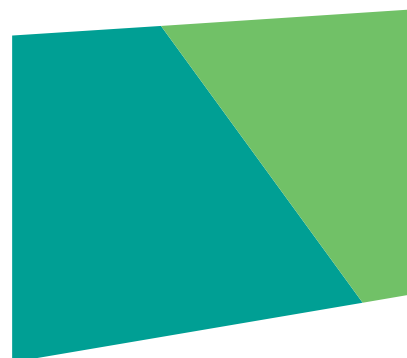
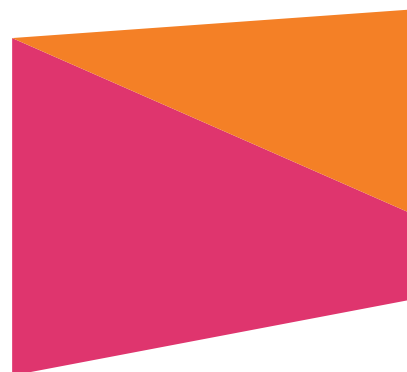




Jewish Museum in Prague 2017 Annual Report



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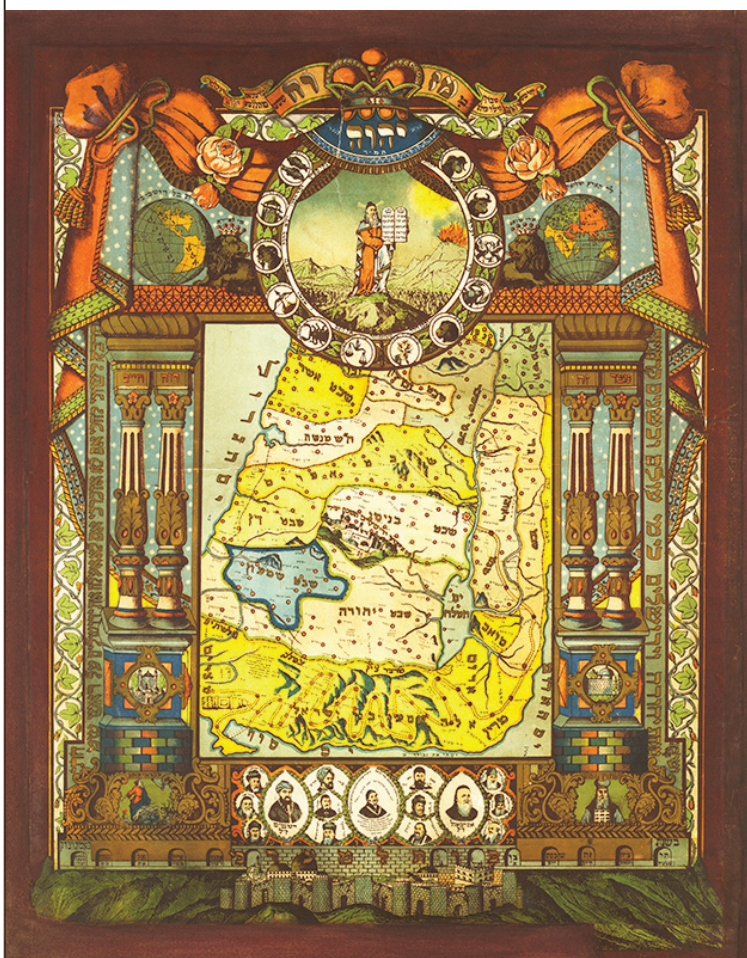
Legal framework for the JMP's activities and bodies

The Jewish Museum in Prague (JMP), an association of legal entities with common interests, was registered by the Prague 1 District Authority on the 30th of September 1994. In accordance with Act No. 122/2000 on the Protection of Museum Collections as subsequently amended, the JMP's activities as a cultural institution primarily include the following areas: creation, supplementation, management, collection and presentation of its collections; creation, supplementation and management of its library and archive holdings; activities relating to research, cultural, publishing and education; sales of souvenirs, publicity and other materials, publications, audio and audiovisual recordings and other things related to its purpose and activities; cultural and other activities related to Judaism, the Jews and Jewish history in Bohemia and Moravia. The JMP's chief activities also include research (basic, applied and experimental) and the dissemination of research results through education, publication and technology transfer. Also of importance are the making of necessary repairs and technical assessments of the rented properties where the JMP is based and where its collections are displayed in order to generate revenue for the payment of part of its lease. The JMP also rents out unused areas within its premises with the approval of the property owner, the Jewish Community in Prague. An additional area of activity for the JMP is the professional care of the Jewish cultural heritage in the Czech Republic through the Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic.

*JMP New Year card for 2017-2018
marking the 70th anniversary of the State
of Israel.*

*Moshe ben Yaakov (1856–1932)
Mizrah with a map of the Holy Land in its
tribal divisions*

*Colour lithograph on paper, central
Europe, dated 1883,
Acc. No. JMP 046.493*



The JMP's supreme body is the Board of Trustees, which comprised the following members in 2017:

Jiří Daniček, Chairman (Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic)

PhDr. Jan Munk (Jewish Community in Prague)

Eva Lorencová (Jewish Community in Prague)

Jiří Löwy (Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic)

Mgr. Pavel Hlubuček (Czech Ministry of Culture)

The JMP's control body is the Supervisory Board, which comprised the following members in 2017:

Ing. Jan Neubauer, Chairman (Jewish Community in Prague)

RNDr. Michal Hron (Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic)

Ing. Marta Rubínová (Czech Ministry of Culture)

Four meetings of the Board of Trustees and two meetings of the Supervisory Board were held in 2017. Minutes were taken at each meeting in the presence of a lawyer.

The JMP director in 2017 was Leo Pavlát.



2

Basic information about the JMP

a) Properties and sites overseen by the JMP

- Administrative building, U Staré školy 1/3, Prague 1: JMP administration, specialist workplaces, depositories, Multimedia Centre, café, Robert Guttman Gallery (venue for temporary exhibitions).
- Maisel Synagogue: (in the main nave) new permanent exhibition *Jews in the Bohemian Lands, 10th–18th Century*, with 169 originals, facsimiles and copies on display. Open from 30 June 2016.
- Spanish Synagogue: (in the main nave and gallery) permanent exhibition *The History of the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia – II. From Emancipation to the Present*, with 546 originals, facsimiles and copies on display; (in the Winter Prayer Hall) permanent exhibition *Synagogue Silver from Bohemia and Moravia*, with 224 items on display.
- Pinkas Synagogue: (in the main nave) Memorial to the Jewish Victims of the Shoah from the Czech lands; (on the upper floor) permanent exhibition *The Children's Story – Children's Drawings from Terezín, 1942–1944*, with 238 originals, facsimiles and copies of documents on display; (outside) evening projection of photographs – *The Faces of the Victims of the Shoah* – onto the gable wall of the mikveh.
- Klausen Synagogue: (in the main nave) permanent exhibition *Jewish Customs and Traditions – I. The Synagogue and Festivals*; (on the upper floor) permanent exhibition *Jewish Customs and Traditions – II. The Course of Life*, with 481 originals, facsimiles and copies on display.
- Ceremonial Hall: continuation of the permanent exhibition *Jewish Customs and Traditions – II. The Course of Life*, with 140 originals, facsimiles and copies on display.

Maisel synagogue



b) Services provided by the JMP

- Tours of five permanent exhibitions in historic buildings; tours of the 15th–18th-century Old Jewish Cemetery, Prague.
- Tours of temporary exhibitions in the Robert Guttmann Gallery.
- Educational programmes and tours organized by the JMP's Department for Education and Culture in Prague and Brno.
- Cultural programmes on Jewish topics in the JMP's Department for Education and Culture (Prague and Brno) and in the Maisel Synagogue, Prague.
- Seminars on Jewish topics.
- Multimedia Centre – Internet access, basic literature on Jewish topics, specialist database, video and audio recordings for reference, sale of books published by the JMP.
- Archive services for researchers – provision of archival materials for study purposes, specialist consultations, literature searches and reprographic services).
- Specialized library services for specialists and the general public.
- Further training of educational staff via the Department for Education and Culture.
- Consultation for specialists and the general public on issues related to the history of Bohemian and Moravian Jews.
- Consultation for specialists and the general public on issues related to the persecution of Bohemian and Moravian Jews during the Second World War.
- Consultation for specialists and the general public on issues related to the JMP's holdings, specialist presentations and research.
- Assessment and processing of requests for the permanent and temporary export of objects of cultural value; appraisal services.
- Access to historical pictorial materials for reproduction.
- JMP publications, CDs and publicity material, including the online sale of JMP publications via the JMP's website.
- Online sale of entries from the JMP's electronic Encyclopaedia of Jewish Communities in Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia via the JMP's website.
- Advance booking for visits via the JMP's Information and Reservation Centre.
- Exhibition tours led by qualified guides.
- Tours with audio-guides (contractually provided by Promotion & Education, s.r.o.).



3

Visitor numbers and visitor services

Total number of visitors			
		Adults	Children
January	33,224	23,709	9,515
February	36,517	23,332	13,185
March	56,427	30,636	25,791
April	77,670	49,608	28,062
May	67,717	53,344	14,373
June	63,782	47,994	15,788
July	71,265	49,717	21,548
August	85,328	61,265	24,063
September	61,754	47,272	14,482
October	66,143	50,062	16,081
November	43,472	32,957	10,515
December	53,619	41,185	12,434
TOTAL	716,918	511,081	205,837

The JMP received 716,918 visitors in 2017, which is 57,053 more than the previous year (an increase of 8.65%).

JMP Information and Reservation Centre



Drawing on its tried-and-tested methods, the JMP continued to develop its activities with the aim of improving visitor services. Despite having to raise entry fees due to a general increase in costs, the JMP achieved its highest ever visitor numbers. There was again an increase in the sale of tickets for a combined tour of the JMP and the Old-New Synagogue, which is overseen by the Jewish Community of Prague; this option was particularly popular with local people on family visits, taking advantage of the discount offered in the “Culture Against Antisemitism” programme (the Prague Jewish Town tour).

The JMP continued to provide discount tickets as part of the Prague City Pass and the Lítačka Prague travel card packages. Once again, the JMP’s inclusion in the Prague Card sightseeing pass proved beneficial, attracting more than 35,000 visitors.

The JMP’s Information and Reservation Centre (at Maiselova 15, Prague 1), which opened in 2014, served as the tour starting point for a larger number of visitors than in 2016, and significantly contributed to visitor experience and satisfaction.

On 1 December 2017, the JMP introduced a new design for its exhibition tickets. They are brightly coloured and are printed on high quality paper with direct thermal printers, which operate silently and fast. They also offer advertising space. Overall, these tickets help to speed up visitor flow and to improve the JMP’s presentation. An ad for the JMP’s current partner, Hotel King David, will be featured on the bottom of the front of the ticket for the period of one year.

Through its Department for Education and Culture, the JMP continued to provide considerable discounts for school groups visiting the JMP. The activities of the Society of Friends of the Jewish Museum in Prague also helped to promote the JMP.

In 2017 the JMP was awarded five TripAdvisor® Certificates of Excellence – for the museum as a whole, and separately for the Pinkas, Klausen and Spanish synagogues, and the Old Jewish Cemetery. Founded in 2010, the Certificate of Excellence award honours tourist attractions and destinations that consistently achieve outstanding reviews on TripAdvisor from travellers around the world.



4

Organizational structure and staff

In accordance with its organisational structure, the JMP comprised eight departments in 2017. The annual average number of employees for 2017 was 138.9 – including eight whose salaries were fully or partly covered by grants and seven on maternity or parental leave. As of the end of 2017, the JMP had 139 employees; the number of full time equivalent employees was 133.

The staff structure in 2017 was as follows: one director, 49 security staff and custodians, 51 research and specialist staff (including conservators/restorers and Photography Department staff), 12 economic staff (including exhibition ticket sellers), eight educational and cultural staff, four staff responsible for the maintenance, repair, reconstruction and management of the properties overseen by the JMP, two IT staff, five administrative staff, five publicity and exhibition staff, three staff of the Information and Reservation Centre.

In the course of the year, 194 persons rendered their services to the JMP on a contractual basis (work agreements, agreements for the performance of work assignments, author contracts)

The average monthly wage (converted into FTE) for JMP staff was CZK 24,887 in 2017. The average monthly gross wage in the Czech Republic (converted into FTE) was CZK 29,504; the average monthly gross wage in Prague (converted into FTE) was CZK 37,288.

Conservation specialists





5

Exhibitions

a) Exhibitions at the Robert Guttmann Gallery

Two temporary exhibitions were on view at the JMP's Robert Guttmann Gallery (at U Staré školy 3, Prague 1) in 2017.

The exhibition *"Come, my beloved ..." – Illustrations for the Song of Songs* ran from 6 October 2016 until 12 March 2017. Held in collaboration with the Museum of Czech Literature, this exhibition presented the biblical "Song of Songs", shedding light on its origin, its place in Jewish liturgy, its publication history and translation into Czech. The focus, however, was on its ornamentation, illustrations, and the work it has inspired in the modern age from the beginning of the 20th century till the present. On display were Art Nouveau illustrations from the likes of E.M. Lilien, František Kupka, and Israeli artist Zeev Raban, a number of lesser known art deco illustrations from the early 20th century, later Neo-Classical works, and a priceless set of original illustrations from the collection of bibliophile Josef Portmann that includes such renowned Czech artists as Václav Mašek, František Kobliha, Jan Konůpek, Karel Sovolinský, Cyril Bouda, and Milada Marešová, as well as work from a younger generation of artists such as Jarmila Mařanová and Olga Čechová. Among the work by international artists on display were illustrations from Anatoli Kaplan, Shraga Weil, and contemporary American artists Mark Podwal and Barbara Wolff. Select publications could be viewed in their entirety on interactive screens. The exhibition was loosely connected to previous exhibitions on the history of the JMP's rare books collection (2007) and to Passover Haggadahs from the JMP library collection (2010). The exhibition was seen by 7,602 visitors.

A private view of the exhibition *Through the Labyrinth of Normalization: The Jewish Community as a Mirror for the Majority Society*, was held on 5 April 2017. This show was produced by the JMP in

*Tábor, 1977. From the exhibition
Through the Labyrinth of
Normalization. The Jewish Community
as a Mirror for the Majority Society.
Photo by Josef Broum. (c) Jewish
Museum in Prague*



co-operation with the Security Services Archive and the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes for the 40th anniversary of the founding of Charter 77. Charter 77, a civic initiative demanding adherence to human and civil rights, was the most important form of resistance to the communist regime and normalization in Czechoslovakia. The fortieth anniversary of its publication gave us an opportunity to present the situation of the Jewish community during the normalization period, undeniably unique on the one hand while on the other a microcosm in which similar processes no less intense than those affecting society at large were taking place.

