



SJHS 2022: Southern Jews and the Atlantic World

The SJHS and Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina are finalizing details of the 46th annual SJHS conference, to be held at the College of Charleston on October 21–23, 2022.

Our theme, “Southern Jews and the Atlantic World,” considers a transoceanic framework for understanding Jewish life in the American South. From the colonial trade networks that stretched from Europe to Africa and the Western Hemisphere to the migration of imperial models, economic systems, artistic styles, and material culture, the meeting will explore the expansive heritage of southern Jewry—past and present.

While some conference presenters will speak specifically to Atlantic networks, other panels will showcase the breadth of current research on Jewish history in the American South. Scholars will discuss, for example, efforts to combat anti-Jewish legislation in early 19th-century North Carolina and Maryland; race and Reconstruction; Progressive Era women’s activism; and the politics of historic preservation.

We are excited to welcome two keynote speakers this year. On Friday, October 21, historian Michael R. Cohen will deliver the Dr. Lawrence J. Kanter Lecture at Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim synagogue. Sizeler Professor of Jewish Studies and director of the Grant Center for the American Jewish Experience at Tulane University, Cohen will speak on “The Economics of Southern Jewish History.” Shabbat services will follow his talk. On Saturday, October 22, Shari Rabin will deliver this year’s Helen Stern Fund Lecture, “Dissent, Providentialism, and Slavery: A New Interpretation of Early Charleston Jewish Life” (see page

6). Associate Professor of Jewish Studies and Religion at Oberlin College and an award-winning author, Rabin received a prestigious year-long fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities for her work-in-progress, a history of Jews, religion, and race in the American South from the 17th century to the present day.



Clockwise from top left: The Bluestein Building, at 494 King Street, will be featured on the Jewish Charleston tour. *Wikimedia Commons*. Christine King guides visitors at the Old Slave Mart Museum, 2019. *Photo by Dale Rosengarten*. Historic Coming Street Cemetery, resting place of some of Charleston’s oldest Jewish families. *Photo by Heather Moran/College of Charleston*.

One cannot visit Charleston without experiencing the legendary beauty of the city. On Saturday, conference goers will be able to choose among guided tours of Jewish Charleston, the historic Coming Street Cemetery, or the Old Slave Mart Museum. Supported by the Helen Stern Fund, our Saturday evening reception at the College of Charleston’s Addlestone Library will celebrate the

Jewish Heritage Collection with music, hors d’oeuvres, and libations. Attendees will have an opportunity to see source material for the recently launched online exhibit *Synagogues of the South*, drawn from the stunning postcard portfolios of the William A. Rosenthall Judaica Collection (see page 7).

To promote the work of rising scholars, SJHS is offering for the first time an award for the best conference paper submitted by a graduate student. Underwritten by the Rabbi Allen Krause Fund, the award will be presented on Saturday evening.

We anticipate a weekend of illuminating conversations about Charleston, the Jewish South, and the Atlantic world, but, more than anything, we look forward to finally gathering together again! See page 3 for the full conference program. For registration and hotel information, see page 8.



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Historical Society

President's Message By Jay Silverberg



Thank you to our many friends who have renewed their SJHS memberships and made donations. We recognize that while the past two years have given us the opportunity to gather online for some amazing programming opportunities, our usual process for renewing as part of the annual SJHS conference registration may have been overlooked.

Good news: Many of you have discovered our new website portal to maintain your SJHS membership. If you haven't, please go to: jewishsouth.org/membership-donations.

We hope that registering for our upcoming conference in Charleston will prompt many members to renew. Please note that this year, membership renewals are separate from conference registration. We ask that if you have not yet renewed, follow the link to complete that process, and then register for the conference separately (more on that below).

As a reminder, your membership comes with a copy of *Southern Jewish History*, our annual journal; this newsletter; a reduced conference registration rate; access to online programming; and the knowledge that you are continuing to support this organization that has helped to define the study of southern Jewish history for the past 46 years.

If you have questions about your membership status or your last payment, please get in touch with either me (jbsilverberg@gmail.com) or Barbara Tahsler (barbarasjhs@gmail.com).



As you can tell by our conference article on page 1, we are looking forward to welcoming everyone in Charleston on Friday, October 21 through Sunday, October 23. It's been two years since we have gathered in such a setting.

