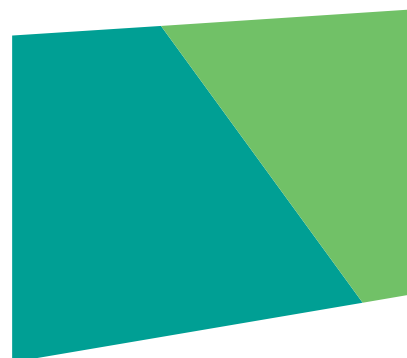
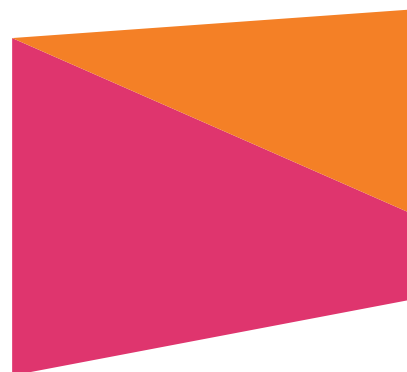




# Jewish Museum in Prague 2016 Annual Report



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# 1

## Legal framework of 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

*Alfred Grotte (1872–1943), Proposal for the reconstruction of the Maisel Synagogue, view of the western facade, watercolour on paper, Prague, 1894, Inv. No. JMP 157.101*



JMP is the professional care of the Jewish cultural heritage in the Czech Republic through the Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic.

The JMP's supreme body is the Board of Trustees, which comprised the following members in 2016:

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

**Eva Lorencová** (Jewish Community in Prague)

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

**Pavel Hlubuček** (Czech Ministry of Culture)

The JMP's control body is the Supervisory Board, which comprised the following members in 2016:

**Jan Neubauer**, Chairman (Jewish Community in Prague)

**Vladimír Látal** (Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic) – until 29 June 2016

**Michal Hron** (Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic) – from 30 June 2016

**Ing. Marta Rubínová**, Czech Ministry of Culture

Four meetings of the Board of Trustees and two meetings of the Supervisory Board were held in 2016. Minutes were taken at each meeting in the presence of a lawyer.

The JMP director in 2016 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 2015.
- 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 Bohemia and Moravia; (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.
- 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.

Ceremonial Hall



## 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 literature searches.
- Seminars on Jewish history and culture (with certification from the Czech Ministry of Education).
- 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	26 564	18 729	7 835
February	31 402	20 248	11 154
March	59 249	34 194	25 055
April	60 335	35 356	24 979
May	69 011	54 812	14 199
June	54 756	39 774	14 982
July	65 446	45 665	19 781
August	78 635	57 157	21 478
September	63 933	47 853	16 080
October	59 963	44 910	15 053
November	39 342	29 502	9 840
December	51 229	38 452	12 777
TOTAL	659 865	466 652	193 213

The JMP received 659,865 visitors in 2016, which is 30,739 more than the previous year (an increase of 4.89%).

Drawing on its tried-and-tested methods, the JMP continued to develop its activities with the aim of improving visitor services. 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 Pražská plynárenská's "Gold Card" and House of Chocolate's discount coupon programmes, as well as for "Prague City Pass" and "Opencard" holders. Once again, the JMP's inclusion in the "Prague Card" programme proved beneficial, attracting more than 30,000 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 2015, and significantly contributed to visitor satisfaction.

Through its Department for Education and Culture, the JMP continued to provide considerable discounts to school groups visiting the JMP in 2016. The activities of the Society of Friends of the Jewish Museum in Prague also helped to promote the JMP.



The JMP was awarded five TripAdvisor Certificates of Excellence in 2016 – 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.

*Information and Reservation Centre of  
the Jewish Museum in Prague*







# 4

## Organizational structure and staff

In accordance with its organisational structure, the JMP comprised eight departments in 2016. The annual average number of employees for 2016 was 136.1 – including ten whose salaries were fully covered by grants and four on maternity leave. As of the end of 2016, the JMP had 136 employees; the number of full time equivalent employees was 131.1.

The staff structure in 2016 was as follows: director, security staff and custodians – 48, research and specialist staff (including conservators/restorers) – 49, economic staff (including exhibition ticket sellers) – 12, educational and cultural staff – eight, staff responsible for the maintenance, repair, reconstruction and management of the properties overseen by the JMP – four, administrative staff – five, publicity and exhibition staff – six, Information and Reservation Centre – three.

In the course of the year, 196 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 for JMP staff was CZK 24,025 in 2016. The average monthly gross wage in the Czech Republic was CZK 27,589; the average monthly gross wage in Prague was CZK 36,584.



# 5

## Exhibitions

### a) Exhibitions at the Robert Guttmann Gallery

Three temporary exhibitions were held at the JMP's Robert Guttmann Gallery (at U Staré školy 3, Prague 1) in 2016.

The exhibition *The Missing Images: Eugeen van Mieghem and the Jewish Emigrants to the New World* was on view at the gallery from 10 September 2015 until 10 April 2016. This, the JMP's third exhibition on the refugee phenomenon focused on the emigration of millions of people from Eastern Europe to America at the end of the 19th century and the start of the 20th. One of the main focal points of this emigration was the port of Antwerp and the Belgian shipping company Red Star Line, which transported about 2.4 million Eastern European emigrants to the New World between 1873 and 1934. Among them were hundreds of thousands of Jews who were fleeing poverty, oppression and persecution. Between 1881 and 1914, more than two and a half million Jews emigrated from Eastern Europe and Russia, and another million left Europe between 1918 and 1939. This exodus was depicted by the painter Eugeen Van Mieghem (1875–1930), who was born and lived his whole life in Antwerp. In addition to 50 drawings and paintings by Van Mieghem, the exhibition also featured Red Star Line documents and period photographs of the Antwerp harbour. The exhibition was organized in cooperation with the Eugeen Van Mieghem Foundation and the Red Star Line Museum in Antwerp. Financial support was received from the Embassy of the Kingdom of Belgium in the Czech Republic and the General Representative of the Government of Flanders in the Czech Republic. It was held under the auspices of the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Belgium to the Czech Republic, Françoise Gustin. The exhibition was seen by 10,936 visitors.

The exhibition *Stranded in Shanghai: The Hongkew Ghetto Through the Lens of Arthur Rothstein* ran from 12 May until 11 September 2016. It was curated by the JMP's visual arts curator Michaela Sidenberg and film documentarist Martin Šmok (USC Shoah Foundation). The exhibition featured black-and-white photographs of the Hongkew ghetto by the American documentary photographer Arthur Rothstein (1915–1985), dating from April 1946. Covering an area of about 2.5 square kilometres, the Hongkew ghetto was set up by the Japanese occupation authorities as a designated area for European Jewish refugees who had arrived in Shanghai since 1937. In operation between 18 February 1943 and 14 August 1945, it was liberated on 3 September 1945. A large number of European Jewish refugees were still in the ghetto at the time of its liberation, with as many as 20,000 having made their various ways there between 1938 and 1942. These documentary photographs from Shanghai later became famous after their publication. Rothstein took them at the start of his assignment in China as chief photographer for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA), following his discharge from the military. His main task was to document the activity of this international organization, which at the time mainly involved distributing food aid and organizing the repatriation of Jewish refugees back to Europe. Against the backdrop of Rothstein's photo reportage, the exhibition *Stranded in Shanghai: The Hongkew Ghetto Through the Lens of Arthur Rothstein* aimed to draw attention to the fate of the Czechoslovak nationals who formed a small but far from insignificant group in Shanghai. On the basis of various lists from 1942–1946, there are estimated to have been between 300 and 400 people in this group, about three quarters of whom were Jews. The exhibition was seen by 9,774 visitors.

The exhibition *"Come My Beloved..." – Illustrations for the Song of Songs* ran from 6 October 2016 until 12 March 2017. Held in cooperation 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 art 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-Classicist 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 Marek 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.

*Die Bücher der Bibel – Die  
Liederichtung, Berlin & Wien, 1923.  
Graphic design by Ephraim Moses  
Lilien*



## 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.

Six exhibitions were held at the Prague office of the Department for Education and Culture (at Maiselova 15, Prague 1): *The Ancient Jewish Community of Yemen* – photographs by the Israeli photographer Naftali Hilger; *The People from Judah, or Jews on the Equator* – photographs by Ivana Yael Bruner-Nepalová; *Why did the muses not keep silent in the ghetto?* – artworks by participants of the 17th annual art competition held by the Terezín Memorial; *The Nansen Foundation: an unexpected*

*rescue from the north* – an exhibition charting the activities of the Norwegian humanitarian organization Nansenhjelpen and its history during the Second World War; *A Play of Colours and Shades* – graphic art by Jana Dubová; *Following the tracks of Heroes* – photographs by Jindřich Buxbaum as part of the Vrba–Wetzler Memorial project with financial support from the JMP.

Ten exhibitions were held at the Brno office of the Department for Education and Culture (at the Brno Jewish Community building): a showcase of winning entries from a student art competition held by the Terezín Memorial *Why did the muses not keep silent in the ghetto?*; *The Abayudaya: Jews of Uganda*; *The Nansen Foundation: an unexpected rescue from the north*; *The Journey of the Torah* – an exhibition of photographs depicting the completion of a new Torah and the ceremony of bringing it into the Brno Synagogue; *From the Holocaust to Heavenly Jerusalem* – paintings by Hana Alisa Omer; *The Genius Loci of Moravian Jewish Cemeteries* – photographs by Helena Bretfeldová; *Traces and Reflections of the Past* – an art therapy project for Shoah survivors; *The Löw-Beer Villa* – an exhibition on the past and present of the villa of the Löw-Beer family; *Wergeland's Legacy: How Jews lived in Norway between 1851 and 1945* – an exhibition on the story of Jewish immigration to Norway; an exhibition of photographs by Josef Braun, depicting life in several Jewish communities in south-east Moravia.

### c) Online exhibitions

The JMP's online exhibition, titled "*I no longer have to be afraid of my neighbours*": *The life of Ivana Beranová and her family* was launched in July 2016. This exhibition seeks to highlight the impact of major historical events of the 20th century by focusing on a single Jewish family living under the Nazi and Communist totalitarian regimes. The presentation comprises excerpts from biographical interviews that Ivana Beranová (née Fantlová) provided to the JMP, along with unique photographs and documents from her family archive.

The exhibition is accessible at the website:

<http://collections.jewishmuseum.cz/index.php/simpleGallery/Show/Index>

*In memory of the Jews of Semily – an exhibition project honouring the memory of fellow citizens who fell victim to Nazi persecution*



#### d) Exhibitions held in co-operation with other institutions

The JMP's photography exhibition *The Auschwitz Album* was on view at the Lumière Brothers Center for Photography in Moscow from 3 February until 3 April 2016. This exhibition featured copies of all of the almost 200 copies of photographs from the Auschwitz Album, a unique document from 1944 that depicts the systematic liquidation of Europe's Jews. The exhibition was originally prepared by the JMP in collaboration with the Prague City Gallery and was on view at the Prague House of Photography from May through September 2015. The exhibition opening show in Moscow took place on 2 February 2016 and was attended by the JMP's photography curator, Martin Jelínek. The transport of the exhibition to and from Moscow was organized by the Czech Centre in Moscow. The event was also supported by the Israeli Embassy in Moscow.

*In Memory of the Jews of Semily* is the name of an exhibition project at the Semily Museum and Gallery that was held in co-operation with the JMP and the State Regional Archives in Semily and was on view between 7 October and 31 December. During the Second World War, forty Jews from Semily in northern Bohemia were sent to concentration camps, only six of whom survived. The comprehensive exhibition project in Semily included the following exhibitions: *The Jews of the Semily Region*, *The History of the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia*, and *Neighbours Who Disappeared / Tribute to the Child Holocaust Victims*. It began with the unveiling of a plaque in front of the Semily Museum and Gallery to commemorate the Jews of Semily.

The JMP's exhibition *Jewish Customs and Traditions* was on view at the Dobříš Chateau Gallery in November and December. Another of the JMP's exhibitions, *The Second Life of Czech Torah Scrolls*, was on view at the Dobříš House of Culture between November and mid-January.

As in previous years, the JMP held touring exhibitions in collaboration with various partners. In 2016 the Prague office of the Department for Education and Culture provided 13 such exhibitions, seven of which dealt with the topic of the Shoah: *Don't Lose Faith in Mankind: The Protectorate Through the Eyes of Jewish Children*; *Anne Frank: A Story for Today*; *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*; *Jewish Customs and Traditions*; *Jewish Education*; *Silver Tide*.

In 2016 these exhibitions were installed at 50 schools and museums in 22 towns across the Czech Republic and at several venues abroad (Germany, Slovakia, USA, Sweden, South Africa, Israel).

The Brno office of the Department for Education and Culture loaned two touring exhibitions on the topic of the Shoah, namely *The Children's Story: Children's Drawings from the Terezín Ghetto* and *The Girls from Room 28, L 410, Terezín*. They were on display at five venues in Moravia.





