

Session 4B: Processing Collections

Zachary Baker: *Digitizing an Archive: Stanford's Experience with the Eliasaf Robinson Collection on Tel Aviv*

This is a follow-up to Zachary's presentation at the June 2007 AJL convention, where he provided an overview of the Eliasaf Robinson Collection on Tel Aviv. Acquired by Stanford at the end of 2005, the collection includes rare archival documents, ephemera, maps, posters, and photographs, along with several hundred books, pamphlets, and journals devoted to Tel Aviv from its founding in 1909 until Israel declared its independence in 1948. Since 2007 about half of the collection's monographs and serials, and about 40% of its archival materials have been digitized and are now accessible via the Stanford University Libraries' digital collections website. In this presentation, Zachary will discuss the decision-making process that went into selection of items for digitization, the interactions between different departments that were required in order to make the project succeed, intellectual property issues connected with providing access to the digitized collection, and the end product: the multi-faceted Stanford website for the Eliasaf Robinson Collection.

Zachary Baker has served as the Reinhard Family Curator of Judaica and Hebraica in the Stanford University Libraries since September 1999. Prior to that (1987-1999) he was Head Librarian of the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research. Much of his collection on behalf of Stanford has focused on the economic and cultural development of the Jewish Yishuv in British Mandate Palestine and the early years of the State of Israel.