Our program committee, conference co-host the Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina (JHSSC), and the College of Charleston have worked diligently for months to ensure that our conference will be as fulfilling as those that have come before it. We have been mindful of issues related to the pandemic, specifically the current costs related to travel, and have tried to reflect potential concerns in our planning. Nonetheless, Charleston promises to be a memorable time in our 46-year history. You can register online at jewishsouth.org, or directly at JHSSC.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We look forward to seeing you this fall.

MSJE Finally Celebrates its Opening

The Museum of the Southern Jewish Experience in New Orleans celebrated its long-delayed "Grand Opening" (and first birthday) on June 11-12. Museum supporters from across the country joined in for donor receptions, a jazz brunch, and a family fun day of food, music, games, and more. Left: Macy Hart enjoys champagne at the MSJE Member and Donor Reception. Right: The Bagel Putt at Family Funday. *Museum of the Southern Jewish Experience*.



Southern Jews and the Atlantic World

Southern Jewish Historical Society 46th Annual Conference

Charleston, South Carolina, October 21–23, 2022

Co-host: Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina

All events will take place at the College of Charleston unless otherwise noted.

Friday, October 21

8:30–9:30 am: Registration (*Jewish Studies Center, College of Charleston*)

9:30–10 am: Welcome Remarks

- ▶ Jay Silverberg, Southern Jewish Historical Society
- ▶ Rachel Barnett, Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina

10–11:15 am: Jews, Modernism, and the Cosmopolitan South

Chair: Marian Mazzone

- ▶ Sam Gruber, “The International Style Comes South”
- ▶ Leonard Rogoff, “Matisse and his ‘Baltimore Ladies’: The Cone Sisters Collect Modernist Art”
- ▶ Cheyenne McClain, TBD

11:15 am–12:30 pm: Lunch (*on your own*)

12:30–1:45 pm: Concurrent Panels

Colonial Jews and the Atlantic World

Chair: Sandy Slater

- ▶ Sara Jay, “Practicing Empire in the American South: What a Historian of North African Jews Can Learn from Studying Jews in the Colonial Atlantic World”
- ▶ José Alberto Tavim, “Aaron Lopez’s Business Networks and the South”
- ▶ Rivi Feinsilber, “Jews and Anti-Jewish Prejudice: Transatlantic Transfer to the New World”

Performance and Memory in the American South

Chair: Catherine Eskin

- ▶ Heather Nathans, “‘Old Christmas Times in the South’: A Jewish Lady’s Recollections of Plantation Performance”
- ▶ Michael Hoberman, “Housebound Specters: The Mordecai House Dynasty’s Fall from Grace”
- ▶ Gabrielle Berlinger, “Everyday Things, Singular Stories: Preserving and Presenting Jewish Material Culture in Greensboro, NC”

2–3:15 pm: Concurrent Panels

Encounters with the State

Chair: Mark Bauman

- ▶ Seth Barrett Tillman, “New Thinking on Jacob Henry”
- ▶ Eric Eisner, “Jewish Rights on Middle Ground: Race and the Religious Test in Antebellum Maryland”
- ▶ John Williams, “The Jewish Problem: Jewish Merchants in the American South during the Civil War”

Politics of Preservation

Chair: Grant Gilmore

- ▶ George H. McDaniel, “Looking for Lushington: The Lost Quaker Commander of Charleston’s Revolutionary Jewish Militia”
- ▶ Barry Stiefel, “Jews, National Identity, and Historic Preservation: Transatlantic Experiences from the Mount Vernon Ladies Association and the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings”
- ▶ Hannah Lebovitz, “Where Did the Shtetl Go? Investigating Jewish Self-Erasure in Dallas, Texas”

3:30–4:30 pm: SJHS Board Meeting

5 pm: Dinner, Lecture, Shabbat Services (*Kahal Kadosh Beth Elohim*)

Dr. Lawrence J. Kanter Lecture

“The Economics of Southern Jewish History,” Michael Cohen

Shabbat begins 6:21 pm

Saturday, October 22

8–9 am: Shabbat Services (*location TBD*)

9–11 am: Walking Tours (*choose one*)