# 6

## Care and documentation of the collections

### a) Care of the collections

The JMP fully ensured that its collection objects, books and archival holdings were kept in optimal environmental 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 2016 external specialists were commissioned to conserve or restore three Torah mantles from the textile collection and a set of 19 book blocks and fragments from the collection of manuscripts and genizah papers, whose restoration was supported by a generous financial donation from Ivana Dubová. The restoration of a Weiss family portrait and its protective frame by external restorers was made possible by a generous financial donation from Patricia Hynes, who also supported the restoration of a Torah mantle for an exhibition in the Kolín Synagogue.

In 2016 the Textile Conservation and Restoration Studio treated 85 textiles, including a set of uniforms belonging to František Mahler from the Czechoslovak Foreign Army during the Second World War (a gift from Susan Marlow). It also conserved 200 tefillin (phylacteries) that are on display in the Spanish Synagogue. In collaboration with the Collections Management Department, the textile conservators/restorers undertook an inventory of part of the textile collection in the JMP's textile depository outside Prague. Great attention was devoted to providing expertise and conservation treatment of a collection of shoes that were found in genizot.





The JMP's paper conservators/restorers contributed to the preparation of two exhibitions in 2016. Work for the JMP's individual departments included the following: restoration of 37 items on paper, cardboard and tracing paper, and minor conservation and cleaning of 120 paintings for the visual art collection; restoration of one manuscript and 75 genizah papers for the collection of manuscripts and genizah papers; restoration of 21 items for the Shoah History Department; restoration of six books and additional treatment and conservation of 270 books and journals for the JMP Library; restoration of eight bound archival sources for the JMP Archives.

The Metal Conservation and Restoration Studio conserved/restored 65 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 in a retaining wall at the Klausen Synagogue and a further six tombstones from the entire area of the Old Jewish Cemetery were restored under the supervision of JMP archivist Vlastimila Hamáčková. Eight upended tombstones were set back up. The tomb of Simon Backofen was restored with the support of the Foundation for Holocaust Victims (NFOH).

## **b) Collections management**

In 2016, the Collections Management Department made out 135 issue slips for 3,160 collection objects (i.e., 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, 1,239 items remained out of storage as of 1 February 2017 (mainly in exhibitions or on loan for exhibition purposes).

The digitization of the visual art collection was effectively completed and intensive work continued on the digitization of the collection of manuscripts and genizah papers. The department also carried out an inventory of the auxiliary collection, which contains copies, replicas and facsimiles of collection objects, as well as authentic Judaica of informative value but without specific importance to the JMP's collections. The auxiliary collection now contains over 500 items.

The ongoing inventory of the JMP's holdings continued in 2016. It included part of the textile collection, namely the collection of synagogue curtains (2,346 items), comprising 5.7% of the JMP's holdings. In addition, the auxiliary catalogue of items that have been discarded from the JMP's collections since 2001 was checked and supplemented. (In 2001, the JMP's collections were included in the Central Register of Collections, which is maintained by the Czech Ministry of Culture).

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 2016. In accordance with the relevant legal regulations, documents were prepared for the cataloguing of acquisitions for the year 2013, and 120 new registration numbers in the Judaica sub-collection were reported. In addition, 24 surplus items were discarded from this sub-collection.

Intensive work continued on the processing of data on collection objects in the CollectiveAccess database. Data about the authors of paintings and historical photographs was added to the database, and their biographical information was checked and supplemented. The same process was followed for the makers of metal artefacts in the JMP's collection of metal and associated materials.

The review and supplementary transcription of information contained in the so-called “German Catalogue” in electronic form was completed in 2016. This involved a verification of data and an overview of information about dedicatory inscriptions in the catalogue. An index of donor names was also processed.

The JMP received 23 requests for the issue of 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. Sixteen certificates were issued; pursuant to the law, the other requests were either rejected or forwarded to the Czech Ministry of Culture for a further decision.

The Photo Department digitized 18,142 images of collection objects, primarily from the collection of manuscripts and genizah papers (10,364 images) and from the visual art collection (6,796 images).

Work continued on the digitization of the JMP’s archival and library materials – 5,397 images for the Shoah History Department, 1,581 images for the Library, and 2,105 images for the Archives.

Throughout 2016, 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 (1,713 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 175) 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. Selected records were restored in the JMP’s Conservation and Restoration Studio. A total of 178 archival books and 10 other books were restored in 2016. In addition, newly acquired documents were mechanically cleaned before their archival processing.

Archival staff focused on the re-processing of materials in the archives and on the processing of five newly acquired personal papers. Collaboration continued with the Dutch researcher Emmy van Swaaij with regard to the transcription of Braille texts from the Oskar Baum Papers. Four personal papers were acquired from the Collections Department and included in the archive registration programme

*Archive of the Jewish Museum in Prague*



PevA; biographies of the creators of three of these papers was prepared. Work continued on the sorting and arranging of records from the JMP's business archive (1969–1994) – 60 boxes. Records were acquired from the Jewish Museum in Prague Foundation. A discard process was also implemented. In addition, a proposal was drawn up for the next procedure for transferring the post-1990 records of Jewish communities and organizations to the JMP's archives; the proposal was approved by the Federation of Jewish Communities. The Jiří Fiedler Papers were sorted and placed in 75 boxes, along with a descriptive list.

In January 2016, a fragment of the ledger (*pinkas*) of the Jewish Religious Community of Kyjov (1680–1835), which had been stolen from the JMP's archives in January 2007, was returned to the JMP – thanks to the co-operation of the Czech Embassy in Israel and to the measures taken by the Israeli Police, the Police of the Czech Republic and Interpol. As the entire manuscript has not been found, however, it remains listed in the police database of stolen artworks

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. Twelve archival books (2,079 images) were digitized. In total, 3,250 images of archival books that have been digitized in the past few years were included in the CollectiveAccess database. Two marriage license registers – an important source for genealogical research – were made available online to researchers (about 500 images). The process of preparing Second World War material from the fonds of the Jewish Religious Community of Slaný for digitization was completed (checking and foliation, about 15,000 folios). In connection with the digitization of material from the period of Nazi persecution, all the preparatory material relating to the Jewish religious communities of Prostějov, Slaný and Rakovník (about 23,500 folios) was handed over to the Scanservice company for scanning. After checking the material upon return, the scans were made available for inclusion in the CollectiveAccess database as part of the European Holocaust Research Infrastructure (EHRI) project.

#### d) Library

Library staff continued to focus on the cataloguing of books, journals, articles and essays. The library added 2,099 records to its electronic catalogue, which contained more than 59,610 records by the end of the year; 73,323 pieces of information about individual units were added. Journals were processed in the periodical depository at the Pinkas Synagogue and 140 titles with information on the individual issues were added to the library catalogue.

The library works with the national Article Bibliography Cooperation System (the ANL database) and with the Czech Union Catalogue. In 2016 it sent 171 records of articles from the *Judaica Bohemiae* and *Roš chodeš* journals to the ANL database and 1,407 bibliographic records of books and 75 periodical records to the Czech Union Catalogue.

The periodicals *Ročenka Společnosti pro dějiny Židů v Československé republice* [Yearbook of the Society for the History of the Jews in the Czechoslovak Republic] and *Jahrbuch der Gessellschaft für Geschichte der Juden in der Čechoslov. Republik* for the years 1929–1938 were also digitized. In addition, the documents were made available online. This project was supported by the VISK 7 grant programme of the Czech Ministry of Culture.

During 2016, checks were carried out on the library holdings (call numbers 52.000 – 53.000) and on some references libraries.

In the historical part of the library's collection, ongoing checks were carried out on 375 books in the Central Register of Collections. The 'Books' sub-collection contained 3,313 titles by the end of 2016. An additional 411 volumes were registered over the course of the year. Photographs of title pages were gradually added to the book records in the electronic catalogue. More than 700 rare printed books have been documented so far in collaboration with the Photography Department.

The library's care of the collection of rare printed books continued with the conservation of 11 such works – three by paper conservators at the JMP, eight 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.

In the periodical depository, shelves were provided for the storage of earlier literature and books were relocated.

#### e) Shoah History Department

The Shoah History Department oversees several collections of archival materials relating to the life of the Jewish community in the Bohemian lands in the 20th century, particularly in the pre-war period and during the war. As part of the ongoing expansion of the collections and the charting of the lives of Jews in Bohemia and Moravia, the department acquired more than 1,200 folios of archival material in 2016. It also processed the personal papers of the Synek brothers (340 folios) and Max Weiss (120 folios). The documents were included in the collection of personal papers and their scans were added to the CollectiveAccess catalogue. The processing of material donated by Peter Erben from Israel (450 folios scanned) continued and work began on the processing of the archive of the Immergut family (63 folios). Thanks to a generous gift from Zuzana Bílková, the JMP acquired a set of unique material (31 folios) relating to the Czech author Karel Poláček and his girlfriend Dora Vaňáková.

In the second half of the year, the department set about cataloguing and reviewing the "Persecution Documents" collection, specifically the section "Memoirs, Literary and Specialist Processing of the Period of Persecution" (17 boxes), which was put together after the Second World War. Work was completed on the description of about 280 images from the photography collection. 135 folios of archival material were restored. The Shoah History Department's reference library (about 3,700 items) was reviewed and reorganized in co-operation with library staff at the year of the year.

In connection with recording interviews with Holocaust survivors, the department managed to acquire more than 1,000 archival materials for its collection of photography and documents from family archives.

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 6,600 items in the digital database.

Specialist staff at the department collaborated on the form of the new exhibition under preparation at the Spanish Synagogue.



# 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. At present, the JMP is not only the recipient of numerous grants and project support for its academic and research work, but it also develops and promotes research within its own, institutionally backed research projects. The focus of its academic and research work is on the history and culture of Jews in Bohemia and Moravia in the broad context of development in Central and Eastern Europe.

In 2016, work was done on 31 research tasks at the JMP as part of institutionally funded and externally supported research projects. These tasks involved 14.5 FTE staff (2.15 of whom were lead research staff) and more than 30 collaborators on a contractual basis (work contracts and agreements for the performance of work assignments). In connection with this, 33 key academic and research results were completed or published. Academic and research work at the JMP was co-ordinated by Mgr. Michal Frankl, PhD. (until the end of July 2016) and PhDr. Dana Veselská, Ph.D. (from August).

The JMP's academic and research work in 2016 focused mainly on developing infrastructure, i.e. comprehensive digital systems that provide researchers with access to online metadata and digital representatives of various types of objects – a unique source of material and information relating to Jewish history. The catalogue of the JMP's collections and fonds in the CollectiveAccess database is a key tool in this regard; the CollectiveAccess user interface is available at <http://collections.jewishmuseum.cz/>. In 2016 this public resource was extended to include a large collection of digitized documents from the fonds of the JMP's archives, which is of great interest to researchers. In addition, the content of the open-source database of digitized library documents *Kramerius* was expanded.

In the field of international research infrastructures, the JMP continued its very active participation in important projects of international importance, including development of the Yerusha portal, a European database of archival fonds and collections relating to Jewish history and culture (as part of the current Yerusha Slovakia project). Of particular importance is the JMP's involvement in EHRI (European Holocaust Research Infrastructure) as part of the European Commission's Seventh Framework and Horizon 2020 programmes. The JMP has thereby joined a new European network of major research institutions and archives.

Aside from a series of long-term research topics (an overview of which is available on the JMP's website), the JMP's specialist staff have been focusing on the topic of refugees and migration for several years. In 2016 the JMP undertook the project *Stranded in Shanghai: The Hongkew Ghetto through the Eyes of Refugees and the Lens of Arthur Rothstein*, the main outcome of which was an exhibition in the Robert Guttmann Gallery. It also continued work on the project "*BeGrenzte Flucht*", which deals with the issue of migration from Austria to Czechoslovakia after the Anschluss of 1938. The overall scope of the academic and research activities of the JMP's various departments, however, is much broader and is detailed in the following sections of this report.

The JMP is also very active in publishing, making available and popularizing the results of its academic and 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. LI) were published in 2016. *Judaica bohemiae* is included in the Web of Science Database (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. The books series, *Jews – History – Memory* continued in 2016 with the publication of a Czech translation of the German historian Ines Koeltzsch's book *Geteilte Kulturen. Eine Geschichte der tschechisch-jüdisch-deutschen Beziehungen in Prag (1918–1938)* [Shared Cultures: A History of Czech-Jewish-German Relations in Prague (1918–1938)]. This series is put together by the JMP and the Institute for Contemporary History of the Czech Academy of Sciences and published by *Lidové noviny*.

The JMP's academic and research results were also presented abroad. The JMP's specialist staff gave presentations, for example, at the conference "Political, Economic, and Cultural Relationships of Jews in Bohemia, Bavaria, and Austria (14th – 17th Century)" in Regensburg, and at the conference "Jewish Museologies and the Politics of Display" at the University of Leeds. In co-operation with its partners, the JMP regularly organizes the conference "Židé v Čechách" [The Jews in Bohemia] in the Czech Republic; in 2016, the 6th conference was held in Kadaň (the results are always published a year later). In addition to this regular event, the JMP also prepares academic meetings on topical issues every year. In co-operation with its partners and within the framework of current research projects, the JMP organized the Vienna workshop "Refugees and Citizens – New Nation States as Places of Asylum 1914–1941" and the Olomouc conference "Remains of the Past or Laboratories of Modernity?".

