area, where he worked as a surgeon<sup>6</sup>. Jacob married the Englishwoman Hope Nation (1914-2007), with whom he had two children. He died of a heart attack in 1983<sup>7</sup>.

### Archive sources

- ASUBo, *Archivio studenti, Medicina e chirurgia*, f. 10644, «Beverstein Jacob».
- ASUFI, AC, SS, f. «Beverstein Jacob».
- *The Central Database of Shoah Victims' Names, ad nomen* <<https://yvng.yadvashem.org>>.
- *Jüdische Studierende an der Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität zu Berlin 1933 bis 1938* <<https://www.hu-berlin.de>>.
- Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, *Voters Lists, Federal Elections, 1935-*

---

<sup>3</sup> UK National Archives, Kew, *Board of Trade. Commercial and Statistical Department and successors. Inwards Passenger Lists*, BT26, 1183, *ad nomen*.

<sup>4</sup> This information is contained in the page dedicated to Beverstein in <<https://www.ancestry.com>> (accessed 31 March 2019).

<sup>5</sup> UK National Archives, Kew, *WW2 Internees (Aliens) Index Cards 1939-1947*, HO 396/107, *Canada Internees 1939-1942: A-B, ad nomen*; The National Archives at Washington (DC), *Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 1787-2004*, M1480, *Manifests of Alien Arrivals at Buffalo, Lewiston, Niagara Falls, and Rochester, New York, 1902-1954*, Roll 6, *ad nomen* (available online at <<https://www.ancestry.com>>). On Lothar, cf. the personal page in <<https://www.ancestry.com>> (accessed 31 March 2019) and the interview in USCSF, *Visual History Archive*.

<sup>6</sup> Library and Archives Canada, Ottawa, *Voters Lists, Federal Elections, 1935-1980*, R1003-6-3-E (RG113-B).

<sup>7</sup> Cf. the page dedicated to Beverstein in <<https://www.ancestry.com>> (accessed 31 March 2019).

1980, R1003-6-3-E (RG113-B).

- The National Archives at Washington (DC), *Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 1787-2004, M1480, Manifests of Alien Arrivals at Buffalo, Lewiston, Niagara Falls, and Rochester, New York, 1902-1954, Roll 6, ad nomen.*
- UK National Archives, Kew, *Board of Trade. Commercial and Statistical Department and successors. Inwards Passenger Lists.* BT26, 1183, *ad nomen.*
- UK National Archives, Kew, *WW2 Internees (Aliens) Index Cards 1939-1947, HO 396/107, Canada Internees 1939-1942: A-B, ad nomen.*
- Page dedicated to Jacob Beverstein in <<https://www.ancestry.com>>.
- Stern & Löbl Families Database <<http://sternmail.co.uk>>.

Francesca Cavarocchi

Translated by Tom Dawkes

Cite as:

Francesca Cavarocchi, *Jacob (Jack) Beverstein*, in  
Patrizia Guarnieri, *Intellectuals Displaced from Fascist Italy. Migrants, Exiles  
and Refugees Fleeing for Political and Racial Reasons*,  
Firenze, Firenze University Press, 2019-  
<<http://intellettualinfuga.fupress.com/en>>  
e-ISBN: 978-88-6453-872-3  
© 2019- Author(s)  
Open Access article published under license CC BY-NC-ND 4.0.

Date of publication: 1 March 2020.