- ▶ Upper King Street
- ▶ Coming Street Cemetery
- ▶ Old Slave Mart Museum

11 am–12:15 pm: Rising Stars of Southern Jewish History

Chair: Marni Davis

- ▶ Michael Jacobs, “A New Home in the Old South: Southern Jewish Women’s Role in Identity Formation, 1800–1865”
- ▶ Jacob Morrow Spitzer, “Keep the State Far From Us: Jewish Politics and the End of Reconstruction”
- ▶ Mimi Brown Wooten, “*La Djusticia Americana*: Leo Frank in the Ladino Press”

12:30 pm: Lunch and Lecture

Helen Stern Fund Lecture

“Dissent, Providentialism, and Slavery: A New Interpretation of Early Charleston Jewish Life,” Shari Rabin

2:15–3:30 pm: Pride and Prejudice: Race and Jewish Identity in the South

Chair: Phyllis Leffler

- ▶ Jeremy Popkin, “Benjamin Gratz and Lexington: A Southern City and Its First Jewish Resident”
- ▶ Evan Howard Ashford, “Abraham’s Choice: Race Loyalty Versus Civil Rights During the 1865 Freedom Summer”
- ▶ Andrew Baker, “Max Heller’s Transatlantic Connections and the Palmetto State: 1979–1996”

3:45–5:15 pm: Concurrent Panels

Agents of Change

Chair: Josh Parshall

- ▶ Anne Blankenship, “Varied Approaches to Immigrant Care: The Jewish Women of Charleston, Philadelphia, and Cincinnati”
- ▶ Anne Gessler, “Ida Weis Friend: A Model for Southern Progressive Activism in 20th-Century New Orleans”
- ▶ Amy K. Milligan, “‘The Dark-Eyed Jew’ of Alabama”
- ▶ Rebecca Shimon Stoll, “Atlantic Enigma: The Shifting Identities of Francis Salvador”

Roundtable on Material Culture

Chair: Josh Furman

- ▶ Gabrielle Berlinger, Dale Rosengarten, Hilit Surowitz-Israel, and Anna Tucker

5:30–7 pm: Jewish Heritage Collection Reception

Synagogues of the South exhibit on display; SJHS awards announced (*Addlestone Library, College of Charleston*)

Shabbat ends 7:16 pm

Sunday, October 23

9–10 am: JHSSC and SJHS Membership Meetings

9 am–noon: Book Signing, Coffee, and Bagels

10:30–11:45 am: Social Justice

Chair: Stephen Whitfield

- ▶ Ashley Walters, “Reading the Civil War through the Russian Revolution”
- ▶ Eli Rosenblatt, “Bishop Charles L. Russell and the African-American Reception of the Talmud, 1920–1964”
- ▶ Margaret Norman and Melissa Young, “A Case Study of the Holocaust and Human Rights: Fred and Anny Kraus in Birmingham, Alabama, 1954–1970”
- ▶ Leah Cannon Burnham, “Atlanta Jews and the Pursuit of Due Process for Cuban Detainees, 1980–1987”

11:45 am: Closing Remarks

Exhibits on NC Jews Mounted at Raleigh Museum and State Capitol

This past spring, Jewish Heritage North Carolina (JHNC) presented *Down Home: Jewish Life in North Carolina* at the North Carolina State Capitol in Raleigh. The exhibit shows how Jews shaped North Carolina life for more than 400 years, while being themselves transformed as Jewish culture and traditions encountered southern customs and manners.

The exhibit's stay at the Capitol included a sold-out, in-person opening reception and a virtual curator's talk, both featuring Leonard Rogoff, JHNC president and historian. The virtual event was introduced by the Honorable Mark A. Davis, the first Jew to serve on North Carolina's Supreme Court.

JHNC presented proclamations in honor of Jewish American Heritage Month issued by North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper and Raleigh Mayor Mary-Ann Baldwin.

In July and August, the City of Raleigh Museum is hosting *B'rukhim Haba'im: Stories of Welcome*, an exhibit of filmed

autobiographical stories by 21 Jewish seniors from across Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill. Created by Burning Coal Theatre, the exhibit resulted from a storytelling and community outreach project funded in part by a grant from the Carolina Foundation for Jewish Seniors.



The *Down Home* exhibit, on display at the North Carolina State Capitol rotunda in Raleigh. At left is Lynne Grossman, JHNC staffer, whose family dates to Durham's early Jewish community. Linda Fox, North Carolina State Historic Sites.

