Written: 23rd December 2025, by: John Shrimski

As a result of some communication with Gary Luke (descendant of Rebecca Elizabeth Solomon, and active researcher), he provided me with interesting details of the original birth records of Mordecai and Elizabeth's children.

Below, in *italics* is a copy of an email received from him on 20-12-2025

John

Attached are your Mordecai & Elizebeth births from the Births Register of the York Street Synagogue. It's scans of prints I made from a microfilm reader over two decades ago, hence the dotty background noise. A few explanations. Note the screen clip from the NSW BDMs for Sarah with ref: "67/1836 V183667 136" and also note the scrawled number 67 on the Synagogue register. After 1856 when NSW legislated colonial registration of births, deaths & marriages they requested submission from Churches of their registers to be transcribed into government records. The Synagogue registers weren't submitted until the 1870s. As the clerks transcribed each entry they wrote the sequential number of their transcribed entries into the register into that entry. The other number after "No" is the number on that page of the register. Vol.136 is a reference to the microfilm copies of the Registrar's transcriptions - it has York Street burials 1846-1866, Sydney Synagogue births 1826-1867, then York Street Synagogue births 1846-1877.

The first column for Circumcision or Naming is blank for all your births. Date of naming was when named during a Synagogue service. The entries with a date also have a rabbi's name in the last column.

Gary

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Here are the scans Gary sent:

Headings for each entry (later years have the same layout as 1836)

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Births Search Results

Name	Registration Number	Father's Given Name(s)	Mother's Given Name(s)	District	PDF availabilty
? SOLOMON SARAH	67/1836 V183667 136	MORDECAI	ELIZABETH	ED	Unavailable
? SOLOMON JANE	127/1838 V1838127 136	MORDECAI	ELIZABETH	ED	Unavailable
? SOLOMON HENRY	167/1840 V1840167 136	MORDECAI	ELIZABETH	EA	Readily Available
? SOLOMON ELLEN	218/1842 V1842218 136	MORDECAI	ELIZABETH	EA	Unavailable
? SOLOMON JOSEPH	287/1844 V1844287 136	MORDECAI	ELIZABETH	EA	Unavailable

The above birth records are as a result of a search of the on-line records of the NSW BDM site at http://www.bdm.nsw.gov.au/ and if you search on births from 1835 to 1850, for surname Solomon and father's first name Mordecai, the above is the result you will get. The results for Meyer, Catherine and Lewis are missing.

The registration numbers line up with the original hand-written entries. There is a facility at the NSW BDM site to search by Registration Number, so I tried 110/1837 for Meyer and a result appeared (see below)



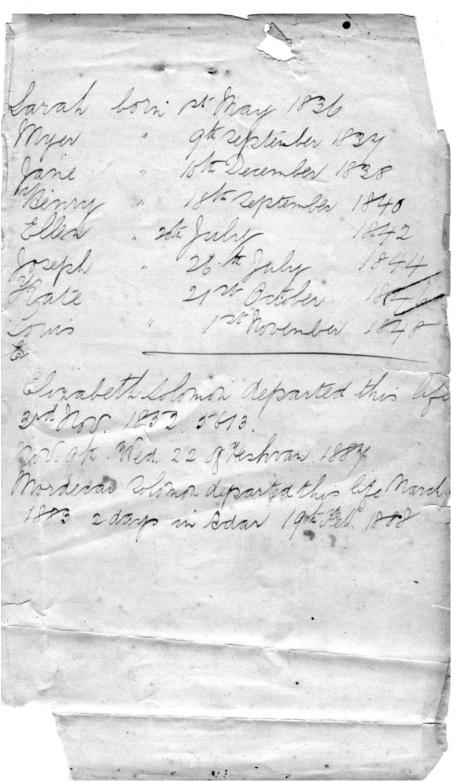
His first and last name have been transposed i.e., he has been entered as "Solomon Meyers" instead of "Meyer Solomon.

I have still not been able to locate the birth records (synagogue entries and/or NSW/BDM) for Catherine and Lewis. If anyone has this information please share it.

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Records kept by Ellen Solomon (1842-1894) – 5th child of Mordecai and Elizabeth

At our 2018 Bicentenary Celebration, Keren Wise referred to a "family bible" where important dates were recorded. Later, Keren sent me a copy of a relevant page (I think it was Keren, but not 100% sure), see below.



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The 1st 6 entries (by Ellen) correspond exactly with the handwritten entries in the Synagogue register. On this basis I suggest that the entries for Catherine (Kate) and Lewis are also correct.

Other points to note

- Gary has noted that there were no remarks in the "circumcision" or "by whom the ceremony
 was performed" columns. Given that Myer and Henry (see later) were born in Dapto, I would
 assume that there was no suitable religious person available to perform the circumcision (or
 naming) ceremony. A naming ceremony for females was probably the custom but none
 appear in the records. I don't know why.
- Recorded place of birth seems to have some room for discussion.
 - o EA Represents the code for Hebrew congregations/records in Sydney
 - o **ED** Represents the code for **Hebrew congregations/records in the Illawarra region**.

Here is a table of "where born" allocations -

Name	Dob	handwritten	NSW BDM	Comments
Sarah	1-5-1836	Illawarra	ED	ok
Myer	9-9-1837	blank	EA	Error born in Illawarra
Jane	10-12-1838	Illawarra	ED	ok
Henry	18-9-1840	Sydney	EA	Error I believe he was born in Dapto, which his obituary says. It also ties in with the Abraham Solomons' census
Ellen	20-7-1842	Sydney	EA	ok
Joseph	26-7-1844	Sydney	EA	ok
Catherine	21-10-1846	_		Sydney
Lewis	1-11-1848	_		Sydney

Hopefully this is a useful working document.