

THE CALL FOR DISCOVERY • IDENTITY • CONNECTION A CAMPAIGN FOR JCAT

The *Documentation of Jewish Records Worldwide (DoJR)* project to build *JCat*, the world's most comprehensive catalog of historical documents of Jewish lives, is a strategic initiative of the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS) and the



L'Dor V'Dor Foundation www.ldvdf.org, U.S. based not-for-profit 501(c)(3) corporations.

A 33
Klein



103

132

Rabini Synagogi Radomskiej

Ja świadczam i tak raportuję przed słubne po-
między Abramem Giejmanem i Hawalerem lat 18-
letnim Synem Herszka i Idy Giejman i Idesą
Idesą z Glatów Matjontkówną Giejmanówną wraz
z siostrą wraz z Dycem w tym mieście Radom utra-
conym siostrą i Gitla Teperman i siostrą lat 26-
letnią i siostrą Lejbusią i siostrą i siostrą
Lają z Jankłowiczów Matjontkówną Tepermanówną
i siostrą wraz z Matką w Mieście Wier-
bicy utraconymi w Burzycy Radom-
skiej w dniach 17-24 i 31 Maja 1851 r. ogłoszone
zostały i tamowane nie były.

Co w tym nocecznym podpisem stwierdzam
w Radomiu dnia 24 Maja 1851 r.
5 czerwca

Klein
Radom
Rabini

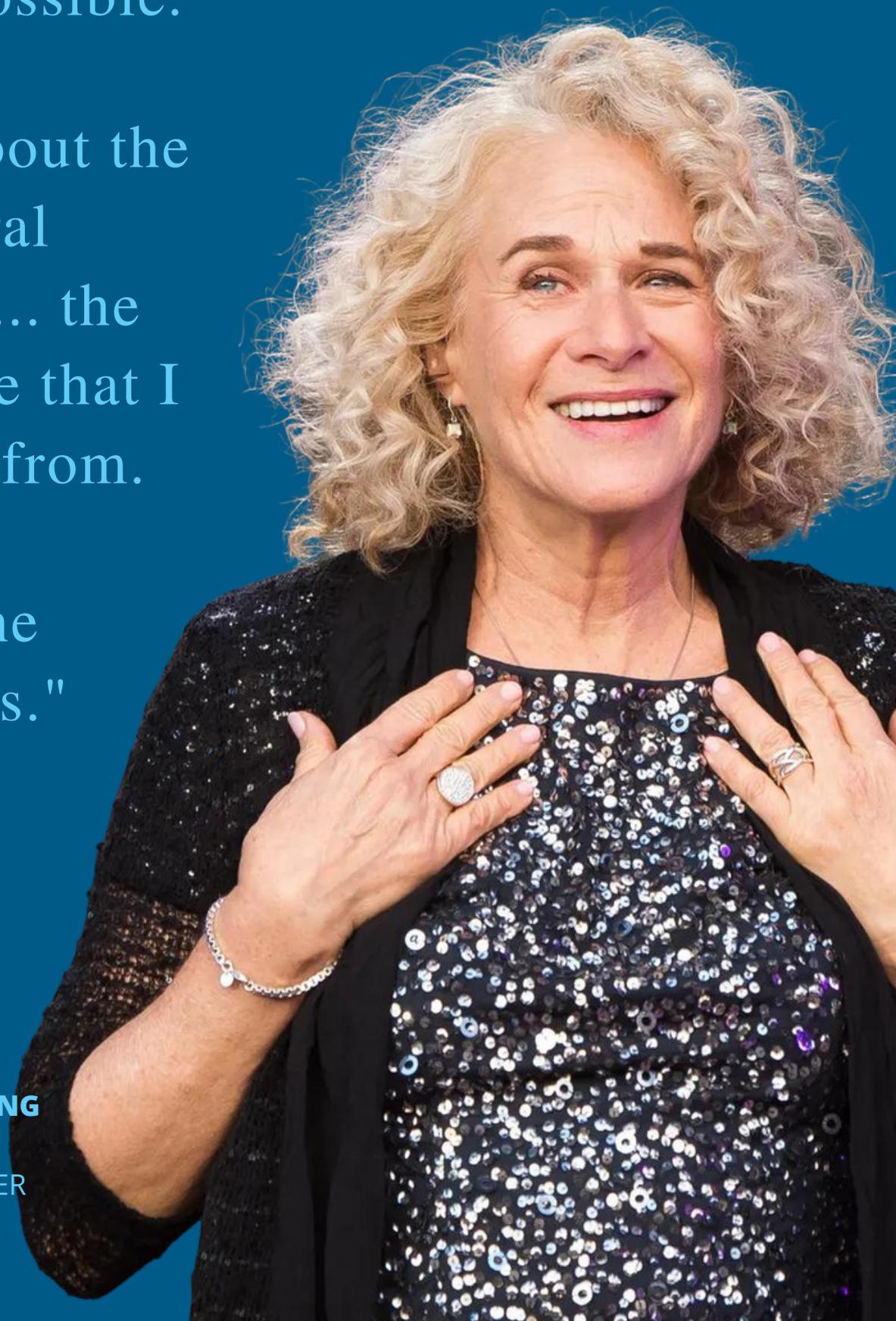
DISCOVERY IN POLAND ca. 1795

Carole King, born Carol Joan Klein, learns her family name Klein was Glejman when her paternal grandparents immigrated from Zamość, Poland. Believing "all the records were destroyed," Carole is incredulous to learn of the discovery of records in the Polish archives stretching back to the late 18th century. This marriage banns document (synagogue proclamation) for Carole's great-great-grandparents Abram Glejman and Gitla Teperman also identifies her 3rd great-grandparents: Herszek Glejman, Idesa Glat, Lejbus Temperman, and Laja Jankłowicz in Radom, Poland. Carole was overjoyed to discover that she has "deep deep findable roots."

"I am blown away! My people don't... The records are gone. Jaw drop. That's ridiculous — not possible.

It's about the cultural chain... the people that I came from.

Get the tissues."



CAROLE KING
SINGER
SONGWRITER

INTRODUCTION

THE CALL FOR DISCOVERY ■ IDENTITY ■ CONNECTION

Many think that, through the course of time, our Jewish past has been destroyed. The chain broken. The links missing. The lives are missing. But we can rediscover, reclaim, restore, repair.

Like Carole King, many think all the records were destroyed and lost forever. They were not. They are waiting to be rediscovered, yet vulnerable to the passage of time.

With this campaign, we together, will reclaim the lives of the Jewish people — our ancestors — document by document. We will rescue our lost history, reconnect our past, and change the lives of future generations — before it is too late.

Your gift is a gift to the Jewish people, to discover the documentation of generations of Jewish lives around the world and secure their memory for future generations.

Each *discovery* of our ancestors brings us closer to our Jewish past and lays a foundation for Jewish continuity.

Each life uncovered preserves our history, deepens our self-knowledge, and strengthens our Jewish *identity*.

Each life brought to light adds a link in the chain — building a personal and collective *connection* to our past.