"In a time when seniors might have felt more socially or geographically isolated due to the pandemic, focusing on stories of welcoming and returning seemed particularly appropriate," noted project coordinator Staci Sabarsky. She helped participants from across the Triangle develop their stories over Zoom.

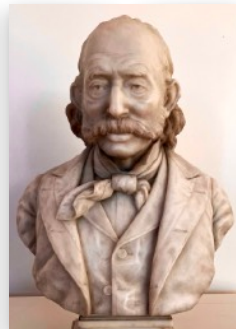
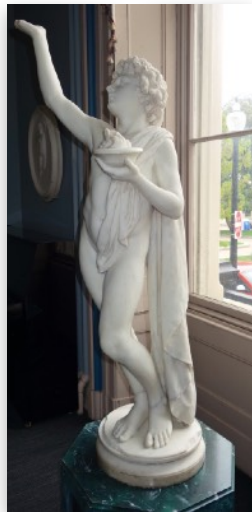
The seniors were then professionally filmed in individual sessions at Burning Coal Theatre. Their stories will be shown on 20 separate screens located throughout the museum's main lobby, commonly called Raleigh's Living Room. For more information, visit cityofraleighmuseum.org.

Princeton Cancels Art Exhibit Featuring Jewish Confederates

American institutions have grappled in recent years with how to address the racism of prominent historic figures. Notable individuals in southern Jewish history have not been immune to this racial reckoning. Scheduled to open this fall at Princeton University, a planned exhibit of 19th-century American Jewish art was scrapped because it included two supporters of the Confederacy, Richmond-born sculptor Moses Jacob Ezekiel and painter Theodore Moïse, son of a prominent Charleston Jewish family and a Confederate army major.

Ezekiel, one of the most prominent sculptors of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, not only fought in the Civil War but also was a devoted promoter of the Lost Cause, the ideology that romanticized the antebellum South and celebrated the ideals of the Confederacy. In 1914 he crafted the Confederate Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery, which has become controversial in recent years particularly because of its benign depiction of slavery.

Ezekiel's sculpture "Faith" (1877) was to serve as the centerpiece of the Princeton exhibit. He adapted it from his 1876 sculpture



Left: Moses Jacob Ezekiel, *Faith*, 1877. Marble, 64 in. tall. Maryland State Art Collection. Above: Moses Jacob Ezekiel, *Isaac Mayer Wise*, 1903. Skirball Museum, Cincinnati.

"Religious Liberty," commissioned by B'nai B'rith in honor of the 100th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence and currently on display outside the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia. His sculptures of Abraham Lincoln and Isaac Mayer Wise, founder of American Reform Judaism, were also to be featured.

The exhibit was under development when the university's vice provost for institutional equity and diversity asked that organizers replace Ezekiel and Moïse with other artists, according to the Religion News Service. Exhibit curator Samantha Baskind and funder Leonard Milberg objected, stating that the exhibit would address the complexities of the artists and their work. "History doesn't come with neat, sanitized figures," said Baskind, who is writing a biography of Ezekiel. "We need to inform and discuss the past, not bury it."

Princeton, however, has pledged systemic change around racial equity, including steps such as removing Woodrow Wilson's name from its famed school of international affairs. The university and exhibit organizers could not come to an agreement, leading to the exhibit's cancellation.

North Carolina Jewish Food Story Project: Coming Back to “Why” By Madeline Seltman

Sour cream or applesauce on latkes? Is chocolate a valid filling for hamentaschen? Where can you get the best bagel? If there is anything we love almost as much as food, it's talking about food. That's what made the Jewish Food Story Project—a project of Jewish Heritage North Carolina and Jewish for Good—so meaningful and special.

Durham-Chapel Hill's Jewish Food Festival has been a beloved annual event for a decade. Determined to keep it going during the pandemic, for two years we did it “to-go,” with almost 300 households picking up brisket, knishes, rugelach, kugel, and more. People were so happy to have these foods that connect them to Jewish culture and are so hard to get in the South. But this curbside model was missing something: the connection to peoplehood and community.

