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Scatter of the Literature, June 2016–December 2017

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Behr, Annemie Stimie. "The Hans Kramer Collection at the National Library, Cape Town: An Archival Perspective on Jewish patronage of Music in 20th-century South Africa." *Journal of the Musical Arts in Africa* 12, no. 1–2 (2015) 1–22. https://doi.org/10.2989/18121004.2015.1129146.

"Hans Kramer (1911–2002) was important for two reasons: he owned the Home of Music, a unique music store in Cape Town, and he founded the Cape Town Concert Club, which hosted regular concerts by international artists. Rather than constructing a biographical narrative, the present article focuses on the contents of the Hans Kramer Collection at the National Library in Cape Town with the aim of uncovering and considering the importance of certain Jewish individuals' contributions to music patronage in South Africa during the second half of the 20th century. Keeping music at the centre of the investigation, the archive allows a window into Jewish relational nexuses with different local communities and institutions, on the one hand, and international artists and organisations, on the other."

Canadian Jewish Studies / Études *juives canadiennes* 25 (2017), https://cjs.journals.yorku.ca/index.php/cjs/issue/view/2288/showToc.

In the section "Archives Matter," there are three articles that discuss various archives, from the national archives to a specialized corporate archives and how each collection contributes to our understanding of Canadian Jewry, gender studies, and general history:

1. Barrass, Christine. "The Jewish Collection at Library and Archives Canada." *Canadian Jewish Studies / Études juives canadiennes*, 25 (2017): 177–183.

    The article provides a brief overview of the history of the Jewish collections in the Library and Archives Canada (LAC), including a brief discussion with local Jewish agencies and their archives. "Beginning in the 1980s, LAC focused on material of national significance. Tension surrounding the Canadian Jewry collection lessened, while a concurrent expansion of archival programs within Jewish community organization became extremely active in preserving material." .The article highlights the collections of rabbi philosopher Emile Fackenheim, Auschwitz survivor Anna Heilman, and Soviet Jewry movement activist Genya Intrator. The LAC holds promise as a source for the study of Canadian Jewry, gender studies, and grassroots social movements.

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2. Lei, Da (Linda), and Arlene Greenberg. "A Glimpse at the Treasures of the Jewish General Hospital Archives." *Canadian Jewish Studies / Études juives canadiennes* 25 (2017): 171–176.

The Jewish General Hospital library began in 1941 and with it started an archives, a "repository of archival donations from various departments of the hospital and its affiliates, interested members of the public, and transfers from other archival institutions, in particular the Jewish Public Library Archives." This specialized collection includes the papers from the Montreal Clinical Society, the School of Nursing Sous, and the Wartime Planning Series. The authors relate how the Jewish General Hospital archives is a valuable resource for individuals interested in Canadian Jewry, healthcare, and gender studies in general, and specifically those who hope to learn the history of the Jewish General Hospital and how it contributed to the health care in Quebec.

3. Mortenson, Saara. "Accessing Collections—Online and Onsite." *Canadian Jewish Studies / Études juives canadiennes* 25 (2017): 164–170.

Starting as a grassroots idea in 1969, the Ottawa Jewish Archives grew to become an official agency of the Jewish Federation of Ottawa. Its mandate is to actively collect, preserves, and make accessible "documents, photographs, recorded media, and ephemera that tell the story of Jewish community life in Ottawa from the 1890s to today." Recently, the Ottawa Jewish Archives started digitizing its collection in order to provide access to the greater community by digitizing the *Ottawa Jewish Bulletin* and other projects. These projects will allow greater access to its unmined treasures.

Caplan, Debra. "Reassessing Obscurity: The Case for Big Data in Theatre History." *Theatre Journal* 68, no. 4 (2016): 555–573. doi:10.1353/tj.2016.0106.

"This essay considers what big data has to offer the field of theatre history. In particular, it applies data visualization to the study of Yiddish theatre between the two world wars, and argues that data visualization offers an important corrective to how Yiddish theatre has traditionally been regarded by theatre historians. Visualizing the data from Yiddish theatre programs and ephemera reveals how hundreds of individuals who scarcely appear in twentieth-century theatre history were in fact influential figures. Furthermore, the essay argues that sources like theatre programs, cast lists, and correspondence are valuable repositories of historical data and ought to be evaluated as such. It demonstrates how compiling, aggregating, analyzing, and visualizing the data contained in these sources can offer new perspectives on the conventional wisdom of theatre history: its key figures, its major events, and its dominant narratives about historical significance."