Each \$2.40 restores a link — rediscovers a life.

The *Documentation of Jewish Records Worldwide (DoJR)* project to build *JCat* completes our memory for an informed future.

Now is the time. Let's join together.

DISCOVERY IN ARGENTINA ca. 1897

Museo Judío, Buenos Aires and adjacent Templo Libertad Synagogue hold documentation of Jewish lives. Spanish conversos, or secret Jews, settled in Argentina during the Spanish colonial period (16th–19th century). In the 19th century, Jews immigrated from Western Europe (many French) and later from Eastern Europe. Argentina has the largest Jewish population of any country in Latin America as well as many descendants of the Bnei Anusim.

Photo Credit: Antonio Marco D, São Paulo



THREE BOLD GOALS

DoJR will lead the global search, while the doors are open. Racing against time, we will use innovative technologies and approaches to identify and harvest the footprints of the Jews who came before us.

Records Destroyed...Hidden...Vulnerable

Yes, the Holocaust, pogroms, wars, neglect, theft, and disasters, both natural and man-made disasters, make it difficult to discover one's ancestors, learn about their lives, reconstruct our history. But, no, the exaggeration "all the records were destroyed," is not true. The vast majority are not destroyed, they are simply hidden — often hidden in plain sight.

Doors Closed

Throughout the Jewish Diaspora, across generations and changing country boundaries, records were kept by governments, synagogues, organizations, and individuals. Post World War II, the doors to access have not always been open to the Western world. Selectively doors are opening — for now.

An Intractable Problem to Discover Missing Jewish Lives

Specialists throughout the community of researchers and archivists identified more than 300 types of records that survived (Ashkenazi, Sephardi, Mizrachi, Crypto, Converso, Rabbinic, and more) – 85% of which we collectively have never seen. A systematic comprehensive survey — to inventory the documents and identify the Jewish lives within — has not been possible — until now.

New Solutions

Identity and connection is only possible with discovery. We have new means for discovery. In four short weeks, the DoJR project discovered previously unknown archival documents identifying 116,000 Jewish individuals in Poland and Ukraine. These documents survived pogroms, wars, and the Holocaust.

Yet Time Is the Enemy

Many documents and the lives within are crumbling. More contemporary threats exist. A DoJR project to *Rescue Our Venezuelan Jewish History* (going back 10 generations) is a priority, A Jewish exodus is underway. The community is now at 25% of its peak population and the remaining infrastructure is vulnerable.

3 Goals

DoJR will 1) deploy a global multi-mode content acquisition program, 2) build the JCat platform as the world's most comprehensive catalog of historical documents of Jewish lives, and 3) accelerate JCat content acquisition with artificial intelligence (AI).

GOALS

1

Deploy

a global multi-mode content acquisition program.