The exhibition showed the myriad forms “anti-Zionist” propaganda took during this period and its impact on individual lives. It also presented concrete cases of StB (former State Secret Police) operations against Jewish communities, the dilemmas faced by community members, and the involvement of several members in dissident and other activities outside the official scope of Jewish communities. Normalization also entailed the destruction of Jewish cemeteries, the demolition of synagogues, and the obstruction of research and study into the fate of Jews during the Second World War as well as policies that nearly eradicated Judaism completely. On display were photographs depicting daily Jewish life, the efforts made to preserve it despite the coordinated attempts of the communist regime to suppress any sort of meaningful activity, especially the passing down of Jewish traditions from one generation to the next. The majority of the unique documents and photographs were brought together from a number of archives and were exhibited for the very first time. The exhibition was conceived and curated by the film documentarist Martin Šmok. Financial support was received from the State Cultural Fund of the Czech Republic and from the City of Prague. The exhibition was seen by a total of 23,432 visitors over the course of its ten months’ duration (from 6 April 2017 to 28 January 2018).

b) Exhibitions at the Department for Education and Culture

The JMP held other exhibitions at its Department for Education and Culture in Prague and Brno.

Five exhibitions were held at the department in Prague (at Maiselova 15): *Let Me Be Myself: The Life Story of Anne Frank* – an exhibition produced by the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam; *Scots Jews: Identity, Belonging and the Future* – an exhibition of photographs by Judah Passow; *Mám se v Terezíně velice dobře...?* [Am I Doing Well in Terezín...?] – an exhibition of student artworks from the 18th annual art competition held by the Terezín Memorial; *The Jewish Vocational School Masada in Darmstadt, 1947–48* – an exhibition on the history of the Masada school established and run by Samuel Milek Battalion; *Israel from Below* – an exhibition of photographs by Lukáš Falteisek.

Seven exhibitions were held at the department in Brno: an exhibition of pupils’ winning entries from the Terezín Memorial’s art competition *Mám se v Terezíně dobře...?* [Am I Doing Well in Terezín...?]; an exhibition of photographs *Boskovice-Lodž: Po stopách židovství Lodžského vojvodství* [Boskovice-Lodz: On the Trail of Jewish Life in the Lodz Province]; *The Jewish Religious Community in Jemnice and Police*; *Scots Jews: Identity, Belonging and the Future* – an exhibition of photographs by Judah Passow; *Tváře Cejlu* [The Faces of Cejl] – an exhibition about the former prison in Cejl Street in Brno, organized by the civic association Paměť [Memory]; *Slovo, obraz, Schulz* [Word, Image, Schulz], an exhibition of comics by the artists Dieter Jüdt, Patryk Mogilnicki, Agnieszka Piksa and Jakub Woynarowski, inspired by the literary work of Bruno Schulz; *Who’s Who?* – an exhibition of oil paintings by Judita Kopotová.

c) Online exhibitions

The Shoah History Department put together the online exhibition *Going into Battle with Prayer: The Story of Rabbi Hanuš Rezek*. On the basis of selected documents and photographs, this exhibition recalls Hanuš Rezek (Rebenwurz), a military field rabbi in the Czechoslovak Foreign Army who served



Rabbi Hanuš Rezek (Rebenwurz)

in the Middle East and later in the UK. It also emphasizes the important contribution of Jewish soldiers to the fight against Nazi Germany. The exhibition is accessible at the JMP's website: http://collections.jewishmuseum.cz/index.php/simpleGallery/Show/displaySet/set_id/289.

A photograph from the Auschwitz Album



d) Exhibitions held in co-operation with other institutions

An exhibition of photographs from the Auschwitz Album was on display at Smålands Museum in Växjö, Sweden, between 27 January and 20 August 2017. The Auschwitz Album is a unique set of photographs taken by the Nazis in the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp in 1944 and was discovered by chance after the war. The copies of these photographs are kept in the collections of the Jewish Museum in Prague, which has loaned them for the exhibition in Sweden. The museum also held more than 20 guided tours of the exhibition and several lectures on the topic of the Holocaust. The exhibition was seen by the majority of the 15,000 people who came to the museum while it was on view.

An exhibition of historic Eastern-European Jewish postcards from the collection of František Bányai (www.judaica.cz) were on display at the Museum at Eltridge Street in New York City from 16 March until 8 June 2017. Supported by the JMP, the exhibition offers a view of a time and of places that no longer exist – including synagogues, most of which were destroyed during the Second World War. The postcards carry greetings, messages and news from a vanished Eastern Europe of a century ago.

In co-operation with the JMP, the Vodňany Municipal Museum and Gallery (former synagogue building) hosted an exhibition of documents, titled *Giving Victims Back their Faces: The Lost World of Vodňany Jews*, between 1 May and 18 June 2017. Curated by PhDr. Josef Nožička from the State District Archives in Písek, the exhibition commemorated the Jewish inhabitants of Vodňany in the 1920s–1940s and drew attention to their impact on the social and economic life of the local community.

The JMP and the Olomouc Museum of Art together prepared the exhibition *Olomouc Synagogue (1897–1939)*, which was on view at the Archdiocesan Museum in Olomouc from 19 October 2017 until 7 January 2018. With focus on the former synagogue in Olomouc, this exhibition drew attention to the religious life of the Jewish community in Olomouc before 1942 by displaying liturgical objects that have been preserved in the JMP's collections. Among other things, JMP staff contributed to the preparation of expert texts for the exhibition catalogue.

As in previous years, the JMP held touring exhibitions in collaboration with various partners in 2017. The Prague office of the Department for Education and Culture provided 12 such exhibitions, six of which dealt with the topic of the Shoah: *Don't Lose Faith in Mankind: The Protectorate Through the Eyes of Jewish Children*; *A Ghetto Called Baluty/Report on Lodz*; *Neighbours Who Disappeared – Tribute to the Child Holocaust Victims*; *Jewish Testimony on the Czech Century*; *The Girls from Room 28, L 410, Terezín* and *The Children's Story – Children's Drawings from the Terezín Ghetto*. Six other touring exhibitions dealt with topics of general interest: *Baroque Synagogues in the Czech Lands*; *The Second Life of Czech Torah Scrolls*; *The History of the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia*; *Symbols of Emancipation – Nineteenth-Century Synagogues in the Bohemian Lands*; *Jewish Customs and Traditions*; *Jewish Education*. A new exhibition was completed in December, titled *I have not seen a butterfly around here: Children's Drawings from the Terezín Ghetto*.

In 2017 these exhibitions were on display at 40 schools, museums and former synagogues in 23 towns across the Czech Republic.



6

Collections and their documentation

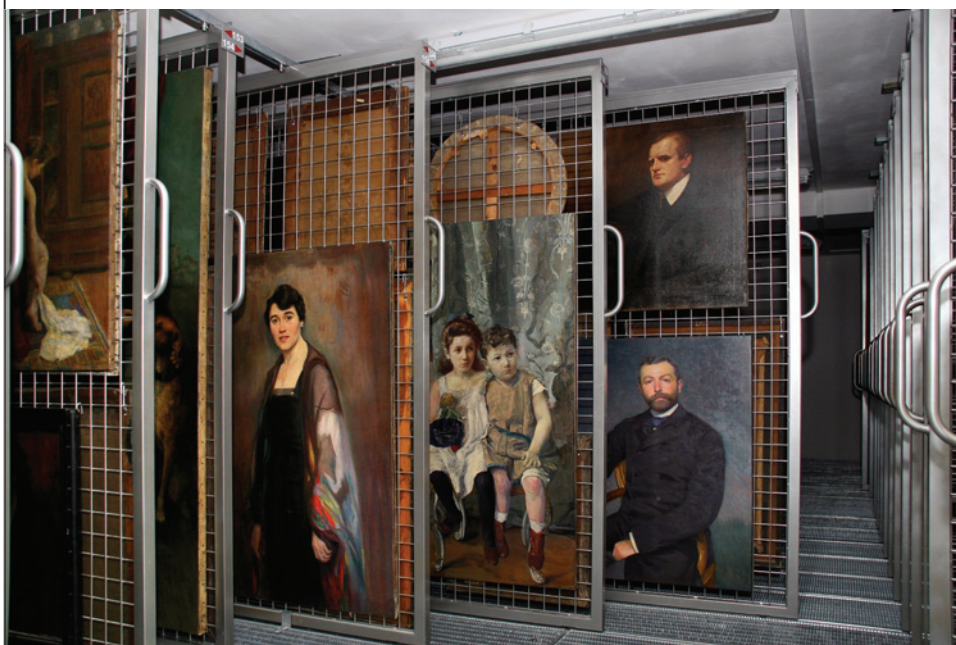
a) Care of the collections

The JMP fully ensured that its collection objects, books and archival holdings were kept in optimal conditions with regard to temperature, light and humidity. The JMP's conservation/restoration staff regularly checked the state of the objects in its depositories and in its permanent exhibitions, where they also took light intensity measurements. Preventative insect control was carried out within selected areas of the JMP's administrative building and depositories.

The JMP commissioned external conservators/restorers to treat only objects that were in immediate risk of deterioration due to their poor state of repair, and only where this work could not be done in the JMP's own workshops for capacity reasons. In 2017 external specialists were commissioned to conserve or restore four Torah mantles and one Torah ark curtain from the textile collection, one book from the collection of manuscripts and genizah papers, and three drawings from the visual art collection. The external restoration of an extensive collection of genizah finds from Rychnov nad Kněžnou in the collection of manuscripts and genizah papers (126 single sheets/sections and 21 fragments of book blocks) was made possible by a grant from the State Culture Fund of the Czech Republic.

In 2017 the Textile Conservation and Restoration Studio conserved/restored 23 textiles. In collaboration with the Collections Management Department, the textile conservators/restorers undertook an inventory of part of the collection of valances, canopies and large covers in the JMP's textile depository

Museum visual arts depository



outside Prague. Great attention was devoted to the preparation of 120 large prayer shawls (tallitot) for digitization and to the preparation of textiles for inclusion in a new permanent exhibition in the Spanish Synagogue.

The JMP's paper conservators/restorers contributed to the preparation of one exhibition at the Robert Guttmann Gallery in 2017. In addition to matting and framing 25 items for external loans, they carried out the following work for the JMP's individual departments in 2017: restoration treatment of nine items for the visual art collection; restoration of 111 genizah papers for the collection of manuscripts and genizah papers; restoration of three items for the Shoah History Department; restoration of 27 small printed items and additional treatment and conservation of 52 books and journals for the JMP Library; restoration of 14 bound and unbound archival documents for the JMP Archives.

The Metal Conservation and Restoration Studio conserved/restored 38 silver, brass, wooden and iron objects. It also conserved/restored collection objects for exhibitions, for loans and for the systematic digitization of the silver collection.

The JMP's textile depository outside Prague maintained its climate-control and security conditions, which have been improved as a result of recent building alterations. On the basis of an assessment of the overall situation, including the building's structure, the JMP management has adhered to its decision to relocate the textiles to a new depository in Prague.

Five tombstones from the Old Jewish Cemetery were restored under the supervision of JMP archivist Vlastimila Hamáčková. Six upended tombstones were set back up. The tomb of Joseph Solomon Delmedigo was restored with the support of the Foundation for Holocaust Victims (NFOH).

b) Collections management

In 2017, the Collections Management Department made out a total of 201 issue slips for 3,405 collection objects (to be taken out of the depository and subsequently placed back in storage). Most of the items were taken out of storage to be digitized, restored, conserved or cleaned. In total, 1,464 items remained out of storage as of 7 February 2018 (mainly in exhibitions or on loan for exhibition purposes).

Intensive work continued on the digitization of the JMP's collection of manuscripts and genizah papers. Smaller groups of items from the textile collection are also being gradually digitized. Items to be used in the new exhibition in the Spanish Synagogue were added to the auxiliary collection, which contains copies, replicas and facsimiles of collection objects, as well as authentic Judaica with informative value but without specific importance to the JMP's collections. The auxiliary collection now contains 596 items.

The ongoing inventory of the JMP's holdings continued in 2017. This included part of the textile collection (bimah covers, baldachins/canopies, valances and cushions) and part of the collection of three-dimensional objects (little bells), comprising 2,546 items, i.e. 6.2% of the JMP's holdings.

Four online reports for the Judaica sub-collection with regard to changes to the Central Register of Collections were submitted to the Czech Ministry of Culture in 2017. In accordance with the relevant legal regulations, documents were prepared for the cataloguing of acquisitions for the year 2017, and 288 new registration numbers for the Judaica sub-collection were reported. In addition, one superfluous item was discarded from this sub-collection.

Intensive work continued on the processing of data on collection objects in the CollectiveAccess database. Information relating to inventoried collection objects was updated, and work resumed on a project identifying the donors of collection objects.

The JMP received and granted eight requests for an authorisation certificate for the permanent export of an object of cultural value from the Czech Republic in accordance with Act No. 71/1994, Coll.

The Photography Department digitized 14,288 images of collection objects (7,187 images from the collection of manuscripts and genizah papers, 5,270 images from the visual art collection) and took 792 photographic images for the textile collection. The scroll collection contained 1,039 images.

Work continued on the digitization of the JMP's archival and library materials – 2,972 images for the Shoah History Department, 1,261 images for the Library, and 1,368 images for the Archives.

Throughout 2017, photographic documentation was carried out to record the JMP's opening shows, prominent visits and important events, as well as building exteriors/interiors and exhibitions (1,821 images). All of these photographs were later added to the CollectiveAccess database.

A substantial portion of the Photo Archive's work involved dealing with requests (a total of 171) submitted by researchers from the Czech Republic and abroad, and providing the necessary materials, mostly in electronic form.

c) Archives

The physical condition of archival records was checked on an ongoing basis by archival staff. Work continued on the mechanical removal of dust from records and on minor repairs with the help of external staff. In total, 106 archival books were cleaned and eight other books were restored in 2017. Three architectural plans of the temple in Dušní Street from the fonds of the Society for the Reform of Israelite Religious Worship were restored for later use in the new exhibition in the Spanish Synagogue. In addition, newly acquired documents were mechanically cleaned prior to their archival processing.

Indexing work focused on the new processing of materials in the archives and on the processing of newly acquired personal papers. Collaboration continued with the Dutch researcher Emmy van Swaaij and with Dr. Sabine Dominik for the transcribing of shorthand Braille texts, mostly in German, which are included in the personal papers of Oskar Baum, a German-language writer, journalist and music critic who was active in Bohemia. Works and lectures by Oskar Baum that have never been published were also identified in Braille documents; these include short stories, notes on theatre plays, and notes on a novel set in Prague during the Second World War. This collaboration is to continue in 2018. These previously unresearched works are gradually being made available to a broader public as a result of these transcriptions, thus contributing to a better understanding of the life and work of Oskar Baum. Photographs not relating to Jewish sites (in total 1,897 images) were set aside from the personal papers of Jiří Fiedler. Work is being gradually carried out on the sorting and filing of correspondence relating to the individual entries in Fiedler's electronic encyclopaedia of Jewish communities in Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia. To date, 29 boxes of material have been processed. In addition, the Salomon Kohn Papers (4 boxes of material) were cleaned and re-arranged. A descriptive list was also processed and supplemented with a comprehensive biography and a selective bibliography. The Emil Kleiner Papers were divided into basic thematic groups, and personal records and fragmentary correspondence were set aside and arranged (2 boxes). Detailed research in archives and libraries made it possible to gather supporting documents for a biography of the creator. A review was undertaken of some of the written material in the fonds of the Supreme Council of the Associations of Jewish Religious Communities (10 boxes).