Cohen, Ahava. "RDA adoption in a Multilingual Cataloguing Environment: The Case of Israel." Paper presented at IFLA World Library and Information Congress (13–19 August, 2016, Columbus, Ohio). http://library.ifla.org/2050/.

"The Israeli library reality presents unique challenges to the adoption of a new cataloguing standard. Foremost amongst these is the multilingual work of cataloguing agencies; terminology must be coordinated with worldwide usage in English and Cyrillic and terminology must be created in Hebrew and Arabic. The structure of the Israeli cataloguing world presents a further challenge: since the early 1980s cataloguing policy has been set by a handful of university libraries, with college, public, and school libraries obeying. This semi-voluntary cooperation began to crumble just as RDA adoption got underway. Another roadblock to full adoption of RDA is the format of the Israeli rules. The new Israeli cataloguing guidelines are inspired by AACR3 rather than RDA; the Israeli cataloguing textbook retains the structure of AACR2 while changing specific actionable rules. Only guidelines relevant for common types of books have been translated and local policies for other material types have yet to be set. There is no system of professional development for cataloguers and no professional organizations coordinate the flow of information to and from decision makers. Without training individual cataloguers have difficulty in applying "cataloguer's judgement"; they do not have a theoretical base upon which to make decisions nor explicit rules to follow. Israeli cataloguing has an impact far outside its national borders given its role as a primary provider of bibliographic and authority records for Hebraica, Judaica, and Palestinian resources and entities. An examination of RDA adoption in Israel sheds light not only on the management of change in a complex situation but also explains idiosyncrasies in Israeli cataloguing records."

Glick, Kevin, Rebecca Hirsch, and Stephen Naron. "Building a 21st Century Archive: Migrating and Providing Access to the Fortunoff Video Archive for Holocaust Testimonies." *Journal of Digital Media Management* 5, no. 4 (Summer 2017): 318–325. http://works.bepress.com/kevin-glick/3/.

"The Fortunoff Archive for Holocaust Testimonies (FVAHT) has been recording the testimonies of survivors, witnesses and bystanders of the Holocaust since 1979. It currently holds more than 4,500 testimonies, comprising over 10,000 recorded hours of videotape. Having recently completed a large-scale digitisation of the entire collection at the FVAHT's in-house facility, the archive has pivoted to increasing access and use of this new digital collection. The collection, which was originally recorded in cooperation with 37 affiliated projects across North America, South America, Europe and Israel, will now be available via a streaming access system at academic partner sites worldwide. This paper will discuss several of the challenges faced by the archive's staff when transitioning from the analogue to the digital world, the design of its new digital access system, and plans for further enhancement in the near future."

Hinton, Kaa Vonia, Younghee Suh, Maria O'Hearn, and Lourdes Colón-Brown. "Fostering Habits of Mind: A Framework for Reading Historical Nonfiction Illustrated by the Case of Hitler Youth." *Voices from the Middle* 23, no.3 (March 2016): 38-44. http://www.ncte.org/journals/vm/issues/v23-3.

> "The article explores the use of historical nonfiction in teaching English language arts and social sciences in middle school in the U.S., highlighting the historical nonfiction book 'Hitler Youth' by Susan Campbell Bartoletti. Historical nonfiction can reportedly help students engage deeply in texts and practice discipline-specific tasks. Also discussed are the disciplinary practices which include contextualizing, biographical criticism, and building context."

Joskowicz, Ari. "Separate Suffering, Shared Archives: Jewish and Romani Histories of Nazi Persecution." *History & Memory* 28, no.1 (summer/ spring 2016): 110–140. http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.2979/histmemo.28.1.110.

> "Bridging Holocaust history and memory studies, this article explores the multiple and asymmetrical entanglements of Jewish and Romani (or "Gypsy") accounts of Nazi genocide. These entanglements exist in large part due to the fact that testimonies of the Romani Holocaust are commonly filtered through the lens of Jewish survivors or stored in archives dedicated to the Jewish Holocaust. Modern Jewish-Romani relations thus represent a rare— and arguably unique—case in which one minority controls such a significant portion of the public memories of another."