DoJR aims to lead a systematic and comprehensive survey of all facilities (archives, museums, libraries, synagogues, and more) holding Jewish records on six continents. DoJR will partner with organizations operating extant online catalogs to extract relevant data. DoJR will build a network of professional researchers and Jewish genealogical society teams to conduct the surveys. Survey work will utilize the first and comprehensive list of 300 record types to identify hidden-in-plain-sight collections. DoJR will promote crowdsourced information entry about discovered records.

The result: a breakthrough that will uncover a treasure trove of never before seen documents of Jewish lives.

2

Build

the JCat platform as the world's most comprehensive catalog of historical documents of Jewish lives.

DoJR is developing a free to access searchable online catalog to answer the question, "What records are available for my ancestral town?" The JCat catalog will scale to support millions of entries from tens of thousands of facilities. JCat catalog entries will contain previously unavailable descriptive information useful to researchers. The catalog aims for the highest level in user experience and will be built on the most advanced international standards in the library and archival world.

The result: All individuals curious about the lives of their ancestors (whether a novice, amateur, or professional researcher, historian, or academic) will easily discover all the documents that are available, what they contain, and how and where to access them.

3

Accelerate

JCat content acquisition with artificial intelligence (AI).

DoJR is advancing the use of artificial intelligence (AI) to reduce the cost and time to conduct manual surveys in search of documents. Where record collections are available or can be made available digitally, computers are being trained to read centuries old handwriting in many languages, determine if the individuals documented are Jewish, describe the collections, and auto-create a related JCat catalog entry.

The result: Millions of pages of documents can be analyzed and added to the catalog in hours instead of years. Once processed by AI, DoJR has the ability to use the transcribed records to create fully searchable documents in partnership with the organizations that today manually create searchable indexes so they can be available to researchers in a fraction of the time.

LEXA
EROM
TOIHA

DISCOVERY IN SPAIN ca. 1596

In 1596, the diary of Luis de Carvajal was discovered behind a wall in his house. In 1932, it disappeared from the Mexico National Archives only to be discovered at an auction in New York in 2016. Luis de Carvajal traveled to Mexico City from his native Spain; his diary is an example that many documents have a diaspora of their own.

Princeton University Digital Library. Carvajal, Luis de. Luis De Carvajal Manuscripts. Mexico, .159. Text in Spanish, Latin, and romanized Hebrew. <http://arks.princeton.edu/ark:/88435/s7526g29j>.

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STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

REALIZING THE GOALS

DoJR will express and realize its campaign goals through the strategic priorities listed below and described on the following pages. You have the opportunity to invest in these priorities — at all levels — and help DoJR rescue our lost history so we can recount and remember our past, reimagine our future, and change the lives of future generations.

The Call for Discovery • Identity • Connection will fuel DoJR's ambition to:

- **Solidify the lost remnants of our history** so that individuals and their lives can be known and remembered in a continuous chain — from generation to generation *l'dor v'dor*.
- **Expand each researcher's self-knowledge** about their roots — the lives of ancestors who came before them, how ancestral experiences and actions shaped their lives, and bring new meaning and insights to "who am I?".
- **Elevate awareness of and the ease** by which one can research their past from generation to generation.
- **Create an inventory of historical documents unsurpassed** in diversity across all Jewish ethnicities, countries, languages, and time periods.
- **Transform our ability** to locate, identify, and access the documentation of our Jewish past.
- **Make JCat the central resource** to learn our Jewish ancestral past.
- **Pioneer the use of artificial intelligence** and other innovations to accomplish a level of comprehensive survey and discovery of surviving records previously not possible.
- **Build the library of the Jewish people.**

Deploy a global multi-mode content acquisition program



DoJR aims to lead a systematic and comprehensive survey of all facilities (archives, museums, libraries, synagogues, and more) holding Jewish records on 6 continents.

DoJR will partner with organizations operating extant online catalogs to extract relevant data. DoJR will build a network of professional researchers and Jewish Genealogical Society teams to conduct the surveys.

Survey work will utilize the first and only comprehensive list of 300 record types to identify hidden-in-plain-sight collections.

DoJR will promote crowdsourced information entry about discovered records.

THE RESULT

DoJR will uncover a treasure trove of never before seen documents of Jewish lives.

Principal Initiatives

- Build and operate a team of **30 professional researchers** deployed across the countries of the diaspora and their archives.
- Train and coordinate **Jewish Genealogical Society Survey projects** in their local regions (95 societies worldwide).
- Establish a DoJR **Partners program** with organizations that hold large collections and catalogs of collections for filtering and inclusion in JCat.
- Invent tools necessary to conduct a comprehensive survey including a **master lexicon** of all existing historical record types that document Jewish lives and a **master roster** of all facilities that potentially hold documents of and about Jews.
- Develop ability to attract and inspire **crowdsourced entry** of knowledge of record collections into JCat.
- Construct the capability to **extract** knowledge of record collections from social postings and publications.

