



NEWS AND NOTES

Vom Rhein an den Cape Fear River: Eine Rhein Hessische Auswanderungsgeschichte

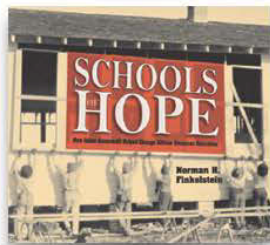


Southern Jewish history goes global! This richly illustrated book depicts the experience of German Jewish immigrants in the post-Civil War South through the example of Abraham David (1844–1914). In 1862, David left his native Gimbsheim, Rhine-Hesse, and made his way to Wilmington, North Carolina, where he became a successful clothing merchant. Hans-Dieter Graf, Martina Graf, and Gabriele Hannah, local historians from Rhine-Hesse, neatly connect

the shores of the Atlantic by employing both German and American sources to trace David's life. His story is contextualized by excursions into the Jewish histories of Gimbsheim and Wilmington. By following one representative individual from Europe to America, the authors ingeniously transcend the barrier between the historiography of Jewish emigration from Germany and Jewish immigration to the United States.

As one of the first works in German on the Jewish South in the 19th century, this book (in English, *From the Rhine to Cape Fear River: A Rhine-Hessian Story of Emigration*) opens the field to the German-speaking audience. With a contribution on the Jewish history of Wilmington by Anton Hieke and illustrations by Gisela Graf. Published by Kehl in Osthofen, Germany (2013). An English translation is being prepared.

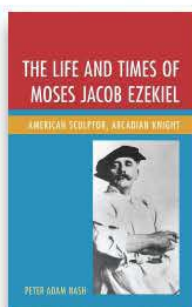
Schools of Hope Explores Rosenwald Legacy



When famed African American educator Booker T. Washington asked Julius Rosenwald, philanthropist and head of Sears, Roebuck and Company, to help him build well-designed and fully equipped schools for black children, the face of education in the South changed for the better. It was the early 1900s, a time of discrimination,

racial segregation, and inadequate education for African Americans. Rosenwald created a special fund that in just 20 years built more than 5,300 schools attended by 600,000 black students. In the young adult book *Schools of Hope: How Julius Rosenwald Helped Change African American Education*, noted nonfiction writer Norman H. Finkelstein spotlights one man's legacy and the power of community action. Calkins Creek, 2014. Illustrated with vintage photographs; includes a detailed bibliography and index.

A New Biography of Moses Ezekiel



In *The Life and Times of Moses Jacob Ezekiel: American Sculptor, Arcadian Knight*, author Peter Adam Nash tells the remarkable story of Ezekiel's rise to international fame as an artist in late 19th-century Italy. Sephardic Jew, homosexual, Confederate soldier, Southern apologist, opponent of slavery, patriot, expatriate, mystic, Victorian dandy, good Samaritan, humanist, royalist, romantic, reactionary, republican, monist, dualist, theosophist, freemason, champion of religious

freedom, proto-Zionist, and proverbial Court Jew, Moses Ezekiel was a riddle of a man, a puzzle of seemingly irreconcilable parts. Published by Rowman & Littlefield in 2014, the book is available at amazon.com.

Shalom, Y'All: The Jews of Columbus, Georgia



Prayer shawl at the Columbus Museum.

There has been a Jewish presence in Columbus, Georgia, since the city's founding. The Columbus Museum's exhibition *Shalom, Y'All: The Valley's Jewish Heritage* explores the story of Jewish life in Columbus and surrounding communities, looking at migration, business,

and religious and cultural institutions. The exhibition traces the growth, decline, and perseverance of Jewish communities in the region over time, with an eye to how the local Jewish experience exemplifies broader trends in southern Jewish life. Funded in part by the SJHS, *Shalom, Y'All* will be on display until July 13, 2014.

The Henry Alexander Sr. Digitization Project

This spring marked a landmark event in the history of the Cuba Family Archives for Southern Jewish History at the Breman Museum in Atlanta. With the generous support of the Alexander family, the Archives purchased a top-of-the-line document scanner to begin digitizing its thousands of manuscript collections.

The scanner is currently being used to digitize the Alexander Family Papers, which total 11 linear feet. These papers document the significant work of Henry Alexander Sr., who served as an appeals attorney and confidant to Leo Frank, and Cecil Alexander, a prominent architect who helped shape the skyline of Atlanta. The goal is to make this material available online by the end of the year, and many more collections available online soon thereafter. For more information please contact: Jeremy Katz, Archives Director, at jrkatz@thebreman.org, 404-870-1862.