Journal of the Australian Jewish Historical Society 22, no. 4 (June 4, 2016)

> This journal presents the history of the Falk Library at the Great Synagogue in Sydney, Australia and the difficulties associated with the maintenance of a synagogue library.

1. Bersten, Helen. "The Falk Library Tug-of-War." *Journal of the Australian Jewish Historical Society* 22, no. 4 (June 2016): 642–654

   > Bersten discusses the history and fate of the Falk library of the Great Synagogue in Sydney, Australia, which began as a privately collection belonging to Rabbi Leib Aisack Falk, a bibliophile who sold his private collection to the Great Synagogue in 1954. Within a few years the synagogue struggled to maintain it financially and wanted to move the library to another institution. Bersten chronicles this tug-of-war between those who wanted to keep the collection in the synagogue and those who were willing to move it, a war that waged for several decades, including an incident where one individual, with the help of others, held hostage several boxes of books to prevent the collection from moving. In the end, although the collection is still in the synagogue, the library sees very little foot traffic. The article ends by saying that had the collection move to a university, there would have been scholars and librarians to maintain and preserve it.

2. Schach, Steve. "The Library of the Great Synagogue, Sydney: Implications of and E-Bibliographic and E-Historiographic Case Study." *Journal of the Australian Jewish Historical Society* 22, no. 4 (June 2016): 655–667.

> Schach discusses the descriptive and analysis of 624 Hebrew books in the Falk library of the Great Synagogue in Sydney, Australia that emerged from a case study. The case study was a feasibility study to determine if it was possible to obtain all of the necessary bibliographic information without entering the library or having the actual book in hand, as well as whether the required historical information could be found only from the use of the internet. Among the 14 findings, Schach points out that all historical information was found on the internet and PDF facsimiles of almost all of the Hebrew religious texts in the Falk library were also available on the online. Moreover, one did not need to enter the library or have the physical book in hand to obtain all of the necessary bibliographic information. Schach ends the article by saying that "the lack of an online catalogue will in all probability ensure that [Louise Rosenberg's] statement 'use of the library has not increased' will frequently be heard in the future."

Keinan-Schoonbaert, Adi, and Miriam Lewis. "Digitising the British Library's Collection of Hebrew manuscripts: Challenges and insights." *Journal of Digital Media Management* 4, no. 2 (Winter 2016): 123–136. http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/hsp/jdmm/2016/00000004/00000002/art00004#Refs.

> "The British Library's collection of Hebrew manuscripts is one of the most significant in the world. Funded by The Polonsky Foundation, the Hebrew Manuscripts Digitisation Project has been digitising 1,250 manuscripts since 2013, in line with the Library's commitment to digitisation and opening up access to its collections. The main aim of this paper is to describe the project's digitisation experiences and challenges. By building digital scholarship and engagement directly into the workflow of this project it has been possible to create new interactions and opportunities to this unique and significant collection."

Links, Petra, Reto Speck, and Veerle Vanden Daelen. "Who Holds the Key to Holocaust-Related Sources?: Authorship as Subjectivity in Finding Aids." *Holocaust Studies: A Journal of Culture and History* 22, no.1 (2016): 21–43. http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/17504902.2015.1118193

> "The field of Holocaust studies relies on a wide variety of archives, dispersed all over the world. Identifying the right sources for a specific research question within this field is not easy or straightforward. Yet Holocaust scholars predominately focus on methodologies for source analysis rather than discovery. Archival finding aids are among the most important tools to aid primary source discovery, but have hitherto not been considered in methodological discussions on Holocaust research. In this article we will reflect on the composition of finding aids based on our work for the European Holocaust Research Infrastructure (EHRI).

Our premise is that the content of finding aids is determined by their authors and the context in which they are creating them. The strongest argument for this subjectivity is that our work —outlined in this article—not only indicates that descriptions of one and the same source differ, but that they can do so quite considerably, and hence can influence research. Our stance is that historians optimize their profit from finding aids by becoming more sensitive to the subjectivity and authorship of descriptions. We conclude by showing how an online environment such as the one developed by EHRI can sensitize historians and archivists to the situated and subjective nature of finding aids by accommodating a plurality of descriptive voices, and encourage them to share their knowledge and become co-authors of finding aids."

