

“Jewish Topographies. 5th International Congress on Jewish Architecture”
March 28–31, 2022, virtual conference

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<https://tu-braunschweig.webex.com/tu-braunschweig/j.php?MTID=m04cd710997bcb9d2d595febd01fb1adc>

Jewish residential areas and settlements, facilities of Jewish communities (such as synagogues, cemeteries, schools, or hospitals), or locations of companies and shops can form significant topographical networks in cities and landscapes. These “Jewish Topographies” stand in a spatial and social context with corresponding places of the non-Jewish population, in which different cultural, religious, or ethnic groups find their own spaces. Conflicts and cooperations, exclusions and limitations emerge in the spatial relationships between these locations and their respective urban and architectural design reflect the possibilities and expectations of the respective and related groups.

The conference aims at examining different levels of “Jewish Topographies”: the spectrum of contributions ranges from macro studies to cross-region networks of Jewish communities or Jewish institutions and people (e. g., commercial networks), to locations and facilities of the individual communities (e. g., Judengassen (Jews’ Lanes), eruvim, DP- Camps), to micro studies of residential areas or individual facilities and buildings. Topographies of forced housing (such as ghettos, concentration camps, and Judenhäuser (Jewish houses)) will also be discussed.

The conference offers different methodologic approaches to the subject, such as religious and profane places and objects, synchronous and diachronic perspectives. The focus of the conference is on developments after the Middle Ages. It also asks for symbolic, religious, and literary topographies and for ideas on how Jewish topographies can be appropriately researched, represented, and later conveyed.

Monday, March 28, 2022

Opening

5:30–6:30 p. m. (CEST)

Greetings

Dr.-Ing. Christina Krafczyk, President of the Nds. Landesamt für Denkmalpflege (NLD)
Prof. Dr. Urike Fauerbach, Acting Director of Bet Tfila/Chair in Building History, TU Braunschweig

PD Dr.-Ing. Ulrich Knufinke, Bet Tfila/Nds. Landesamt für Denkmalpflege (NLD)

Introduction to the Conference

Prof. Dr. Annette Weber, Hochschule für Jüdische Studien Heidelberg

Keynote: The Influence of Rituals on the Topography of Ashkenazic Communities of the Middle Ages and Beyond

break

Panel 1 | Mapping Jewish Topographies

7:00–8:30 p. m. (CEST)

Chair: Prof. Joachim Schlör, University of Southampton

Dr. Dr. Federico Dal Bo, Hochschule für Jüdische Studien Heidelberg

The Eruv of Venice. From Fragmentation to Unity. On Ben Schachter’s Eruv Maps and its Talmudic-Philosophical Value

Birgit Nelissen, Nds. Landesamt für Denkmalpflege

Jewish Cemeteries in Lower-Saxony

Samuel D. Gruber PhD, Syracuse, New York

The City as Memorial Landscape

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Tuesday, March 29, 2022

Panel 2 | Jewish Places. Micro-Studies

5:00–6:30 p. m. (CEST)

Chair: Prof. Dr.-Ing. Alexander von Kienlin, Chair of Building History, Build. Archaeology and Conservation, TU Munich

PD Dr.-Ing. Barbara Perlich, TU Berlin

The Topography of the Erfurt Jewish Community. Methods and Findings

Mirko Przystawik, Bet Tfila/Institut für die Geschichte der deutschen Juden, Hamburg

Hornburg. Topography of a Rural Jewish Community

Prof. Dr. Eva Maria Ulmer-Otto, Edgar Bönisch PhD, and Birgit Seemann PhD, Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences, Frankfurt/Main

A Jewish Space in the Eastend of Frankfurt am Main. Roederbergweg

break

Panel 3 | Jewish Places. Micro-Studies

7:00–8:30 p. m. (CEST)

Chair: Dr. Kim Wünschmann, Institut für die Geschichte der deutschen Juden, Hamburg