In 2017, the JMP acquired the unsorted papers of Irena Lomová and Jiří Lom from their heirs. The papers were then primarily sorted and the personal documents and correspondence were gradually arranged and stored in five boxes. Work is continuing on the archival processing of this material. In connection with the processing of records in the JMP's business archive, a descriptive list of material from 1969–1994 was reviewed and supplemented with indexes. A list of archived JMP publications and posters was also reviewed and supplemented. During the archival appraisal process, records of the



JMP's Secretariat and Economic Department from the years 1994–2006 (144 ring binders) were placed in the archive. On the basis of the proposed procedure for the transfer to the JMP Archives of the records of Jewish communities and organizations that were processed in the previous year, the Federation of Jewish Communities handed over 95 boxes of material from the years (1979) 1990–2010. Records of the Foundation for Holocaust Victims were transferred for storage in the JMP Archives under a deposit agreement. A group of documents relating to projects supported and implemented in connection with grant programmes of the Foundation for Holocaust Victims ("Care", "Remembrance", "Renovation" and "The Future") for the years 2001–2013 were deposited in 44 boxes.

In collaboration with the JMP's photography workshop, work continued on the digitizing of selected archival records with the aim of providing study and back-up copies of historically valuable materials that are in much demand from researchers. Selected archival records that are mainly for genealogical research are being gradually digitized. Fourteen books (2,201 images) were digitized in 2017. In total, 4,133 images of archival books that have been digitized in the past few years were included in the CollectiveAccess database. An E-study Room was created on the JMP's website; this is a simple user interface that provides researchers with ease of access to digitized archival records in the JMP's online archive.

d) Library

Library staff continued to focus on the cataloguing of books, journals, articles and essays. The library added 2,863 records to its electronic catalogue, which contained 62,473 records by the end of the year; 76,036 pieces of information about library units were added. Journals were processed in the periodical depository in the Pinkas Synagogue and 94 titles with information on the individual issues were added to the library catalogue.

In connection with ongoing retrospective cataloguing of the library fonds, 362 publications were discarded and deleted in the prescribed manner, as they were worn-out, available in multiple copies or not in line with the library's thematic focus.

The library continued its collaboration with the national Article Bibliography Cooperation System (the ANL database) and with the Czech Union Catalogue. In 2017 it sent 166 records of articles from the *Judaica Bohemiae* and *Roš chodeš* journals to the ANL database and 1,952 bibliographic records of books and 65 periodical records to the Czech Union Catalogue.

The library also digitized 111 statutes of Jewish communities in Bohemia and Moravia (4,059 pages), dating from the late 19th and first half of the 20th centuries. The documents were made available online in the open-source digital library system "Kramerius", which now provides access to 20 periodicals (147,967 pages) and 117 monographs (7,902 pages) (<http://kramerius4.jewishmuseum.cz>). This project received support from the Czech Ministry of Culture's VISK 7 Kramerius grant programme – a national programme for the protection and digitization of documents that are endangered by the degradation of acidic paper.

Bibliographic descriptions were added to 936 entries in the library's database of original book owners (by comparing book accession numbers in the online catalogue records from retrospective cataloguing with book accession numbers in DVL-based records).

During 2017, checks were carried out on part of the fonds (call number series 51.000 and 53.000), three staff references libraries, and the reference library of the Shoah History Department. In addition, a content audit of the Multimedia Centre's reference library was carried out as part of a modernization project; this involved removing all the items from the centre's library, repairing and then returning them.

In the historical part of the library's fonds, ongoing checks were carried out on 388 books that are included in the Central Register of Collections. The 'Books' sub-collection contained 3,500 titles by the end of 2017. In total, 199 volumes were added to the register over the course of the year. Condition checks were carried out on 1,784 volumes, and book dimension details were supplemented. Photographs of title pages were gradually added to the book records in the electronic catalogue. More than 800 rare printed books have been documented so far in collaboration with the Photography Department.

The ongoing care of the collection of rare printed books continued with the conservation of sixteen such works. Three books were fully repaired by paper conservators at the JMP, thirteen were fully repaired by external conservators with the help of funding from the Prague Jewish Community Foundation. The curator of the collection of rare printed books (S. Singerová) carried out regular checks on the condition of printed books from Bohemia and Moravia for subsequent conservation/restoration. Old printed books in the library collection were catalogued on an ongoing basis and other titles were selected for inclusion in the Central Register of Collections.

e) Shoah History Department

The Shoah History Department oversees the Persecution Documents collection, which contains various archival documents relating to the period of Nazi persecution, as well as the valuable Terezín collection and a number of personal papers, including those of the prominent Jewish composer Gideon Klein and the violin virtuoso Egon Ledec.

The department's collection was enriched by the addition of 1,350 folios from family archives, including documents of an official and personal nature, correspondence and photographs. The collection received the personal papers of the late Petr Erben from Ashkelon, Israel (about 130 folios, including two photo albums), two drawings (one by Leo Haas) and the Lederer Family Papers (80 folios). The documents were deposited in the Personal Papers collection and the scanned material was catalogued in the CollectiveAccess database. Work continued on the cataloguing and reviewing the of the Persecution Documents collection, specifically Inv. No. 80 (11 boxes), Inv. No. 81-86, 88-91 (4 boxes) and Inv. No. 1-20 (8 boxes). The collection of personal papers of the composer and pianist *Gideon Klein* was catalogued (5 boxes). Specialist descriptions (including copyright designations) were completed for 850 images from the photography collection. In addition, 96 folios of archival material were restored.

In connection with recording interviews for the Oral History collection, the department managed to acquire more than 750 documents and photographs.

The Shoah History Department continued to process its extensive archival collections and gradually provided access to them via the online CollectiveAccess catalogue (<http://collections.jewishmuseum.cz/>). Detailed descriptions were provided for more than 4,500 items in the digital database.



7

Academic and research work

The JMP is intensively developing its own academic and research activities, in many respects following on from its predecessors who laid the foundations in the 1960s. Until 2017, the JMP was the recipient of substantial support for its research and development projects in the form of appropriations from public funds. As of 1 July 2017 – when the hitherto list of research organizations maintained by the Czech Government Council for Research, Development and Innovation was cancelled under Act No. 130/2002 Coll – the JMP no longer meets the conditions for inclusion in the list of research organizations now maintained by the Czech Ministry of Education. Research and development-related activities are among the JMP's objectives, but are not the sole or primary goal. The JMP will, therefore, continue to collaborate on project support for its research projects with non-state actors promoting science and research. In addition, it will continue to develop and support research within its own institutionally-supported research project. The focus of the JMP's academic and research work is on the history and culture of Jews in Bohemia and Moravia within the broad context of development in Central and Eastern Europe. The scope of the JMP's specialist work is very broad and is covered in detail for each department in the following sections of this report.

In 2017, work was done on 28 research tasks at the JMP as part of institutionally funded and externally supported research projects. These tasks involved 14.25 FTE staff (2.15 of whom were lead research staff) and more than ten collaborators on a contractual basis (work contracts and agreements for the performance of work assignments). In connection with this, 30 key academic-research results were completed or published. Academic and research work at the JMP was co-ordinated by PhDr. Dana Veselská, Ph.D.

The JMP's academic research work in 2017 focused mainly on completing projects that are being supported by external subjects. The "Frontier of Memory" and "Jewish Council Archives in Europe" projects were brought to a successful conclusion. An addendum to the co-operation agreement between the JMP and the Terezín Institute Initiative was concluded for the purpose of publishing the results of the "Frontier of Memory" project in the database of Shoah victims that is maintained by the Terezín Institute Initiative. Also in 2017, the JMP continued to supplement its catalogue of collections. In addition, the content of the open-source database of digitized library documents "Kramérius" was expanded; 111 statutes of Jewish communities in Bohemia and Moravia, dating from the late 19th and first half of the 20th centuries, were made available online in this public resource.

In the field of international research infrastructures, the JMP continued its very active participation in major projects of international importance. It received a third grant for the years 2018-2019 as part of the Yerusha project – a European database of archival fonds and collections relating to Jewish history and culture. The JMP's involvement in EHRI (European Holocaust Research Infrastructure) as part of the European Commission's Seventh Framework and Horizon 2020 programmes is still of primary importance, as this provides access to a new European network of leading research institutions and archives.

The JMP has also remained very active with regard to publishing, providing access to, and popularizing the results of its academic research work. A key role in communicating with the academic community is played by the JMP's peer-reviewed journal with impact factor *Judaica Bohemiae*, two issues of which (Vol. LII) were published in 2017. *Judaica Bohemiae* is included in the Web of Science Database

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(Arts and Humanities Citation Index), in the Scopus Database and in the European Reference Index for the Humanities (ERIH+). It is available through C.E.E.O.L. (Central and Eastern European Online Library), among other distributors. A publication summarizing the papers from the regular „Jews in Bohemia“ seminar, which took place a year earlier in Kadaň, was published at the end of 2017. The books series *Židé – dějiny – paměť* [Jews – History – Memory] continued in 2017 with the publication of Martina Niedhammer's book *Jen pro peníze? Pražské židovské elity v 19. století – skupinová biografie* [Just for Money? Prague Jewish Elites in the 19th Century – A Group Biography]. This series is put together by the JMP in association with the Institute for Contemporary History of the Czech Academy of Sciences and is published by *Lidové noviny*.

The JMP's academic and research results were also presented abroad in 2017. The JMP's specialist staff gave presentations, for example, at the conference "Where are the libraries that were despoiled by the Nazis?" (held by the National Library of France and the Paris Diderot University), at the conference "Challenging Judaica Objects: The Ambiguity of Jewish Material Culture" (held by the University of Zurich) and at the conference "IMMAGINI? Image and Imagination between Representation, Communication, Education, and Psychology" (held by the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano). The JMP's institutional project relating to the comprehensive processing of genizah finds is expected to offer a fairly large research potential, including international co-operation. JMP staff are seeking to promote this topic among specialists by means of scholarly articles and presentations at conferences, such as the "Summer Laboratory for Young Genizah Researchers and those Interested in the Field", which was held by the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich.

The JMP's academic and research infrastructure also involves systematically expanding services that support academic work and research. In addition to its extensive specialist library, the JMP also provides access to a number of special databases in its reading rooms and research rooms. The JMP popularizes its academic and research results through its own publications and exhibitions, as well as through its Department for Education and Culture in Prague and Brno, which holds lecture series, discussions and presentations on the most recent research concerning Jewish history and culture. In 2017, the discussion series "Our Twentieth Century" continued and lecture series were delivered by leading experts, such as "Moravian Jewish Entrepreneurs" by doc. Bohumír Smutný (Moravian Provincial Archives). A series of lectures on German Jewish Literature was given by Prof. Ingeborg Fialová (Department of German Studies at Palacký University in Olomouc). In the area of implementing academic and research results in the educational process, the JMP again collaborated on the project "Innovation in the Teaching of History: Development of Digital Applications for Working with Sources" (with support from the Omega grant programme), which aims to prepare a prototype for an interactive textbook on modern history.

a) Collections Department

The Collections Department staff focused on the following specialist and research activities in 2017:

The metalwork curator Jaroslav Kuntoš focused on supplementing and specifying catalogue data relating to the JMP's collection of Torah pointers. In total, 226 items were processed in this way during 2017, thus completing the comprehensive cataloguing of the collection of Torah pointers. In addition, J. Kuntoš completed work on the processing of 100 records on Judaica from the collections of memorial institutions in the Czech Republic (City of Prague Museum, National Museum, regional museums). He was also involved in preparing a group of selected items for display at the new exhibition in the Spanish Synagogue in accordance with the requirements of the curators, and also helped to determine the best way of presenting the exhibits. Together with D. Veselská and D. Baránek, he put together the concept and technical specification of the exhibition's section on new Jewish communities that were established in the Czech lands in the latter half of the 19th century. At the end of the year, he focused on

processing and specifying catalogue data relating to a set of bells on Torah curtain (69 items catalogued). He also contributed to the preparation of an exhibition and catalogue titled *The Olomouc Synagogue, 1897-1939*.

The visual arts curator, Michaela Sidenberg, carried out research on the collections in her care; some of the results of this research are used in connection with dealing with restitution cases and with creating proposals for the JMP's new permanent exhibitions and special projects. In connection with the preparation of a new permanent exhibition, titled *Friedl's Cabinet: Children's Drawings from Terezín*, she devoted special attention to the topic of children's life and education in the Terezín ghetto. M. Sidenberg presented papers at two international conferences, "From Refugees to Restitution: The History of Nazi-Looted Art in the UK in Transnational Perspective" (23–24 March 2017, Newham College, Cambridge, UK) and "IMMAGINI? Image and Imagination between Representation, Communication, Education, and Psychology" (26–29 November 2017, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano – Faculty of Education Sciences, Bressanone). She contributed to the preparation of a group of items for display at the new exhibition in the Spanish Synagogue and focused separately on the section devoted to Jewish visual artists.

Over the course of 2017, the curator of the collection of manuscripts and genizah papers, Lenka Uličná, co-ordinated a pilot project on the processing of selected endangered finds from the genizah of Rychnov nad Kněžnou with support from the State Culture Fund of the Czech Republic. As part of this project, she catalogued 263 newly restored collection objects. For the LII-1 issue of the *Judaica Bohemiae* journal, she wrote a report on this project, titled *The genizah of Rychnov nad Kněžnou: Preliminary research for a project involving the processing of genizot finds from synagogues in Bohemia and Moravia*. In September, she gave a presentation at the *EAJIS Summer Laboratory for Young Genizah Researchers and those Interested in the Field*, which was held by the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität in Munich. At the international conference "Transformations of Jewish Life: Moravian Jews at the Turn of the 19th and 20th Centuries", held by the Kurt and Ursula Schubert Centre for Jewish Studies at the Faculty of Arts at Palacký University in Olomouc (19–23 October 2017), L. Uličná gave a paper titled "The Genizah of the Synagogue in Holešov – Rabbi Solomon Jekuthiel Haas and Others". She also contributed to the preparation of an exhibition on the Olomouc Synagogue and of the catalogue for this exhibition.

On 12–15 June, the head of the Collections Management Department, Magda Veselská, and the chief curator of the JMP's collections, Dana Veselská, gave presentations at the international conference "Challenging Judaica Objects: The Ambiguity of Jewish Material Culture", which was held by the Universität Zurich. On 8 June, department staff member Barbora Cihlářová took part in the seminar "Register of Contracts Versus Loan Agreements", which dealt with issues concerning Act No. 340/2015 Coll. on the Register of Contracts in relation to the Museum and Heritage Act. Dana Veselská contributed to the preparation of a group of items for display at the new exhibition in the Spanish Synagogue in accordance with the curators' requirements and also helped to determine the best way of presenting the exhibits. Together with J. Kuntoš and D. Baránek, M. Veselská put together the concept and technical specification of the exhibition's section on new Jewish communities that were established in the Czech lands in the latter half of the 19th century.