Lustig, Justin. "Who Are to Be the Successors of European Jewry? The Restitution of German Jewish Communal and Cultural Property." *Journal of Contemporary History* 52, no.3 (July 2016): 519–545. doi/full/10.1177/0022009416647116.

"Who are to be the successors of European Jewry? This question faced Jewish leaders after the Holocaust, in terms both legal—inheriting heirless property—as well as spiritual – carrying forward Jewish culture. Looted Jewish property was never merely a matter of inheritance. Instead, disputes revolved around the future of Jewish life. While Jewish restitution organizations sought control of former communal property to use around the world, some German-Jewish émigrés and survivors in Germany sought to establish themselves as direct successors to former Jewish communities and institutions. Such debates set the stage and the stakes for mass archival transfer to Israel/Palestine in the 1950s. The fate of the German Jewish communal archives highlights the nature of postwar restitution debates as proxy for the issue of the continuation of Jewish culture and history, calling into question the nature of restitution itself. As opposed to policies of proportional allocation to meet the needs of radically diminished Jewish communities, wholesale transfer of archives reflected a belief in a radical rupture in German Jewish existence as well as Israel's position as successor to European Jewry. The fate of the archives, which broke with archival practices of provenance, concretized and validated the historical rupture represented by the Holocaust."

Marten-Finnis, Susanne. "Art as Refuge: Jewish Publishers as Cultural Brokers in Early 1920s Russian Berlin." *Transcultural Studies* 1 (July 2016): 9–42. http://dx.doi.org/10.17885/heiup.ts.23514.

"... Borrowing the paradigm of "cultural brokerage," the article advances a conceptual model laid out by Nicholas Jaspert on Jewish intermediacy in medieval Spain, and offers a path towards new insights into the complex and interwoven agency of Jewish publishers from Russia who, during the short but dynamic period of 1921–24, turned Berlin into a centre of transcultural activity. There were three main prerequisites for this: Berlin emerged as the first and, as it turned out, an ephemeral capital of Russian emigration; it became the centre of Russian publishing, and served as a hub for the globalisation of Russian art. More specifical-

ly, Berlin's rise as a centre of Russian publishing is linked to a number of further coincidental factors, including the literary requirements of the Bolshevik elites, the city's position as a centre of publishing competence and profit par excellence, Jewish expertise and mobility, and the favourable economic conditions during the German hyperinflation.

The article demonstrates how Jaspert's categorization of mobile agents as others, emissaries, and go-betweens allows us to scrutinize their space of activity, the preliminary character of their intermediacy, and the broad ideological spectrum of their outputs during the very period in history that saw the Russians or at least a considerable fraction of them become a "people of the book."

Mermelstein, Hannah. "Overdue Books: Returning Palestine's 'Abandoned Property' of 1948." *Progressive Librarian* 45 (Winter 2017): 66–86. http://www.palestine-studies.org/sites/default/files/jq-articles/47-_Over_Due_Books_1.pdf.

"The article discusses the story of Palestine's looted books in the larger political contexts of Zionism and other cases of looted cultural property during times of war and occupation, namely that of Jewish property looted by Nazis. It also tries to establish an understanding of how the "Abandoned Property" books at the Jewish National and University Library may be linked to their former owners and eventually restored to their place in Palestinian cultural memory."

Münster, Irene. "Spreading Roots: The Origins of Jewish Libraries in Argentina." Paper presented at IFLA World Library and Information Congress (13–19 August, 2016, Columbus, Ohio). http://library.ifla.org/1348/.

"This presentation addresses the history of Jewish libraries created by different waves of immigrants who emigrated from Europe to Argentina. It explores the socio-cultural context in which these libraries were created, their foundational objectives, how they operated and their importance for their communities.

The first Jewish immigrants, originally from Russia, Ukraine and Poland escaping from the pogroms of czarist Russia, settled in Jewish agricultural settlements in Argentina, starting in 1889. The presentation will analyze their libraries, which functioned as a place of cultural dissemination; a space to maintain their language as a valuable and irreplaceable tool in the construction of their ethnic identity. It continues with the flow of workers, artisans and craftsmen fleeing Eastern Europe who established several labor libraries, which disseminated their political beliefs and ideals. Finally, it examines the fourth wave of immigrants from Central European German-speaking countries, fleeing from Nazi Europe, who established libraries in organizations they created to assist recent immigrants and lending libraries hosted in bookstores."