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. Such events in 2016 included the lecture series "Jewish Motifs in Czech Film", the discussion series "Our Twentieth Century" and a presentation of the monograph *Ludwig August Frankl (1810–1894)*, published by Böhlau Verlag. With regard to implementing the results of academic work and research in the educational process, the JMP collaborated on, for example, 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 2016:

The metalwork curator Jaroslav Kuntoš focused on the supplementation and specification of cataloguing data for the JMP's collection of Torah pointers; 446 items were processed in this way by the end of 2016. In the second half of the year, J. Kuntoš began to process and supplement material for a set of Judaica in Czech museums and contributed to treating and supplementing a set of exhibits for a prepared exhibition at the Spanish Synagogue. In addition, the curator identified and supplemented biographical information about the makers of silver Jewish ritual artefacts for the CollectiveAccess database (125 items processed) and also processed a set of genizah objects found in genizot.

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. M. Sidenberg also made an authorial contribution to an imposing publication titled *Golem! Avatars d'une légende d'argile (Les illustrations de Hugo Steiner-Prag pour Le Golem de Gustav Meyrink)*, Paris: MAHJ, 2017), which will accompany an exhibition of the same name at the Musée d'Art et d'Histoire du Judaïsme in Paris. In addition, M. Sidenberg attended a conference on the responsible management and building of



collections and on the provenance research of artworks, titled *Collecting and Provenance: Usage, Authenticity, and Ownership*, which was held by the Israel Museum in Jerusalem on 13–16 November. M. Sidenberg also co-authored and curated the exhibition *Stranded in Shanghai: The Hongkew Ghetto through the Eyes of Refugees and the Lens of Arthur Rothstein*, which was held in the Robert Guttmann Gallery; the curator provided three guided tours of the show for the public.

The curator of the collection of manuscripts and genizah papers, Lenka Uličná, published an article in the volume *Dvarim meatim. Studie pro Jiřinu Šedinovou* [Dvarim Meatim: Studies for Jiřina Šedinová] (Arts Faculty, Charles University, Prague, 2016), titled *Policejní řád pro moravské židovstvo: K pojmu jazyková apropiace* [Police Regulations for Moravian Jewry: On the Concept of Linguistic Appropriation]. In May, the curator took part in a conference in Olomouc, titled “Remains of the Past or Laboratories of Modernity?”; in July L. Uličná took part in the workshop “Hebrew Manuscript Studies: Codicology, Palaeography, Textual History”, which was held in Oxford. In September, together with Daniel Polakovič, L. Uličná gave a paper titled “Jewish language contacts: Reflections on Selected Hydronyms of Bohemia, Bavaria and Austria in the Medieval and Early Modern Hebrew Literature” at the conference “Political, Economic, and Cultural Relationships of Jews in Bohemia, Bavaria, and Austria (14th – 17th century)”, which took place in Regensburg. L. Uličná also focused intensely on the processing of finds from the Rychnov nad Kněžnou genizah. This involved adding catalogue entries on 80 items from the Rychnov nad Kněžnou genizah to the CollectiveAccess database and re-cataloguing more than 30 genizah finds that have been conserved. At the end of the year, L. Uličná participated in the presentation of a project to the State Culture Fund, titled “Zpracování vybraných ohrožených nálezů z genizy Rychnov nad Kněžnou” [Processing of Selected Endangered Finds from the Rychnov nad Kněžnou Genizah]; this project was subsequently approved and will be implemented in 2017.



The curator of the textile collection, Dana Veselská, prepared an essay for the journal *Studia Rudolphina*, titled “*Prager Donationen von Synagoga-Textilien der rudolfinischen Zeit*” [Prague Donations of Synagogue Textiles from the Period of Rudolf II]. The curator added catalogue entries on items from the collection point Rychnov nad Kněžnou (25 entries) and, in co-operation with experts at the Military History Institute, focused on specifying and classifying newly acquired uniforms of resistance fighters from the Eastern and Western Fronts (24 items). D. Veselská also contributed to the adaptations and additions of a set of exhibits for an exhibition at the Spanish Synagogue under preparation.

The head of the Collections Management Department, Magda Veselská, contributed to a workshop at the University of Leeds, titled “Jewish Museologies and the Politics of Display”, with a presentation on

the history of the Jewish Museum in Prague in relation to the creation of new exhibitions. For the 2/2016 issue of the JMP's journal *Judaica Bohemiae*, M. Veselská prepared a study on the history of the JMP during the Second World War, including a detailed analysis of how the "museum of an extinct race" legend came about – on the basis of a revised and supplemented chapter in the monograph "*Archa paměti. Cesta pražského židovského muzea pohnutým 20. stoletím*" [Ark of Memory: The Jewish Museum in Prague's Journey Through the Turbulent Twentieth Century], which was published in 2012 by the JMP in co-operation with the Academia publishing house. In addition, M. Veselská prepared a text about the building of the memorial in the Pinkas Synagogue for a new exhibition that will be located at the entrance to the synagogue. In September 2016, M. Veselská attended a colloquium on the the period of repression under Heydrich, which was organized by the Institute for Contemporary History of the Czech Academy of Sciences in Prague. M. Veselská and Barbora Cihlářová also took part in a seminar on the mobility of collections, which was held by the National Gallery in Prague.

The head of the Photo Archive, Martin Jelínek, prepared the exhibition *The Auschwitz Album* for the Lumière Brothers Center for Photography in Moscow, where it was on view from 3 February until 3 April 2016. He also gave a lecture there on this topic on 3 February 2017. Another version of the exhibition was on view at the Jewish Museum in Stockholm until 28 August 2016.

The coordinator of the Textile Conservation and Restoration Studio, Veronika Ríchná Nauschová, attended the conference "*Textil v muzeu*" [Textiles in the Museum] at the Technical Museum in Brno on 7–8 June, as well as an international conference of conservators-restorers on 3–15 September. Petra Ptáčníková from the Textile Conservation and Restoration Studio attended the conference "*Oděv a textil v životě člověka doby Lucemburské*" [Garments and Textiles in the Life of People during the Reign of the Luxembourgs] on 6 October and a lecture by the textile restoration and conservation group *Textil*, organized by the Association of Museums and Galleries in the Czech Republic, on 27 October. Jan Šíblo from the Paper and Parchment Conservation and Restoration Studio attended the 16th seminar of conservators-restorers and historians in Opava on 23–26 May. The annual lecture on the JMP's exhibitions was held for students at the Institute for Art History in collaboration with the Faculty of Arts at Charles University in Prague on 19 April.

As part of a volunteer programme, two students and a conservator-restorer worked in the Textile Conservation and Restoration Studio under the supervision of the workshop co-ordinator. A student from the Higher School of Graphic Art (VOŠG) completed work experience in the Paper Conservation and Restoration Studio under the supervision of the workshop co-ordinator. On 1 September a student from the French school of conservation-restoration *École de Condé* started a five-month internship at the workshop.

## **b) Shoah History Department**

The Shoah History Department contributed to several research projects and infrastructures in the fields of history, archival science and digital humanities. The aim of the European Holocaust Research Infrastructure / EHRI (Michal Frankl, Wolfgang Schellenbacher and Magdalena Sedlická from the JMP) is to combine and provide access to information about Holocaust-related material that is dispersed across archives in various countries. The JMP is currently involved in the second phase of this project, which is supported by the European Commission as part of the Horizon 2020 programme. In this phase, 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/](http://www.blog.ehri-project.eu/)). In addition, preparations continued for an online edition of sources that will focus on early post-war testimonies about the Holocaust.

The JMP's involvement in the Jewish Councils Archives in Europe continued. This international project supplements EHRI's previous activities and aims to provide access to digitized archival sources relating to the Jewish Councils and their activities during the Second World War. Magdalena Sedlická and Markéta Krommelová contributed to the processing of archival records.

The JMP's 'Frontier of Memory' project (Hana Hlávková, Veronika Dudková, Michal Frankl), which is supported by the Claims Conference, documents the names and fate of Jews from the border regions of Czechoslovakia – one of the last groups of Holocaust victims from the area of what is now the Czech Republic that have so far received insufficient attention from researchers. In 2016, research focused on researching census records from 1930 for selected areas with a large Jewish community (13 villages and 3 districts with a population of more than 10,000). Research was carried out on selected materials of the Terezín Initiative Institute, in particular documents of the Police Headquarters in Prague (relating to 2,000 persons). In co-operation with the Yad Vashem Memorial, the JMP acquired a data set containing almost 10,000 items. All of this data was compared with data in the Terezín Initiative Institute's database; within the framework of the prepared database of victims from the Sudetenland, the obtained data was processed in relation to identified places and individual persons.

As part of the "*BeGrenzte Flucht*" project, which is supported by the Future Fund of the Republic of Austria (Zukunftsfonds der Republik Österreich), Michal Frankl and Wolfgang Schellenbacher are preparing an online edition of documents about refugees who fled from Austria to Czechoslovakia after the Anschluss of 1938. In 2016 they carried out a preliminary selection of sources in several foreign archives and began preparing transcripts of documents for publication.

The aim of the project *Innovation in the Teaching of History: Development of Digital Applications for Working with Sources* (Omega grant programme, Technology Agency of the Czech Republic, lead beneficiary: Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes) is to prepare a prototype for a textbook enabling students to work interactively with sources on modern history. As part of the project team, JMP staff contributed to the selection and preparation of documents, the testing of prototypes exercises and methodological work.

In 2016 the department's specialist staff gave presentations at several conferences. The curator of the Holocaust history archive, Jana Šplíchalová, moderated two sections on filming in the Terezín ghetto in 1942–1945 at the international workshop "*Der zweite Theresienstadtfilm als historisches dokument, soziologisches Datum und kinematographischer Nachlass der Shoa*" [The Second Terezín Film as a Historical Document, Sociological Date and Cinematographic Legacy of the Shoah], which was organized by the Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities, Essen (Kulturwissenschaftliches Institut Essen) on 18–20 February.

On 3–5 May Michal Frankl gave a presentation, titled "Communal Antisemitism in Moravia at the End of the 19th Century?" at the conference "Remains of the Past or Laboratories of Modernity?" in Olomouc, which was organized by the JMP in collaboration with the Ursula and Kurt Schubert Centre for Jewish Studies at the Faculty of Arts at Palacký University in Olomouc, the Masaryk Institute and the Archives of the Czech Academy of Sciences in Prague.

On 16–17 June, Michal Frankl and Wolfgang Schellenbacher gave presentations at the international workshop "Refugees and Citizens – New Nation States as Places of Asylum 1914–1941" in Vienna, which was organized by the JMP in collaboration with the Bruno Kreisky Forum for International Dialogue. Michal Frankl's presentation was titled "From Benevolence to Exclusion. Anti-Jewish Refugee Policy and the Transformation of Jewish Citizenship in Czechoslovakia 1935–1939." Wolfgang Schellenbacher's paper was titled "From Political Activism to Disillusionment. Austrian Socialist Refugees in Czechoslovakia 1934–1938."

Karel Poláček with his girlfriend Dora and dog Mydlinka, Prague, summer 1943. A photograph from the online catalogue of the Jewish Museum in Prague



On 15 September, the curator of the JMP's Oral History Collection, Pavla Hermína Neuner, gave a paper at the colloquium "Labyrinth of Normalization: The Jews in Bohemia and Moravia, 1969–1989", which was organized by the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes in co-operation with the JMP. The paper drew on the testimonies of Shoah survivors whose accounts are recorded in the JMP's oral history project.

In November the head of the Shoah History Department Magdalena Sedlická gave a paper at the international conference "DIGI 2016 – Digital Technologies and Cultural Heritage" in Prague. Her paper was titled "Connecting and Providing Access to Holocaust Sources" and focused on the JMP's involvement in the international EHRI project.

In addition to international co-operation, the department also contributed to several projects of an institutional nature, one of which focused on the experiences of Czechoslovak Jews in the Far East during the Second World War. In connection with the exhibition *Stranded in Shanghai: The Hongkew Ghetto through the Eyes of Refugees and the Lens of Arthur Rothstein*, the JMP made about 600 scans of material relating to the history of Czech Jews in China. Further research will be carried out on this material; the aim of the project is to provide researchers and the general public with access to these documents in the online catalogue of the JMP's collections.

A specialist at the department, Daniela Bartáková, focused on a project concerning the online David Friedmann Collection, which involves documenting 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 Friedman Morris, the daughter of the painter David Friedmann.

Daniela Bartáková and Magdalena Sedlická continued with the "Jews in Ostrava" project, which involves acquiring and documenting the scans of archival material from 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.