The coordinator of the Textile Conservation and Restoration Studio, Veronika Ríchnr Nauschová, took part in lectures held by the Textile Working Group of the Commission of Conservators-Restorers of the Czech Association of Museums and Galleries. On 27 April, the conservator-restorer Petra Ptáčníková took part in a lecture on medieval textiles of the Archaeological Institute at the Czech Academy of Sciences. The coordinator of the Paper Conservation and Restoration Studio, Jan Šíblo, attended the Conference of Conservators-Restorers in Litomyšl with a presentation on the issue of restoring genizah finds. J. Šíblo also took part in workshops at the Museum of Eastern Bohemia in Hradec Králové, which

focused on historical photographs and identifying historical photographic techniques. The conservator-restorer Hana Fišerová attended a conference on caring for modern-day paper materials at the National Library in Prague. As part of a volunteer programme, two students worked in the Textile Conservation and Restoration Studio under the supervision of the workshop co-ordinator. A conservation-restoration student from L'École de Condé in Paris completed an internship at the Paper Conservation and Restoration Studio at the start of the year. A student from the Higher School of Graphic Art and the Secondary School of Graphic Art in Hellichova Street, Prague, also gained work experience there, as did two students from the Faculty of Conservation and Restoration at the University of Pardubice in the summer months (as part of a volunteer programme).

b) Shoah History Department

In 2017, the Shoah History Department continued its involvement in the European Holocaust Research Infrastructure – EHRI (Michal Frankl, Wolfgang Schellenbacher and Magdalena Sedlická), which is financially supported by the European Commission as part of the Horizon 2020 programme. The JMP is leading the EHRI work package “New Views on Digital Archives”, which has given rise to an online blog that analyzes documents from Holocaust archives (www.blog.ehri-project.eu/). By the end of the year, there had been more than 20 blog contributions from authors from the Czech Republic and other countries.

In September 2017, Magdalena Sedlická gave a presentation on the EHRI project at the conference “Digitization in Memorial Institutions, 2017”, which was held at the State Regional Archives in Třeboň.

An article by Magdalena Sedlická and Jarka Vitámvášová, titled “Digital Projects of the Jewish Museum in Prague”, was published in the 14/2017 issue of the peer-reviewed proceedings *Archivum Trebonense*. As part of the “Jews in Ostrava” project, work continued on the processing and cataloguing of scans of archival material and photo documentation. Access to this material was provided through David Lawson, the coordinator of the Kingston Ostrava Group which brings together Czechoslovak Jews born in Ostrava before the Second World War and their descendants. This material is also publicly available in the online catalogue of the JMP’s collections. In addition, preliminary data preparation was carried out for an intended collaboration with the digital platform Europeana Collections. Daniela Bartáková, Hana Hlávková and Magdalena Sedlická are contributing to this project.

A specialist at the department, Daniela Bartáková, continued to focus on a project concerning the online David Friedmann Collection, which involves processing and providing access to the scans of war-time portraits of members of the Prague Jewish community. The portrait scans were donated to the JMP by Miriam Friedmann Morris, the daughter of the painter David Friedmann.

Over the course of the year, 60 interviews with Shoah survivors and witnesses, mostly from the Czech Republic, but also from the USA and Israel, were recorded for the JMP’s Oral History Collection, which is overseen by Pavla Hermína Neuner. At present, the collection contains 1,521 testimonies. Through oral history, the JMP aims to chart the lives of Jews in Bohemia and Moravia. Attention is paid mainly to recording multi-generational testimonies within individual families. The recorded interviews are often supplemented by valuable photographs and documents from the family archives of the interviewees. All of this material undergoes cataloguing. The provision of this material makes it possible to put a face and a story to some of the names on the list of Shoah victims in the JMP’s online catalogue of collections (<http://collections.jewishmuseum.cz/>) using the open access program CollectiveAccess.

Four issues of the magazine *Revolver Revue* featured the life story of Věra Schiff, which was prepared for publication on the basis of information provided by the curator of the JMP’s Oral History Collection P. H. Neuner.

The Shoah History Department prepared a number of supporting documents for the Czech Red Cross and as evidential material for issuing certificates at the request of the Czech Defence Ministry's Department for Veterans. The department also provided information relating to the fate of Shoah victims to researchers, both in writing and in person, responding to 700 queries. Several inscriptions of the names of Shoah victims from Bohemia and Moravia on the walls of the Pinkas Synagogue were repaired in 2017.

Continuing the JMP's co-operation at the Maly Trostenets memorial complex, the curator of the Shoah History Archive, Jana Šplíchalová, attended a private view of a touring exhibition about the Maly Trostenets Extermination Site in Minsk on 12–14 March 2017. The exhibition was organized by IBB Dortmund and IBB Johannes Rau Minsk with support from the Federal Government of Germany.

An important part of the department's work involved popularizing the results of its academic and research work in the media, as well as providing expert consultations for a number of specialist, journalistic and film projects.

The department is also involved in educational and pedagogical activities for teachers and the general public. In April and November 2017, Jana Šplíchalová gave lectures with slides for secondary school teachers at the JMP's Department for Education and Culture in Brno. The lectures were focused on the topics of the fate of Brno Jews deported to the East and the starting points for German racist policies. On 28 November, J. Šplíchalová gave a lecture at the Defence Academy in Brno on the role of Nazi propaganda in the politics of the Third Reich.

In April, J. Šplíchalová attended the 17th Nationwide Archival Conference in Liberec. On 7 June, she attended a seminar held by the Historical Institute at the Czech Academy of Sciences, titled "After Reinhard Heydrich: The Power of Nazism and its Clash with the Czech (Czechoslovak) Resistance and Transformation into a 'Second Life'". On 25–27 July, the department became involved in the Shamayim festival of Jewish culture in Třebíč. On 26 September, J. Šplíchalová acted as moderator for the presentation of a book by the Slovak researcher Agata Schindler at the Slovak Institute in Prague; the title of the book is *Maličká slzička: Nacizmus a jeho ničivé dôsledky v životoch stredoeurópskych hudobníkov (1933–1945)* [A Small Tear: Nazism and its Devastating Consequences on the Lives of Central European Musicians (1933–1945)].

In co-operation with the Memorial Scrolls Trust, the JMP developed the first two 'certificates of recognition' for the mayors of towns that have significantly contributed to the commemoration of former Jewish residents who were murdered during the Second World War.

c) Department of Jewish History and Jewish Studies

The department head Iveta Cermanová, with the assistance of Alexandr Putík, edited two issues of the JMP's peer-reviewed journal *Judaica Bohemiae* (Volume 52/2017) and began editorial work on the first issue of next year's volume (53/2018). Two meetings of the journal's editorial board took place in 2017.

The department staff continued work on long-term research tasks, including research in archives and specialist libraries. The results were presented in scholarly work and conference lectures, and were added to the JMP's internal databases.

Iveta Cermanová wrote the study "Anti-Jewish Violence in Prague, 1744, through Contemporary Eyes: The Testimony of Joseph Kirschner Shohet" for the first 2017 issue of *Judaica Bohemiae* (Vol. 52), the study "The Ramschak Chronicle: New Findings about the Genesis, Reception and Impacts of the Forgery" for the second 2017 issue of *Judaica Bohemiae* (Vol. 52), and a chapter titled "The Ramschak

Chronicle: A Jewish Forgery from the Time of the Manuscripts” for the collective monograph “The Manuscripts of Dvůr Králové and Zelená Hora: Studies on their Reception in Culture and Art” (ed. Dalibor Dobíáš, Praha: Academia, 2018). Iveta Cermanová and Alexandr Putík gave a lecture, titled “The Role of the Prague Jewish Museum in Postwar Research on Jewish History” in the P81 congress panel “Jews in Bohemia and Moravia in History and Historiography” at the 11th Congress of Czech Historians in Olomouc (14 September 2017). A. Putík wrote a review of Lenka Matušíková’s book *K dějinám Židů v českých zemích* [On the History of the Jews in the Bohemian Lands] (Národní archiv 2016) for the second 2017 issue of *Judaica Bohemiae* (Vol. 52) and, in collaboration with Vlastimila Hamáčková, wrote a report titled “Jan Heřman (1933–1986): Archivist and Historian” for the first 2017 issue of *Judaica Bohemiae* (Vol. 52). Daniel Polakovič put together a complete bibliography of Jan Heřman for this publication. A. Putík and D. Polakovič gave papers at the international conference “Fenomén venkovských Židů / The Phenomenon of Rural Jews” (Sušice, 22 November 2017) – titled “David Gans and the Beginnings of Jewish Rural Settlement in the Mělník District” and “The Provincial Jewry in Bohemia: Origin and Structure”.

D. Polakovič submitted two studies – “Medieval Hebrew Inscriptions in the Bohemian Lands” and “Documentation of the Old Jewish Cemetery in Prague” – for the proceedings *Sepulcralia et Epigraphica* 9 (2018) and, together with L. Uličná, completed a paper titled “Jewish Language Contacts: Selected Hydronyms of Bohemia, Bavaria and Austria in the Medieval Hebrew Literature” for the proceedings from the international conference “Interwoven Regional Worlds: Jews and Christians in Bavaria, Bohemia and Austria (1349–1648)”, which was held in Regensburg in 2016. At the international conference “Judaica Collection at the University Library in Bratislava” on 5 September 2017, D. Polakovič gave a lecture titled “Samuel Bettelheim (1873–1942), Co-founder of the Judaica Collection at the University Library in Bratislava”. In the P81 congress panel “Jews in Bohemia and Moravia in History and Historiography” at the 11th Congress of Czech Historians in Olomouc (14 September 2017), D. Polakovič gave a paper titled “Documentation of Jewish Cemeteries within the Framework of the JMP”. At the international conference “Transformations of Jewish Life: Moravian Jews at the Turn of the 19th and 20th Centuries” (Olomouc, 20 October 2017), D. Polakovič gave a paper titled “Old Jewish Cemeteries in Prostějov”. At the international conference “Die Stadt und ihre Mauern / The City and its Walls” (Prague, 11 October 2017), D. Polakovič and Pavel Kocman gave a paper titled “Jews within the Walls, Jews on the Walls, Jews at the Gates: The Relationship of the Jewish Population in the Bohemian Lands to the City Fortifications in the Middle Ages and Early Modern Times”. For the 2017 issue of the proceedings *Jews and Moravia* (XXIII), P. Kocman wrote a paper titled “Two Bagatelles on the History of the Jewish Community in Hodonín”. For Vol. 136/2017 of *Časopis matice moravské* [Journal of the Moravian Foundation], P. Kocman wrote a review of the book *Dvarim meatim: Studie pro Jiřinu Šedinovou* [Dvarim Meatim: A Study for Jiřina Šedinová] by Daniel Boušek et al. For the first 2018 issue of *Judaica Bohemiae*, P. Kocman submitted a study titled “Traces of the Moravian Jewish Political Communities in Archival Sources and Expert Literature”. For the publication *Holešov. Město ve spirálách času* [Holešov: A Town in the Spirals of Time] (Museum and Local History Society in Brno, 2018), P. Kocman wrote a chapter titled “The Fate of the Jewish Community”. In the P81 congress panel “Jews in Bohemia and Moravia in History and Historiography” at the 11th Congress of Czech Historians in Olomouc (14 September 2017), he gave a paper titled “Specific Features of Jewish History in Moravia in the Middle Ages and in the Early Modern Period.” At the conference “Jews and Moravia XXIV” (Kroměříž, 8 November 2017), he gave a lecture titled “Reflections on Jewish Personalities and Jewish History in Toponomastics, Memorials and the Lively Tradition of the Town of Mikulov.”

Department staff contributed to the preparation of the new exhibition in the Spanish Synagogue.

I. Cermanová created the concept for, and definitive content of, the following sections of the exhibition: “Joseph II’s Reforms and the Beginnings of Jewish Emancipation / The Jewish Enlightenment and New Education”, “The Temple in Dušní Street / From the Old Shul to the Temple: Religious Reform in

Prague” and “Textiles and Silver from the Old Shul and the Spanish Synagogue”. A. Putík and D. Polakovič began preparing the content of the audiovisual elements of the new exhibition (the Database of Jewish Communities in Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia; the Database of Emancipation Figures).

An important part of the department’s work involved popularizing the results of its academic research work through lectures and co-operation with the media. On 5 November 2017, Czech Television broadcast the premiere of Part 8 of the documentary series “Hádanky domů života II” [Mysteries of the Houses of Life], focusing on Brandýs nad Labem, to which A. Putík and D. Polakovič had contributed. From February to May 2017, P. Kocman led the seminar “Archival Sources on the History of the Jews in the Bohemian Lands” at the Kurt and Ursula Schubert Centre for Jewish Studies at the Faculty of Arts at Palacký University in Olomouc. On 19 April and 26 April 2017, I. Cermanová and A. Putík gave lectures on the Jewish community in the early modern period as part of the series “Fundamental Problems with the Study of Early Czech History, Part I” for history students at the Faculty of Arts, Charles University, Prague, in a follow-up Master’s degree programme specializing in early Czech

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history. A. Putík prepared a lecture and a special tour focusing on the Maharal of Prague for a group of French journalists in connection with preparations for the opening of the exhibition “Golem! Avatars d’une légende d’argile (8 March–16 July 2017) at the Musée d’Art et d’Histoire du Judaïsme / Museum of Jewish Art and History (press trip organized by the CzechTourism agency on 7 February 2017), and provided expertise in connection with the preparation of the script for the docudrama series “Kevin Alone in Prague” (May 2017). D. Polakovič gave a lecture titled “Journeys to Zion: Migration of Bohemian and Moravian Jews to Eretz Yisrael in the 19th Century” at a Limmud gathering of young families of Czech and Slovak Jews (Blansko, 25 May 2017) and provided an interview about the documentation of Jewish cemeteries for Bulletin of the Jewish Religious Communities in the Czech Lands and Slovakia (Vracet lidem jména / Returning People their Names, Roš Chodeš, July 2017). I. Cermanová carried out technical editing of a script relating to Jewish issues for a Czech Television documentary about Maria Theresa, titled “Panovnice” [Sovereign] (September 2017).

A. Putík carried out genealogical research on Prague Jewish families and added a further 450 names to a genealogical database, which – at the end of 2017 – contained entries on 15,350 people (out of a total

planned number of approx. 20,000). D. Polakovič continued to document Jewish cemeteries in Prague and in eight rural communities. P. Kocman collaborated on the Yerusha Slovakia project.

After the tragic death of Jiří Fiedler, the author of *The Encyclopaedia of Jewish Communities in Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia*, the distribution of as yet incomplete encyclopaedic entries was suspended in 2015; only complete entries are currently being distributed. Daniel Polakovič made scans of the card index of the manuscript version of the encyclopaedia.

In addition to routine communication with the professional and lay public and responses to queries from researchers, P. Kocman and A. Putík reviewed four specialist studies. P. Kocman provided consultation and supervision for a Master's dissertation.

d) Archives

The specialist activity of the JMP's archival staff continued to focus mainly on research into the history of the Jews in the occupied border regions of Czechoslovakia and on the history of the Jewish community in the Czech lands after 1945. Jarka Vitámvášová continued the study and compilation of a detailed overview of material relating to Jewish issues in the individual fonds of the Security Services Archive. In 2017, she examined material (seven reference codes examined, totalling 1,306 pages) from the "Zemský odbor bezpečnosti Praha" [Land Security Section, Prague] fonds, investigation files, Czechoslovak State Security (StB) files, and the Headquarters of the State Security files. After being examined, most of the digital copies were downloaded from the E-research room of the Security Services Archive, and the remaining copies were photographed by the researcher. All of the digital copies are stored on 2 CD-ROMs in the JMP Archives, where they are available for the research purposes of JMP staff.

The JMP Archives continued its collaboration with museums and archives in the Czech border areas on the organization of seminars relating to the modern history of the Jews in Bohemia. The JMP published the proceedings of the 6th Seminar on the Jews in Bohemia (*Židé v Čechách 6*), which was held in Kadaň in October 2016. In addition, preparations were made for the next seminar, which will be held in Třeboň in October 2018.

