

JEWISH MIGRATION TO SOUTH AFRICA:

The Records of the Poor Jews' Temporary Shelter, 1885-1914

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The Poor Jews' Temporary Shelter, situated at 82 Leman Street, London, between 1906 and 1952. This image (taken shortly after the Shelter had relocated to its purpose-built premises in July 1906) was shown in all annual reports – highlighting the pride that the organisation had in its achievements. (Courtesy of the Jewish Museum, London.)

This book records the details of over 24,000 Jews who emigrated from Imperial Russia to South Africa between 1896 and 1914. Rather than journeying to the United States, like so many of their co-religionists, many migrated to South Africa and in particular Cape Town and Johannesburg in such large scale numbers that South African Jewry is still of a predominantly Litvak origin. Based upon the previously unused records of the Poor Jews' Temporary Shelter of London, this volume looks at the personal details recorded by the London-based charity in assisting Jews to migrate to South Africa after 1896. The existence of the database to which this volume represents an introduction will in itself enable closer analysis of the demographic profile of this migration.



Herman Landau receiving migrants at the Poor Jews' Temporary Shelter, 84 Leman Street (c.1901). (Courtesy of the London Metropolitan Archives.)

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