The Jews of Shanghai

上海的猶太人

The legacy of the Hongkou ghetto is just one part of the multi-faceted history of the Jews in Shanghai. The Sephardic Jews came first to the city, arriving as early as the second half of the 19th century from British ruled areas like Baghdad, Bombay and Hong Kong — notably, the Sassoons, Hardoonos and Kadarios. Then came the Russian Jews fleeing pogroms of the 1880’s and early 1900’s, and finally, European Jews, especially Central European Jews, escaping the Nazis in the 1930’s. During World War II, Shanghai was home to around 31,000 Jews, making it the largest Jewish community in the Far East. It had its own associations, synagogues, schools, hospitals, clubs, cemeteries, chamber of commerce, publications and active political groups such as the Zionist party. Between 1930 and 1949, Shanghai boasted more than 50 Jewish newspapers and magazines published in English, Russian, German, French, Chinese, Japanese, Polish, Hebrew and Yiddish.

Following World War II, the Jewish community dispersed around the world — to Israel, the United States, Canada and Australia, until by 1948, the Jewish population had dwindled to around 10,000. In 1948, Israel evacuated several ships of Jews from Shanghai as Mao Zedong’s Red Army crept closer. After October 1949, the Chinese government began repatriating Jews, so that by 1957, only about 100 Jews remained in Shanghai. The last member of the Jewish community died in Shanghai in 1962. Presently, around 500 Jews from different countries reside in Shanghai, most of them businessmen, journalists or diplomats.

犹太人在上海活动的历史源远流长，从公元前2000年居住上海的已知犹太人，到1930年代末至1940年代初大批涌入上海的犹太难民。二战末期，上海犹太人社区人数约31,000人，其中大约10,000人来自欧洲，尤其是逃离纳粹迫害的俄罗斯犹太人。1948年，中华人民共和国成立，上海成为远东最大的犹太人社区。随着八九十年代经济发展，上海成为一座国际化大都市，拥有众多外国企业、学校、医院、文化机构和社区，吸引了来自世界各地的犹太人定居。

在中国，“上海”是一个充满魅力的城市，拥有丰富的犹太文化遗产。上海犹太人社区的历史可以追溯到19世纪末，当时有一批来自欧洲的犹太难民涌入上海。上海犹太人社区在二战期间达到了顶峰，人数超过了31,000人。二战结束后，上海犹太人社区的人数急剧减少，到1957年只剩下大约100人。如今，上海犹太人社区的人数为500多人，包括来自世界各地的犹太人，其中许多是商人、记者或外交官。

Explore Shanghai Heritage 上海遗产探索小组

The Explore Shanghai Heritage Group was established in 2003 in the context of the rapidly changing Shanghai urban landscape, and addresses the conservation of architectural heritage. It aims to promote the understanding, protection and care of Shanghai's heritage to all its residents and visitors. Tours, lectures, and brochures for self exploration of heritage marked buildings are provided by ESH. The group committee meets on a monthly basis, to hear updates on the environment of heritage sites in Shanghai, to listen to former residents who have returned to explore their family heritage in architecture, and to exchange viewpoints on promoting cultural tourism, including house museums and historical homes of significance to Shanghai’s history.

在上海城市景观飞速变化的背景下，上海遗产探索小组成立于2003年，致力于建筑遗产的保护，旨在促进上海市民和游客对上海遗产的认识、保护和关心。小组提供关于遗产建筑的导览、讲座和宣传册，每月举行会议，听取前住在上海的居民对家庭遗产保护的建议，并与文化旅游、家庭博物馆以及上海的历史遗产主题交流看法。

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Shanghai's Former Jewish Ghetto
提篮橋: 猶太人的諾亞方舟

In the decade prior to World War II, Shanghai was one of the few cities in the world generously accepting immigrants without passports. Between 1933 and 1941, more than 30,000 Jewish refugees, primarily from Germany, Austria, Poland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary arrived in Shanghai. Although visas were not required for entry into Shanghai, Jewish needs for visas for the transit or final destinations. In order to leave Europe. Among the many diplomats who saved countless lives were Jan Zwartendijk, 1940 Dutch Honorary Consul to the Chinese Consul Chiang Shih-hsuan, (1939-1940) both in Kunam/ Lithuania; He Fengshun (Ho Feng-Shan), (1938-1940) Chinese Consul General in Vienna and the Swedish Diplomats, Per Anger and Raoul Wallenberg (1944) in Budapest.