To mark the anniversary of the death of Jan Heřman, a specialist staff member of the JMP, a biographical essay assessing the value of his work as an archivist and historian was written by V. Hamáčková and A. Putík for the first 2017 issue of *Judaica Bohemiae* (Vol 52, pp. 119–130). The title of the essay was "Jan Heřman (1933–1986) – Archivist and Historian."

2016 saw the completion of the Yerusha project in the Czech Republic, which was supported by the Rothschild Foundation (Hanadiv) Europe. As part of this project, the JMP contributed to the creation of a database of archival fonds and collections that contain sources relating to the Jewish history of the Sudetenland in the period between 1848 and 1938 and to the topic of Jewish political communities in Moravia. The results of this project were presented by J. Vitámvášová at the international conference "Digitization in Memorial Institutions, 2017", which was held at the State Regional Archives in Třeboň on 18–20 September 2017 for the 10th anniversary of the start of the digitization of sources in archives in South Bohemia. Staff from archives, museums and libraries in the Czech Republic and Austria presented their digitization projects at this conference.

As part of preparations for the new exhibition in the Spanish Synagogue, V. Hamáčková focused on studying the literature and sources relating to the topic of Jewish entrepreneurs and used the results as a basis for selecting items from regional museums and archives.

In co-operation with the Department of Jewish History and Jewish Studies, the JMP Archives contributed to the documentation of Jewish cemeteries and to an assessment of the newly acquired epigraphic material. L. Petrusová continued to process documentation on the Jewish cemetery in Habry. JMP staff also took part in the 16th meeting on the topic of sepulchral monuments (conference of the Institute of Art History at the Czech Academy of Sciences); the section on Jewish studies took place on 26 October 2017. Reconstruction and restoration work at Prague's Old Jewish Cemetery was carried out under the supervision of V. Hamáčková. Staff prepared a text documenting the JMP's care of the Old Jewish Cemetery – for the requirements of a presentation on the Jewish community's care of Jewish sites, which was prepared by the Jewish Community in Prague for the Association for Property Development).

Archives staff attended conferences on current trends in archival science, particularly with regard to questions relating to digitization – “The 17th Nationwide Conference” (Liberec 25 April – 27 April 2017), “Conference of the Czech Committee of the Blue Shield: Crisis Plans in Memorial Institutions in the Current Circumstances” (24 October 2017), and “The 18th Archives, Libraries and Museums in the Digital World Conference” (held by the National Archives in association with the National Library of the Czech Republic and the Czech Association of Librarians and Information Workers, 29 November – 30 January 2017). On 4 October 2017, the Archive Management of the Czech Ministry of the Interior organized a conference on ELZA program (software for electronic processing of archival material) for describing archival material in accordance with the new “Basic Rules for the Processing of Archival Material”. Following on from the conference and seminar held in 2016, the aim of this conference was to present the results of further development of the ELZA program and to share the first experience of implementing this program in archives. All of the three members of staff at the JMP Archives took part in training. J. Vítámvásová undertook training in the archive registration programme PÉvA.

The JMP Archives received 183 visits from researchers in 2017; 87 researchers came to study here – 73 from the Czech Republic, 14 from abroad. In total, 1,893 register units from 114 fonds were provided for study purposes. As in previous years, the main focus of researchers' interest was on genealogy, the history of individual Jewish communities and the documentation of heritage sites (cemeteries, synagogues). The Archives staff undertook 12 literature searches and provided about 130 consultations and replies to written queries. Staff processed a total of 102 scans and made 50 Xerox copies of material for research and exhibition purposes. The JMP Archives loaned two hazkarot from the archival fonds of the Jewish Religious Community of Olomouc for the exhibition “The Olomouc Synagogue (1897–1939)”, which was held by the Olomouc Museum of Art in association with the Olomouc Jewish Community and the JMP, and ran from 19 October 2017 until 7 January 2018. Catalogue entries were processed for both of the books on loan.

e) Library

The JMP Library had a total of 455 registered members in 2017. The Library and the Multimedia Centre received 916 research visits; other technical queries were dealt with in writing. In total, the Library provided 2,428 documents on loan, of which 1,404 were taken out. As in previous years, the Library also provided inter-library loans. In total, 60 documents were loaned to other libraries and 42 loans or copies of articles and essays were provided for JMP staff.

Library staff contributed to the exhibition “*Come My Beloved...*” – *Illustrations for the Song of Songs* at the Robert Guttmann Gallery (curated by M. Bušek and A. Pařík). Several dozen books from the Library collection were on display at the exhibition, in addition to items on loan from other institutions.

M. Bušek took part in three international conferences on behalf of the the JMP Library. On 23–24 March 2017, he gave a paper titled “Provenance Research in the Book Collection of the Jewish

Museum in Prague: A Current Case of Provenance Research” at an international conference in Paris, *Où sont les bibliothèques spoliées par les nazis? Tentatives d’identification et de restitution, un chantier en cours* (“Where are the libraries looted by the Nazis? Efforts at identification and restitution, a work in progress”), which was organized by the École nationale supérieure des sciences de l’information et des bibliothèques (National Superior School of Information Science and Libraries). On 2–4 May 2017, M. Bušek gave a paper titled “Provenance Research in the Book Collection of the Jewish Museum in Prague” at an international conference in Vienna, “Accepting and Holding Objects ‘in Trust’ – an International and Interdisciplinary Perspective”, which was organized by the Universitätsbibliothek Universität Wien (Vienna University Library). On 16–17 November 2017, M. Bušek gave a paper titled “Restitution of Jewish Property in Post-War Czechoslovakia: Developments after 1948, Changes since 1989” at an international conference in Leipzig, “Placing the Irreplaceable – Restitution of Jewish Cultural Property”, which was organized by the Simon-Dubnow Institute. In addition, M. Bušek contributed to selecting and supplementing a group of items for display at the new exhibition under preparation in the Spanish Synagogue. He was also involved in selecting and securing loans of material for two exhibitions in the Czech Republic and two exhibitions abroad.

Since 2012 the JMP Library has been involved in the Cooperative Creation and Utilisation of National Authority Files project. The co-ordinator and technical guarantor of this project is the Department of National Name Authority Files at the Czech National Library. As a local supervisor, the JMP Library is adding new entries to the database of national authority files and is contributing to the correction of existing authority files. M. Kotyzová processed 262 new authority files in 2017.

The Library’s Multimedia Centre in the JMP’s administrative building continued to provide access not only to the JMP’s databases (database of Shoah victims, database of collection objects, library catalogue, collections catalogue) as well as to the USC Shoah Foundation’s Visual History Archive, which contains recorded interviews with Shoah survivors and witnesses. In 2017, the JMP became an access point to the collection of recorded interviews in the Fortunoff Video Archive for Holocaust Testimonies, which is overseen by Yale University. Where consent has been given by the lecturers concerned, recordings of talks and lectures held at the JMP’s Department for Education and Culture are also available for viewing at the Multimedia Centre. The Reference Library is open to researchers and also offers JMP publications for sale to visitors.

f) Representation in other organizations in the Czech Republic and abroad

In 2017, the JMP did not send a representative to the annual conference of the Association of European Jewish Museums, which was held in Toledo, Spain, but it was represented at the regular meetings of the Association of Museums and Galleries in the Czech Republic (D. Veselská) and at the annual meeting of the Czech Committee of the International Council of Museums (M. Veselská). The visual arts curator M. Sidenberg represented the JMP on the board of the European Shoah Legacy Institute. The JMP Library is a member of the Czech Association of Library and Information Professionals (SKIP) and the Czech Association of Libraries (SDRUK). The JMP is represented by Z. Pavlovská in the Czech delegation of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance – IHRA (formerly the Task Force for International Cooperation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research – ITF). M. Frankl continued to represent the JMP in the European Holocaust Research Infrastructure (EHRI). As in previous years, the JMP director Leo Pavlát served on the editorial board of the Academia Publishing House and P. Kocman remained active in the Society for the History of Jews in the Czech Republic.



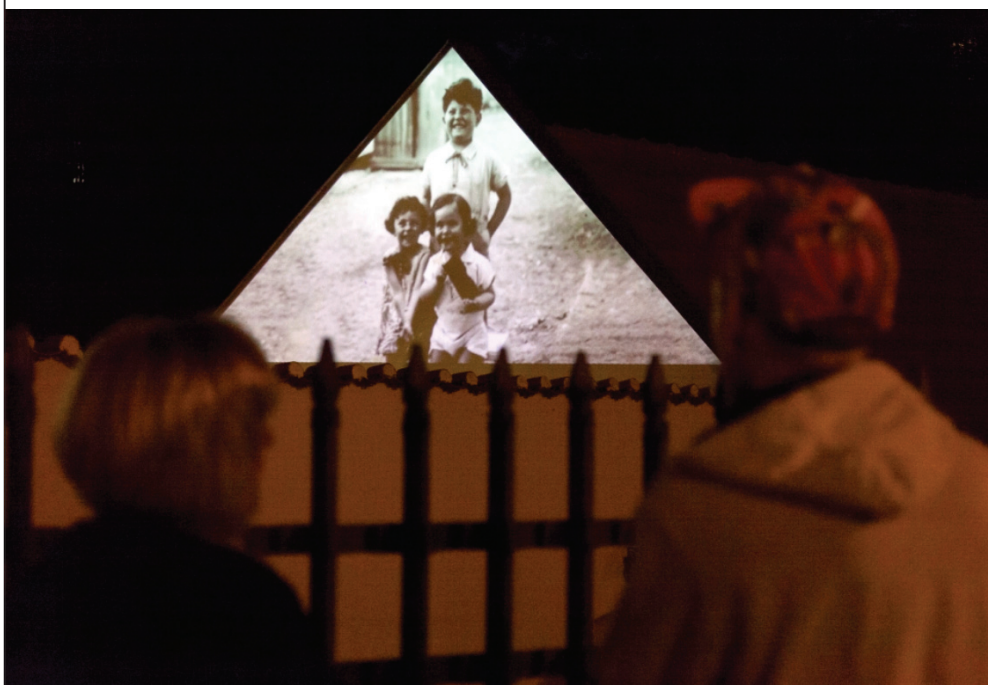
8 Preparation of new exhibitions and modernization

In 2017, work continued on the modernization of the Pinkas Synagogue Memorial for the Victims of the Shoah from the Czech Lands. In collaboration with the company Deep Vision, s.r.o., a proposal was made for a navigation aid for the memorial area, and a mobile app was designed as well. In addition, the graphic design of new outdoor display panels ("History of the Pinkas Synagogue", "Memorial for the Victims of the Shoah from the Czech Lands" and "Journeys with No Return/Deportation of Jews from the Czech Lands in 1939-1945") was completed. The company Konsit a.s. was awarded the position of chief contractor for the project, having been selected on the basis of calls for tender.

Corrections were made to three pieces of data in the lists of Shoah victims from Bohemia and Moravia in the Pinkas Synagogue memorial on the basis of verified suggestions.

The outdoor projection of photographs of Shoah victims onto the gable wall of the mikveh building next to the Pinkas Synagogue began on the evening of 16 October 2017. The title of this project is "The Faces of the Victims of the Shoah". The projection equipment was supplied by st.dio s.r.o. and the digital presentation was prepared by Metamechanics s.r.o. The aim of this project is to give a face to at least some of the victims from the Czech lands whose names are written on the walls inside the Pinkas Synagogue. The photographs of the victims were provided to the JMP by members of the public and, in particular by Shoah survivors and witnesses. The outdoor projection takes place every evening after sunset, apart from Fridays and Jewish holidays. It lasts 2.5 hours in the winter months, but is shortened to 45 minutes in the summer (due to later sunset times).

Outdoor projection of photographs of Shoah victims onto the gable wall of the mikveh building next to the Pinkas Synagogue



Work continued on the curatorial and, to a lesser extent, technical preparations for the new version of the permanent exhibition in the Spanish Synagogue, provisionally titled "The Jewish Emancipation, Shoah and Post-war Czechoslovakia (From 1780 to the Present)". Thematically based on the current

exhibition, the concept for the version was authored by Arno Pařík. Changes are being made primarily to the means, style and technical features (including multimedia and interactive elements) of the presentation. The contract for the architectural design and supervision of works was won by the architectural firm Petr Franta architekti & asoc., spol. s r.o. The final version of the exhibition content and design was elaborated, and contracts were concluded with the external curators of the individual sections of the exhibition and with the authors of the audiovisual content for the exhibition. In addition, JMP and external curators completed the selection of collection objects to be placed in display cases.

Friedl's Cabinet: Children's Drawings from Terezín – a design visualization



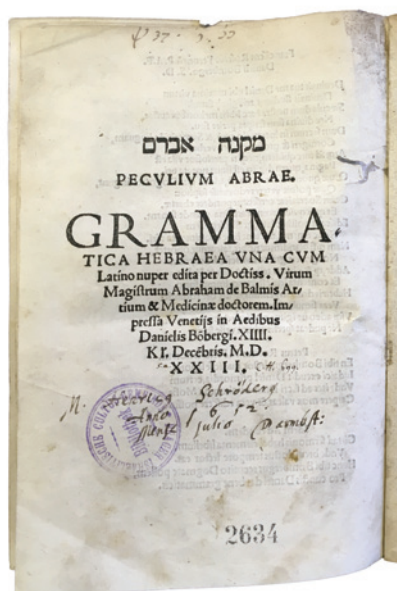
Work also continued on the curatorial and, to a lesser extent, technical preparations for a new permanent exhibition, titled "Friedl's Cabinet: Children's Drawings from Terezín", which will be located in the venue that currently houses the Robert Guttman Gallery. The exhibition concept, content and design development is by Michaela Sidenberg. The architectural design proposal submitted by the architectural practice of Marek Topič Architekti was chosen on the basis of a selection procedure. In addition, work was done on the visualization of the project for PR and fundraising purposes, and the definitive texts for the exhibition were translated into English.

One of the aims of the JMP's transformation is to involve the public more actively in its activities. An important role in this is played by the JMP's Society of Friends and the JMP's volunteer programme (launched in 2011). Forty-two volunteers – mostly students – got involved mainly by helping out at cultural events and in the Pinkas Synagogue Memorial for the Victims of the Shoah from the Czech Lands. In addition, they provided assistance to the JMP's various departments, for example by scanning documents, transcribing interviews with Shoah survivors, archiving documents and processing video recordings.



9

Acquisitions



BALMES, ABRAHAM DE: *Mikneh Avram-Peculium Abrae*. Venice: Daniel Bomberg, 1523. First edition. (Call. no. JMP 2.634)

Two ordinary and 12 extraordinary (per rollam) meetings of the JMP's Acquisitions Committee were held with external associates in attendance in 2017. Most of the acquisitions in 2017 came from the JMP's own research, specifically from the ongoing processing of finds from the genizah in Rychnov nad Kněžno – in total, 386 items, which were assigned 262 accession numbers.

The second major group of acquisitions comprised purchases – in total, 34 items, which were assigned 12 accession numbers. Among the particularly valuable purchases were that of the *Mohelbuch* of Karel Trauer of Lukavice, which was sold at the Kedem Auction House in Jerusalem, and *Self-Portrait with Pipe*, a painting by Friedrich Feigl that was purchased from the Ben Uri Gallery in London. The latter work was made during the artist's stay in the United Kingdom (1939-1965).