Over the course of the year, 72 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 1,461 testimonies. Through oral history, the JMP aims to chart the lives of Jews in the Czech Republic; attention is paid mainly to recording multi-generational testimonies within individual families. The acquisition of photographs and

documents from the family archives of interviewees is an important component of the project. Cataloguing this material provides an opportunity to add the photographs and stories of relatives of Shoah witnesses to the names of victims in the database of the Terezín Initiative Institute.

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 more than 650 queries.

An important part of the department's work involved popularizing the results of its research work. Jana Šplíchalová completed a two-year collaboration on the touring exhibition *The Extermination Centre Maly Trostinec* (organized by IBB Dortmund and IBB "Johannes Rau" Minsk). The opening show was held in Hamburg on 8 November. Jana Šplíchalová also contributed to the exhibition catalogue *Vernichtungsort Maly Trostenez. Geschichte und Erinnerung* [The Extermination Site Maly Trostinec: History and Remembrance].

Pavla Hermína Neuner prepared a new online exhibition comprising photographs and testimony excerpts, titled "I no longer have to be afraid of my neighbours": The life of Ivana Beranová and her family. This presentation highlights the work of the JMP's Shoah History Department and its Oral History Collection. It is available in Czech and English at:

[http://collections.jewishmuseum.cz/index.php/simpleGallery/Show/displaySet/set\\_id/253](http://collections.jewishmuseum.cz/index.php/simpleGallery/Show/displaySet/set_id/253).

Department staff also provided specialist consultations for a number of journalistic and film projects, e.g. for Steffen Haenschen's book *Die Transitghettos Izbica und Piaski* [The Transit Ghettos Izbica and Piaski] (published 12/2016 by Bildungswerk Stanislaw Hantz) and in connection with preparations for the publication of *A Tiny Teardrop, The Devastating Impact of Nazism on the Lives of Musicians in Central Europe (1933–1945)* by the Slovak-born Dresden-based musicologist Agatha Schindler.

### 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 LI / 2016) and began editorial work on the first issue of next year's volume LII (2017). Two meetings of the journal's editorial board took place in 2016.

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 a chapter on the Jewish Enlightenment in the Bohemian lands for a collective monograph, *Habsburkové 1740–1918. Vznikání občanské společnosti* [The Habsburgs, 1740–1918: The Making of a Civil Society] (ed. Ivo Cerman, Praha: NLN, 2016), completed a study on a new narrative source on anti-Jewish violence in Prague in 1744, *The Megillah of Josef Kirchner Shohet*, for *Judaica Bohemiae* 52 (2017), 1 and contributed to a series of articles about Czech history during the reign of Franz Joseph I of Austria for the newspaper *Lidové noviny* (articles on Field Rabbi Alexander Kisch and on the composer of the Czech national anthem and organist at the Spanish Synagogue.), *Lidové noviny*, 15 December 2016). I. Cermanová and D. Polakovič contributed to the volume *Dvarim meatim. Studie pro Jiřinu Šedinovou* [Dvarim Meatim: Studies for Jiřina Šedinová] (D. Boušek et al., Prague, 2016), with papers titled "Abraham Trebitsch z Mikulova a jeho rodina" [Abraham Trebitsch of Mikulov and his Family], "Středověký hebrejský vězeňský nápis ve Vysokém Mýtě" [Medieval Hebrew Prison Inscription in Vysoké Mýto] and "Bibliografie Jiřiny Šedinové" [A Bibliography of Jiřina Šedinová]. D. Polakovič produced 19 entries for the publication *Scriptores Regni Bohemiae*, Vol. I (A-B) (ed. Michal

## JUDAICA BOHEMIAE LI-2



JEWISH MUSEUM IN PRAGUE 2016



Svatoš, Prague: Filosofia, 2016) and collaborated with Miloš Marek on the preparation of the map *Židovské památky Česka* [Jewish Monuments in the Czech Republic] (Prague: Kartografie a.s., 2016). Together with Lenka Uličná, D. Polakovič presented a paper titled “Jewish Language Contacts: Towards Hydronyms of Bohemia and Moravia in the Medieval Hebrew Literature” at the international conference “Juden und Christen in Bayern, Böhmen und Österreich (1349–1648)” [Jews and Christians in Bavaria, Bohemia and Austria (1349–1648)], which was held in Regensburg on 12–14 September 2016. D. Polakovič gave a paper titled “Registratura Zemského židovstva jako historický pramen” [Registry of the Land Jewry as a Historical Source] at the conference “Židé v Čechách” [The Jews in Bohemia], which was held in Kadaň on 19 October 2016. In addition, he gave a paper titled “Středověké hebrejské nápisy v českých zemích” [Medieval Hebrew Inscriptions in the Bohemian Lands] for the 15th meeting on the issue of sepulchral monuments, which was organized by the Institute of Art History in the Czech Republic and held in Prague on 19–21 October. In co-operation with D. Polakovič and Jaroslav Šulc, A. Putík wrote a study, titled “New Findings about the Life of David Gans (1541–1613) and his Closest Relatives: A Study and Source”, for a monothematic issue of the journal *Judaica Bohemiae* 51 (2016), 1, which focused on David Gans. Together with I. Cermanová, A. Putík wrote a paper for Vol. 5/2016, Issue 4 of the journal *Tvůrčí život* [Creative Life] – for a survey on the topic of Jan Hus and his attitude to Judaism and the Hussites. Together with Helmut Teufel and Milan Řepa, Pavel Kocman editorially contributed to the publication of a collection of papers, titled *Avigdor, Beneš, Gitl – Juden in Böhmen, Mähren und Schlesien im Mittelalter. Samuel Steinherz (1857 Güssing – 1942 Theresienstadt) zum Gedenken* [Avigdor, Beneš, Gitl – The Jews of Bohemia, Moravia and Silesia in the Middle Ages: In Memory of Samuel Steinherz (1857, Güssing – 1942, Terezín)], Brunn – Prag – Essen: Society for the History of the Jews in the Czech Republic – History Institute – Klartext-Verlag, 2016. For the latter publication, P. Kocman also wrote a study, titled “Die Ausweisung der Juden aus den mährischen königlichen Städten 1426–1514: Verlauf, Anlässe, Folgen.” [The Expulsion of Jews from the Moravian Royal Towns, 1426–1514: The Course, Causes and Consequences]. P. Kocman produced an entry, titled “Židé v českých zemích do roku 1938” [The Jews in the Bohemian Lands until 1938], for *Encyklopedie českých právních dějin* [An Encyclopedia of Czech Legal History] (ed. K. Schelle – J. Tauchen; Aleš Čeněk – Key Publishing, 2015–2017). In addition, P. Kocman wrote a paper titled “Popravy, požáry, pogromy a ceremonie – Židé z pohledu dvou boskovických kronik” [“Executions, Fires, Pogroms and Ceremonies – Jews from the Perspective of Two Boskovic Chronicles] for the 2016 proceedings *Židé a Morava* [The Jews and Moravia] and a review of Janusz Spyra’s book *Biografický slovník rabínů Rakouského Slezska* [The Biographical Dictionary of Austrian Silesian Rabbis] (Ostrava: Universitas Ostraviensis, 2015) for Vol. 135/2016, Issue 1 of *Časopis matice moravské* [Journal of the Moravian Foundation]. P. Kocman also gave a paper titled “Stopy moravských židovských politických obcí v archivních fondech a v literatuře” [Traces of Moravian Jewish Political Villages in Archival Collections and in the Literature] at the conference “Remains of the Past or Laboratories of Modernity?”, which was held in Olomouc on 3–5 May. Another paper by P. Kocman, titled “Dvě drobnosti k dějinám židovské obce v Hodoníně v 17. a 18. století” [Two Details about the History of the Jewish Community in Hodonín in the 17th and 18th Centuries] was given at the conference “Židé a Morava XXIII.” [The Jews and Moravia, XXIII], which was held in Kroměříž on 9 November.

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. A. Putík and I. Cermanová took part in the shooting of an episode of the Czech Television programme *Historie.cs* – entitled “Ve stínu Maharala” [In the Shade of the Maharal], which focused on the early modern history of the Jews in the Bohemian lands (first broadcast on 2 April 2016). A. Putík was a script consultant and contributor to an episode of the Czech Television programme *Záhady Toma Wizarďa* [The Mysteries of Tom the Wizard] – entitled “Kámen z nejstarších aneb Poselství Avigdora Kary” [The Oldest Tombstone, or the Mission of Avigdor Kara] (first broadcast on 26 April 2016). P. Kocman appeared in the Czech Television programme *Křesťanský magazín* [Christian Magazine] in connection with filming in the Great Synagogue in Mikulov (first broadcast on 5 June 2016). On 6–8 September, A. Putík and D. Polakovič took part in the shooting



of a Czech Television documentary, *Hádanky židovských hřbitovů* [The Riddles of Jewish Cemeteries] in Brandýs nad Labem. On 30 March, I. Cermanová gave a guide tour of the new exhibition in the Maisel Synagogue for students of early modern history at the Institute of Czech History (Arts Faculty, Charles University). On 25 February, P. Kocman gave a lecture on the image of Jews in early modern burgher chronicles in Moravia at the JMP's Department for Education and Culture in Brno. On 21 April, P. Kocman gave a lecture for the JMP's touring exhibition *History of the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia* at the Regional Museum in Mikulov. From September to December, P. Kocman led the seminar "Prameny k dějinám Židů v českých zemích" [Sources on the History of the Jews in the Bohemian Lands] at the Department of Auxiliary Historical Sciences and Archive Studies at the Faculty of Arts, Masaryk University, Brno.

A. Putík carried out genealogical research into Prague Jewish families and added a further 590 names to a genealogical database that – as of the end of 2016 – contains entries on 14,900 people (out of a total planned number of approx. 20,000). D. Polakovič continued the documentation of Jewish cemeteries in Prague and in five rural communities. P. Kocman continued his collaboration on a project of the Rothschild Foundation (Hanadiv) Europe – "Yerusha: Archival Traces of Jewish History in the Czech Republic."

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; only complete entries are currently being made available. Scans were made 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 specialist studies (one appraisal from the former, three from the latter). P. Kocman provided consultation and supervision for two Master's dissertations.

#### 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. After the departure of M. Hanková, a new member of staff, J. 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. J. Vitámvášová went through the finding aid for Fonds 325 and studied 62 reference codes. In addition, she set up a detailed research plan for 2017 on the basis of studying finding aids for an additional seven fonds and after consultations with ABS staff.

The JMP Archives continued to work 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 6th conference "Židé v Čechách" [The Jews in Bohemia] was held in Kadaň on 19–20 October. This was organized by the JMP in collaboration with the State Regional Archives in Litoměřice and the Kadaň-based State District Archives in Chomutov. The conference was attended by more than 30 historians and archivists, who gave 18 papers on Jewish history from the early modern era through to the post-Second World War period. The proceedings will be published by the end of 2017.

Implementation of the Yerusha project in the Czech Republic was completed in 2016 with support from the Rothschild Foundation (Hanadiv) Europe. In co-operation with state regional and state district archives in Bohemia and Moravia, the JMP contributed to the creation of a database of archival fonds 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 outcome of the project is

a database of 1,003 fonds, which will provide researchers from the Czech Republic and other countries with clear information about the storage and character of sources relating to this topic. The project involved processing descriptions of the fonds and collections in the JMP Archives; 264 descriptions were processed in 2016 (V. Hamáčková, L. Petrusová). All of the results, together with a final report, were submitted to the Rothschild Foundation in December 2016. The descriptions have also been made available in Czech and English in the CollectiveAccess database. On 24–25 November, J. Vitámvášová presented the Yerusha project in the poster section of the conference “DIGI 2016 – Digital Technologies and Cultural Heritage” in Prague, which was organized by the heritage protection organization Omnium, z.s. The conference “Remains of the Past or Laboratories of Modernity?” took place in Olomouc on 3–5 May 2016 as part of this project. This conference was held in co-operation with Palacký University, the Masaryk Institute and the Archives of the Czech Academy of Sciences in Prague, and was attended by 40 specialists from the Czech Republic, Germany, Austria and the USA. J. Vitámvášová gave a paper entitled “1931: Skutečný konec ‘Třebíče – Židovské obce’?” [1931: The Actual End of the ‘Třebíč – the Jewish Community’?]

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 found epigraphic material. L. Petrusová continued to focus on the documentation of the Jewish cemetery in Habry. L. Petrusová gave a paper titled “Židovský hřbitov v Dřevíkově. Vývoj židovského náhrobku v 18–20. století na venkovském hřbitově ve východních Čechách” [The Jewish Cemetery in Dřevíkov: The Development of the Jewish Tombstone in a Rural Cemetery in Eastern Bohemia in the 18–20th Century] at the 15th meeting on the topic of sepulchral monuments, which was held by the Institute of Art History at the Czech Academy of Sciences on 19–21 October. Reconstruction and restoration work at Prague’s Old Jewish Cemetery was carried out under the supervision of Vlastimila Hamáčková. The Archives staff provided specialist advice in connection with the filming of a Czech Television documentary about Jewish cemeteries, titled *Hádanky domů života II* [Mysteries of the Houses of Life]: Pardubice a Holice (6–8 April 2016, L. Petrusová), Dobruška and Skalka (15–16 August 2016, V. Hamáčková), Brandýs nad Labem (6–8 September, L. Petrusová).