Noland, Chloe, G. "Classification Methods in Context at Theological Libraries: A Case Study. SLIS." *Student Research Journa*l 7, no.1 (2017): 1–14. http://scholarworks.sjsu.edu/slissrj/vol7/iss1/3.

> "This case study explores issues of interoperability and shared collection management between two libraries—one community and one academic—located within the American Jewish University (AJU). AJU's choice to use two separate classification systems, Library of Congress and Elazar, respectively, provides a necessary separation of academic and religious context, but limits record access between the two collections. Specifically, this study aims to answer the following core research question: is consolidation into one classification scheme both a realistic and helpful solution for increased interoperability? Examining the history, patron needs, and principles of arrangement in both systems provided further insights regarding shared or coexisting collections between libraries that fulfill more than one role. Suggestions for further research are considered, as they relate to theological collections as well as other context-dependent classification systems."

Richler-Grebler, Galia, and Gila Prebor. "Creation of the Hebrew Incunabula Collection in the National Library of Israel." *ʻIyunim bi-teḳumat Yiśraʼel: meʼasef li-veʻayot ha-Tsiyonut, ha-Yishuv u-Medinat Yiśraʼel* 26 (2016): 174–218. http://in.bgu.ac.il/bgi/iyunim/26/grebler-prebor.pdf. [Hebrew]

> "This article deals with one stage in the development of the collections in the National Library of Israel and focuses on the Hebrew incunabula collection as a case study. The Hebrew incunabula collection is a cornerstone in the library's Judaic collection and one of four core collections. The collection contains one hundred editions in one hundred and ninety four exemplars. Strangely, although it is one of the world's most important collections of Hebrew incunabula, it has never been studied in depth.
>
> This article examines the collectors who donated the books and analyses the Hebrew incunabula collection in its historical context in light of the library's development. The results are presented on a time line according to the order of the donations. The article explains the factors that contributed to the success of the collection's development and offers a paradigm for an efficient collection process in the future. The appendix contains a detailed list of the collection's current composition."

Schellenbacher, Wolfgang. "Memento Vienna: A Case Study in Digital Archives, Georeferenced Data and Holocaust Education." *GI_Forum 2017* 2 (2017), 13–22. doi:10.1553/giscience2017_02_s13.

> "This paper explores a nexus of archival digitization and historical inquiry using the case study of Memento Vienna. Memento Vienna is an online tool, aimed specifically at schools

and the general public, that combines datasets and digital collections and georeferences them. The project was led by the Documentation Centre of the Austrian Resistance (DÖW) and is based on the results of decades of digitization work. The project seeks to situate personalized Holocaust histories in Vienna's first district, offering fresh perspectives on archival material, public interaction with archives, and the development of interactive learning, Holocaust education and memorialization. Using GPS, users can interact with the history of their immediate vicinity and access archival material and photographs that document it."

Seales, William Brent, Clifford Seth Parker, Michael Segal, Emanuel Tov, Pnina Shor, and Yosef Porath "From Damage to Discovery via Virtual Unwrapping: Reading the Scroll from En-Gedi." *Science Advances* 2, no. 9 (September 21 2016) doi: 10.1126/sciadv.1601247.

"Computer imaging techniques are commonly used to preserve and share readable manuscripts, but capturing writing locked away in ancient, deteriorated documents poses an entirely different challenge. This software pipeline—referred to as 'virtual unwrapping'—allows textual artifacts to be read completely and noninvasively. The systematic digital analysis of the extremely fragile En-Gedi scroll (the oldest Pentateuchal scroll in Hebrew outside of the Dead Sea Scrolls) reveals the writing hidden on its untouchable, disintegrating sheets. Our approach for recovering substantial ink-based text from a damaged object results in readable columns at such high quality that serious critical textual analysis can occur. Hence, this work creates a new pathway for subsequent textual discoveries buried within the confines of damaged materials."