So this May, when we could finally bring people together again, we decided to come back to the “why” of it all. It takes hundreds of hours of staff and volunteer time (not to mention 1200 eggs and 200 pounds of butter) to make all the food, and we don't do it just because it's delicious. We do it because of how central food is in the Jewish story, *l'dor v'dor*, from generation to generation. We asked our community to share their food stories: the family recipes, the holiday misadventures, the travel discoveries that remind us why it matters.

Forty people shared their stories. Poignant, funny, and relatable, they featured babbies accusing each other of putting fish eyes in gefilte fish, a marriage proposal involving challah, a first time making matzoh ball soup when Covid kept family away, importing Israeli lemons through customs, and more. You can read them all on the [Jewish Heritage NC website](#).

“First Word,” by Elisabeth Gerson

My son was a little over a year old and had only just started to make sounds like “mama” and “dada,” but he didn't have any real words yet.

One Friday evening my family was gathered around the table saying the blessings for Shabbat. As we approached the time to say *HaMotzi*, we uncovered the challah and we all heard a tiny, sweet baby voice very clearly say “challah!” as he turned his head towards the fresh baked bread. His first real word.

We couldn't have been more proud! We make challah from scratch every week and needless to say it is his favorite food!



Lev Gerson's first word gave his family *naches*. Photo by Elisabeth Gerson.

From buckets of deli pickles to made-to-order egg creams, there was lots to love at this year's Jewish Food Festival, but my favorite part was seeing attendees read the stories and recall their own. It reminded me why we do what we do: to keep the connection to Jewish heritage and history and peoplehood strong—and maybe also keep the debate going about which babka is better, chocolate or cinnamon.

Madeline Seltman is chief programs officer, Jewish for Good



Left to right: One result of the pandemic: the Medoff family's first attempt at matzoh ball soup, Raleigh 2020. You can read their story online. Photo by Diana Medoff. Elisabeth Singer, Chandler Musson, and Neil Wolgin at the egg cream station at the Jewish Food Festival. A Jewish Food Festival attendee reads the Jewish Food Story Project stories on display at the event. Photos by Diego Torres.

“The Recipe That Survived,” by Rebecca Essinger-Bosworth

My cousin Ida and her husband Harry both survived Auschwitz, though most of the rest of their family perished. I had a very close connection to Ida. We shared the same birthday and a love of baking, and her warmth and kindness reminded me so much of my own grandmother who died when I was 13.

Whenever we visited, Ida baked an apple cake that we ate huge slices of for breakfast and dessert. Each Rosh Hashanah, she baked apple cakes for friends to wish them a sweet New Year.

After she passed away, I would bake her delicious apple cake for Jewish holidays and special celebrations. Once when serving it to friends in our *chavurah*, I shared the history of my dear Ida, how she survived the Holocaust, and the special memories she created for us with her delicious cake as the centerpiece. One friend commented, “Wow, so her Jewish recipe survived the Holocaust too!” I shivered as I thought of the profound truth of this statement.

Each time I make this cake, I think of Ida; her strength and commitment to *living* life despite the horrific experiences she endured. I also remind myself that her recipe survived as well; a sweet legacy of the woman who was like a grandma to me.

Becoming a Southern Jewish Scholar: An Interview with Shari Rabin

Shari Rabin, associate professor of Jewish Studies and Religion at Oberlin College, will deliver the Helen Stern Fund Lecture at our upcoming conference. Her topic is “Dissent, Providentialism, and Slavery: A New Interpretation of Early Charleston Jewish Life.” Ashley Walters, conference planning committee co-chair, interviewed Rabin about her research. (Transcript edited for clarity.)

Q. How did you first become interested in southern Jewish history?

I was always interested in American Jewish histories outside of New York, having grown up in Milwaukee and then Atlanta. My first book explored mobility and far-flung places where Jews live, and how they create Jewish life in new places. That project had a lot of southern materials in it, but it wasn't necessarily framed as southern Jewish history, per se. It was really coming to Charleston to work at the College of Charleston and the Pearlstine/Lipov Center for Southern Jewish Culture that led me to think about that material in a regional frame. I taught a southern Jewish history class and became involved in the SJHS, and so it was a natural evolution of my long-standing interest in far-flung Jewish life.