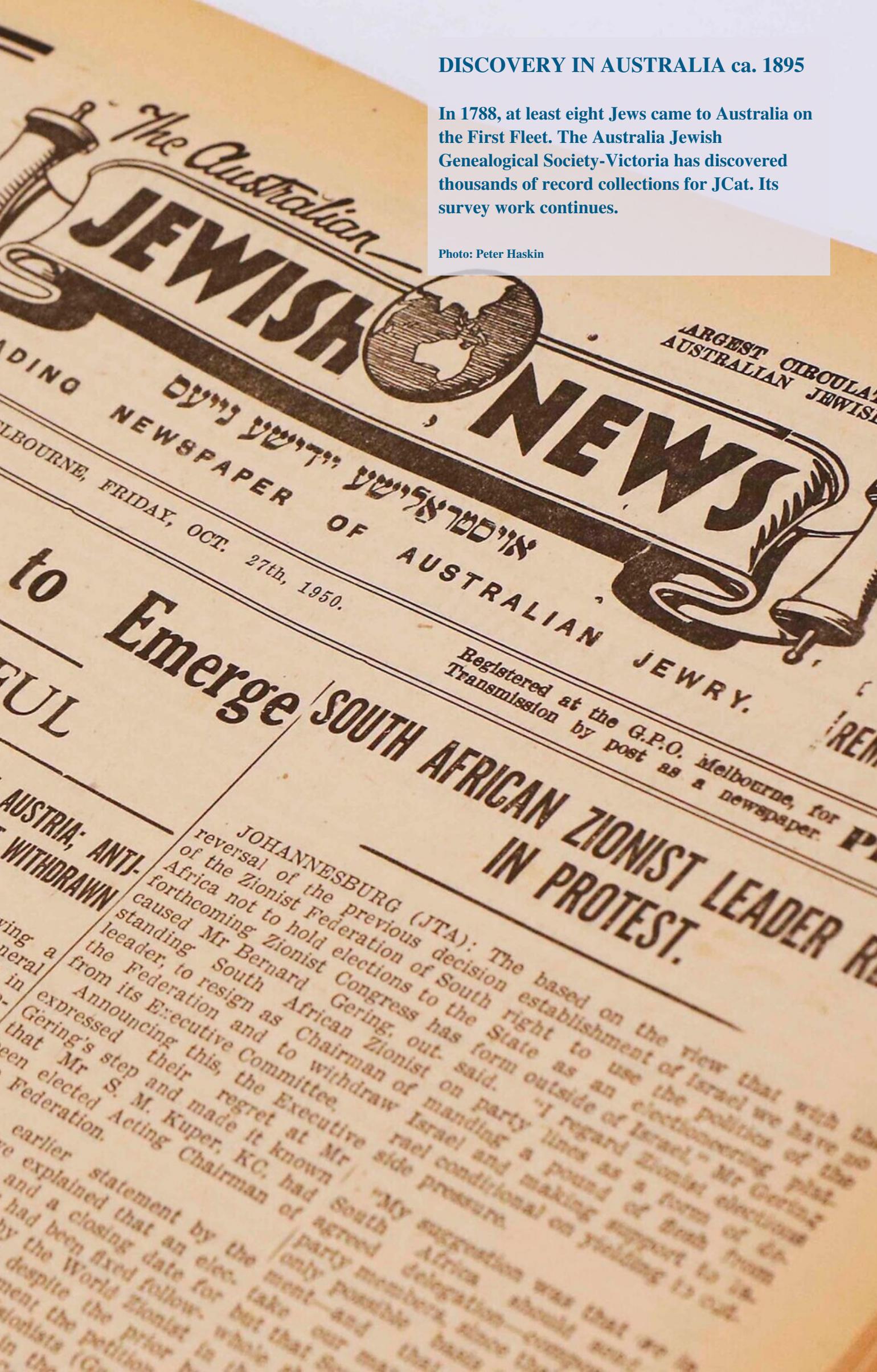
Total target >

\$23 M

DISCOVERY IN AUSTRALIA ca. 1895

In 1788, at least eight Jews came to Australia on the First Fleet. The Australia Jewish Genealogical Society-Victoria has discovered thousands of record collections for JCat. Its survey work continues.

Photo: Peter Haskin



LARGEST AUSTRALIAN JEWISH

אויססטר אַלייטע ייִדישע נייעס
NEWSPAPER OF AUSTRALIAN JEWRY.

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, OCT. 27th, 1950.

Registered at the G.P.O. Melbourne, for
Transmission by post as a newspaper.

to Emerge SOUTH AFRICAN ZIONIST LEADER RE... IN PROTEST.

