



The Stuff of Jews: Political Economics and Jewish Material Culture, 1945–Present

Center for Research on Antisemitism, Technical University in Berlin
Sponsored by the Volkswagen Foundation

24 – 26 March 2015

TENTATIVE WORKSHOP SCHEDULE
(subject to change)

Tuesday, March 24

- 6:00 PM Welcome and Keynote
- Welcoming Remarks and Introduction
Jacob Ari Labendz, Center for Research on Antisemitism, TU-Berlin
- Keynote Address
Michael Meng, Clemson University
- 8:00 PM Dinner, Location TBA

Wednesday, March 25

- 9:30 AM Welcome
- 9:40 AM Panel One: The Meaning of Jewish Property, Restituted and Retained
- David Gerlach, Saint Peter's University
"Stuff Stolen and Stuff Left Behind: Toward a Material Culture of Jewish Loss"
- Yecheil Weizman, University of Haifa
"The ambivalence of appropriation: conflicting notions of 'ownership' of the Jewish sites in Polish towns since 1945"
- 11:00 AM Coffee Break

- 11:15 AM Panel Two: Jewish Properties and the Socialist States
- Damiana Otoiu, University of Bucharest
 “‘Even if We Rule Them, We don’t Know What’s Happening There...’: The ‘Jewish’ Properties in Socialist Romania”
- Jacob Ari Labendz, Center for Research on Antisemitism, TU-Berlin
 “Jewish-State Mutuality: Selling Off Czech Synagogues, 1945-1970”
- Achim Wörn, Center for Research on Antisemitism, TU-Berlin
 “The Jewish Cemetery of Stettin / Szczecin”
- 1:00 PM Lunch
- 2:00 PM Panel Three: Jewish Properties in the Middle East and North Africa
- Shayna Zamkanei, University of Chicago
 “Arab Jewish Property Claims: Between Europe and Israel
- Sara Jay, Washington University in St. Louis
 “Grave Connections: Algeria’s Jewish Cemeteries as Sites of Diaspora-Homeland Contact”
- 3:20 PM Coffee Break
- 3:35 PM Panel Four: Jewish Property & International Jewish Organizations after 1989
- Yehudah Benjamin Cohn, New York University
 “Claiming from the Claims Conference in the Former DDR”
- Jeffrey Edelstein, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee
 “Reconnecting with a Fugitive Collection: A Case Study of the Records of the JDC’s Warsaw Office, 1945-1949”
- 4:55 PM Coffee Break
- 5:15 PM Closing Discussion

ATTENDING THE WORKSHOP

We have limited space to welcome guests at our workshop. Individuals working in related fields are encouraged to join us and to participate in the discussions following the paper presentations. If you would like to attend or to register a guest, please email: stuffofjews@gmail.com.