When the Japanese took over the International Settlement on December 8, 1941 Americans, British and other 'enemy nationals' were placed in hastily constructed camps around the city. However, former residents of Nazi occupied Europe and stateless people, such as White Russians and Jewish refugees, were not placed in camps. When Nazi Colonel Josef Meisinger applied pressure on the Japanese to evacuate the "final solution" to the Jewish refugees of Shanghai, the Japanese refused with the milder action of ghettoizing them in a restricted area of north Shanghai. On February 18, 1943, the Japanese authorities proclaimed the 'Designated area for Stateless Persons' ordering all refugees who had arrived in Shanghai after 1937 to move into the ghetto area within a month. In May 1943, about 8,000 people were moved into a small area of Hongkou (Hongkew) already occupied by 10,000 refugees and 100,000 Chinese.

It is likely that the Japanese chose this area of Hongkou as the restricted area due to its proximity to the Ward Road Prison which accommodated numerous prisoners of war and due to its proximity to the dockyards, oil tanks and a radio station, as the Japanese assumed that the allies would not target the ghetto or prison for bombing, thus protecting the military facilities. The only incident occurred when a group of foreign fighter pilots accidentally bombed the area on July 17, 1945, resulting in several hundred civilians being wounded as well as casualties.

Although the area is referred to as The Jewish Ghetto, it was technically a "Designated Area for Stateless Persons." Refugees were required to reside there, but could move to other parts of the city with an authorized official pass. Because many of the exiles were highly talented professionals - teachers, reporters, writers, painters, musicians and sportsmen - they opened the Shanghai Jewish Youth Association School (Kadiouko School) on East Yuhang Road, organized soccer teams, built up a mobile library, created drama groups, hosted a radio show, started bands and even a table tennis club. Dozens of magazines and newspapers were published including Yiddish books and calendars, the German-language Jewish magazine, "Gelbe Post", and the "Shanghai Jewish Chronicle" (1939-1949), the longest running German-language Jewish newspaper. Refugees in the Hongkou ghetto generally fared better than 'enemy nationals', the British and Americans, in the internment camps.

Today, the area known as Tilinjiao retains many of the buildings and places that played a key role in the lives of the refugees in this safe haven during the War years. In 2003, in recognition of its national and international significance, the Shanghai government proclaimed Tilinjiao one of Shanghai's 12 historic conservation zones. In 2005, a Conservation Plan and Master Plan was prepared by the National Research Institute of Historic Cities under Professor Ruan Yilun, received official endorsement. The Conservation Plan identifies historic features of the area, provides policies to protect them and guidelines for future development.

In 1934, when World War II was still raging, the "Noah's Ark" was built in the Zhabei District of the city, in the area of the Yangtze River. The ark was built by the Jewish refugees who had been forced to leave Europe. The ark was designed to resemble a traditional Jewish house, with a deck and a mast. Inside, there were spaces for sleeping and eating, as well as a small synagogue.

The ark was built by a group of Jewish refugees who had been forced to leave Europe during the war. They had come to Shanghai to escape the Holocaust in Europe and had been granted political asylum in the city. The ark was built on the outskirts of the city, on a piece of land that had been donated by the Chinese government. The ark was designed to resemble a traditional Jewish house, with a deck and a mast. Inside, there were spaces for sleeping and eating, as well as a small synagogue.

The ark was used as a place of worship for the refugees and was also used as a temporary shelter. It was not large enough to accommodate all of the refugees, and many of them were forced to live in nearby caves and other makeshift shelters. Despite these challenges, the refugees worked together to build the ark and to create a community that was based on shared values and traditions. The ark was a symbol of hope and resilience, and it became a place of refuge for many of the refugees who had been forced to flee their homes.

