

לזכות
 הת' דובער שיחי'
 לרגל הגיעו לעול מצוות
 ח' אייר ה'תשע"ח
 נדפס ע"י הוריו
 הרה"ת ר' משה יעקב
 וזוגתו מרת חנה שיחי
 ראב"ן

eight facts

770

1

Kodesh Hakodashim

Apartment, personal office, and headquarters of Merkos are labels that the Rebbe's room in 770 carried at some point or another.

Although it is most famous as the Rebbe's room and *yechidus* room for 47 years, it also served as an interim apartment for the Rebbe and Rebbetzin. They lived there for a short time after their arrival to the USA, before they moved to a regular apartment.

Then it became the office of Merkos. Being that it is small in size, the two or three other individuals working there were in very close proximity to the Rebbe.

In 5707 it became the Rebbe's room as we know it today.

2

Women's Section

The original "women's section" was a balcony that was built for the women in the *Beis*

Hamikdash every

Sukkos. It was from that vantage point that the women and girls had the opportunity to partake in the *simchas beis hashoeva* festivities.

Overlooking the *shalash* in 770 there was also a balcony that served as a place for the women to daven, watch the Rebbe, and join in the *farbrengens*.

On some occasions, especially on Yom Tov, Rebbetzin Chana would stand there during *shacharis*.

3

Respect

The Rebbe personally cared about the cleanliness of 770. It was not uncommon to see the Rebbe bend down to pick up a scrap of paper or dispose of a piece of garbage.

On one occasion an electrician had done some work in 770 and left without replacing the cover to the box he had been repairing. After a full year of it being ignored, the Rebbe exclaimed at a *farbrengen*, "I waited a full year to see if anyone would notice, but until now nobody bothered to put a cover on the box!"

4

In the Name

When standing upstairs in 770, it may be technically correct to refer to the downstairs *shul* simply as "*untan*," but when the Rebbe heard a *gabbai* use that term, the Rebbe said, "We don't say '*untan*' about a *shul*!"





Celebration

Is the day you lay the cornerstone of a new building a *yom tov*?

When that building is as special as 770, the answer is yes.

The Chassidim learned of this when the Rebbe wore his silk *kapota*, which was almost solely for Shabbos and Yom Tov, at the *hanochas even hapina* ceremony on 17 Elul 5748. A short while later the Rebbe said that the Rebbeim would wear silk on *yom tov* *dike* occasions as well.



“Small”

When 770 was originally purchased, the room upstairs that we call the small *zal* was two separate rooms. Upon the Frieddiker Rebbe’s instruction, they removed the dividing wall and made it into one room.

Now, with the expansion of the basement and the main shul, the upstairs is the smaller counterpart.



Door is Open!

Behind a shut door, the throngs push to get in, but when the door is wide open, the crowd disperses and the line is empty.

On the first night of Pesach 5710, the Rebbe used this sentiment to express some disappointment that after 10 Shevat 5710, the Chassidim weren’t coming to 770 as often anymore. The Rebbe also stressed that we are still able to get all the *brachos* that we received before the *histalkus*.

The Rebbe concluded, “Is there any better place to receive the revelations of Eliyahu Hanavi than in the room where the Rebbe held his *seder* for over ten years?”

The Rebbe’s words hit home, and the next night many Chassidim came to the Rebbe’s *seder*. The Rebbe instructed that soup be given to those who hadn’t already eaten the *afikoman*. The soup was served from a silver bowl that had belonged to the Alter Rebbe.

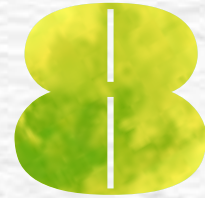
Permanent and Temporary

In the middle of the month of Menachem-Av [5700], the Frieddiker Rebbe went to visit 770 for the first time. He instructed how the shul should be set up for davening, and asked to see the basement as well. Then the Frieddiker Rebbe instructed that the mezuzos be put up, and when questions arose as to which side of the door certain mezuzos should be hung, he made the determination.

Afterwards, they davened mincha and maariv, and then the Frieddiker Rebbe sat down and said l’chaim (in the room that would later be the Rebbe’s room). Then he said, “Hashem should grant that this be a permanent dwelling b’nefesh— [permanent] in our own souls, [providing peace of mind] for Torah and avoda, and [at the same time] a temporary dwelling, for we will soon be in Eretz Hakodesh together with Moshiach.”

The above paragraphs are from a letter that Reb Shmuel Levitin wrote to fellow Chassidim announcing the purchase and future plans for 770. He also mentions how they would designate a *zal* similar to the way it was in Lubavitch.

The excitement must have been great, as Lubavitch now had permanent headquarters in the United States.



The content for this article is largely based on *The Heartbeat of Lubavitch* Derher, Nissan—Iyar 5775; “770” photo album published by Tzivos Hashem; *Beis Chayeinu* by Heichel Menachem, Yerushalayim.