



### DO YOU HAVE MATERIAL OF RELEVANCE TO THE PROJECT?

The Danish Jewish Museum is very interested in receiving objects, material and photos about these historic events. The museum will also be happy to borrow or photocopy any material that might be relevant to the project. Registration and record keeping of material is of crucial importance for future research.

Please contact Project Manager Sofie Lene Bak, ph.d.  
Tel: +45 33 11 22 18  
Email: slb@jewmus.dk

### WWW.JEWMUS.DK

The museum's website has its own life as a virtual museum. Here you may immerse yourself in themes from the exhibition, search for new knowledge in books and on the Internet or find practical information.

www.jewmus.dk

April 2009 © Dansk Jødisk Museum

## THE DANISH JEWISH MUSEUM EXHIBITION:

Proviantpassagen 6  
DK-1218 Copenhagen K



### OPENING HOURS

Summer, June 1 – August 31  
Tuesday – Sunday 10AM - 5PM  
Mondays closed

Winter, September 1 – May 31  
Tuesday – Friday 1PM - 4PM  
Saturdays and Sundays 12AM - 5PM  
Mondays closed

For holidays and admission  
please see the museum's website [www.jewmus.dk](http://www.jewmus.dk)

### ADMINISTRATION

Købmagergade 5, 3. · DK-1150 Copenhagen K  
Tel: + 4533 11 22 18 · [info@jewmus.dk](mailto:info@jewmus.dk)

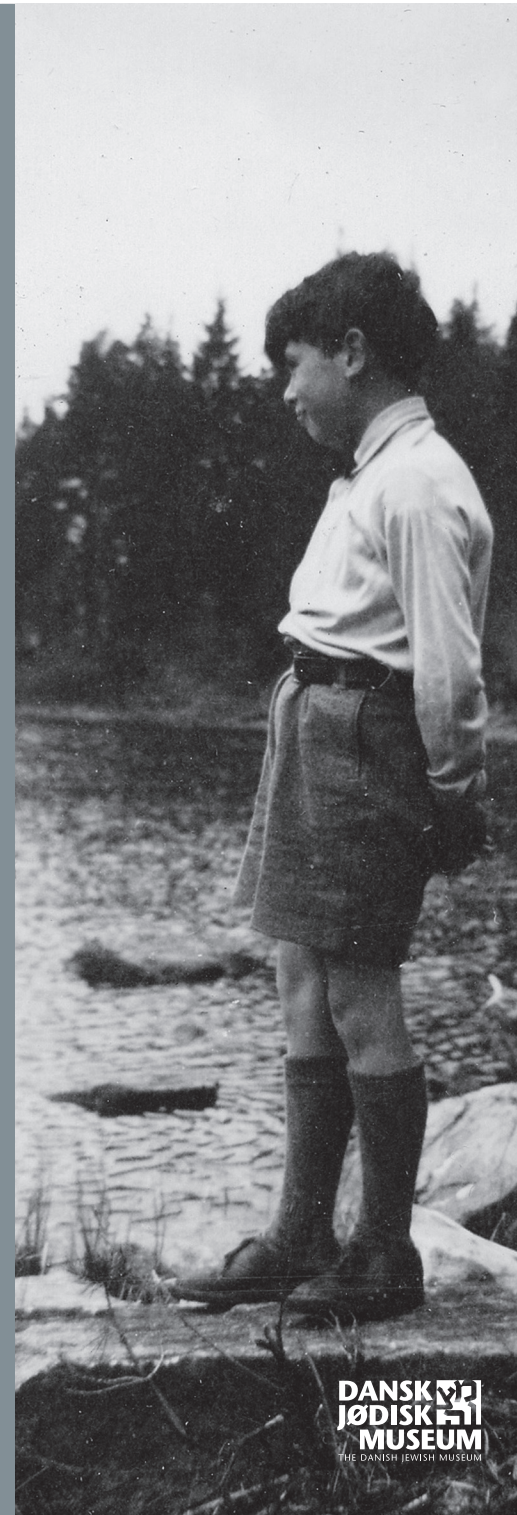
### THE DANISH JEWISH MUSEUM'S RESEARCH PROJECT 'THE EXILE OF DANISH JEWS IN SWEDEN 1943-1945 AND THE MEMORY THEREOF AFTER THE WAR' IS SUPPORTED BY:

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# DANISH JEWISH WAR TIME EXPERIENCES 1943-1945



DANSK JØDISK MUSEUM  
THE DANISH JEWISH MUSEUM

The flight of Danish Jews to Sweden in October 1943 is one of the most important and dramatic events in Danish-Jewish history. It is also one of the most well known chapters in

**Documentation- and communication project about Danish Jewish war time experiences during 1943–1945 and the memories of flight, exile and captivity in the postwar years.**

Danish history.

Every student knows how the Danish Jews were saved from Nazi persecution. More than 60 years after the events took place, the flight is still an interesting story for newspapers, and the amount of literature and personal

accounts on the subject is still growing. When the Danish Jewish Museum was established in 2004, it was a great surprise to discover that documents and objects that could shed light on the events were very few. Academic research has primarily focused on the rescue operations and the political circumstances that led to the action against the Danish Jews, that is, on the rescuers and perpetrators, not the victims themselves. Only a limited amount of archival material was included in this research. There are still many aspects of the event of which nothing or very little is known:

- ❏ How many people perished from drowning or suicide during the escape? What was their story of despair and loss?
- ❏ How was life in the Swedish refugee camps? What was it like to suddenly live with strangers and share everyday life in humble lodgings and under improvised leadership?
- ❏ What was it like to return to Denmark after 20 months of exile in Sweden or from the Theresienstadt concentration camp? How about the home that was left behind months ago? And how about school, jobs, friends, former colleagues and neighbours?
- ❏ How did the families cope with the experiences from the war after the Liberation? And how did the events influence the great choices in life – marriage, career and faith?



The Danish Jewish Museum wants to answer these and other questions through a project about war experiences of the Danish Jews. The aim is to collect objects, documents, photos and accounts that illuminate the events. The museum interview witnesses and the project will also include source material from public and private archives as well as from museums in Denmark and abroad.

The outcome of the project will be published in a book, in an exhibition and on the museum's website. All collected materials will be registered and stored at the Danish Jewish Museum and will be available for future research.

### PEOPLE

Who were the people who suddenly had to leave Denmark in October 1943, bringing only what they could carry in their hands? What was life in Sweden like and how did one cope with the new situation? How did the families make a living? Where did they stay? How was social life in exile?



### PLACES

Where in Denmark did the flight take place and where in Sweden did the fugitives arrive? What kind of place was the so-called 'förläggningar',

the initial accommodations for the refugees? What kind of concentration camp was Theresienstadt and how can we understand the special treatment of the Danish Jews deported here? Where did those, who were unable to return to their home in Denmark, stay after the Liberation in 1945?



### MEMORY

How do the witnesses remember their experiences and what left the strongest mark? Is the recollection of a child different from that of an adult? How do the many books, films etc. about the escape influence the individual memory?

### IDENTITY

Were there different circumstances for Danish Jews, whose families had lived for centuries in Denmark, for descendants from Russian immigrants, who came to Denmark around 1900 and for German Jews fleeing the Nazis? And how do Jews, who immigrated to Denmark after 1945, relate to the Danish history of rescue? What does the Holocaust mean for the self-conception of Danish Jews? How do the events influence the ideas of what it means to be Jewish?