日本于1941年12月8日在上海的公共设施被占领后，日本以“被俘”之名将犹太人逮捕并杀害到在市内新辟的区域。柏林犹太人在日本占领期间被拘留在日本东京、大阪、横滨等地的集中营。在占领期间，日本政府在各地建立“犹太人特别区”，并成立了“犹太人特别指导委员会”，负责管理犹太人的生活和生活安全。

犹太人被集中到这些区域，成为日本占领中国的组成部分。这些犹太人在占领期间遭受了各种形式的迫害和歧视，他们的生活条件恶劣，生活不易。

在二战期间，犹太人在中国得到了一些保护和帮助。中国政府和民间组织为犹太人提供了庇护和救助，一些中国人甚至冒着生命危险，帮助犹太人逃离集中营。

虽然犹太人在二战期间在中国遭遇了苦难，但他们的经历也留下了深刻的历史印记。犹太人在上海的集中营，以及他们在占领期间的反抗和斗争，都是二战历史的重要组成部分。今天，我们仍然需要记住这段历史，以防止类似的事情再次发生。
**Architectural Details**

Most of the area's building stock dates from the period of the former International Settlement in the early 20th century. The architecture is predominantly 'Queen Anne' style, featuring facade brickwork in contrasting red and black colours; Dutch gables; along with Dutch gables, dormers, and towers, with elaborate timber detailing.

**Oral History Project**

Shanghai is a city with many layers of history and many stories that can be told from multiple perspectives. One of the aims of "Explore Shanghai Heritage" is to help unlock some of these diverse personal narratives through the Oral History Program.

Some of the Chinese residents of Tilibao who accommodated the influx of Jewish people during WWII, and helped them, are still living in the area. In 2008, "Explore Shanghai Heritage" commenced the Oral History project to record the everyday stories of these Chinese people. If you know of anyone who would be willing to tell the story of the Jewish Ghetto years and have it recorded on tape, to be carefully archived for future generations, please contact ESH at exploreshanghai@gmail.com. Any contact will be gratefully acknowledged as a valuable contribution towards understanding the stories of all those who lived through the years of Shanghai's Jewish ghetto. The stories can be recorded in any language, and kept confidential if requested.

上海这座城市有着深厚的历史和繁多的故事，可以从不同角度来解读，上海遗产保护小组（ESH）的目标之一就是通过这一口述历史项目挖掘整理上海的个人珍藏。

在延福桥地区，许多在二战期间协助，帮助犹太难民的居民今天依然健在。2008年ESH发起了“历史风云大赛谈”项目，专门记录当事人的故事。如果您知道有人愿意向我们讲述这段历史，愿意帮助后人了解这段历史，请发邮件至：exploreshanghai@gmail.com。我们与您联系，我们认为此将有助于人们了解那些过来人的故事，并对您的贡献表示感谢，您可使用任何语言叙述这些故事，如提出要求我们可以对您的故事保密。

**Jewish Memorial Project**

Prior to the 1960s, there were four Jewish cemeteries in Shanghai with some 3,700 Jewish graves. In 1958, the western cemeteries in Shanghai, including the Jewish sites, were moved out of town to the Qingpu district where an International Cemetery was created. This International Cemetery was destroyed in the 1960s, with the grave stones becoming scattered around the city.

Since 2001, Israeli Journalist and Shanghai resident, Dvir Bar-Gal, has been on a mission to locate the lost tombstones. To date, he has recovered 80 headstones, all of which have been documented, safely stored, and the details placed on his website, www.shanghajewishmemorial.com. Bar-Gal is now seeking to create a Jewish Memorial site in Shanghai that will provide a permanent resting place for the recovered tombstones.

自2001年开始，驻沪的以色列记者Dvir Bar-Gal开始寻找分散各地的上海犹太公墓的墓碑。上世纪60年代前，上海市有四个犹太公墓。犹太人坟墓总数约3700个。1958年，包括犹太人的公墓被迁入市郊青浦县新建的国际公墓。60年代国际公墓被毁，墓碑散落于市郊各地。

2001年以来，常住上海的以色列记者Dvir Bar-Gal一直致力于寻找散落的犹太墓碑。如今他已发现并妥善保存了80块墓碑，并将详情记录在其网站www.shanghajewishmemorial.com上公布。他正寻求机会在上海建立一个犹太人纪念场所，为这些失而复得的墓碑找到永久栖身之地。
Ohel Moishe
Synagogue
摩西会堂

62 Changyang Rd
长阳路62号

Founded in 1907, Ohel Moishe was the original Ashkenazi synagogue for Orthodox Russian and German Jews in Shanghai. It moved to the current site on Changyang Road in 1927 and ceased operating as a synagogue after 1949. The building was reconstituted by the Hongkou district government and re-opened as a Museum in 2008 with a separate wing interpreting Jewish history in Shanghai.