Shachaf, Orna, Noa Aharony, and Shifra Baruchson. "The Effects of Information Overload on Reference Librarians." *Library & Information Science Research* 38, no. 4 (2016): 301–307. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.lisr.2016.11.005.

"Nowadays, librarians work in information environments characterized by information overload. This study uses a qualitative-phenomenological method to examine the way in which reference librarians in academic libraries in Israel view and deal with the information overload phenomenon. Fifteen reference librarians responded to questions in semi-structured interviews. Four strategies of coping with information overload were identified: filtering, avoiding, satisfying and selecting items from the top of the list. Further, findings reveal that participants have not experienced the full impact of information overload. The research findings expand the existing body of knowledge about how librarians deal with information overload, and provide new information on the particular perspective of reference librarians in academic libraries, an aspect that has not been researched extensively to date. The findings are relevant to library managers, to directors of training programs for new librarians, to LIS educators, and to professional organizations."

Sinkoff, Nancy. "From the Archives: Lucy S. Dawidowicz and the Restitution of Jewish Cultural Property." *American Jewish History* 100, no.1 (January 2016): 117–147,168. http://jewishstudies.rutgers.edu/docman/sinkoff/644-sinkoff-ajh-100-1/file.

"While her official responsibilities for the JDC consisted of procuring supplies, such as text-books, dictionaries, paper, theater props, writing utensils, and curriculum materials, for the DP camps' educational institutions, which included more than sixty schools, she soon found herself on the front lines of the haunting work of postwar Jewish cultural restoration. By a mixture of chance, intention, and fate, Schildkret's most enduring role as an educational worker for the JDC would be restituting the remnants of YIVO's library and archives from the Offenbach Archival Depot (OAD) and ensuring their safe shipment to New York in June of 1947. Schildkret's efforts helped to establish YIVO as a distinguished American Jewish Research Institution, and the New York City YIVO as a critical institutional link to the East European Jewish past. An unsung 'Monuments Woman,' Schildkret became known for her role in salvaging YIVO's books only in 1989, when she published From That Place and Time: A Memoir, 1938-1947, which recounted her European experiences. This article will establish the context for Schildkret's work in the OAD and reprint in full one of the many memos she wrote about the issues she - and others - faced in restituting Jewish cultural property after the war, a deeply contested activity whose resonances can still be felt. Much more was at stake than merely ascertaining ownership of valuable books, religious objects, and art."

Ständig, Dror. "The Archive of David Simonsen." *Nordisk Judaistik* (Scandinavian Jewish Studies) 10, no. 1 (January 2016): 39–47. https://ojs.abo.fi/ojs/index.php/nj/article/view/1252.

"The Royal Library in Copenhagen has for 50 years been in possession of an archive of ex-traordinary scope, bequeathed to it by the former chief rabbi in Denmark, Professor David Simonsen (1853–1932). The significance of the archive should be immediately related to the important role played by Simonsen during the First World War, in that he, after having renounces his rabbinical post in 1902, simultaneously functioned as political leader for that part of European Jewry residing in the neutral countries (i.e. the Nordic countries and Swit-zerland), and heads the international relief-work operations rendered to East-European Jewry during the war. All correspondence pertaining to the lot of the Jews in Eastern Europe prior to the outbreak of the war, and during the ongoing hostilities, was filed by David Simonsen with utmost care. The archive also contains letters and documents relating to his rabbinical and research activities."

Steimann, Ilona. "Jewish Scribes and Christian Patrons: The Hebraica Collection of Johann Jakob Fugger." *Renaissance Quarterly* 70, no. 4 (Winter 2017): 1235–1281. https://doi.org/10.1086/695344.

> "Acquiring Hebrew books was a common practice among Christian humanists. More surprising, perhaps, is that a large group of Hebrew manuscripts was produced for a Christian library. A Jewish scribal workshop organized by Johann Jakob Fugger (1516–75) in Venice—here analyzed for the first time—is one of the rarest examples of this phenomenon that emerged out of Renaissance book culture. To understand Fugger's extensive bibliophilic enterprise, this essay examines the circulation and dissemination of Hebrew texts from the Jewish bookshelf among Christians, the relationships between Christian patrons and Jewish scribes, and the role of manuscripts as agents of print and as objects of collecting."