Another, no less important, group of acquisitions comprised gifts from individuals abroad and from the Czech Republic – in total, 20 items, which were assigned six accession numbers. The most valuable gift of 2017 was that of a *rotulus* in commemoration of Simon Edler von Lämél; this item is a great addition to the collection, which already contains several items relating to the historically prominent Lämél family, and it will represent this family in the new exhibition in the Spanish Synagogue.

The smallest group of acquisitions comprised items from the JMP's depository, among which there was found to be an incorrect accession number; two new accession numbers were added in 2017.

A total of 1,160 volumes were added to the JMP Library in 2017, with about 20% acquired by donation or replacement. The JMP Library undertook successful negotiations with the New York Auction House Kestenbaum & Company regarding the restitution of a rare book *Balmes, Abraham de: Mikneh Avram-Peculium Abrae* (Venice: Daniel Bomberg, 1523), which was offered for auction-sale in March. The JMP filed a restitution claim for the book after it had been identified as missing from the original fonds of the Prague Jewish Community Library – now the Historical Collection of the JMP Library. Daniel E. Kestenbaum later withdrew the book from the auction and arranged with the vendor for it to be returned to the JMP. On 16 January 2018, the director of Kestenbaum & Company, Daniel E. Kestenbaum, handed over the book in person to the JMP director Leo Pavlát in the Auditorium of the JMP's Department for Education and Culture with appropriate publicity.



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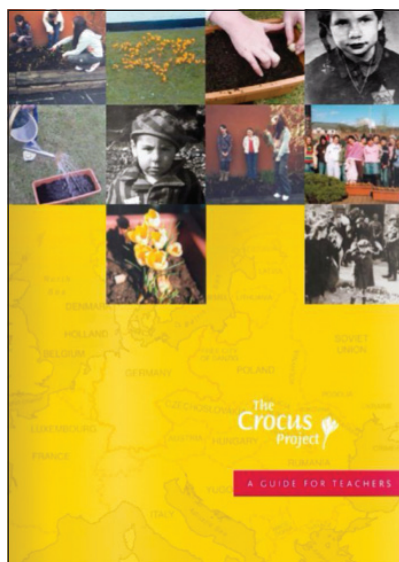
Educational activities

As in previous years, the JMP organized a large number of events, programmes and projects via the Prague and Brno offices of its Department for Education and Culture.

The department's Prague office prepared ten types of thematic lectures with 16 interactive art and drama workshops. Its programmes dealt with various aspects of Jewish life, including traditions, customs, biblical history and the history of Jews in Bohemia and Moravia. As usual, much attention was paid to teaching about anti-Semitism and the Shoah.

As part of a 2017 city-wide programme of support for education in Prague, the department's Prague office further developed a project for supporting pupils and teachers in vocational schools with regard to questions concerning the prevention of socially dangerous phenomena. A methodology for teachers on how to teach about antisemitism was put forward and a student workshop focusing on the problem of contemporary antisemitism in the Czech Republic was put together. The aim of the project is to have a positive effect in the area of preventing extremism, racism and antisemitism. In total, 805 pupils from vocational schools took part in the project in 2017.

In total, 6,729 pupils and students took part in the department's programmes in Prague. Programmes and seminars were also held for foreign students, as well as for Czech visitors. In 2017, there were 417 participants from Germany, the USA, the United Kingdom, Hong Kong, and the Republic of South Africa.



At the beginning of the 2017/18 school year, the JMP became involved – for the eighth time – in the “Crocus” project, which has been organized for several years by the Holocaust Education Trust of Ireland and involves the participation of schools around the world each year. Via the JMP, the organizers provided the students and pupils taking part with yellow crocus bulbs which they will plant in the autumn as a reminder of the million and a half Jewish children who were murdered during the Shoah. In total, 218 elementary schools, secondary schools and kindergartens took part in the project in the Czech Republic in 2017. In September, the Brno office of the JMP's Department for Education and Culture became involved in the project for the first time; it arranged for crocus bulbs to be sent to 270 elementary and secondary schools from throughout Moravia.

The department also collaborated on various projects with a number of other institutions, including the National Institute of Children and Youth for the literary and historical competition “Daniel” and the Freiwillige Terezín organization, which regularly organizes meetings with Shoah survivors.

The JMP held four two-day seminars for teachers, titled “Jews – History and Culture”, which were attended by 57 teachers. Two three-week seminars for 100 teachers were held on the topic “How to Teach about the Holocaust”; the latter seminars were held by the JMP in association with the Terezín Memorial, which has been an important partner in the further training of teaching staff for several years. In March 2017, an off-site seminar (the fifth) for teachers in Pilsen was held by the JMP in co-operation with Yad Vashem, the USC Shoah Foundation and the Terezín Memorial (attended by 50 teachers).

The educational activities of the Brno office of the JMP's Department for Education and Culture were also the result of collaborations with other institutions. Particularly successful was its long-term

collaboration with the Museum of Roma Culture with regard to the teaching of the educational programme “We Will Not Forget”, which took place on the latter’s premises; in total, 11 such programmes were attended by 246 students. In co-operation with the Regional Museum in Mikulov, three of the Brno office’s workshops were held in the Mikulov Synagogue, which were attended by 76 pupils. A public lecture on Hebrew inscriptions was also held in the Mikulov Synagogue. In association with the Municipal Cultural Centre of Náměšť nad Oslavou, three “Hana’s Suitcase” workshops – together with a tour of the exhibition “Cesty zmizení” [Journeys of Disappearance] – were held there; the workshops were attended by 69 pupils. Four “Researcher” workshops on the topic of Jewish traditions and customs were held at the similarly focused exhibition of photography by Jindřich Buxbaum in the cloister of Brno’s New Town Hall; this program was attended by 102 pupils.

The Brno office also provided guided tours of the Jewish cemetery and synagogue in Brno, which were attended by 1,162 students and members of various interest groups.

The educational programmes in Brno were again complemented by Divadlo Kufr’s theatre production *Židovka aneb Žonglování se životem* [A Jewess or Juggling with Life], which was launched under the auspices of the JMP’s Brno office in 2007. Each performance of the show was followed by a Q&A with a Shoah survivor. The last performance was attended by 79 pupils and students.

Attention was paid to programmes for teachers and their further training. The Brno office hosted two four-day seminars on the topic “Jews – History and Culture”, which were attended by 57 teachers.

In total, 4,410 pupils and students took part in the educational programmes of the JMP’s Department for Education and Culture in Brno.

Work on the JMP’s educational project “Neighbours Who Disappeared” continued in 2017 for the 17th year running. Intended for elementary and high school pupils, this unique project charts the fate of Shoah survivors and witnesses in the neighbourhoods of those taking part. The aim of the project, however, is not only to document the fate of Jews during the Second World War; it also places emphasis on changing people’s attitudes and opinions of ethnic and religious minorities. The Prague office of the JMP’s Department for Education and Culture has been working separately on the project as of 2017.

As in previous years, the Prague office of the JMP’s Department for Education and Culture once again collaborated with the civic association *Zapomenutí* (The Forgotten Ones) on this project. From June 2017, it also worked with the civic association *Cesta tam a zase zpátky* (The Way There and Back Again).

The “Neighbours Who Disappeared” project continued to be presented to schools in the form of a seminar where a small group of trained students, equipped with worksheets and texts relating to each panel, guided their fellow students through the exhibition. In 2017, the project involved the active participation of about 300 student guides. The exhibition was also displayed on the corridor walls of schools, where it was seen by as many as 2,500 pupils and students.

Thanks to the involvement of the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic, the exhibition and the “Neighbours Who Disappeared” project was presented at six elementary schools in the Ústí nad Labem Region. Copies of the exhibition are on permanent view at the Terezín Memorial. At many venues, the exhibition has encouraged people’s interest in Shoah survivors and witnesses, as well as in the preservation of Jewish monuments. The project also draws the attention of individual communities and schools to contemporary manifestations of antisemitism, in which regard it is a positive achievement.



a) Evening programmes at the Department for Education and Culture

As in previous years, the JMP's Department for Education and Culture hosted numerous programmes, events and projects in Prague and Brno in 2017.

The Prague office regularly hosted seven evening programmes each month. The total number of programmes for the year was 69, which were attended by 2,634 visitors. In addition, the Maisel Synagogue hosted a variety of events, including classical musical concerts on Jewish topics, discussions and themed programmes. Lectures, screenings and exhibitions, in particular, were also held in the department's auditorium.

As in 2016, the Maisel Synagogue hosted a selection of chamber music concerts by leading Czech performers. A monthly series of concerts featured the following ensembles and performers: More Maiores, Petr Wagner and Přemysl Vacek, Beautiful Strings Duo, En Arché Chamber Choir, Duo Teres, Czech String Duo, Victoria Ensemble and Concerto Aventino, Petr Wagner and Helena Matyášová, the mixed chamber choir Subito, and The Sedláček Quartet. Outside the regular concert series, the Bennewitz Quartet gave a concert in the Maisel Synagogue on the occasion of Yom ha-Shoah, which was a truly exceptional artistic experience; after the intermission, the outstanding opera singer Soňa Červená performed Viktor Ullmann's melodrama *The Song of the Love and Death of Cornet Christopher Rilke*. There was a great response to a concert given by the Polish vocalist, instrumentalist and composer Karolina Cicha, which also featured a reading by the famous Polish prose writer Olga Tokarczuk, as well as a rendition of Jacob Gordin's one-act play *Dement Lemach* by the actress Hana Frejková. An evening of songs and poetry by the Russian Jewish poet, songwriter and dissident Alexan-

Czech String Duo



der Galič, performed by Alena Hanusová and Milan Dvořák, also met with a considerable response.

Once again, there was high visitor attendance for discussions on contemporary and historical Jewish topics with guests from the Czech Republic and abroad, which were held in the Maisel Synagogue. Topics of particular interest were brought up in the discussions through which the JMP again became involved in the Democracy Festival as part of the 21st Forum 2000 Conference. Among the distinguished guests from around the world were Professor of Islamic and Interreligious Studies Mona Siddiqui (University of Edinburgh, UK), Professor of Philosophy Akeel Bilgrami (Columbia University, USA), leading expert on EU law and migration Prof. Liav Orgad (WZB Berlin Social Science Center, Germany), Professor of Political Science Shlomo Avineri (Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel) and Dr. Amichai Magen, the Head of the Diplomacy & Conflict Studies programme at the Interdisciplinary Center in Herzliya, Israel. Among those who presented books or programmes on specific historical and current topics and anniversaries were the following: Jaroslav Šebek, Rudolf Vévoda, Miloslav Szabó and Michal Frankl, Pavel Hošek, Jan Fingerland, Jiří Schneider, Vladimír Petkevič, Zuzana Dostálová, Denisa Červenková, Štěpán Menaše Kliment, Michel Perottino, Vít Hloušek, Bára Procházková, Zuzana Lizcová, Daniel Kaiser, Kateřina Králová, Jiří Kocian, Jakub Mlynář, Petr Brod, Petr Chrdle, Blanka Soukupová, Peter Scheiner, Fedor Gál and Agata Schindler. The discussion series “Our Twentieth Century”, which focuses on the lives of Czech Jews in the second half of the last century, came to an end in 2017. Among the guests who shared their recollections as part of this series in 2017 were Karol Sidon, Harry Farkaš, David Stecher, Frank Reiss, Leo Pavlát and Jiří Daníček.

On 2 April 2017, one of the evening events of the 6th annual Small Jewish Festival, which is organized by the Muzika Judaica association, was held in the Maisel Synagogue.

The Auditorium of the JMP’s Department for Education and Culture was used mainly as a venue for specialist lectures and film screenings with talks by the film historian Alice Aronová. Jewish writers of the 20th century were the focus of a lecture series held by the literary historian Erik Gilk (Palacký University, Olomouc), and lectures by Marie Vachenauer and Hans-Christian Trepte dealt with the topic of Jewish literature. Other lectures were given by Daniel Ziss, Jan Zouplna, Martin Hemelík, David Venclík, Tereza Halusková, Ladislava Chateau, Josef Blaha and Anna Sedláčková.

Six exhibitions were held at the department’s Prague office in 2017: a new touring exhibition, titled *Nechte mě být, jaká jsem – životní příběh Anne Frankové* [Let Me Be Myself – The Life Story of Anne Frank]; an exhibition of photography by Judah Passow, titled *Skotští Židé. Identita, příslušnost a budoucnost* [Scots Jews: Identity, Belonging and the Future], an exhibition of student artwork from the 18th annual art competition held by the Terezín Memorial, titled *Mám se v Terezíně velice dobře...?* [I’m Doing Very Well in Terezín]; an exhibition titled *Židovská odborná škola Masada v Darmstadtu 1947–48* [The Jewish Vocational School Masada in Darmstadt, 1947–48] and an exhibition of photographs by Lukáš Falteisek, titled *Izrael zespodu* [Israel from Below].

Some projects were prepared in association with other organizations and their projects. These include the Prague Centre for Jewish Studies (at the Faculty of Arts, Charles University, Prague), the Prague Literary House of German-Writing Authors, the Polish Institute in Prague, Discussions in the Maisel Synagogue, Spiritual Dialogues, the Democracy Festival and Forum 2000.

The afternoon workshops for parents and their children continued to enjoy great popularity in 2017. They were held on the second Sunday of each month and were attended by 224 people. Preparation of these workshops was supported by the Foundation for Holocaust Victims.

The Brno office of the JMP’s Department for Education and Culture hosted 67 evening programmes for the general public, which were attended by 2,101 visitors. Two lecture series were launched in 2017. The lecture series by Bohumír Smutný (Moravian Provincial Archives), titled “Moravian Jewish Entrepreneurs”, was focused on successful Jewish businessmen from Brno and the surrounding area in the

period from the start of the Industrial Revolution through to the Second World War. The lecture series by Prof. Ingeborg Fialová (Department of Germanic Studies, Palacký University, Olomouc) was focused on German Jewish literature.

Q&A sessions attracted a great deal of public interest in 2017. Discussion guests included journalist Karel Hviždala, film historian Pavel Taussig, Czech-Israeli army veteran Hugo Marom, sociologist Fedor Gál, and writer Ivan Klíma with psychotherapist Helena Klímová.

An evening discussion titled *Podstata štěstí* [The Essence of Happiness] successfully took place with the Chief Rabbi of the Czech Republic Karol Ephraim Sidon, the Catholic priest and journalist Jan Hanák, and the philosopher and theologian Milan Klapetek. A moderated discussion about Alain Finkielkraut's book *La seule exactitude*, titled "Social Transformations of Contemporary France through the Eyes of a Jewish Intellectual" also attracted a large audience. Discussion guests included political scientist Prof. Vít Hloušek (Faculty of Social Studies, Masaryk University), historian Prof. Jiří Hanuš (Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University), political scientist Michal Pink, Ph.D. (Faculty of Social Studies, Masaryk University) and professor of Romance studies Petr Kyloušek (Vice Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University). The moderator of the evening discussion was the journalist Petr Brod.

In November 2017, the first Czech Bruno Schulz Festival, which is dedicated to one of the most important Polish inter-war artists, took place in Brno. The festival was held on the occasion of the 125th anniversary of Schulz's birth and the 75th anniversary of his tragic death. It was organized in co-operation with the Department of Polish Studies (Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University) and the Centre for Experimental Theatre. As part of the festival, the Polish music group *Male instrumenty* [Small Instruments] performed at the Brno office of the Jewish Department for Education and Culture and a lecture was held by the film historian Jaromír Blažejovský. It was accompanied by a showing of the film *Sanatorium pod klepsydrą* [The Hourglass Sanatorium], screenings of short films by the Polish director, the script-writer Alina Skiby and the Quay brothers, and a showing of Marcin Giżycki's documentary *Alfred Schreyer from Drohobycz* about one of Bruno Schulz's last living pupils. In addition, a children's art workshop, titled "Bruno: The Boy who Learned to Fly", was held.