Little Vienna
“小维也纳”

Zhoushan Rd
舟山路

Known as “Little Vienna” for its shops selling European goods, Chusan Road was the most prosperous commercial street in Tilinjiao, and served as the major neighbourhood for Jewish refugees.

Ward Road Heim
华德路收容所

138 Changyang Rd
长阳路138号

Housing over 1000 refugees, the camp, created in 1939, was the largest in Shanghai later becoming a hospital. The “Heim” kept a vegetable garden and operated a kitchen for refugees, under the management of Austrian Jewish refugee, Julius Weinberger. A portion of the “Heim” was demolished in 2009 for road widening.

Shanghai Jewish Refugees Memorial
上海犹太难民纪念碑

Huoshan Park (Wayside Park)
118 Huoshan Road
汇山公园（今霞山公园）
霞山路118号

Established in 1917, Wayside Park functioned as a major gathering place for the Jewish community. Located within Wayside Park, the Memorial Stone commemorates (in Chinese, Hebrew and English) the area’s role as “haven for stateless refugees”. The monument was erected for the visit of Israeli PM Yitzhak Rabin in 1993.

The Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) premises
犹联联合救济委员会

119 & 121 Huoshan Road
霞山路119号和121号

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC), the largest international organization assisting Jewish people in the 1940’s, organized relief programs for Shanghai’s refugees from this building.

Shanghai Municipal Gaol (Ward Road Gaol)
上海工部局警务处监狱(今提篮桥监狱)

147 Changyang Rd
长阳路147号

The Shanghai Municipal Gaol was built by the Shanghai Municipal Council in four stages between 1901 and 1928. It was one of the largest prisons in Asia, with 11 cell blocks containing 920 cells, plus workshops, hospital, cafeteria and administration. Occupied by the Japanese army in 1942, and then the Republican Government in 1945, it became a “Justice Institute to imprison and re-educate criminals” after Liberation. Note the art-deco entrance gateway with its multi-stopped panels of contrasting render and face brickwork focusing the eye inwards to the central prison doors.
Broadway Theatre and
Mascot Roof Garden
百老汇大戏院和麦司考脱屋顶花园
57 Huoshan Road
霍山路57号

Eastern Theater
东海大剧院
144 Haimen Road
海门路144号
The "Shanghai Musicians Association", a Jewish chamber orchestra and choir performed here from 1940 to 1945.
由犹太人组成的"上海音乐家协会"曾有交响乐团和合唱团,1940-1945年在此演出。

Jewish Community of
Central European Jews
中欧犹太协会
No. 22, Lane 416 Tangshan Road
唐山路416弄22号
Established in 1939, the Jewish Community of Central European Jews was the largest society dealing with Jewish refugee affairs in Shanghai. During Japanese occupation, it was the only refugee organization dealing directly with the Japanese authorities. After WWII the society helped organize the repatriation of Jewish refugees.
中欧犹太协会于1939年11月建立，是上海会员最多的犹太难民组织，日军占领上海期间，该协会是难民与日本官方发生联系的唯一机构。二战后负责难民遣返工作。

Kadoorie School
Shanghai Jewish Youth Association School
嘉道理学校
上海犹太青年学校
627 East Yuhang Road
东余杭路627号
Established with funding from Horace Kadoorie in 1937, the Kadoorie School moved to this premises in 1942. It had two kindergartens and 4 classrooms accommodating around 600 students. When Kadoorie was interned as a POW (prisoner of war) by the Japanese, the school was run by the Jewish Community of Central European Jews. Only the original school gates remain.
嘉道理学校初创于1937年，1942年迁于此地。有2所幼稚园和4个年级，学生600人。嘉道理被日军作为战犯关押后，中欧犹太协会接管该校，现仅存原校门。