AUSTRIA; ANTI- WITHDRAWN

JOHANNESBURG (JTA): The based on the view that with the reversal of the previous decision establishment of Israel we have no of the Zionist Federation of South Africa to use the politics of the Africa not to hold elections to the State as an electioneering ploy. caused Mr Bernard Gering, out- said. "I regard Zionist elections standing Mr Bernad Gering, Chairman of manding a form of de- the Federation and to withdraw Israel and making support to it- leader, to resign as Executive rael conditional on yielding to in- from its Executive Committee. "My suggestion was that we in- Announcing this, the Executive of South Africa should not expressed their regret at Mr party members, since the Gering's step and made it known. only possible basis had Mr S. M. Kuper, KC, had agreed a delegation should be elected Acting Chairman of the Federation. despite the fact that we in- earlier statement by the party agreed a delegation should be explained that an elec- ment—and our members should be had a closing date for the party members, since the by the World Zionist Organization, but that our members should be despite the fact that we in- ment the petition in the party members, since the in the... Zionists (Gr... in the..."/>



DISCOVERY IN CHINA ca. 1907

The diaspora took Jews and the records of their lives to all six continents. Many Jews fled 1917 Russia to Shanghai, China. During World War II, Shanghai became home to refugees from Germany, Poland, and Austria. Located at the former Moshe Synagogue in the Tilanqiao historic area of Hongkou district, is the Shanghai Jewish Refugee Museum.

Photo: Philip N. Cohen / CC-BY-SA-3.0



Build the JCat platform as the world's most comprehensive catalog of historical documents of Jewish lives

2

DoJR is developing a free to access searchable online catalog to answer the question, "What records are available for my ancestral town?"

The catalog will scale to support millions of entries from tens of thousands of facilities. Catalog entries will include previously unavailable descriptive information useful to researchers.

The catalog aims for the highest level in user experience and will be built on the most advanced international standards in the library and archival world.

THE RESULT

All individuals curious about the lives of their ancestors easily will discover all available documents, what they contain, and how and where to access them.

Principal Initiatives

- Acquire **technology components** needed to build JCat, including authority reference files for historic town names and archival description standards.
- Create an **architecture and design** for JCat that supports its unique requirements in size, diversity of data elements, and complexity, and meets the need of today's and tomorrow's researchers.
- Develop **computer interfaces** to import selected entries from partner organization catalogs into JCat and enable addition of enhanced descriptions.
- **Develop, deploy, and maintain JCat as the essential online resource** for anyone curious about the lives of their Jewish ancestors, their family history, community history, and the history and heritage of the Jewish people.

Total target >

\$24 M

Accelerate JCat content acquisition with artificial intelligence (AI)

3

DoJR is advancing the use of artificial intelligence (AI) to reduce the cost and time to conduct manual surveys in search of documents. Where record collections are available or can be made available digitally, computers are being trained to read centuries old handwriting in many languages, determine if the individuals documented are Jewish, describe the collections, and auto-create a related JCat catalog entry.

THE RESULT

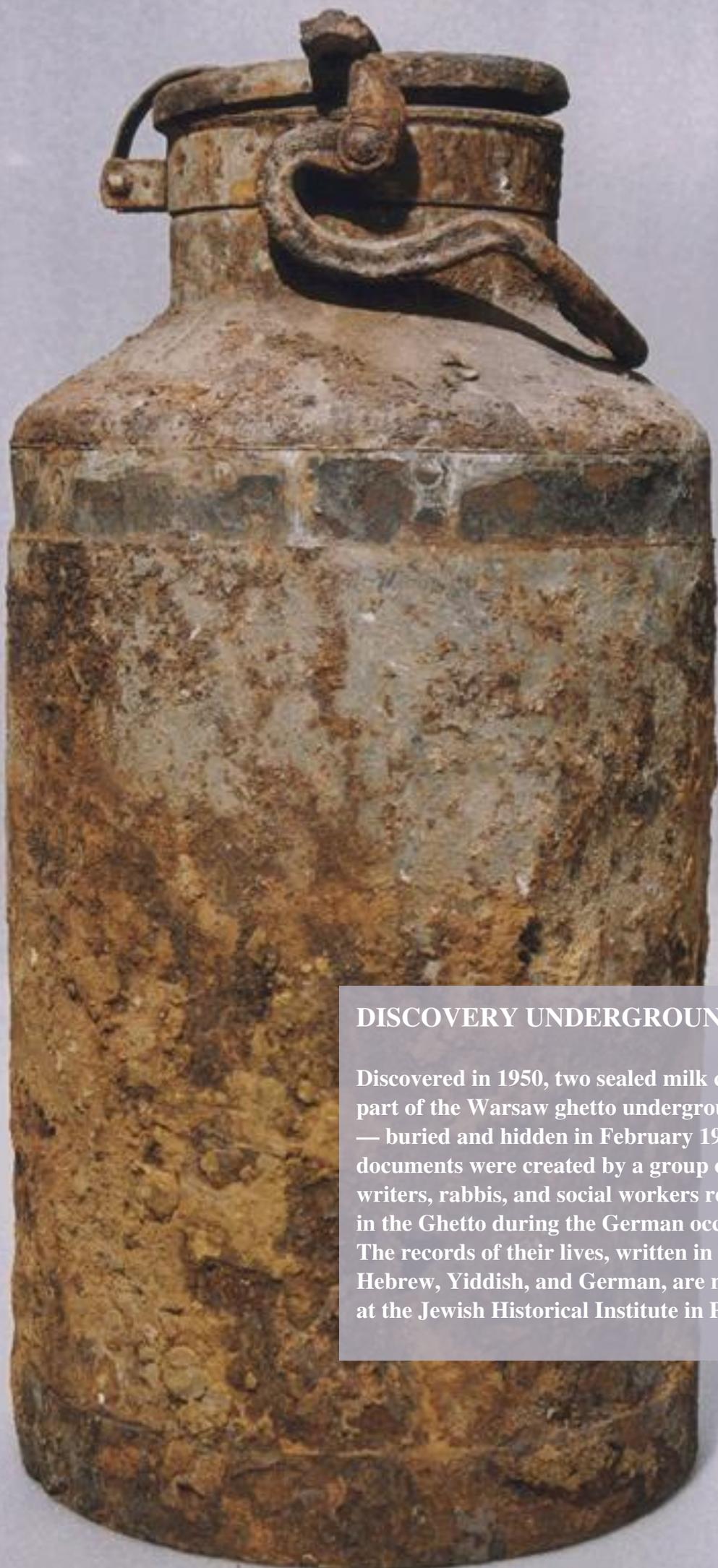
Millions of pages of documents can be analyzed and added to the catalog in hours instead of years. Once processed by AI, DoJR has the ability to use the transcribed records to create fully searchable documents in partnership with the organizations that today manually create searchable indexes so they can be available to researchers in a fraction of the time.