Archives staff attended conferences on current trends in archival science, particularly with regard to questions relating to digitization – “Care for Archival and Library Fonds” (organized by Omnium z. s., 15 September 2016), “Archives, Libraries and Museum in the Digital World” (organized by the Czech National Archives in co-operation with the Czech National Library and the Czech Association of Librarians and Information Workers, 30 November–1 December 2016). The Archive Management of the Czech Ministry of the Interior, in co-operation with LightComp, organized a conference (9 November) and seminar (28 November) on a new means of archival arrangement (ELZA software); the aim was to familiarize archivists with software that is being newly developed in connection with the basic rules for the processing of archival material. All of the JMP Archives staff took part in the training.

The JMP Archives received 160 visits from researchers in 2016; 81 researchers came to study there – 65 from the Czech Republic, 16 from abroad. In total, 1,313 register units from 117 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 16 literature searches and provided about 150 consultations and replies to written queries. 25 scans were processed for exhibitions, publications and research purposes. 65 scans were processed for publication purposes and researcher requirements. A Shanghai postcard from the archival fonds of the Jewish Religious Community during the occupation was provided on loan for the exhibition *Stranded in Shanghai: The Hongkew Ghetto Through the Lens of Arthur Rothstein*.

## e) Library

The JMP Library had a total of 489 registered members in 2016. The Library and the Multimedia Centre received 805 research visits; other technical queries were dealt with in writing. In total, the Library provided 2,596 documents on loan, of which 1,574 were taken out. As in previous years, the Library also provided inter-library loans. In total, 63 documents were loaned to other libraries and 46 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. The co-curator Michal Bušek gave guided tours to the exhibition, as well as lectures at the Department for Education and Culture in Brno (22 November) and Prague (13 December).

Since 2012 the JMP Library has been involved in the Cooperative Creation and Utilisation of National Authority Files project. The above project is coordinated and guaranteed by 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 224 new authority files in 2016.

The curator of the collection of rare printed books, S. Singerová, took part in the *Bibliotheca Antiqua* conference in Olomouc (9–10 November), giving a presentation, titled *The Beginnings of the Library of the Jewish Museum in Prague*, which was later published in the conference proceedings.

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) but also to the USC Shoah Foundation's Visual History Archive, which contains recorded interviews with Shoah survivors and witnesses. The Multimedia Centre's recordings of events held at the JMP's Department for Education and Culture can also be seen here, provided that consent has been given by the lecturers. 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

The JMP was represented at the annual conference of the Association of European Jewish Museums, which was held in Jerusalem (M. Veselská) and at the 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 represents the JMP on the board of the European Shoah Legacy Institute. M. Veselská is a member of a Judaica working group at 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 Prague Centre for Jewish Studies at the Faculty of Arts, Charles University, Prague, and 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 the Jews in the Czech Republic.



## 8 Preparation of new exhibitions and changes to the JMP

In 2016 the Jewish Museum in Prague received second place in the Museum Initiative of the Year category at the Czech national competition of museums *Gloria Musaealis*. This competition was jointly announced by the Czech Association of Museums and Galleries, the Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic, and for the first time the Czech board of ICOM. The fourteenth year of the competition covered the period from 1 January 2015 to 28 February 2016 and 72 museums and galleries from across the Czech Republic submitted 80 projects in the three main competition categories: Museum Exhibition of the Year; Museum Publication of the Year; and Museum Initiative of the Year. The Revitalization of the Maisel Synagogue project culminated with the building's reopening in June 2015. It was part of the continuing project to transform the JMP, the main objective of which is to modernize the permanent exhibitions and expand the cultural and educational programme. Giving the public access to this exceptional cultural heritage goes hand in hand with the special attention given to ensuring that the essential standards of care are maintained for such a globally unique museum collection and the buildings that house it. The revitalization entailed a comprehensive transformation of the Maisel Synagogue, and what emerged was a modern permanent exhibition and a multifunctional auditorium for programmes of a more intimate nature (music, theatre, projections, discussions). The quality of the interior space was also significantly enhanced, which meant a great improvement in the preservation of the exhibited and deposited objects in the collection. Wholly financed by the JMP, the high level of construction and restoration work was an important consideration, and the positive responses were the finishing touches. The awards ceremony on International Museum Day, 18 May, in the Municipal House was attended by the JMP's director, Leo Pavlát, the head of the JMP's Building Management and Operations Department, Milan Lička, and the chief curator of the exhibition at the Maisel Synagogue, Iveta Cermanová. The JMP's restoration project for the Maisel Synagogue was also praised by the

*Maisel Synagogue*



Czech National Heritage Institute, which awards the annual *Patrimonium pro Futuro* prize. The awards ceremony took place in the town of Náměšť nad Oslavou on 21 September as part of European Heritage Days. The JMP's restoration project was short-listed for the prize and received a memorial certificate. The winners in the individual categories were decided on by a committee composed of specialists chosen from the National Heritage Institute and other institutions. As a semi-budgetary organization of the Ministry of Culture, the National Heritage Institute is entrusted with the care, preservation, and cultivation of the Czech Republic's landmarks and monuments.

In connection with the preparation of its new permanent exhibitions, the JMP's priority was the work of curators on a project for the creation of a new form for the Memorial for the Bohemian and Moravian Victims of the Shoah in the Pinkas Synagogue. A number of activities were carried out in close co-operation with specialist employees of the Terezín Memorial and Shoah survivors, whose accounts were included in the new concept for the memorial. The main curator of the exhibition under preparation, Jana Šplíchalová, completed the key texts for the new panel exhibition in Pinkas Lane and carried out a selection of pictorial material. Jana Šplíchalová also prepared background material for the planned external projection of photographs of Shoah victims onto the gable above the mikveh (ritual bath) in the grounds of the Pinkas Synagogue. In co-operation with the film historian Eva Strusková, she also selected film material containing footage from 1959–1960 from the then newly opened Pinkas Synagogue. Work was also carried out on the digital expansion of the exhibition's content; this involves creating a responsive web presentation that will be available in two operating modes – an information kiosk and the mobile devices of visitors. The planned changes were discussed with Shoah survivors at a meeting of the Terezín Initiative on 10 April and with the general public in the auditorium of the JMP's Department for Education and Culture on 5 September 2016.

Tenders were simultaneously carried out for the following: the digital expansion of the content of the exhibition in the Pinkas Synagogue; the architectural design and supervision of works for the project (won by the architectural firm Petr Franta architekti s.r.o.); the supply of technology for the projection of photographs onto the gable above the Pinkas Synagogue; and the complete graphic design of the new exhibition.

Curatorial and, to a lesser extent, technical preparations for the new form of the permanent exhibition at the Spanish Synagogue – working title: *The Jewish Emancipation, Shoah and Post-war Czechoslovakia (From 1780 to the Present)* – were carried out in 2016. The concept for the exhibition was authored by Dr. Arno Pařík. Changes are being made primarily to the means, style and technical features (including multimedia and interactive elements) of the presentation.

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, within which the JMP's volunteer programme (launched in 2011) was further developed. Forty-five volunteers – mostly students – got involved mainly by helping out at cultural events and in the Pinkas Synagogue Memorial for the Bohemian and Moravian Victims of the Shoah. 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

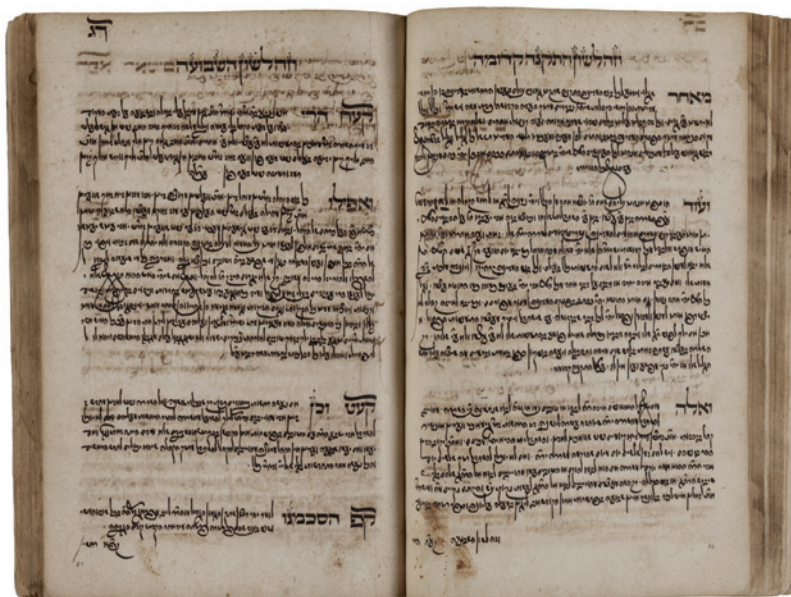
## Acquisitions

Two ordinary and four extraordinary meetings of the JMP's Acquisitions Committee were held with external associates in attendance in 2016. Most of the acquisitions in 2016 were from the JMP's own research, specifically from the ongoing processing of finds from the genizah in Rychnov nad Kněžnou – 57 accession numbers for a total of 72 items. The second major group of acquisitions comprised gifts from individuals abroad and from the Czech Republic – 17 accession numbers for a total of 58 items. The smallest group of acquisitions comprised items from the JMP's depository, among which there was found to be an incorrect accession number – five new accession numbers were added in 2016. Only one item was purchased for the collection, but this was a highly valuable acquisition – a manuscript copy of *Shai Takkanot*. It is an important addition to the JMP's collection of Judaica documenting the remarkable life of the Jewish communities of Moravia in the 18th century.

A relatively large portion of the JMP's acquisitions in 2016 were gifts. The most important of these was a pair of terracotta reliefs with motifs of binding tefillin and tzitzit (fringes) based on oil paintings by Stanislaus Bender, which were made in an unknown ceramics workshop in the former Czechoslovakia. This was acquired from a donor in the USA. The reliefs should enrich the new permanent exhibition that is being prepared in the Klausen Synagogue. The JMP's collections were further expanded by a gift by the prominent American-Israeli collector William Gross, from whom the JMP received a manuscript index for the Mohelbuch (circumcision book) of Isaac Sabath. This complements the Mohelbuch of Isaac Sabath that is already in the JMP's collections and is a great addition to a broader set of circumcision records and other objects that document the activities of mohalim in the Czech lands. The JMP was also given a large set of commemorative medals and badges that once belonged to Max Weiss, a soldier in General Svoboda's army.

The JMP's Photo Archive collection was considerably enriched by a unique set of 40,000 negatives of Jewish and other monuments in the Czech lands. This material was donated by the family of the late Jiří Fiedler.

*The Jewish Museum's most valuable 2016 acquisition: a manuscript of the statutes of the Jewish Communities of Moravia from the 18th century*







# 10

## 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 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 2016 city-wide programme of support for education in Prague, the JMP's Department for Education and Culture received a grant for the support of pupils and teachers in vocational schools with regard to questions concerning the prevention of socially dangerous phenomena. The aim is to have a positive effect in the area of prevention of extremism, racism and antisemitism. In the first phases of the project, guided tours of Prague's Jewish Town were organized for the pupils. In the next phase, the pupils took part in some of the JMP's educational programmes focused against xenophobia, racism and antisemitism. In total, the project involved about 820 pupils from vocational schools.

In total, 7,504 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 2016 there were 754 participants from Germany, the USA, Great Britain, Hong Kong, South Africa and Israel.

At the beginning of the 2016/17 school year, the JMP became involved – for the seventh 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 planted in the autumn as a reminder of the million and a half Jewish children who were murdered during the Shoah. Via the JMP, more than 65 elementary and high schools, several kindergartens and a day care centre were involved in the project in the Czech Republic in 2016.

*Sunday workshops for young children*



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.

As in previous years, great importance was attached to programmes for teachers. Two seminars on refugees – entitled “The Orient in Bohemia?” – were held in Prague with the support of the Heinrich Böll Foundation, and one seminar on this topic was later held in Brno. There was a great interest from teachers in the seminars. Papers were given by leading Czech experts on the topic of Jewish refugees in the Czech lands in the 20th century. The seminars also included a presentation of the JMP’s educational materials relating to refugees. The second part was focused on the current refugee crisis.

Four two-day seminars for teachers on the topic “Jews – History and Culture” were held, which were attended by 60 teachers. An important, by now regular, partner in the further training of teaching staff was the Terezín Memorial, with which the JMP held two three-day seminars for 100 teachers on the topic “How to Teach about the Holocaust”. In March 2016 a third off-site seminar for teachers was held, this time in Kralupy nad Vltavou and Milovice, 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. The long-term collaboration with the Museum of Roma Culture was particularly successful with focus on the interactive educational programme “Shoah, Porajmos, Holocaust”; five programmes there were attended by 133 students. In co-operation with the Regional Museum in Mikulov, eight of the Brno office’s workshops were held in the Mikulov Synagogue, which were attended by 171 pupils. Q&A sessions with Shoah survivors continued in schools across Moravia; 18 such meetings were held for 1,361 elementary/high school pupils and higher education students.