An exhibition of photographs by Jindřich Buxbaum, entitled "Life in the Diaspora", was on display in the cloister of Brno's New Town Hall in late October and November 2017. The exhibition was held in collaboration with the JMP's Brno office, the Jewish Community of Brno, and the Statutory City of Brno.

The JMP's Brno office also participated in the international conference *Místo utrpení jako místo paměti aneb věznice Cejl v kontextu českých dějin* [A Place of Suffering as a Place of Memory, or the Prison in Cejl Street in the Context of Czech History] with a paper on the fate of the Jewish residents of Brno.

As part of the JMP's Sunday workshops for children, there were ten programmes with focus on Jewish holidays and stories from the Torah, which were visited by 142 children. The preparation of the workshops was supported by the Federation of Jewish Communities.

b) Concerts and other cultural events in the Spanish Synagogue

The JMP organized and contributed to the organization of a number of concerts and other cultural events in the Spanish Synagogue in Prague.

On 26 January, the JMP hosted its annual gala concert in the Spanish Synagogue in Prague to mark International Holocaust Remembrance Day. It was held in association with the Prague Jewish Community and the Czech Foundation for Holocaust Victims (NFOH). The concert featured works by Maurice

*Gala concert at the Spanish
Synagogue in Prague to mark
International Holocaust Remembrance
Day*



Ravel, Paul Hindemith, Günter Raphael and Gideon Klein as performed by Kateřina Englichová (harp) and Vilém Veverka (oboe).

On 29 June, the Commonwealth Youth Choir (from Philadelphia, USA) gave a concert in the Spanish Synagogue, performing traditional Jewish compositions and works by L. Bernstein, H. Krása, S. Schwartz, J. Leavitt and A. E. Naplan.

As in previous years, the Spanish Synagogue was also the venue for regular concerts organized by the BM ART agency (238 in total).

The guitarist Lubomír Brabec completed another series of concerts ("Prague Musical Evenings in the Spanish Synagogue") for season-ticket holders.

In total, there were 245 concerts in the Spanish Synagogue in 2017.



Exhibition catalogue Through the Labyrinth of Normalization. The Jewish Community as a Mirror for the Majority Society.

In 2017 the JMP published eight publications, a compendium of specialist papers and a number of printed materials to promote its events and activities.

A Czech and English-language catalogue was published for the JMP's exhibition *Through the Labyrinth of Normalization: The Jewish Community as a Mirror for the Majority Society* (written by the exhibition curator Martin Šmok). It had a print run of 700 copies in Czech and 300 copies in English.

The JMP's peer-reviewed journal *Judaica Bohemiae* came out as usual in 2017. Published since 1965, it focuses on Jewish history and culture in Bohemia, Moravia and the wider Central European area (the territory of the former Habsburg Monarchy). The texts are published in English and German. The journal also regularly contains papers from contributors outside the Czech Republic. Originally published twice a year, *Judaica Bohemiae* became an annual journal in 1994 and has come out biannually since 2009.

The first issue of this year's volume of *Judaica Bohemiae* (52/2017) was published in June 2017. The opening study, by Iveta Cermanová, is entitled "Anti-Jewish Violence in Prague, 1744, through Contemporary Eyes: The Testimony of Joseph Kirschner Shohet". It summarizes the present state of knowledge on the fate of Prague Jews during the War of the Austrian Succession, examines their image in contemporary testimonies, and presents a previously unknown source – the family megillah of Joseph Kirschner Shohet (1717–1766) – which describes the author's tragic experience during the second Prague pogrom on 26–27 November 1744. The megillah was added to the JMP's collection in 2009. The following study by Magda Veselská, entitled "Early Documentation of the Shoah in the Czech Lands: The Documentation Project and the Prague Jewish Museum (1945–1947)", deals with the activities of individuals who gathered authentic documents during and shortly after the Second World War in order to record the persecution of Jews (as part of the Documentation Project). In the 'Documents' section, a study by Petr Vítámvás critically assesses hitherto opinions on the beginnings of Jewish settlement in Boskovice in the Middle Ages and shows that Jewish settlement did not start there until the 16th century. In the 'Reports' section, A. Putík and V. Hamáčková provide an overview of the life and work of Jan Heřman (1933–1986), a historian, archivist and first editor of *Judaica Bohemiae*; Lenka Uličná provides information about a long-term project of the JMP involving the comprehensive processing of genizah finds in Bohemia and Moravia; István Pál Ádám gives an overview of the conference "The Holocaust and its Aftermath from the Family Perspective", which was held in Prague on 15–16 March 2017.

The second issue of this year's volume of *Judaica Bohemiae* (52/2017) was published in December 2017. The opening study, by Pavel Sládek, is entitled "Admiration and Fear: New Perspectives on the Personality of Judah Leva ben Betzalel – the Maharal". It provides new insights into one of the most important figures in 16th-century rabbinic culture, Rabbi Judah Lev ben Bezalel (the Maharal). In the following study, entitled "The Ramschak Chronicle: New Findings about the Genesis, Reception and Impacts of the Forgery", Iveta Cermanová deals with the genesis, reception and impact of the so-called Ramschak Chronicle – a notorious forgery on the history of the Jews of Bohemia, dating from the early 1820s; it also explores the author's motivation. The last of the main studies, by Martha Stellmacher, is entitled "In Search of the Original Tunes: The 'Collection of Old Prague Synagogue Chants' by Siegmund Schul and Salomon Lieben in 1935–1941". It features a project involving the transcription and analysis of old Prague synagogue chants that was carried out before the Shoah. In the 'Reports'

Židé v Čechách 6



Storáik přispěvků ze semináře komandého v říjnu 2016 v Kadani

section, Agnes Kelemen provides information about the conference “New Approaches to the History of the Jews under Communism”, which was held in Prague in May 2017 by the Institute of Contemporary History, Czech Academy of Sciences.

The proceedings of the 6th seminar on the history of the Jews in Bohemia was published at the end of 2017. The seminar was held in Kadaň in October 2016 and organized by the JMP in association with the State Regional Archive Litoměřice and the Kadaň-based State District Archives Chomutov. As with the previous seminars (held in Liberec in 2006, Nýrsko in 2008, Tachov in 2010, Trutnov in 2012, Teplice in 2014), the focus was primarily on modern-day issues concerning the history of the Jews in the Czech border regions. The main attention of the seminar was centred on the Shoah period and its consequences for the life of Jewish communities and individuals. Many of the participants continued to deal with assessments of archival sources relating to Jewish history that are kept in Czech archives. This topic was extended to include material illustrating the character and importance of archival and epigraphical Hebrew sources. The proceedings also include an essay on Jewish sigillography (the study of seals attached to documents as a source of historical information), which makes a significant contribution to the field. This range of issues, however, pushes the seminar’s time frame further into the past. The publication had a print run of 400 copies.

Six language versions of Arno Pařík’s book *Židovská Praha* [Jewish Prague] were reprinted with a new cover – with a print run of 1,500 copies in English, 1,000 copies in German, 300 copies in French, 300 copies in Spanish, 500 copies in Italian and 200 copies in Czech. This guide to the history of the Prague Jewish community and Jewish Town contains more than a hundred full-colour photographs of Prague synagogues, Jewish cemeteries and other monuments.

The JMP continued to publish its quarterly newsletter (in Czech and English) in electronic form, as well as a bi-monthly guide with basic information about its sites, permanent exhibitions and forthcoming events, including exhibitions, concerts, programmes for parents and children, guided tours, lectures and discussion evenings.

An updated version of the JMP’s information brochure for potential sponsors was printed (500 copies in English, 500 copies in Czech).

Where required, the JMP reprinted its leaflets for distribution with entry tickets (with information provided in six languages).

A flyer in Czech and English was printed for the 13th Prague Museum Night (3,500 copies).



a) Loans

As in previous years, the JMP collaborated with a large number of political, administrative, cultural, academic and educational institutions in the Czech Republic and abroad in 2017. It was involved with 188 local and 116 foreign entities in various spheres of activity.

The JMP continued its contracting system for one- to three-year contracts with long-term Czech borrowers – nine Jewish communities and 12 cultural operators. Twelve contracts were extended after prior physical checks and assessments of the conditions of collection objects by JMP staff. In other countries, the JMP has provided long-term loans for four exhibitions.

The JMP also loaned material to temporary exhibitions held by other organizations in the Czech Republic. As usual, most of the items on loan were from the visual art collection. Artworks from the JMP's collections were also displayed in the following successful exhibitions: *Friedrich Feigl: Oko vidí svět* [The Eye Sees the World] (Aleš South Bohemian Gallery in Hluboká nad Vltavou) and *Otto Gutfreund: Od kresby k soše* [Otto Gutfreund: From Drawings to Sculpture] (West Bohemian Gallery in Pilsen).

Among the most interesting exhibitions abroad for which the JMP provided short-term loans in 2017 were the following: *Golems: Contemporary Avatars of a Clay Figure* at the Musée d'Art et d'Histoire du Judaïsme / Museum of Jewish Art and History in Paris, *Up/Rooted: Four Woman Artists in Exile* at the Museum der Moderne in Salzburg, *Maria Theresa – Jubilee Exhibition 2017* at Schönbrunn Palace in Vienna, and *Comrade Jew! The Dream of a Better World* at the Jüdisches Museum Wien / Jewish Museum of Vienna. The JMP resumed its collaboration with the House of European History in Brussels, lending an exhibit for its permanent exhibition on 20th-century history. The long-term loan of original children's drawings from Terezín at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington continued, as did the long-term loan of liturgical objects in the permanent exhibitions of the Memorial Scrolls Trust in London and the Jewish Museum of Berlin.

In 2017 the JMP issued 105 permissions for the use of JMP materials in books and magazines and for publicity and study purposes, as well as for taking photos and filming at sites overseen by the JMP.

The JMP's Library Department collaborated on the loan of material for exhibitions in Paris (*Golems: Contemporary Avatars of a Clay Figure*) and in Olomouc (Olomouc Synagogue 1897–1939). It also arranged for the loan of two books for the exhibition *Literature, Censorship and the War* (Stiftelsen Arkivet, Kristiansand, Norway) and of two printed items for the exhibition *Otte Wallish: Forgotten Greetings from Israel* (Czech Centre, Prague).

b) Not-for-profit sector, information, consultation and media

The JMP's co-operation with institutions and not-for-profit organizations in the educational and cultural spheres was of great importance, as highlighted elsewhere in this report.

The JMP's expert staff provided necessary information and consultation (in person and in writing) for the work of other institutions and specialists in various areas, for the restoration of heritage sites and for the preparation of exhibitions across the Czech Republic.

As in previous years, the JMP director Leo Pavlát provided expert opinions for textbooks applying for an endorsement from the Czech Ministry of Education. In addition, he commented on issues relating to Judaism, Jewish history, antisemitism and the Middle East conflict for the media (including a commentary for Czech Television's ČT24 station on 26 January in relation to International Holocaust Remembrance Day, a commentary for Czech Radio on 9 April and 23 April in relation to President Masaryk concerning Zionism and the Jewish anti-Nazi resistance, an interview for the weekly newspaper *Echo* on 5 May 2017, and an interview for Czech Television's ČT24 station on 17 December), as well as for the internal requirements of the Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic. Leo Pavlát also co-presented and contributed to the weekly Czech Radio programme *Šalom alejchem* [Shalom Aleichem], which he co-conceived.

c) Involvement in other projects

The JMP took part in several events that were held in collaboration with other institutions in 2017.

As usual, the JMP also focused its attention on the public commemoration of the Shoah. On 26 January, it hosted a gala concert in the Spanish Synagogue to mark the International Holocaust Remembrance Day (see Section 11b).

On 3–5 February, the JMP once again took part in the charity event “Icy Prague” – now in its 17th year. This event gives children the opportunity to become acquainted with the past and present of the Czech capital, with its heritage sites and interesting things to see, all free of charge.

The 150th anniversary of the birth of Prof. Alfred Kohn was celebrated on 22 February 2017 at an event held at the Institute of Anatomy of the First Faculty of Medicine, Charles University. Prof. Kohn was the head of the Institute of Histology at the Medical Faculty of the German University in Prague for 26 years. The event commemorating his life and achievements was organized by the JMP in association with the Institute of Anatomy and the Czech Anatomical Society.

On 22 February, the Franz Kafka Society hosted a lecture titled “Karel Poláček – Known and Unknown”, which was held in cooperation with the JMP. The lecture about this Czech writer of Jewish descent was delivered by Dr. Josef Krám for the 125th anniversary of Poláček's birth.

March 2017 marked the 73rd anniversary of the murder of the inmates of the Terezín Family Camp in the gas chambers of Auschwitz-Birkenau. In association with the Terezín Initiative, the JMP prepared a commemorative programme to mark this tragic event. On the morning of 8 March, a memorial ceremony was held in the Pinkas Synagogue memorial for the victims of the Shoah from Bohemia and Moravia. Members of the public had free access to the Pinkas Synagogue on the day of the memorial ceremony.

Once again, the JMP was a partner to the annual public meeting against antisemitism on Holocaust Remembrance Day. A ‘good will’ march through the centre of Prague was held by the Czech branch of the International Christian Embassy Jerusalem (ICEJ) on Sunday 23 April.

On 24 April, the JMP participated in the 12th year of publicly reading out the names of Holocaust victims on Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day. The continuous reading of names took place in 13 places across the Czech Republic. On the same morning a commemorative event to remember the Jewish victims of the genocide was held in the Pinkas Synagogue.

On 10 May, the JMP, *Lidové noviny* publishers, and the Institute for Contemporary History at the Czech Academy of Sciences held a debate with Martina Niedhammer and Ines Koeltzsch, the authors of recent books about Jewish Prague that have been published by *Lidové noviny* in the book series *Židé-dějiny-paměť* (Jews–History–Memory). The event was held on the occasion of the international book fair Book World Prague.

On 19–28 May, the JMP participated in the second MEETING BRNO festival, which again focused on charting and highlighting the history of Moravia and its largest city. The JMP provided visual materials from its archive for a mobile app that provides a new way to explore the city's Jewish heritage ("The Jewish Trail"). Users of the app can follow the marked trail signs in the streets and check out details on the website <http://stezkybrno.cz/zs/> (available in three languages).

In May 2017, the JMP provided partnership support for the release of the feature film *Un sac de billes* / *A Bag of Marbles* in association with the distribution company Cinemart. The film tells the true story of two Jewish boys who escape from Nazi-occupied Paris to southern France. Before the film premiere, the JMP held a competition for copies of the book and tickets to the film showing.

The Jewish Museum in Prague is a most popular destination during the annual Prague Museum Night.