Principal Initiatives

- Recruit experts in historic languages, onomastics, automation, and technologies such as natural language processing and named-entity recognition to **train and optimize the artificial intelligence** engine.
- Grow computer capabilities to **read, analyze, and describe** handwritten records in all languages and time periods of the diaspora.
- Acquire digital scans and resources to **process at least one million scans per year**.
- Instigate a paradigm shift, foster collaboration, and develop opportunities for cross-organization cooperation to **unleash a seachange in the availability and preservation of searchable, accessible records that document Jewish ancestral lives**. JCat will inform their workplans and share technology that will transform their productivity a thousandfold and more.

Total target >

\$13 M



DISCOVERY UNDERGROUND ca. 1943

Discovered in 1950, two sealed milk cans were part of the Warsaw ghetto underground archive — buried and hidden in February 1943. Its documents were created by a group of historians, writers, rabbis, and social workers recording life in the Ghetto during the German occupation. The records of their lives, written in Polish, Hebrew, Yiddish, and German, are now housed at the Jewish Historical Institute in Poland.

Rodi 24 Marzo 1930.

DISCOVERY IN GREECE ca. 1930

Documents about the lives of our Jewish ancestors are written in dozens of languages such as this letter in Ladino, written by 9-year-old Claire Barkey on the island of Rhodes.

Courtesy University of Washington Sephardic Studies Digital Collection

Carrissimo Zio Roph
Con grande plaser
aserti saver como grazias al diò ià stamos mui
buenos de la salut de mismo speramos sa-
ver de su parte amen esta semana rusevi-
mos una aca letra scia i mos alegrimos
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mi alegi mui muncio cumu che risiviera
~~particular para mi querido Zio es che il timp~~
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antis nellas classas altas. Cada Viernes tinem
gimlastica l'otro Viernes mos foto-grafimos con
el misiu di gimlastica che es un Italiano
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che no costa nada, se chere conoserme es mas su-
che me discio il querido Papa che meta un

FUNDING THE VISION

The Call for Discovery ▪ Identity ▪ Connection campaign aspires to raise \$63 million to realize the priorities of this plan. That fundraising total includes:

- \$3 million kickstart funding, essential to immediately build on the work of the all volunteer team of 40 experts in six countries.
- Gifts, grants, and pledges to generate funds for operations.
- Bequest intentions and endowment funds to support the program in the future, essential to the continuity of research and ongoing availability of the JCat catalog.

Each \$2.40 restores a link — rediscovers a missing Jewish life:



Campaign totals by strategic priority:

Kickstart Funding	\$ 3 M
Content Acquisition	\$23 M
JCat Platform	\$24 M
JCat Automation	\$13 M

Total target > \$63 M

THE CALL FOR DISCOVERY • IDENTITY • CONNECTION

BUILD JCAT

A wide variety of gifting opportunities exist to build and grow the DoJR and its JCat through a one time gift or through annual giving. Be a part of something bigger and longer lasting than ourselves - for our children and our children's children. To learn more, call 321-345-1462 or email gifts@dojrww.org. Give now: donate.ldvdf.org



NAMED CENTER GIFTS

A DoJR Named Center Gift titles a core component of the DoJR and its JCat honoring the donor's name. All Named Center gifts will be acknowledged in the "DoJR Book of Honor".

