

TIPS FOR RESEARCH INTO STORIES ABOUT HOUSES

How to find addresses that are in line with the programme?

Open Jewish Homes focuses on the story of a 'Jewish house'; a house in which Jews lived immediately before or during the war. The aim is to commemorate these Jewish residents as much as possible on the location where the story and the house come together. This means that a story about former residents can only be told when the present residents are willing to open their house. Which houses or addresses are in line with the programme of Open Jewish Homes? How do you find an address, and how can you find the story that goes with a particular house?

Tip 1

Visit the website of the Jewish Monument, this website is a digital Jewish Monument, www.joodsmonument.nl. All persons who have been included in the monument have their own personal page on which they are commemorated. The personal page contains the basic data of the person concerned. In addition the family context has been reconstructed, if possible. The monument tries in this manner to make the domestic situation of the household in 1941 or 1942 visible. It is also possible to search by address. The former residents and possibly their stories as well can be found through the addresses.

Tip 2

Come and view stories from Shoah survivors in the collection [2000 Getuigen Vertellen](#) [2000 eyewitnesses talk] at the [Knowledge Centre](#) of the Jewish Historical Museum. This archive is searchable by names, addresses and other keywords. It is required to make an appointment through (020) 5 310 320, or e-mail [Kenniscentrum](#).

Tip 3

Visit the municipal archives of your place of residence. You can find documents here, stating the house and/or the residents, such as house cards, family cards and personal index cards. You can also find any possible changes of address compared to the situation in 1941 or 1942 as mentioned in the Digital Monument. Because of that, the municipal archives are the most complete source regarding the residents of a house, inclusive of their registered arrival and departure dates. Bear in mind however that many Jews have not been deregistered until after they were killed.

Tip 4

Get in contact with collectors of stories about the Jewish community in your place of residence, such as regional publicists and (amateur) historians, historical groups and associations. Look for stories and expressions in the media, such as (family) announcements about the life of former residents in newspapers and magazines. These can be found on www.delpher.nl.

Tip 5

It is not the intention to present a ready-made story. The challenge is to discover an interesting, preferably incomplete story that has just been withdrawn from oblivion. Questions will arise when the story is told, to which one can respond. This might result in reliving memories, showing objects with a story and second-hand (family) stories. Visitors might get inspired to do some research themselves.