Prof. Dr. Rudolf Klein, Szent Istvan University, Budapest

Jewish Topography of Oradea and Subotica. Architectural Consequences

Hagit Hadaya, Ottawa

Jewish Quarters in Canada. The Main in Montreal

Pergabriele Mancuso PhD, Florence

Archival Research, Virtual Reality and 3D-Modelling. Strategies and Tools to Reconstruct the Economic-demographic and Architectural Features of the Florentine Ghetto

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Wednesday, March 30, 2022

Panel 4 | Jewish Places and NS-Terror. The Case of Breslau (Wrocław)

Chair: Dr. Eleonora Bergman, Warsaw

5:00–6:30 p. m. (CEST)

Maria Luft, TU Dresden

“Judenhäuser” in Breslau. Topographies of Forced Housing

Daniel Ljunggren, Malmö/TU Dresden

Jewish Architecture in Breslau During Nazi Reign. The Example of the Brothers Hadda

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Piotr Kuroczyński, Karolina Jara, University of Applied Sciences, Mainz

New Synagogue Breslau in the Light of the Semantic Web – Construction of Digital Memorial Landscapes

break

Panel 5 | Jewish Landscapes

7:00–8:30 p. m. (CEST)

Chair: PD Dr. Andreas Brämer, IGdJ Hamburg

Dr. Anna Berezin, Center for Jewish Art, Jerusalem

Jewish Siberia

Brett L. Levi, New York University

Between Enchantment and Estrangement. Haredi Tourism and the Construction of Jewish Space in the Swiss and Austrian Alps

Dr.-Ing. Katrin Keßler, Bet Tfila/Institut für die Geschichte der deutschen Juden, Hamburg

300 Years of Relocation and Continuity. The Jewish Topography of Berlin

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Thursday, March 31, 2022

Panel 6 | Jewish Art and Its Topographies

5:00–6:30 p. m. (CEST)

Chair: Dr. Vladimir Levin, Center for Jewish Art, Jerusalem

William Katin PhD, California State Univ. San Bernardino

Jewish West Meets Judaic East. The Confluence of Berlin Lectures & Kaunas Theater in Memel’s Inclusive Topographies of the 1920s

Prof. Dr. Thomas C. Hubka, University of Oregon

The Central Ukrainian Heartland of a Jewish Liturgical Art. The Wall-Paintings of the East European Synagogues

MC Koch PhD, State University of New York at Buffalo

Isaachar Ber Ryback’s and Marc Chagall’s Synagogues. Transfiguring Jewish Topographies in Avant-Garde Art and Theater (1916–1921)

break

Panel 7 | Jewish Topographies in Non-Christian Surroundings

7:00–8:30 p. m. (CEST)

Chair: Prof. Dr. Ulrike Fauerbach, Bet Tfila/IB

Tobiáš Smolík, Prague, National Heritage Institute (NPÚ), Czech Republic

Southern Morocco Between Folklore and Fakelore. Dislocated and Imagined Jewish Communities in Draa-Tafilalet Region

Narciss M. Sohrabi PhD, Paris Nanterre University

The Question of the Tehran Synagogue. The Problem of Architecture and Socio-Historical Typology

Dr. Rivka Geron Schild, Vienna

The Jewish Topography of Istanbul. A Conservation Challenge

Conclusion

8:30–9:00 p. m. (CEST)

Chair: PD Dr.-Ing. Ulrich Knufinke

Academic Board

PD Dr.-Ing. Ulrich Knufinke

Dr.-Ing. Katrin Keßler

Prof. Dr. Annette Weber

Dr. Jerzy Kos

Prof. Dr. Sarah Ross

Dr. Alexandra Klei

Dr. Eleonora Bergman

organized by

Dr.-Ing. Ulrich Knufinke

Dr.-Ing. Katrin Keßler

Dipl.-Ing. Mirko Przystawik

Please send us an e-mail at ja5@bet-tfila.org to register for information and updates on the conference program.

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