(DONOR NAME) DOCUMENTATION OF JEWISH RECORDS WORLDWIDE

\$60M

(DONOR NAME) CENTER FOR CATALOG TECHNOLOGY & DEVELOPMENT

\$10M

(DONOR NAME) CENTER FOR ADVANCED CATALOG RESEARCH

\$5M

(DONOR NAME) CENTER FOR AMERICAS CONTENT ACQUISITION

\$5M

(DONOR NAME) CENTER FOR EUROPE CONTENT ACQUISITION

\$5M

(DONOR NAME) CENTER FOR ASIA PACIFIC CONTENT ACQUISITION

\$5M

(DONOR NAME) CENTER FOR GLOBAL CATALOG PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

\$2M

GENERAL PURPOSE GIFTS

A DoJR General Purpose Gift provides a wide range of opportunities to support building and maintaining JCat. Any general purpose gift may be named in honor of or in memory of an individual or a family and will be acknowledged on the "DoJR Wall of Honor".

FOUNDERS: SHALSHELET HAKABALA - PRESERVING THE CHAIN OF TRADITION

\$500,000 and above

PATRONS: ZECHUT AVOT- MERIT OF OUR ANCESTORS

\$100,000 - \$499,999

BENEFACTORS: NEDIV

\$50,000 - \$99,999

PROVIDERS: SAPAK

\$25,000 - \$49,999

SUPPORTERS: YEDID

\$5,000 - \$24,999

FRIENDS: CHAVER

\$500 - \$4,999

DONORS: TOREM

\$36 - \$499

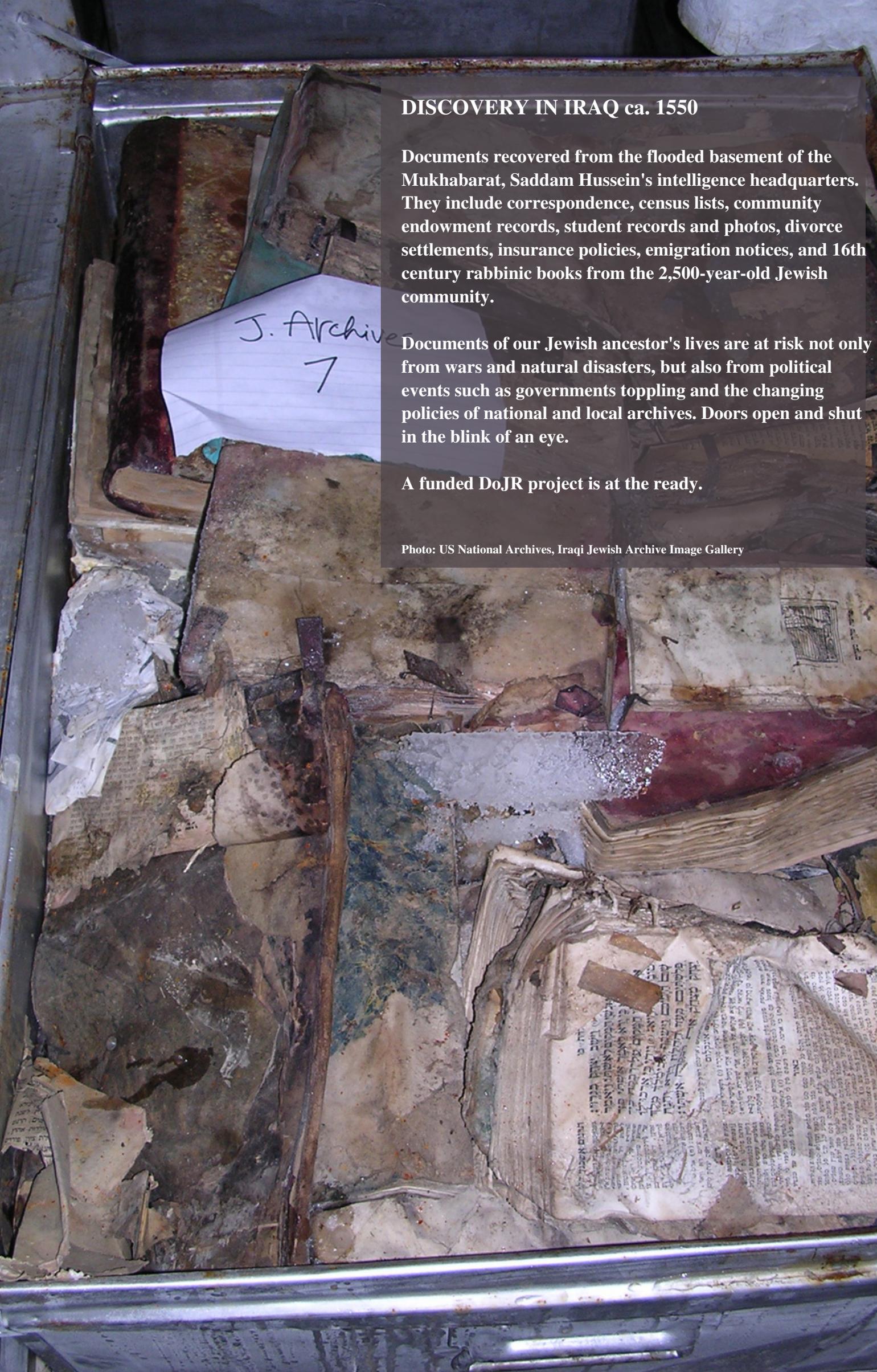
DISCOVERY IN IRAQ ca. 1550

Documents recovered from the flooded basement of the Mukhabarat, Saddam Hussein's intelligence headquarters. They include correspondence, census lists, community endowment records, student records and photos, divorce settlements, insurance policies, emigration notices, and 16th century rabbinic books from the 2,500-year-old Jewish community.

Documents of our Jewish ancestor's lives are at risk not only from wars and natural disasters, but also from political events such as governments toppling and the changing policies of national and local archives. Doors open and shut in the blink of an eye.

A funded DoJR project is at the ready.

Photo: US National Archives, Iraqi Jewish Archive Image Gallery



DESTRUCTION IN SOUTH AFRICA ca. 2021

Documents of the lives of our Jewish ancestors are crumbling... subject to mildew, insect damage, fire, and natural disasters. Depicted here is the April 2021 catastrophic fire in the University of Cape Town (South Africa) Library. The Kraków City (Poland) Archive was ravaged by fire only two months earlier.

Cape Town was home to the oldest Jewish community of Jewish families that immigrated from Central and Eastern Europe and England to South Africa during the 19th and 20th centuries. For centuries, Poland was the home to the largest Jewish community in the world; Kraków was one of its most important historic cities.

How often do we need to be reminded that we must preserve our records before it is too late?

It starts with JCat. We must act now!

Photo: Fire fighters battling the blaze that destroyed the University of Cape Town's 200-year-old Jagger Library. Credit: EPA-EFE Nic Bothma



SUSTAIN JCAT

Rescuing records is central to DoJR's mission. Document by document, we can recount, remember, and thus reimagine our future. Document by document is how we add generational links to the chain of of our past, expand our self-identity, expand our connections, and foster Jewish continuity. This is how we realize our campaign's ambition and gift planning is a potent tool.