Q. Tell me about your current book project.

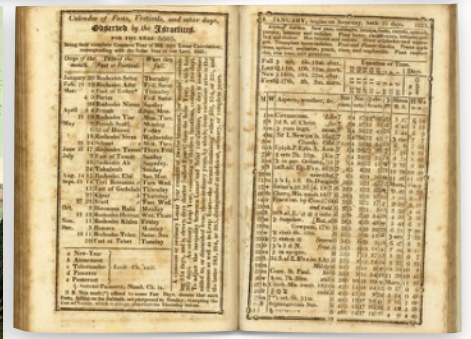
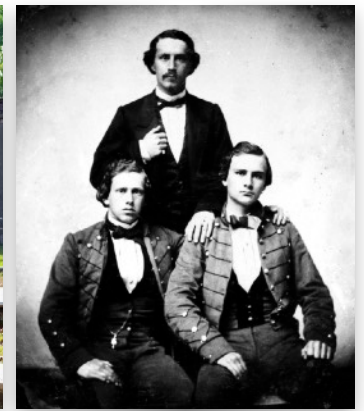
It is a narrative history of Jews in the American South from the 17th century to the present day. I'm doing a lot of synthesizing of local Jewish histories, bringing that material into conversation with more recent scholarship in southern history, American history, and American religion. I am also doing some new spade work with original primary sources and trying to think about southern Jews across the *longue durée* and how they've been configured—and configured themselves—in relation to race and religion.

Q. In what ways do you see race and religion as central to the history of Jews in the American South? Does this change across time?

It has changed across time, for sure. The early period has really captured my interest in ways that surprised me. Part of what I think is fascinating about the early colonial period is that it's when the categories of “race” and “religion” are being created. There's been a lot of interesting scholarship in Religious Studies showing how intertwined race and religion are, and so part of what I'm thinking about is how whiteness and Protestant Christianity remain entangled in a lot of ways. Sometimes, whiteness can expand to include Jews, but then in other moments, it narrows.

Q. How does Charleston factor into the story you tell?

Charleston is important for me because it's where I began to think about southern Jewish history. I started writing this book after I left, but now I get to “be” in Charleston regularly in my writing, which is nice. This is the first place in the American South where you start to see Jews trickling in, and I found a lot of really interesting material that has not been given the attention and close study that it deserves. Charleston is especially important in this early period but remains so throughout. I'll add that the work that's been done at the Jewish Heritage Collection in terms of collecting, digitizing, and making sure that resources are available to researchers has been invaluable.



Clockwise from top left: Shari Rabin addressing NEH summer institute scholars at Coming Street Cemetery, 2019. Photo by Heather Moran/College of Charleston. Confederate recruits Joshua, Isaac, and Perry Moses of Sumter, SC, c. 1861. Courtesy of Anne F. Jennings. Jewish holiday calendar printed in Charleston's 1825 city directory. Special Collections, College of Charleston Libraries. Charleston harbor, c. 1838. Library of Congress.

Q. Charleston is a port city, of course, and closely tied to the Atlantic world. How do you think a transatlantic lens changes our understanding of southern Jewish history?

Charleston is definitely part of the Atlantic world—the Jewish Atlantic world. Many of these folks are working as merchants and are looking outward to other Jewish communities in terms of their economic livelihood. But Charleston has not been a major focus in Jewish Atlantic world scholarship. And what I have found from looking closely at Charleston materials is that the city deviates from the Jewish Atlantic world in some ways. Charleston is certainly cosmopolitan, with Jews engaged in trade relationships across far distances (and it's enmeshed within the British empire), but there are ways in which it seems to stand out.

NEWS AND NOTES

Synagogues of the South Goes Live

Six years in the making, *Synagogues of the South: Architecture and Jewish Identity* can now be accessed online. Authored by architectural historian Samuel D. Gruber, the exhibition explores the lost history of synagogues in the American South through the lens of dozens of postcards from the fabulous William A. Rosenthal Collection at the College of Charleston. Arranged in ten sections by architectural style, the images illustrate Jewish sanctuaries from Maryland to Florida and west to Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas.

"In religiously and culturally pluralist America," Gruber declares, "Jewish communities have probably built more types, sizes, forms, and styles of synagogues in two centuries than in the entire history of Jewish synagogue construction." Produced by the College's Pearlstine/Lipov Center for Southern Jewish Culture (CSJC) and the Jewish Heritage Collection (JHC), the exhibit captures a significant slice of the

built environment of the Jewish South.

