

Confino Family Kitchen

Who lived here? Parents, Abraham and Rachel, lived in the apartment with their children Joseph, Victoria, Saul, Jacob, and Salvador (b. 1915) and nephews Albert and David. Their eldest daughter, Allegra, also lived in the building with her husband, Sam.

When did they live here? By the end of 1913 Abraham, Rachel, Joseph, Victoria, Saul, and Jacob all having arrived from Kastoria (then Turkey, now Greece) lived in the apartment. They were joined by the youngest son Salvador (b. 1915) as well as cousins Albert and David in 1915. The family moves to another apartment on the LES in 1917.

What's in the room? The Confino kitchen was outfitted with a coal stove, sink with running water, as well as a soap stone sink to offer a place to hold water for chores like laundry. Laundry would often take over much of the kitchen. The image shows a clothesline hung across the kitchen with one of the younger boy's sailor shirts next to a crochet tablecloth hung to dry. Many kitchen tools and dried foods are housed on the shelf above the stove including a kerosene lamp and an assortment of dried beans and canned goods.

In these apartments most things needed to do more than one thing. The table beneath the window offered necessary counter space while cooking and could fold out to become a dining table for the family to gather around. The kitchen also functioned as Victoria's bedroom, she slept on a manta (a traditional Kastoriali sleep mat made of goat hair) on the floor in the middle of the room.