Planned gifts are a powerful way for friends of DoJR to celebrate Jewish continuity and leave a lasting legacy of discovery — rescuing, regaining, and recovering our history and heritage.

Bequests, trusts, and other deferred acts of giving drive our mission forward — helping to provide outstanding research and — and thereby ensure a stronger Documentation for Jewish Records Worldwide for generations to come.

When you include DoJR in your long-term plans, you are honored as a member of the L'Dor V'Dor Society, and your gift receives campaign recognition.

To learn more about supporting the campaign with a planned gift and joining the L'Dor V'Dor Society, call 321-345-1462 or email gifts@DoJRWW.org.

CONCLUSION

ANSWERING THE CALL

Through the success of The Call for Discovery ▪ Identity ▪ Connection campaign DoJR will:

- **Rescue, regain, and recover the lost and stranded documentation of Jewish lives**, creating a free and easily searchable catalog, JCat for all researchers whether ancestrally curious or historian or academic.
- **Reassemble the knowledge of our ancestors, family history, community history, and history of the Jewish people** and the collective impact it has on an individual's self-knowledge — their *discovery* of their ancestral past, their expanded *identity*, their strengthened *connection* to the Jewish people.
- **Be the unequivocal leader in comprehensive and diverse discovery of records about Jews hidden in plain sight**, including 300 types of records that survived for all Jewish ancestors: Ashkenazi, Sephardi, Mizrachi, Crypto, Converso, Rabbinic, and more.
- **Accelerate innovation, discovery, access, and preservation** through collaborative projects among archival institutions and records indexing organizations.
- **Build the library of the Jewish people**, brick by brick and document by document.

DISCOVERY ▪ IDENTITY ▪ CONNECTION ca. 30 BCE to Now

The Call for Discovery ▪ Identity ▪ Connection is a call to action for every descendant of Jewish people as we leave a legacy of knowledge and roots for future generations.

Photo atop the 30 BCE ruins of Masada.



ANSWERING THE CALL

We invite you to join the many friends of DoJR who have answered The Call for Discovery ▪ Identity ▪ Connection.

Give now:

donate.ldvdf.org

Learn more about the campaign's investment opportunities by calling **321-345-1462**.

You can always email us to learn more:

BuildJCat@DoJRww.org

Experiencing the impact of ancestral discovery is life changing for many. Each of their stories is a motivation for the campaign.

Learn their stories at:

dojrww.org/whoami

The Call for

Discovery (גלויה *Giluy*) ▪ Identity (זהות *Zehut*) ▪ Connection (קשר *Kesher*) is a call to action for every descendant of Jewish people as we leave a legacy of knowledge and roots for future generations. Thank you for supporting DoJR.

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