The Brno office also provided ten guided tours of the Jewish cemetery in Brno, which were attended by 263 school pupils and students. It also arranged 19 guided tours of the Brno Synagogue, which re-opened in May after the completion of restoration work; these were attended by 614 students.

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. The show is followed by a Q&A with a Shoah survivor. Six of these performances were held in 2016 and were attended by 148 pupils and students.

The Brno office continued its extended offering of a day-long educational programme in two versions, titled “On the Trail of the Brno Jewish Community”. The first version involves a guided tour of the city centre with focus on inter-war architecture by Jewish architects, its residents and builders, as well as a visit to the synagogue or cemetery with commentary by an instructor. The second version places emphasis on Jewish customs and traditions and replaces the city centre tour with the “Researcher” workshop, which deals with the following topics – Jewish holidays, traditions and customs. Both versions of the programme include the option of a kosher lunch in the Brno Jewish Community’s dining hall. This programme offering is appropriate as a teaching supplement and as a school trip for schools outside Brno; it was provided to 227 pupils from ten schools in the spring and autumn terms of 2016.

Considerable attention was paid to programmes aimed at teachers and their further training. A seminar, titled “The Orient in Bohemia?”, was held in Brno in co-operation with the Prague office of the JMP’s Department for Education and Culture and with the support of the Heinrich Böll Foundation. The Brno office contributed to a two-day seminar, titled “How to Use the Multimedia Digital Platform IWitness in a Czech School?”, which was held in co-operation with USC Shoah Foundation; this seminar was

attended by more than 30 teachers. The Brno office hosted four two-day seminars for teachers on the topic “Jews – History and Culture”, which were attended by 58 teachers. Instructors from the Brno office gave presentations on the topic of how to teach about the Holocaust and provided information about the department’s offerings at a seminar, titled “Understanding the 20th Century”, which was held by the Brno-based Centre for the Study of Democracy and Culture. This event was mainly intended for young high school teachers of history and social sciences, but also for students in graduate teacher training programmes.

In total, 3,528 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 2016 for the 16th 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. 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 2016, 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 2016, the project involved the active participation of about 200 student guides; the exhibition was displayed on school corridor walls and was seen by between 2,000 and 3,000 pupils/students.

The JMP also provided support for touring exhibitions, the panels for which were produced in the Slaný and Trmice elementary schools. New educational materials were also created for these exhibitions – Trmice Elementary School’s animated film *Klíč života* [Key of Life], website and accompanying text. A new display panel was permanently installed at SPŠSP Evropská, Praha 6.

One of the great merits of the project is that it inspires schools, as well as amateur researchers, to contribute their own research, which is then published on various websites (including Wikipedie) and blogs – e.g. <http://chodauer.blogspot.cz/2016/05/zmizeli-souseded-pribeh-bedricha-kettnera.html>.

The Neighbours Who Disappeared project was also displayed by several partner institutions, for example at the Semily Museum and, in particular, at an international seminar of the Terezín Memorial. A permanent copy of the exhibition is also on 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. Co-operation with Pacov High School, for example, has led to interest in preserving the synagogue in Pacov. The project 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 2016.

The Prague office hosted 95 evening programmes for 3,741 visitors. This was the first complete year in which the JMP also held cultural events in the Maisel Synagogue, which had a very positive impact on visitor numbers. Events at the Maisel Synagogue included mainly classical musical concerts on Jewish themes, discussions and themed programmes. Lectures and screenings were also held in the auditorium of the Department for Education and Culture.

A great selection of chamber music concerts was held in the Maisel Synagogue. There were a series of 14 concerts, featuring the following ensembles and performers: For Several Friends, Cantarina Clarinetæ, Trio Cantabile, Zemlinsky Quartet, Prague Guitar Quartet, Quartet Apollon, Fiorello Ensemble, Subito Chamber Choir, Jana Bezpalcová, Dominika Weiss Hošková, Jana Vonášková-Nováková and Jana Vavřínková. Concerts of music in other genres at the Maisel Synagogue were given by the Israeli musicians Yinon Muallem and Guy Mintus, the Dresden Synagogue Choir and the singer-actress Hana Frejková.

Literary events and stage shows included appearances by such figures as Jiří Lábus, Hana Kofránková, Hana Frejková, Arnošt Goldflam and Josef Somr.

There was high visitor attendance for discussions on contemporary and historical Jewish topics with guests from the Czech Republic and abroad. In co-operation with the Forum 2000 Foundation or as part of the JMP's independent programmes or the "Discussions in the Maisel Synagogue" project, visitors had the opportunity to meet with such figures as Shlomo Avineri, Jacques Rupnik, Tomáš Pojar, Dušan

*Actress Hana Frejková performing at the Maisel Synagogue*



Klein, Roman Joch, Petr Fischer, Michael L. Miller, Michal Frankl, Hillel Kieval, Bronislav Ostřanský, Zbyněk Tarant, Jan Fingerland, Irena Kalhousová and Pavel Štingl.

There were also nine book presentations with topics on Judaism, antisemitism and the Shoah, together with discussions with authors and experts on the given issues. Among the featured books were works by the German Orientalist and historian Konrad Hermann, Michael L. Miller, Michal Frankl and Miloslav Szabó, Ines Koeltzsch, Louise Hecht, Milan Hain and Pavel Taussig.

The “Our Twentieth Century” series continued in 2016. As part of this series, Jews and non-Jews who suffered under Nazism and Communism share their recollections in public with the teacher and educator Petr Sokol and the journalist, documentary filmmaker and writer Adam Drda.

A regular monthly series of Czechoslovak and Czech films on Jewish topics was held in the department's auditorium throughout 2016 with an introduction by the film historian Alice Aronová. Lectures were also delivered here. There was a series of four lectures by the historian Lenka Blechová from the Czech Academy of Sciences, as well as lectures by Jan Neubauer on the countries of the Middle East (aimed at a wider audience) and independent lectures by foreign and local academics, such as Steven Englund, Louise Hecht, Rudolf Vévoda, Sabine Koller, Ann Rothstein-Segan and Arnold Liberman.

The department hosted six exhibitions with opening receptions: *The Ancient Jewish Community of Yemen* – an exhibition of photography by the Israeli photographer Naftali Hilger; *‘The People from Judah’*, or *Jews on the Equator* – an exhibition of photography by Ivana Yael Bruner-Nepalová; *Why did the muses not keep silent in the ghetto?* – an exhibition of work from the 17th annual art competition of the Terezín Memorial; *The Nansen Foundation: an Unexpected Rescue from the North* – an exhibition on the activities of the Norwegian humanitarian organization Nansenhjelpen and its history during the Second World War; *Play of Colour and Shade* – an exhibition of graphic art by Jana Dubová; *On the Trail of Heroes* – an exhibition of photography by Jindřich Buxbaum, which was put together as part of a project of the Vrba–Wetzler Memorial with financial support from the JMP.

The afternoon workshops for children with their parents continued to enjoy great popularity in 2016. They were held on the second Monday of each month and were attended by 134 people.

The Brno office of the Department for Education and Culture hosted 67 evening programmes for the general public, which were attended by 1,708 visitors. In collaboration with the Kávéeska cultural and educational centre in Brno, a series of programmes (titled “They Lived and Live with Us”) was continued with the aim of uncovering the Jewish presence in the city's past and present. Five programmes were held, which were attended by 189 people. Two lecture series were launched in 2016: the series *Homes of Eternity* by the journalist Helena Bretfeldová focuses on Jewish cemeteries in Moravia; the series *Jewish Inter-war Architecture* by Zuzana Ragulová (from the art history seminar of the Arts Faculty of Masaryk University) focuses on the development, authors and realization of Brno architecture in the years between the two world wars.

There was great interest in the Q&A sessions with the law philosopher Pavel Holländer, the playwright, translator and professor of dramaturgy Antonín Přidal, and the Norwegian psychiatrist Ulrik Fredrik Malt (an adherent of the psychiatrist and pioneer researcher in psychotraumatology Leo Eitinger). The Brno office hosted screenings of the film *Příběh trosečníků Patrie* [The Survivors of the Shipwrecked from the Patria], directed by Pavel Štingl, and the documentary film *Na Sever* [To the North], which tells the story of a group of Czech Jewish children who left Prague for Denmark in October 1939. It also organized a programme, titled *I po nejhluchější bouře přichází tichý déšť...* [Even the most violent storm is followed by quiet rain...] to mark International Holocaust Remembrance Day on 27 January; this



programme is based on the personal memories of Shoah survivor Erika Bezdíčková, dramatizing selections from her book *Moje dlouhé mlčení* [My Long Silence].

A great deal of interest was shown in a guided tour of the sites connected with the war-time persecution and deportation of the Jews of Brno, titled *The Fate of the Brno Jewish Community in the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia*.

Co-operation was established with the Museum of the Brno Region, specifically with the Löw-Beer Villa. Two programmes connected with the holidays of Sukkot and Hanukkah were held in the latter half of the year. The Sukkot-related programme included a children's workshop, a lecture on the holiday and a reading by the author Arnošt Goldflam. The Hanukkah-related programme included a debate with the Chief Rabbi of the Czech Republic Karol Efraim Sidon with musical accompaniment by the violinist Alexander Shonert.

### **b) Concerts and other cultural events at the Spanish Synagogue**

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

In association with the Prague Jewish Community and the Czech Foundation for Holocaust Victims (NFOH), the JMP hosted its annual gala concert at the Spanish Synagogue in Prague to mark International Holocaust Remembrance Day on 27 January 2016. The concert featured works by Dmitri Shostakovich, Felix Mendelssohn and Sylvie Bodorová as performed by the Quattro Chamber Orchestra under the baton of Marek Štilec.

On 20 April, there was a children's concert as part of the Jewish music festival MAŽIF, which featured performances of works by Jaromír Vogel, Bohuslav Matěj Černohorský, Johannan Joachim Quantz, Giacomo Puccini and others.

On 4 May, there was a concert by the Zurich Synagogue Choir, which performed traditional synagogue compositions and songs.

*CINEGOGUE 2016: The Second Sex:*  
Tilly Losch, Stella Simon, Maya Deren





18 September saw the start of the “Out of the Shadows” festival, as part of which concerts and theatre shows were held. This festival showcases the results of an ambitious research project, titled “Performing the Jewish Archive”.

The 8th annual “Cinegogue” programme took place on 9–10 October. This series is a unique synthesis of silent film with contemporary live music. Its aim is to present little known silent classics of world cinema and to encourage new ways of looking at Jewish culture and at the filmmakers of the ‘post-emancipation’ period. This year’s Cinegogue, titled *The Second Sex: Tilly Losch, Stella Simon, Maya Deren*, turned its attention to Jewish female artists and protagonists who left an indelible mark not only in the realm of experimental cinematography but also in the realms of photography (Stella F. Simon, Maya Deren), dance (Tilly Losch, Maya Deren), and film theory (Maya Deren). In the eighth year of the Cinegogue programme, the JMP went for the first time beyond 1929, considered the definitive end of the silent era, to present short films that were intentionally shot as silent experiments focused exclusively on cinematic language. All the films were accompanied by new scores specially composed for the program and performed by Berg Orchestra and arranged by its artistic director and conductor Peter Vrábel. The project was held with the support of Prague City Hall.

A gala concert at the Spanish Synagogue on 19 November as part of the 11th Cantors Convention in Prague, which was held by the European Cantors Association (ECA), was led by the world-renowned cantor Naftali Herstik and his pupils, including Reuven Pinsky and Daniel Colthof, and featured cantors and distinguished guests from across the world. There was also a performance by the pianist Raymond Goldstein and the cellist Dominika Weiss Hošková.

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 for season-ticket holders – “Lubomír Brabec Presents Prague Musical Evenings in the Spanish Synagogue”.

The ninth annual “Light of Understanding” concert was held at the Spanish Synagogue on 3 November. It was organized by Petr Györi of the Bejt Praha congregation. The event was filmed by Czech Television.

In total, there were 246 concerts at the Spanish Synagogue in 2016.



In 2016 the JMP published eight publications, a compendium of specialist papers and a number of printed materials to promote its events and activities.

