

# Shira Wilkof

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## Current Position

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### The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Jerusalem

Postdoctoral Fellow, The Franz Rosenzweig Minerva Research Center

## Education

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### University of California, Berkeley

**Ph.D., History of Architecture and Urbanism, 2017**

*Urban Arcadias: Émigré Experts, Spatial Knowledge, and the Rise of Zionist-Israeli Planning 1933-1953*

Chair: Nezar Al-Sayyad · Committee: Andrew Shanken, Kerwin Klein

### The Technion – Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa

**M.Sc., Urban and Regional Planning, *Cum Laude*, 2011**

*'An Historical Opportunity': The Creation and Planning of the Walls of Jerusalem National Park, 1967-1970* (Thesis directed by Professor Alona Nitzan-Shiftan)

### The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Jerusalem

**B.A., Geography and Honors Program in History, *Magna Cum Laude*, 2008**

Senior thesis, *The Development of the Toponymy of the Israeli Settlements in the West Bank since 1967* (Thesis directed by Ronnie Ellenblum and Michael Feige)

## Research Interests

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History and Theory of Urbanism and Town Planning; Environmental History; Transnational History of Spatial Disciplines; Urban and Spatial History of the Middle East

## Publications

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### Peer-Reviewed Articles

“‘Art and Technik’ in Zionist Town Planning: Ariel Kahane’s Utopian City,” in *Jahrbuch des Simon-Dubnow-Instituts/Simon Dubnow Institute Yearbook XVII* (forthcoming 2018)

“‘A Historical Opportunity’: Landscape, Statism, and Competition in the Making of the Walls of Jerusalem National Park, 1967-1970,” co-authored with Alona Nitzan-Shiftan, in *Cathedra* 163 (2017): 163-190 [Hebrew]

## **Book Chapters**

“New Towns, New Nation: Interwar European Planned Settlement and the Emergence of Zionist-Israeli Planning,” in Helen Meller and Heleni Porfyriou (eds.). *Planting New Towns in Europe in the Interwar Period: Experiments and Dreams for Future Societies*, Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2016, pp. 195-227

## **Book Reviews**

Sharon Rotbard, *White City, Black City: Architecture and War in Tel Aviv and Jaffa*, in *Journal of Levantine Studies* 5 (2015): 166-171

## **Other Publications**

“The Secret Garden of Jerusalem,” in *Et-Mol* 250 (2017): 30-33 [Hebrew]

“Richard Kauffmann and the Israeli Project: His Decline in Early Statehood,” in Zvi Efrat (ed.). *Richard Kaufmann and the Beginnings of Zionist Architecture*, exhibition catalogue, Mishkan Museum of Art, Ein Harod (forthcoming 2018)

## **Fellowships and Awards**

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**The Doctoral Completion Fellowship (DCF)**, Graduate Division, UC Berkeley 2016

**The Irving and Helen Betz Travelling Fellowship**, Graduate Division, UC Berkeley 2015

**Research Fellow, The Franz Rosenzweig Minerva Research Center for German-Jewish Literature and Cultural History**, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem, 2014-15

**Helen Diller Family Dissertation Fellowship**, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, UC Berkeley, 2013-2014

**Andrew W. Mellon Research Grant**, Center for Middle Eastern Studies, UC Berkeley, 2011-2016

**Benjamin Goor Essay Prize in Jewish Studies**, UC Berkeley, 2012

**Max Kade Summer Fellowship**, Department of German, UC Berkeley, 2012

**Diller Research Travel Grant**, Jewish Studies Program, UC Berkeley, 2011-12

**UC Berkeley Fellowship**, Graduate Division, UC Berkeley, 2010-2012

**Stephen Lenci Award, Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning** (for historical research bridging landscape architecture and architecture), College of Environmental Design, UC Berkeley, 2011

**Full Merit Academic Scholarship**, Technion, Haifa, 2008-2010

**Full Merit Academic Scholarship**, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem, 2006-2008

## Conferences, Presentations, and Workshops

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“Paths to Decentralization: Environmentalism vs Economic Functionalism,” International Symposium on “The Idea of Decentralization and Regional Planning in the 20th Century,” The Polytechnic University of Milan, Italy (Forthcoming, September 2018)

“ ‘The Scattered Town:’ Transnational Flows and Universalism from the Fringes,” The International Planning History Society (IPHS) Conference, University of Florida, Yokohama, Japan (Forthcoming, July 2018)

“(Un) Holy Landscape: The Struggle over the Creation of the Walls of Jerusalem National Park, 1967,” conference on “The Western Wall and the Old City: A Fifty-Year Perspective,” The Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies, June 2017

Presenter and conference co-organizer, “The Unknown Work of Architect Ariel (Anselm) Kahane,” daylong conference on “In the Field and in the Archive: A Look into the Planning History of Jerusalem and Israel,” The Ben-Zvi Institute, Jerusalem, March 2017

“Ecological Planning, Housing and the Human: Reassessing the Work of Artur Glikson,” The European Association for Urban History International Conference, The University of Helsinki, Finland, August 2016