In the late hours of 10 June, the JMP once again participated in Prague Museum Night, now in its 14th year. The Maisel Synagogue (with its exhibition on the history of Jews in the Bohemian lands from the 10th to the 18th centuries) and the Spanish Synagogue (with its exhibition on the fate of Jews in Bohemia and Moravia in the 19th and 20th centuries) opened their doors to this year's throng of visitors. A guided tour of the Maisel Synagogue was also provided for the hard-of-hearing. As in previous years, public interest in visiting the museum at night was enormous. Around 3,827 visitors came to see the exhibitions between 10:30 p.m. and 1:00 a.m. – about 40% more than last year.

On 3 September, the JMP took part in the programme of the annual European Day of Jewish Culture, as it does every year. The theme for 2017 was the Jewish Diaspora. For this broad topic, the JMP organized a screening of *Naive Dreams*, a 2013 documentary film by Peter and Susanne Scheiner about the attempts at reviving a small Jewish community in the town of Komárno, Slovakia. After the screening, the journalist Petr Brod moderated a discussion with the director Peter Scheiner and the Slovak sociologist Fedor Gál.



14

Maintenance and reconstruction

The JMP's Technical Operations Department oversaw the management and maintenance of all of its sites, including the operation of various integrated technical facilities. This work involved maintenance, repairs and reconstruction work on its buildings and technical facilities, arranging necessary service and inspection work, maintaining and developing the integrated security system, maintaining all greenery in the Old Jewish Cemetery and in the area in front of the Maisel Synagogue, and running the reception area of the JMP's administrative building. In addition, it undertook checks on compliance with obligations relating to fire protection and security regulations, safety and health at work, and corporate environmental responsibility.

Active work was undertaken with regard to third-party subletting, including the conclusion of new contracts and the updating and amending of current contracts. In connection with the commencement of work on the new exhibition at the Pinkas Synagogue, the souvenir stalls outside the synagogue (in the first courtyard) were closed down; this space will later be used as a rest area and an outdoor exhibition area.

Over the course of the year, consultations and necessary co-operation were carried out with the company Dial Telecom in connection with preparing a project proposal for connecting the JMP's sites with a fibre optic data link. Planning consent was granted for this project in November.

At the end of the first quarter, co-operation was terminated with the IT company TREND-IT, which until then had been providing external IT management; its activities were taken over within an extended scope by a newly established internal IT department. Following on from steps that had been taken earlier, a new IT architecture was proposed and tender documents were prepared for the supply of network elements, servers and data repositories, including their configuration. In view of the future use of a back-up location, the licences for the current servers were supplemented and the client access licences were updated. Out-of-date operating systems on seven PCs and laptops were replaced. Two laptops and seven new PCs were acquired as a replacement for faulty ones. The JMP's computers were inspected with emphasis on allowing for central administration of computers and network security policy enforcement. Data in the current repositories was consolidated into a new logical structure with integrated access and a clear allocation of access rights.

Spanish Synagogue



The company Gepard Living, which had been hired by the JMP to implement the plans for the construction of a new textile depository in Prague 5, withdrew from the project, as it had not obtained the necessary planning permits, which means that the JMP will now have to look for a new partner. The JMP still considers it necessary to relocate its textile depository from its current location in Golčův Jeníkov to Prague.

As part of the “Tree Care in the Old Jewish Cemetery” project, the condition of the trees was checked and adjusted in the autumn and a proposal was made for applying cultivation measures. On the basis of an expert appraisal, the tree bracing was inspected and the trees were pruned (reduction pruning, cultural pruning, safety pruning and health pruning) in the spring months. In addition, two acacia trees that had been identified as posing a risk were cut down after obtaining the relevant permission.

The department undertook the necessary inspections and checks of the JMP’s technical and electrical facilities, elevators, wheelchair ramps, and security and fire protection systems. This included the removal of technical failures and defects.

All necessary repairs were made to the properties overseen by the JMP.

With regard to health and safety in the workplace and fire protection, all the necessary checks were carried out in the properties overseen by the JMP and its technical installations were inspected in compliance with the regulations. In addition, new staff and fire safety managers underwent the relevant training in the areas of fire protection and health & safety at work. There was also regular training of senior staff.

Occupational health doctors provided first-aid training for the JMP’s employees. They also carried out an inspection of the JMP’s workplaces and facilities with regard to hygiene and health protection measures for employees, and delivered a positive opinion. The Prague Public Health Authority carried out an inspection of the JMP’s conservation/restoration studios, storehouses and security guard office in the administrative building; the inspection results were positive.

Several minor workplace injuries occurred as a result of a lack of attention. None of these incidents required medical treatment or time off work.



15

Security

In 2017, the JMP continued to pay close attention to improving the quality of its security staff. This was reflected in the ongoing stabilization of the team, with attention paid to its preparation. This included, among other things, internal training seminars (inter alia, detection of suspected behaviour, simulation of emergency and crisis situations, searching for dangerous objects, analysis of prior terrorist attacks), Israeli Krav Maga self-defence seminars, and specialized crisis management courses led by foreign experts. In addition, one practical self-defence exercise was carried out with the participation of the JMP's regular staff.

On the basis of the memorandum of co-operation that was concluded on 5 April 2016 at the Czech Ministry of the Interior to boost security at Jewish institutions, which are considered to be soft targets, the JMP worked closely with other Jewish entities and with the Czech Police in connection with ensuing the safety and security of the JMP's properties and visitors. The JMP's Security Department also consulted with foreign security experts, particularly in the area of crisis planning and internal communication management.



16

Investments

The JMP's most important investments of 2017 included work on the projects for transforming the exhibitions in the Pinkas and Spanish synagogues, as well as alterations to the Robert Guttmann Gallery and the lecture halls at the Department for Education and Culture.

The company ARANEA (the successor to SIEZA) modernized the security system in the JMP's administrative building.

The company SYB installed air-conditioning equipment in the server rooms and in the Textile Conservation and Restoration Studio (where the temperature conditions had not been suitable) in the JMP's administrative building.

After termination of the lease held by a second-hand bookshop in the annex of the Smíchov Synagogue, technical alterations and restoration measures were carried out there and the space was then sublet to the company Chanut s.r.o. (as of 1 December).

Shop sublet in the annex of the Smíchov Synagogue





17

Grants and donations

In 2017 the JMP filed 16 grant/subsidy applications, which were all accepted.

The JMP received grant/subsidy support of CZK 3,251,289, some of which is to be spread over several years. Funds awarded in 2016 that were uncompleted or not fully used – amounting to CZK 8,623,360 – were carried over to 2017. The amount of grant/subsidy funds used in 2017 was CZK 5,514,540. The remaining amount of CZK 6,360,109 is to be carried over to 2018 and the following years.

The following institutions in the Czech Republic provided considerable support for the JMP's activities in 2017:

- Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports: for the “Jews, History and Culture” seminars for teachers
- Czech Ministry of Culture: for making available endangered periodicals, for providing library services in the JMP Library via digital technology (VISK 7 subsidy programme), and for the ISO-D restoration project
- State Fund for Culture: for a genizah restoration project and for the exhibition “Through the Labyrinth of Normalization: The Jewish Community as a Mirror for the Majority Society”
- City of Prague: for a project supporting apprentice seminars, for the exhibition “Through the Labyrinth of Normalization: The Jewish Community as a Mirror for the Majority Society”, and for concerts in the Maisel Synagogue
- Federation of Jewish Communities: for the restoration of tombstones, the recording of interviews with Shoah survivors, Sunday workshops for children, a student education project, publication of the journal *Judaica Bohemiae*, cultural events, and the revitalization of the Pinkas Synagogue
- Prague Jewish Community Foundation: for the restoration of two rare printed books
- Brno City Hall: for supporting cultural events

The following institutions abroad provided considerable support for the JMP's activities in 2017:

- Rothschild Foundation: project Yerusha 2 a Yerusha 3, project Jewish Council Archives in Europe
- Claims Conference: for the Frontier of Memory project and for the Jewish Council Archives in Europe project
- Zukunftsfond Austria: for the BeGrenzte Flucht project
- European Commission Framework Programme 7, Horizon 2020: for the European Holocaust Research Infrastructure (EHRI 2 project)

Many individual donors also provided support for the JMP's activities.



18

Finances

The museum received 57,053 (8,65 %) more visitors in 2017 than it did in the previous year, as a result of which receipts from ticket sales were up by CZK 27.605.814 (16,42%). Total revenues were up by CZK 23.885.088 (12,50 %), which was mainly due to an increase in ticket sales. Revenues were also moderately higher in other areas, including income from rentals, the sale of goods and other services. A significant drop occurred in income from donations and subsidies.

Expenses were up by CZK 4.877.858 (3,09%) compared to 2016, which was mainly due to an increase in costs in the areas of marketing and promotion, staff development, income tax, and other costs.

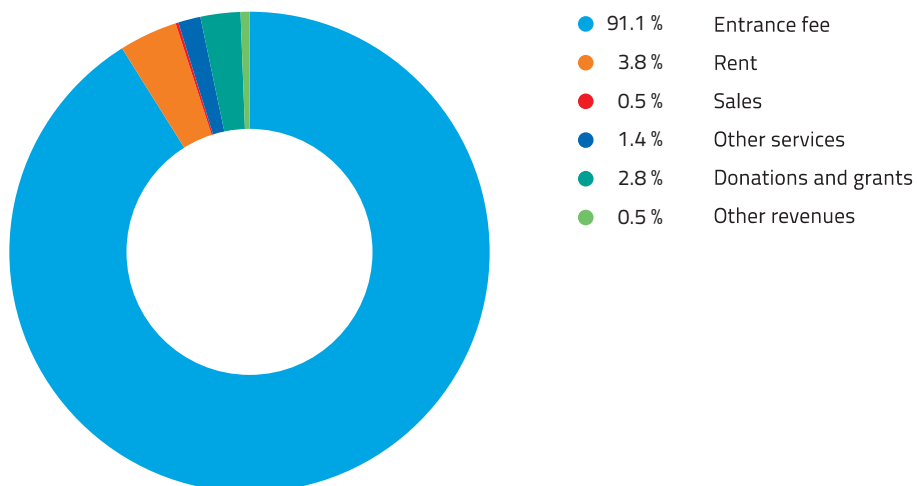
On balance, the museum's financial results for 2017 were highly favourable, with gross profit of CZK 64.405.741,97 and net profit of CZK 52.446.331,97 (after paying CZK 11.959.410 in tax). Net profit was up by CZK 19.007.229,94 year-on-year.

In all, 6,41 % of the total costs went towards research, with 60,95 % covered by the museum's own resources and 39,05 % covered by donations and subsidies. Donations and subsidies for research were received from several sources – 9,06 % from the state and municipal budgets, 38,82 % from the European Union and 52,12 % from private and foundation sources.

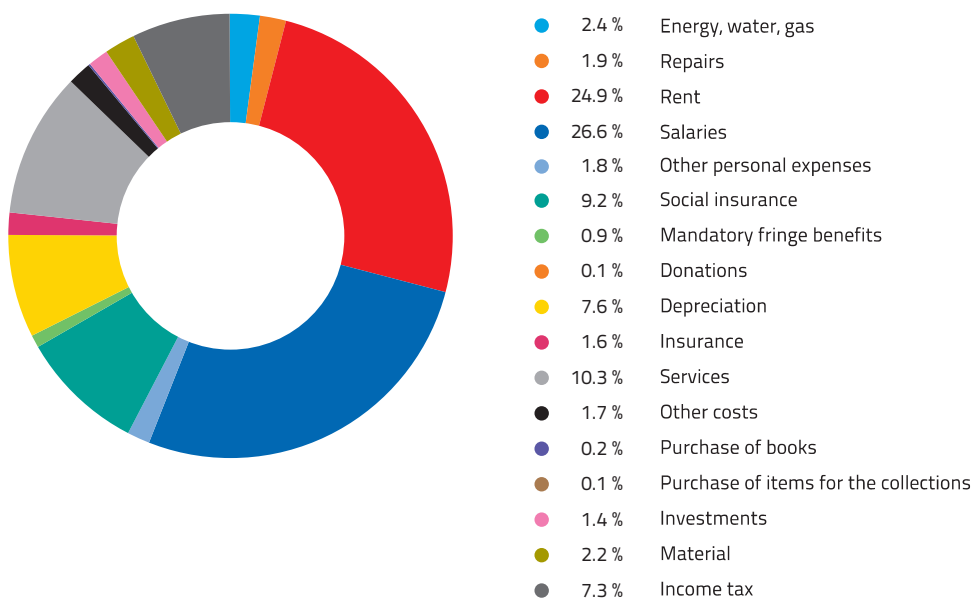


Appendix 1 – 2017 budget implementation

*Revenues of the Jewish Museum
in Prague (2017)*



*Expenses of
The Jewish Museum
in Prague (2017)*



Appendix 2 – Profit and loss statement (CZK '000)

	As of 31 Dec 2016	As of 31 Dec 2017
REVENUES	190,968	214,854
Sales of goods and services	13,783	12,040
Entrance fees	168,159	195,765
Subsidies	6,906	5,916
Recognition of provisions	0	0
Other revenues	2,120	1,133
OPERATING COSTS	149,822	150,449
Expenditures on realized sales	70,413	68,999
Personnel costs	62,283	63,312
Depreciation	12,805	12,493
Other operating costs and provisions	4,321	5,645
INCOME TAX	7,707	11,959
RESULT	33,439	52,446

Appendix 3 – Balance sheet (CZK '000)

	As of 31 Dec 2016	As of 31 Dec 2017
PERMANENT ASSETS	129,678	124,944
Intangible fixed assets	1,620	1,117
Tangible fixed assets	128,058	123,827
Financial investments	0	0
CURRENT ASSETS	263,813	321,117
Inventories	7,773	8,258
Receivables	15,744	12,535
Financial assets	237,771	297,803
OTHER ASSETS	2,525	2,521
TOTAL ASSETS	393,491	446,061
OWN SOURCES	369,061	416,216
Funds	335,622	363,770
Financial results in current accounting period	33,439	52,446
EXTERNAL RESOURCES	24,430	29,845
Short-term commitments	15,514	22,882
Provisions	0	0
OTHER LIABILITIES	8,916	6,963
TOTAL LIABILITIES	393,491	446,061

Appendix 4 – Staff structure

In accordance with its organisation manual, the JMP comprised eight departments in 2017. As of the end of 2017, it had 138,9 employees, including four on maternity leave and ten whose salaries are fully covered by grants. The average number of employees employed by the JMP in 2017 was 139 and the number of full time equivalent employees was 133.

Director	1
Research and specialist staff, including restoration staff	51
Education and culture staff	8
Staff in charge of the maintenance, repairs, refurbishment and administration of buildings and cemeteries	4
Publicity and exhibition staff	4
Reservation Centre staff	3
IT staff	2
Administrative staff	5
Economic staff, including exhibition ticket sellers	12
Security staff and custodians	49

Average monthly salary for JMP staff in 2017: CZK 24.887.

Appendix 5 – Building repairs and reconstruction (CZK '000)

Building	1995–2017
Spanish Synagogue	34,638
Administration building in Jáchymova st.	3,215
Maisel Synagogue	43,103
Pinkas Synagogue	15,688
Ceremonial Hall	3,248
Klausen Synagogue	9,854
Depository of textiles	4,472
New Administration and Research Centre	100,208
Department for Education and Culture, Information and Reservation centre	18,575
Smíchov Synagogue	77,207
Brandýs Synagogue	855
Depository of books Spořilov	210
Jewish Cemetery - Fibichova Prague 3	11,980
Old Jewish Cemetery	13,168
Total	336,421



Jewish Museum in Prague

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