The publication *Liquidation of Jewish organizations in the Czech border region that was annexed to Nazi Germany in October 1938* was put together by the Museum of North Bohemia in Liberec, in association with the JMP. It was the result of a project of the same name that was supported by the Grant Agency of the Czech Republic (chief researcher: Markéta Lhotová, co-researcher: Vlastimila Hamáčková). The research, carried out in 2010–2014, focused on the liquidation of Jewish communities and associations in the Czech border region through the Liberec-based Liquidation Commissar for Organizations, Associations and Funds (Stillhaltekommissar für Organisationen, Vereine und Fonds, Reichenberg – Stiko) and the related Construction Fund Asset Management Ltd. Vienna, Liberec Branch (Aufbaufonds Vermögensverwaltungs-Gesellschaft m. b. H. Wien, Zweigstelle Reichenberg, zkráceně Aufbaufonds). The results of the project's research are summarized in this publication. The main component of the research work involved collecting and evaluating related information from material in the Stiko Reichenberg fonds at the Austrian State Archives, Vienna. The research also highlights the character and structure of the latter collection, thereby facilitating study by further researchers. The research also drew on information from material in archives in the Czech Republic. The aim of the project was to address questions concerning the functions of the Stiko authority in Liberec and of related institutions in an attempt to determine the structure and activities of these authorities, as well as their role in the liquidation of Jewish communities and associations. The main focus, however, was on the actual process of liquidating individual organizations. A database was produced for the purpose of processing the collected data, an extract from which is included in the publication. The text also includes an extensive appendix, which is arranged by administrative area (in the occupied border region) and alphabetically by name of the locality where a Jewish community was based in 1938. The publication contains a summary of the text in German and English at the end, as well as a list of sources used, a bibliography, an index of places, and photographs of several archival documents.

The book series *Židé – dějiny – paměť* [Jews – History – Memory] continued with a third volume, published by the Lidové Noviny Publishing House. This series is put together by the JMP and the Institute for Contemporary History at the Czech Academy of Sciences. Its aim is to provide experts and the general public alike with access to current research on modern Jewish history and culture in the Czech lands and in Central Europe from the eighteenth century to the present. It is a response to the lack of quality research on this topic that has been published in Czech and an attempt to encourage and provide methodological inspiration for further research on Jews in the Czech lands. The first two volumes in the series are a Czech translation of Michael L. Miller's *The Jews of Moravia in the Age of Emancipation* and Michal Frankl and Miloslav Szabó's *Budování státu bez antisemitismu? Násilí, diskurz loajality a vznik Československa* [Building a State Without Antisemitism? Violence, Discourse of Loyalty and the Founding of Czechoslovakia]. The third volume in the series is a Czech translation of the German historian Ines Koeltzsch's book *Geteilte Kulturen. Eine Geschichte der tschechisch-jüdisch-deutschen Beziehungen in Prag (1918–1938)* [Shared Cultures: A History of Czech-Jewish-German Relations in Prague (1918–1938)]. This book provides a new perspective of Prague as a "city of three nations" and, with focus on official statistics, municipal politics, public intellectuals and popular culture, explores how the people of Prague created, negotiated and went beyond the perceptions of themselves and of others. The translation of this book was made possible with

support from the Czech-German Fund for the Future. On 2 May, a presentation of the entire book series was held in the JMP's auditorium in the Maisel Synagogue, with the authors in attendance.

A leaflet was published for the exhibition *Stranded in Shanghai: The Hongkew Ghetto Through the Lens of Arthur Rothstein* (text by the curators Michaela Sidenberg and Martin Šmok) with a print run of 1,000 copies in Czech and 1,290 copies in English.

A leaflet was published for the exhibition *"Come My Beloved..." – Illustrations for the Song of Songs* (text by the curators Michal Bušek and Arno Pařík) with a print run of 1,000 copies in Czech and 2000 copies in English.

The JMP's peer-reviewed journal *Judaica Bohemiae* came out as usual in 2016. Published since 1965 by the Jewish Museum in Prague, it focuses on Jewish history and culture in Bohemia, Moravia and the wider Central European area (the territory of the former Habsburg Monarchy). In 2008 *Judaica Bohemiae* was included in the List of Peer-reviewed Journals without Impact Factor in the Czech Republic, as well as in the prestigious Web of Science Database (Arts and Humanities Citation Index). In 2009 the journal was included in Elsevier's prestigious citation and abstract database, Scopus. In 2011 it was included in the European Reference Index for the Humanities and the Social Sciences (ERIH PLUS). 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. Subtitled *David Gans (1541–1613): A Reconsideration*, the monothematic July issue (Vol 51/2016, Issue 1) provides the most recent views and knowledge about the famous Jewish scholar of the Renaissance era, David Gans. Most of studies in this volume owe their origin to the conference "David Gans (1541–1613) after Four Centuries: The Legacy of an Early Modern Jewish Polymath" at the Charles University in Prague, Faculty of Arts, in 2013, which was co-organized by the Prague Centre for Jewish Studies at the Charles University and the Kurt and Ursula Schubert Center for Jewish Studies at Palacký University, Olomouc. The volume starts with a ground-breaking study by Alexandr Putík, Daniel Polakovič and Jiří Šulc, titled 'New Findings about the Life of David Gans (1541–1613) and his Closest Relatives: A Study and Source Edition'. Pavel Sládek's essay explores Gans' key work, the historical chronicle *Tzemah David*, from many different perspectives, placing it in the broader context of the literature at the time. Rachel L. Greenblatt's study examines the concept of time and space in this work. Carsten Wilke provides a penetrating comparison between Gans' chronicle and the historical work *Shalsholet ha-kabbalah* by the Sephardi author Gedaliah Ibn Yahya. On the basis of an analysis of *Tzemah David* and, in particular, of Gans' astronomical work *Nehmad ve-naim*, Sacha Stern deals with Gans' contribution to the study of the Jewish calendar. Daniel J. Lasker looks at how Gans' work was utilized by the Karaites. Tamás Visi presents a detailed textual analysis that explores the history of Gans' *Nehmad ve-naim*.

The December issue of *Judaica Bohemiae* (Vol 51/2016, Issue 2) starts with a study by Olga Sixtová, which presents the results of extensive research into the Ledgers (Pinkasim) of the Kolín Synagogue Treasurers from 1730–1783. The following study, by Magda Veselská, examines how the Prague Jewish Museum's extensive collections were put together during the Second World War, how the Central Jewish Museum operated during the war, and what role was played by Prague Jewish Community employees in connection with its creation; it also explores the origin and history of the "museum of an extinct race" slogan. This volume also contains reports on the conference "Remnants of the Past or Laboratories of Modernity?", which dealt with the issue of Jewish political communities in Moravia after 1848 (3–5 May 2016, Olomouc, I. Koeltzsch – J. Vitámvášová) and on the international workshop "Suppressed Historiography, Erased Memory?", which explored the perception of the Shoah in Central and Eastern Europe under Communism (30 November –1 December 2015, Halle; M. Sedlická). In addition, Arno Pařík provides information about the exhibition "The Missing Images: Eugene Van

Mieghem and the Jewish Emigrants to the New World”, which was held by the Jewish Museum in Prague and the Eugene Van Mieghem Museum at the Robert Guttmann Gallery between September 2015 and April 2016.

A Czech-English leaflet was published for the 13th Prague Museum Night with a print run of 3,500 copies.

A Czech-English overview was published for the 8th annual “Cinegogue” programme with a print run of 450 copies.

English and German-language versions of the book “I have not seen a butterfly around here” were reprinted, with a print run of 1,500 and 1,000 copies.

English, French and German-language versions of the book *Židovská Praha* [Jewish Prague] (written by Arno Pařík) were reprinted with a new cover – with a print run of 1,000 copies in English, 500 copies in French and 500 copies in German. 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.

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



### 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 2016. In various areas of its activity, it worked with 173 local and 103 foreign entities.

The JMP continued its contracting system for one- to three-year contracts with long-term Czech borrowers – nine Jewish communities and 13 cultural operators. Sixteen 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 three exhibitions.

The JMP also loaned material to temporary exhibitions held by other organizations in the Czech Republic. Closest in terms of theme was its contribution to the Jemnice Museum Association's exhibition *Neighbours Who Disappeared: The Jewish Religious Community in Jemnice and Police*, which was dedicated to the local Jewish community. As usual, most of the items on loan were from the visual art collection. Artworks from the JMP's collections were displayed in the following successful exhibitions: *Bedřich Feigl: Oko vidí svět* [The Eye Sees the World] at the Gallery of Fine Art in Cheb, *Krásá bude křečovitá* [Beauty will be Convulsive] at the Mikoláš Aleš of South Bohemia Gallery in Hluboká nad Vltavou, *V novém světě* [In the New World] at the Gallery of Fine Art in Ostrava.

The JMP was not involved in any short-term loan of items abroad in 2016. 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 the spring of 2016, the JMP's exhibition of copies of children's drawings, *The Children's Story: Children's Drawings from Terezín, 1943–1944*, was provided on loan to the Municipality of Cuornè in Italy and to Opéra-Théâtre in Switzerland.

In 2016 the JMP issued 98 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.

### 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 field was also 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.

In April, the advertising agency Young&Rubicam, in co-operation with the JMP, carried out a free promotional campaign, titled *Je to i váš příběh* [It's also your story], which aimed to encourage Czechs to

visit the museum. This campaign featured artistic photographs by Jiří Stach with hand-written texts that highlighted specific stories of Jews who survived the war with the help of fellow Czechs.

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 ČT24 on International Holocaust Remembrance Day on 27 January, participation in ČT24's *Události, komentáře* [Events, Comments] on 4 August, an interview for DTV on 18 August, interviews for the weekly newspaper *5 plus 2* on 22 January, and an interview for the online magazine *Česká pozice* [Czech Position] on 12 March) and for the internal requirements of the Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic. Leo Pavlát also co-presents and contributes to the weekly Czech Radio programme *Šalom alejchem* [Shalom Aleichem].

### c) Involvement in other projects

The JMP took part in several events that were held in collaboration with other institutions in 2016.

As usual, the JMP also focused its attention on the public commemoration of the Shoah. On 27 January, it hosted a gala concert at the Spanish Synagogue to mark the International Holocaust Remembrance Day (see Section 11b).

On 29–31 January, the JMP once again took part in the charity event *Icy Prague* – now in its 16th 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.

March 2016 marked the 72nd 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 on 8 March to mark this tragic event. In 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, and the museum's experts acquainted visitors with the history and form of the memorial. Guided tours of the Pinkas Synagogue were provided for the general public in the afternoon. On 8 March, as part of the commemorations, the Prague Jewish Community hosted a screening of the premiere of the documentary film *Bojovníci od Sokolova* [Fighters from Sokolovo, directed and written by Oliver Malina-Morgenstern] about a Czechoslovak unit that fought in the USSR during the Second World War. On 8 March 1943, this unit for the first time participated in the anti-Hitler coalition in the Battle of Sokolovo. At the time, more than a third of the troops in this unit were Jews who had fled Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia or had volunteered after being released from Soviet gulags. The screening of the film was followed by a Q&A session with the director, Oliver Malina-Morgenstern, the historian Miroslav Brož and the author Bedřiška Kopoldová. On the next day (9 March), another discussion from the monthly series "Our Twentieth Century: The View from the Other Side" was held in the Maisel Synagogue, at which Miluška Havlůjová shared her recollections. This series focuses on the stories of Czech Jews in the 20th century from both Jewish and non-Jewish perspectives. The meeting with Miluška Havlůjová – who in the 1950s was sentenced for sedition and espionage against the republic – was moderated by the journalist, documentarist and writer Adam Drda.

On 5 April, a memorandum of co-operation was signed at the Czech Ministry of the Interior to boost security at Jewish institutions, which are considered "soft targets". The signatories were the Interior Ministry, the Police, Prague City Hall, the Federation of Jewish Communities in the Czech Republic, the Jewish Museum in Prague and Prague's Chabad Center. The memorandum was initiated by the Ministry of the Interior in reaction to the worsening security situation in the world. As part of the deal,



the post of Security Co-ordinator of Jewish Sites has been created at the Federation of Jewish Communities for the purpose of representing the Jewish organizations that have signed the memorandum in contacts with the government.

On May 5, the JMP participated in the 11th year of publicly reading out the names of Holocaust victims on Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day. The continuous reading of names took place in eleven places in 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 22 May, the JMP, in cooperation with the Municipality of Prague 1, took part in the educational-cultural event "Prague 1 Day". Residents of Prague 1 on this day were given free entry into the new exhibition *Jews in the Bohemian Lands from the 10th to the 18th Centuries* in the refurbished Maisel Synagogue.

As usual, the JMP took part in Prague's annual Museum Night, now in its 13th year, which was held on the night of 11 June. This cultural event helps to promote the activities of museums and galleries, and since 2004 it has offered the public an opportunity to explore the city's cultural heritage in a somewhat different light. The Maisel Synagogue with its exhibition on the history of Jews in the Czech lands from the 10th to the 18th centuries and the Spanish Synagogue with its exhibition devoted to 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 program for children was organized in the Maisel Synagogue. The public interest in visiting the participating museums at night was enormous. Around 2,701 visitors came to see the exhibitions between 10:30 p.m. and 1:00 a.m.

*Museum Night 2016*



On 15 September, the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes hosted a colloquium ("Labyrinth of Normalization") about the Jewish community in Bohemia and Moravia between 1969 and 1989. The JMP was actively represented by the director Leo Pavlát and Pavla Hermína Neuner, who gave a paper on the research opportunities of the museum's Oral History Collection. The colloquium was part of a project within whose scope an exhibition of the same name will be held at the museum's Robert Guttman Gallery next year.



