Weddings of survivors were always joyous events. These three photos (Kofinas, Koulias & Kounio) all celebrated the unions of those who survived the Holocaust, both from the camps and in hiding.

Solomon Kofinas & Koula Cohen

Heinz & Shelly Kounio- Salonika

Sol Kofinas and Koula Cohen survived as hidden children, as did Isaac, Perla & Shelly. Heinz Kounio survived the camps and is pictured with his parents (Hella & Salvatore) who also survived Auschwitz-Birkenau.

After the liberation of Greece, there were numerous weddings of survivors, many group weddings because there was little immediate family to invite. These weddings were a confirmation of life and a commitment to assuring that the Jewish communities of Greece would continue and thrive.
The procession depicted above (with raised top hats) was a tradition in the Yanniote community.
Daniela & Morris Levy 2009-at Kehila Kedosha Janina
The marriage of Daniela Smolov and Morris Levy (the great-grandson of Rabbi Jessoula Levy) in the sanctuary of Kehila Kedosha Janina on August 16, 2009 was a confirmation of our continuity and continuance.
Both Sophie and Abraham were born in Ioannina (Sophie in 1898 and Abraham in 1897). As with most Yanniotes of their age, their marriage was most likely gently arranged.
Abraham Mathios & Leah Negrin-1921-Wedding invite

We love this wedding invitation from 1921. The Clinton Hall appeared to be a popular site for Lower East Side weddings, and we love the fact that the bride’s address was listed as 297 Broome Street, 5th floor.

Matsliach

Mac & Kathy Marshall (Matsliach)-1945

Matsil

Bob Matsil & Del Malta wedding reception table

The Matsil family was another early family of Yanniotes on the Lower East Side. Harry and Morris Matsil founded Matsil Brothers, another early garment firm on the Lower East Side, and their older brother Rabbi Matsliach Matsil was a spiritual leader in the community.
The typical Yanniote ketubah was quite elaborate, and often depicted poetic phrases describing the groom’s joy at acquiring such a beautiful bride. There would also be the standard ‘payments’ on the part of the groom’s family and that of the bride.
Sol & Irene Matsil-1954

Sol Matsil as Pageboy at wedding of Jean Matsil & David Fishman

Wedding of Manny Matsil & Esther Nassi
Matza

Aaron Matza & Julia Benveniste

Hyman and Sarah Matza

Simone (Matza) & Bernie Apple
Sally Matza and John Abdel

Esther Matza & Al Brody

Eliezer Matza & Rachel Matza-1915

Moe & Bea Matza
Mordecai

Rae Mordecai & Sam Klein

Irene Corito flower girl (Rae Mordecai & Sam Klein wedding)

Murray Eskononts pageboy (Rae Mordecai & Sam Klein wedding)
Martin Mussey was born in Salonika but his family was from Monastir. He came to New York as a young child and lived on the Lower East Side, where he met Mollie Cohen (a Yanniote) and married her.
Nachman

Bill & Madeline Nachman

Esther Nachman & Leo Kellner

Israel & Roslyn Nachman

Meyer & Esther Nachman
Nachmias

Max & Eve Nachmias-1951

Anna David & Moses Nachmias- Ioannina

Naphtali

Barouch & Sara Naphtali
Anna Negrin & Al Hamberg-1933

Max Negrin & Tica Samuel

Morris Negrin & Sarah DeCastros

Abraham Negrin & Esther Samuel:
Alexandria Egypt
Bride Diane Negrin with parents Nat & Pauline

Nat & Pauline Negrin

Sam Negrin & Diana Ganis

Sophie Attas Negrin-1918
Samuel Negrin & Diana Ganis and Samuel & Freda Ganis

Negrin Ganis Wedding
Osmos

Esther & Elio Osmos-Corfu- 1922

Ovadia

Haim Ovadia & Esther Cohen

Pardo

Isaac Pardo & Betty Mione

Matilda Battino & Saadi Pardo
Most of those in this 1938 photo would perish in the Holocaust.
Rouben

Miriam Beraha Rouben-Salonika-1941

Isidore Samuels & Esther Matza

Samuels

Sam Samuels & Sara Menachem
Sam Samuels & Sara Menachem wedding quests

Solomon

Torres

Morris Solomon & Mollie Matza

Moses & Marie Torres-Salonika- 1930
Varon

Rebecca Moses Varon

Vitali

Vitali Family-Athens- 1930’s
Estelle Yohanan and Henry Forman

Esther & Joseph Yohanan (parents of the bride)
Yomtov

Stamoula Isaacs & Malkoula Yomtov at their children's wedding

Barouch Yomtov & Rachel Isaacs-1923

Betty Yomtov & Max Bart (Astoria Manor) 6/1/1947
Wedding of Selma Yomtov and Irving Schwartz

Pictured in the photo above (to the left) is Rebecca Yomtov, who was one of the few survivors from her family who were all deported from Ioannina and were lost in the Holocaust. Rebecca survived the camps and the Yomtov family in the United States brought her over from Ioannina and helped her re-establish her life.