Physical and biological genocide are always preceded by cultural genocide or by an attack on the symbols of the group or by violent interference with religious or cultural activities. In order to deal effectively with the crime of Genocide one must intervene at the very inception of the crime” (Raphael Lemkin, “Memorandum on the Genocide Convention”)

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Hours:
• M-F: 9 am – 4 pm (Tues. till 9 pm)
• Sa/Su: 10 am – 5 pm
Other times available by request.

600 Shaftesbury Blvd., Winnipeg
Mennonite Heritage Centre Gallery Winnipeg

January 29-March 4, 2017
Virtual Reconstruction
Synagogues in Germany: A Virtual Reconstruction
Although it has previously been installed in Germany, Israel, and the United States, Winnipeg marks the Canadian premier of the multimedia exhibition “Synagogues in Germany: A Virtual Reconstruction.”

Research of photographs, plans, and other original documents provided the basis for the elaborate and detailed 3D virtual reconstructions of the destroyed synagogues that now comprise a significant part of this exhibition. Visitors can explore these digital models from one of the twelve different computer workstations on which they are installed.

This German multimedia exhibition reminds us that a genocide destroys not just people but a people, human collectivities sustained and enlarged by shared and flourishing cultures.

By recalling to the present some part of those objects, locations, and traditions that the Holocaust so violently put an end to in Germany, the exhibition asks visitors to reflect upon what the experience of cultural destruction was like for the Holocaust’s Jewish victims and survivors.

“The objective is to convey an impression, not an exact facsimile. I was interested not only in creating beautiful images, but in generating an interest in Jewish culture. So it’s a political project too.”

— Dr. Marc Grellert, exhibition curator (Darmstadt University of Technology)