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. In addition, it undertook checks on compliance with obligations relating to fire protection and security regulations and to safety and health at work, and for the subletting of space in its exhibition and commercial space. The Technical Operations Department was also involved in outsourcing the JMP's IT facilities.

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, trees were pruned for safety reasons and two trees in front of the Maisel Synagogue were cut down after obtaining the relevant permission.

In co-operation with the Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague, repairs were carried out to part of the historical perimeter wall of the Old Jewish Cemetery. The JMP's Technical Operations Department ensured the necessary protection of tombstones in the cemetery.

Complete IT services – including minor repairs, supplementing and replacing existing equipment and facilities – were provided to the JMP on the basis of an agreement with the IT company TREND-IT. The JMP purchased the relevant software licences, renewed its ESET anti-virus licence for another year and, where necessary, replaced or supplemented the uninterruptible power supply (UPS) for the reliable running of its servers. A diagnosis was carried out on the current state of the central digital storage site and related issues were discussed (e.g., the speed and means of internet connection, the means of future back-up storage and capacity specification). Three computers were purchased for JMP

*Old Jewish Cemetery in Prague*



staff and four laptops were provided for audio-visual elements in exhibitions at the Robert Guttmann Gallery.

The department also undertook the required reviews 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.

In the area of workplace health and safety, the JMP undertook all the necessary checks on its buildings and facilities. New staff and fire safety managers underwent the relevant training in the areas of fire protection and health & safety at work. Occupational health doctors carried out an inspection of the JMP's workplaces and delivered a positive opinion with regard to its occupational health, safety and hygiene conditions. There were no accidents or emergencies at the JMP's workplace in 2016.



# 15

## Investments

The JMP's most important investment of 2016 was the modernization of its alarm security and emergency system and of the fire safety system for the Klausen Synagogue and the Ceremonial Hall. The alarm security and emergency system for the Pinkas Synagogue was also modernized.

The CCTV system in the JMP's administrative building was updated, including alterations to the chief security officer's desk. The CCTV system in the Library and the Multimedia Centre was also updated. Expanding and amending the system led to increased security – the use of multiple monitors makes it possible to quickly view any of the cameras in the building. The expanded CCTV system enables monitoring and detection of any movement or activity in and around the Multimedia Centre and the Library. In addition, air-conditioning equipment was installed in the Metal Conservation and Restoration Studio in the JMP's administrative building.

The JMP carried out the first phase of alterations to the rooms and facilities of its Department for Education and Culture (at Maiselova 15, Prague 1). Remote control lamp dimmers were installed in the rooms, and lighting fixtures with customizable settings for lighting objects hung from a new suspension system were then installed in the corridors. These alterations will be completed during the summer break in 2017.

Significant investments in 2016 involved activities relating to the JMP's transformation projects – the new exhibition and related building alterations at the Pinkas Synagogue (architectural study based on the exhibition concept and completion of the project for the building permit) and at the Spanish Synagogue (survey of the condition of the high-voltage electrical installations, background documentation for selection of architect and general contractor).

In co-operation with the sub-tenant of the shop on the ground floor of the Klausen Synagogue, partial renovation work was carried out there after approval from the relevant building authorities (removal of internal partition, alterations to low- and high-voltage electrical installations, lighting fixtures and furnishings). The separate areas of the shop have been unified into a single, functioning retail space, which is better suited for the sale of museum souvenirs and tickets.



# 16

## Grants and donations

In 2016 the JMP filed 15 grant/subsidy applications, of which 14 were accepted, one was rejected.

The JMP received grant/subsidy support of CZK 2,159,888, some of which is to be spread over several years. Funds awarded in 2015 that were uncompleted or not fully used – amounting to CZK 12,637,000 – were carried over to 2016. The amount of grant/subsidy funds used in 2016 was CZK 6,003,000. The remaining amount of CZK 8,793,888 is to be carried over to 2017 and the following years.

The following institutions in the Czech Republic provided considerable support for the JMP's activities in 2016:

- 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 and providing library services via digital technology (VISK 7 subsidy programme)
- State Fund for Culture: for the exhibition *Stranded in Shanghai*
- Municipality of Prague: for the "Cinegogue 2016" project, apprentice seminar support and a project supporting the exhibitions *Stranded in Shanghai* and *"Come My Beloved..."*
- Foundation for Holocaust Victims (NFOH): for the restoration of tombstones, recording of interviews with Shoah survivors, Sunday workshops for children, a student education project, publication of *Judaica Bohemiae*, cultural events and the Pinkas Synagogue revitalization
- Prague Jewish Community Foundation: for the restoration of two rare printed books
- Heinrich Böll Foundation in Prague: for teacher seminars
- Czech Technology Agency: for the Omega project (digital textbook)

The following institutions abroad provided considerable support for the JMP's activities in 2016:

- Rothschild Foundation Europe: for the Yerusha 2 project and the Jewish Council Archives in Europe project
- Claims Conference: for the Frontier of Memory project and the Jewish Council Archives in Europe project
- Zukunftsfond Austria: for the BeGrentze 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



# 17

## Finances

The museum received 30,739 (4,89 %) more visitors in 2016 than it did in the previous year, as a result of which receipts from ticket sales were up by CZK 7.849.071,- Kč (4,9%). Total revenues were up by CZK 9.223.100,- Kč (5,07%). Next to ticket sales, revenues were higher in most other areas, including income from rentals, other services, the sale of goods, donations and subsidies. A slight drop occurred in Other income due to lower yields on fixed-term deposits and interest rates.

Expenses were up by CZK 3.307.700,- Kč (2,26%) compared to 2015, which was mainly due to an increase in costs in the areas of utilities, other services, other personal expenses, depreciation and other costs. None of the mentioned budget items resulted in higher spend than planned, however.

On balance, the museum's financial results for 2016 were highly favourable, with gross profit of CZK 41.145.692,03 and net profit of CZK 33.439.102,03 (after paying CZK 7.706.590 in tax). Net profit was up by CZK 4.796.426,1 year-on-year.

In all, 6,76 % of the total costs went towards research, with 62,27 % covered by the museum's own resources and 37,73 % covered by donations and subsidies. Donations and subsidies for research were received from several sources – 3,87 % from the state and municipal budgets, 56,43 % from the European Union and 39,70 % from private and foundation sources.

Prague, 30 May 2017

Leo Pavlat

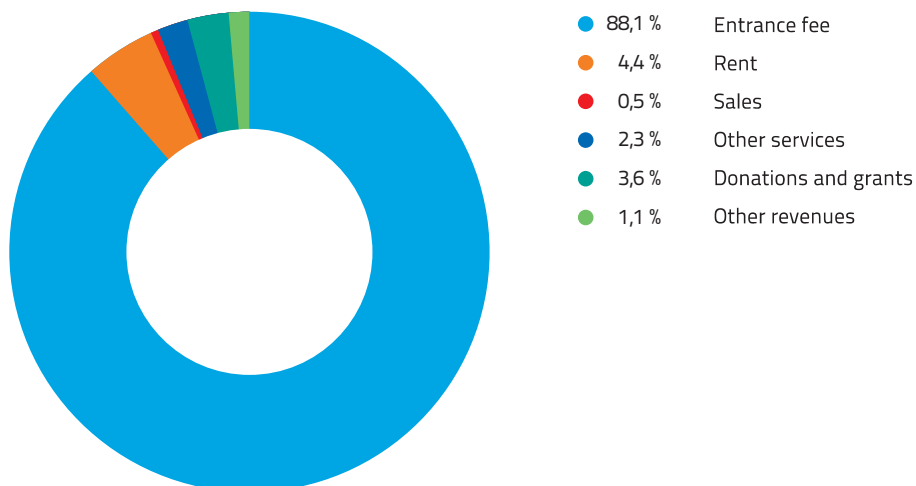
Director, Jewish Museum in Prague



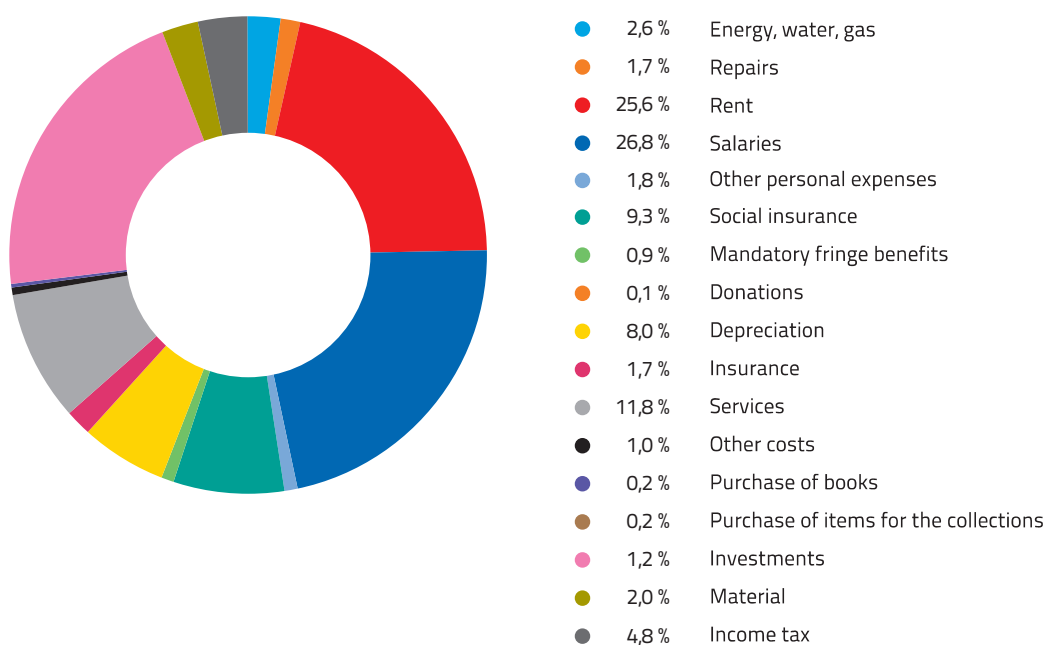


## Appendix 1 – 2016 budget implementation

*Revenues of the Jewish Museum in Prague (2016)*



*Expenses of The Jewish Museum in Prague (2016)*



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

	As of 31 Dec 2015	As of 31 Dec 2016
<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>181 745</b>	<b>190 968</b>
Sales of goods and services	12 820	13 783
Entrance fees	160 310	168 159
Subsidies	5 739	6 906
Recognition of provisions	0	0
Other revenues	2 876	2 120
<b>OPERATING COSTS</b>	<b>146 514</b>	<b>149 822</b>
Expenditures on realized sales	70 513	70 413
Personnel costs	60 441	62 283
Depreciation	11 385	12 805
Other operating costs and provisions	4 175	4 321
<b>INCOME TAX</b>	<b>6 588</b>	<b>7 707</b>
<b>RESULT</b>	<b>28 643</b>	<b>33 439</b>

## Appendix 3 – Balance sheet (CZK '000)

	As of 31 Dec 2015	As of 31 Dec 2016
<b>PERMANENT ASSETS</b>	<b>139 779</b>	<b>129 678</b>
Intangible fixed assets	1 940	1 620
Tangible fixed assets	137 839	128 058
Financial investments	0	0
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>230 900</b>	<b>263 813</b>
Inventories	7 897	7 773
Receivables	16 556	15 744
Financial assets	203 571	237 771
<b>OTHER ASSETS</b>	<b>2 876</b>	<b>2 525</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>370 679</b>	<b>393 491</b>
<b>OWN SOURCES</b>	<b>340 816</b>	<b>369 061</b>
Funds	312 173	335 622
Financial results in current accounting period	28 643	33 439
<b>EXTERNAL RESOURCES</b>	<b>29 863</b>	<b>24 430</b>
Short-term commitments	16 926	15 514
Provisions	0	0
<b>OTHER LIABILITIES</b>	<b>12 937</b>	<b>8 916</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>370 679</b>	<b>393 491</b>

## Appendix 4 – Staff structure

In accordance with its organisation manual, the JMP comprised eight departments in 2016. As of the end of 2016, it had 136,1 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 2016 was 136 and the number of full time equivalent employees was 131,1.

Director	1
Research and specialist staff, including restoration staff	49
Education and culture staff	8
Staff in charge of the maintenance, repairs, refurbishment and administration of buildings and cemeteries	4
Publicity and exhibition staff	6
Reservation Centre staff	3
Administrative staff	5
Economic staff, including exhibition ticket sellers	12
Security staff and custodians	48

Average monthly salary for JMP staff in 2016: CZK 24,025

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

Building	1995–2016
Spanish Synagogue	34,597
Administration building in Jáchymova st.	3,215
Maisel Synagogue	43,032
Pinkas Synagogue	15,597
Ceremonial Hall	3,244
Klausen Synagogue	9,820
Depository of textiles	4,472
New Administration and Research Centre	99,550
Department for Education and Culture, Information and Reservation centre	17,930
Smíchov Synagogue	76,448
Brandýs Synagogue	855
Depository of books Spořilov	210
Jewish Cemetery – Fibichova Prague 3	11,980
Old Jewish Cemetery	12,966
Total	333,916



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