

Acknowledgments

The idea for a book evaluating Kaplan's thought and laying the groundwork for a new assessment of his importance emerged from the conference entitled Mordecai M. Kaplan: A Reappraisal, organized by the editors for the Joseph and Ceil Mazer Institute for Research and Advanced Study in Judaica of the Graduate School and University Center of the City University of New York and held on April 9 and 10, 1986. Earlier versions of some of the essays were delivered at that conference, but most were written subsequently for this book.

The Mazer Institute, directed by Robert M. Seltzer, is a constituent of the Center for Jewish Studies of the CUNY Graduate School. The institute sponsors lectures and conferences on various aspects of Jewish history and ideas with the aim of shedding new light on major Jewish figures, issues, and movements. The present volume is part of its publication series.

The editors are grateful to the following individuals for their support of the 1986 conference: Martin Abelow, Frances and Daniel M. Berley, Bess and Roy Berlin, Adele and Samuel Blumenthal, Sidney I. Feiner, Suzette and Harold S. Kushner, Mimi and Charles D. Lieber, Evelyn and Benjamin Wm. Mehlman, and Kay and Jack Wolofsky. In addition, Mr. and Mrs. Wolofsky supported research for the preparation of this book, and the Reconstructionist Press generously granted us permission to quote from the works of Mordecai M. Kaplan.