"We are proud to unveil this triumph of digital scholarship," says JHC curator Dale Rosengarten. The CSJC is eager to add images to its database, including synagogues not yet portrayed and alternate views of sanctuaries pictured online. Please use the site's contact page if you have information to offer.



Special Collections, College of Charleston Libraries.

Emory Launches Fellowship

The Stuart A. Rose Library at Emory University has announced the Southern Jewish History Collections Fellowship. Funded by the Lewyn and Geffen families, it provides up to \$1,000 to support research in the Rose Library's holdings documenting Jewish life in Georgia and the South, including materials on southern Jewish families, culture, businesses, activism, and politics. Collections include the Morris B. Abram papers, the American Jewish Committee Atlanta oral history interviews, the Louis and Anna Geffen family papers, the Jacob M. Rothschild papers, and many others. Email marbl@emory.edu to learn more.

Preserving Jewish Culture and Heritage in Alabama

In June, the Alabama Folklife Association hosted an exploratory meeting with people interested in preserving Alabama's Jewish culture and heritage. The meeting grew out of discussions between AFA director Emily Blejwas and Amy Milligan, a folklorist specializing in small Alabama Jewish communities. Hosted by Milligan, the gathering included archivists, librarians, academic researchers, community historians, genealogists, and other interested individuals. The conversation generated ideas for initiatives that bridge community needs, academic research, and



Torah at Temple Mishkan Israel, Selma. Photo by Amy Milligan.

preservation. The group will move forward with continued conversation, working in collaboration with the Alabama Folklife Association, the Southern Jewish Historical Society, and the Institute for Southern Jewish Life. Those interested in learning more can contact Milligan at amilliga@odu.edu.

Request for Info on Jewish Merchants of Franklin, TN



The Williamson County Historical Society is sponsoring *The History of the Jewish Merchants of Franklin, TN, Mid-19th to Mid-20th Century*, a compilation of stories that will

highlight the contributions and legacy of some two dozen merchants and their stores. Researcher and writer Ruth Lebovitz is partnering with Williamson County historian Rick Warwick, who has accumulated a sizable cache of newspaper ads, notices, and obituaries featuring Jewish merchants, dating from the mid-1800s. Please contact Ruthphoto49@gmail.com if you have any information on these or other Jewish merchants of Franklin:

Isaac Adel (clothing and dry goods), Samuel Bierfield, Louis Brodsky (Brodsky and Raskin Dry Goods), Ike Bryan (dry goods), Cohen's Furniture Store, Abe Cohen, Harry L. Cohen, Nat, Morris & Gus Cohen, Reuben & Alex Cohen, Harry Edgeman (dry goods), Louis Frankland & Co, Ike Ginsberg or Ginsburg (ladies ready-to-wear), S. Goldberg (peddler), Guttman & Cohen Toy Store, M. Guttman (Max?), M.L. Jacobs (department store), Dave Katzman (Gent's Furnishing Store), Louis Kaufman, Leon Lapidus, Joseph Lipsheets (Civil War-era peddler buried in Franklin), Joe and Abe Mendelsohn, Joe Posnack (Kiddle Store) Jake Raskin, Harry Seligman (Zager's), Martin Tohrner, Nathan Zager (dry goods).



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Register for the Conference —and Renew Your Membership!

Now is the time to register for the 46th Annual SJHS Conference, to be held October 21–23 at the College of Charleston in downtown Charleston, South Carolina. And if you haven't already, now is *also* the time to renew your SJHS membership. Unlike past years, conference registration and membership renewal must be done separately. But you can conveniently accomplish both by starting at the SJHS website, jewishsouth.org.



Conference Hotel Information

Hotel rooms must be booked separately. From the SJHS website, you can link to the main conference web page (or go directly, jhssc.org/events/conference/) and click on “Hotel Info” to see a variety of hotel options, both in downtown Charleston and across the Ravenel Bridge in Mt. Pleasant (about seven miles away from the conference site). You must arrange your own transportation. Uber, Lyft, and local taxis are available.

At some of the hotels, special conference rates are available for a limited time. Follow the hotel links for reservations. We encourage you to book as soon as possible!