

The Jews of Detroit: Past, Present, Future

A Symposium

April 6, 2014

McGregor Conference Center

Room B-C

Wayne State University

8:30-9am **Reception**

9:00 **“Greetings”**

Professor Howard Lupovitch (Director, Cohn-Haddow Center)

President M. Roy Wilson (Wayne State University)

9:15 **“Professor Sidney Bolkowsky: In Memoriam”**

Professor Jamie Wraight (University of Michigan – Dearborn
Campus)

9:30-10:45 **“Suburban Synagogues and the Architecture of Urban Ambivalence.”**

Professor Lila Corwin Berman (Temple University)

Description: As Jews moved from the city to the suburbs in the postwar years, they also remade their sacred landscapes. The decisions that Jews in Detroit made about how to design, fund, and inhabit their new synagogues, helped build a spiritual terrain that simultaneously celebrated their arrival in the suburbs and gestured back toward the city lives and landscape they had left.

10:45-11:00 **Coffee Break**

11:00-12:15 **“Wealth, Religion, and Race in Metropolitan Detroit, 1950-2000”**

Dr. Walter Greason

(International Center for Metropolitan Growth/Monmouth University)

Description: How did Detroit miss the opportunity to foster greater interracial cooperation in the years following the Second World War? In what ways were realtors and neighborhood associations at the root of the problems that plague the metropolitan area to the present day? Dr. Walter Greason will discuss the ways the failures to connect and communicate between Jewish and African American leaders over the last sixty years have reinforced inequalities in wealth, income, employment and education.

12:15 – 1:30 **Lunch**

1:30-2:30 **“Why Now?: the Revival of Detroit and its Jewish Community”
(Panel Discussion)**

Panelists:

David Carroll (Vice President, Quicken Loans Inc.)

Miryam Rosenzweig (Director, NEXTGen Detroit)

Leor Barak (President, Isaac Agree Downtown Synagogue)

Councilman Gabe Leland (Detroit City Council)

Moderator: Professor Howard Lupovitch

2:45 – 3:45 **“The Future of Jewish Detroit”
(Panel Discussion)**

Panelists:

Ryan Landau (Co-Founder, Chalkfly.com)

Councilman Jeremy Moss (Southfield City Council)

Eitan Sussman (Keep Growing Detroit)

Josh Diskin (Senior Strategist, Detroit Labs)

Alix Gould-Werth, (Doctoral Student in Social Work
And Sociology, University of Michigan)

Moderator: Vadim Avshalumov (Urban Planning Associate, Rock Ventures)

3:45-4:00 **Concluding Thoughts**

Professor Howard Lupovitch

Transportation is available free of charge from the West Bloomfield and Oak Park Jewish Community Centers. Reservation required. To reserve space, please call Elizabeth Kannon at the Jewish Historical Society of Michigan at 248-432-5517, or email: info@michjewishhistory.org by April 2, 2014

A catered kosher dairy lunch is available for a charge of \$15. Reservation required. Please call the Cohn-Haddow center by April 2, 2014 to reserve a space)

For more information, please contact the Cohn-Haddow Center (313)577-2679, www.judaicstudies.wayne.edu, Cohnhadowcenter@wayne.edu