Presenter and panel co-organizer, “Merging Town and Country: Eliezer Brutzkus and the Creation of a ‘Semi-Urban’ National Landscape,” in panel on “Town and Country: New Perspectives on Science, Society and the Spatial Engineering of Zionist Palestine,” Association for Israel Studies (AIS) International Conference, The Ben-Zvi Institute, Jerusalem, June 2016

“ ‘The Sharon Plan’ and Co. : New Perspectives on the Israeli New Towns Programme,” Other Urbanism(s) Conference: Towards Habitat III ", Bezalel Academy of Art, Jerusalem, May 2016

"Urban Grit: The 1944 Plan of Ariel Kahane for Tel Aviv" The Israeli Planners Association (IPA) Annual Conference, Tel Aviv, February 2016

“Uncovering Archives of German-Jewish Planners in Israel: The Reicham-Kahane and Unger-Englemann Collections” Workshop on “Archival Basics,” Deutsches Literaturarchiv Marbach, Germany, February 2016

“What is Israeli Planning? Between German Traditions and the Postwar New World Order,” Research Workshop on “What is Israeli Architecture?,” Department of Architecture, Technion Haifa, November 2015

“Colonialism, Exiles and the Holy Land: British-German Encounters and the Emergence of Israeli Spatiality,” Royal Geographical Society Annual International Conference, The University of Exeter, UK, September 2015

“From the Homeland to the Holy Land: German Experts, Planned Settlement and the Construction of Israel’s National Space,” Doctoral and Early Career Scholars Workshop on German-Jewish Intellectual Migration, Franz Rosenzweig Minerva Research Center fellowship for doctoral and post-doctoral research ,Zuba, February 2015

“Centralization vs. Decentralization? Competing Approaches for Shaping the Urban Network during Early Statehood,” The Israeli Planners Association (IPA) Annual Conference, Ben-Gurion University, Be’er Sheva, February 2015

“The Power of Urban Construction: Inventing a Palestinian Tradition in Rawabi?,” The International Association for the Study of Traditional Environments (IASTE) Conference, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, December 2014

“From Europe to Palestine and Back: Transnational Planners and the Emergence of Israeli Planning Thought,” The International Planning History Society (IPHS) Conference, University of Florida, Saint Augustine, FL, July 2014

## **Invited Talks**

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“Debunking the Myth of the ‘Sharon Plan’,” guest lecturer, The Department of Israel Studies Colloquium, University of Haifa (Forthcoming, Fall 2018)

“Planners, Territory, and Transnationalism: Reconsidering Early Statehood Planning,” guest lecturer, The Department of Geography Colloquium, Ben-Gurion University, Be’er Sheva (Forthcoming, May 2018)

“The British Planning of Jerusalem, 1921-1948” guest lecturer, Mandatory Jerusalem: Nationalism and Cosmopolitanism in the Urban Space, BA seminar, The Department of Jewish History and Contemporary Jewry, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Forthcoming, May 2018)

“Introduction to the Politics of Design in Historic Jerusalem,” guest lecturer, Contemporary Issues in the Shaping of the Historical Space of Jerusalem (Prof. Alona Nitzan-Shiftan), graduate seminar, Technion Haifa, November 2016

“The Emergence of Israeli National Physical Planning, 1948-1953,” guest lecturer, Mandate Urbanism: The Rise of the Israeli City During the British Mandate Period (Dr. Noah-Heizler Rubin), Urban Design MA Program, Bezalel Academy of Art, January 2016

“Experts in Migration: The Transnational Roots of Institutional Planning in Israel, 1933-1953“, guest lecturer, MA Program Colloquium, School of Architecture Tel Aviv University, December 2015

“Holy Basin, Profane Politics: Archeology, Conflict and Everyday Life in the Walls of Jerusalem National Park,” included guiding a tour of the conflict areas in Jerusalem, guest lecturer, Jerusalem Seminar (Dr. Noah-Heizler Rubin), Urban Design MA Program, Bezalel Academy of Art, April 2015

“The Urban Moment: German-Jewish Planners and the Zionist Town-Country Divide“, guest lecturer, German Inheritance: Political Traditions, Knowledge and Culture in Israel (Professor Yfaat Weiss), Department of History MA Program, The Hebrew University in Jerusalem, March 2015

“History and Historical Methods in Architectural Practice,” guest lecturer, Graduation Project Studio, School of Architecture, Technion Haifa, April 2014

## **Teaching Experience**

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**Course Instructor**    The Center For Urbanism and Mediterranean Culture, Bat Yam    2014-2015

Course: Space Matters: Introduction to Key Themes in Urban History and Theory

**Teaching Assistant** UC Berkeley

Spring 2013

Course: Housing: An International Survey (CP 111/Arch 111)

**Teaching Assistant** UC Berkeley

Fall 2012

Course: Architectural Survey of Architecture and Urbanism: Antiquity to the Middle Ages  
(Arch 170A)

**Undergraduate Senior Thesis Advisor** UC Berkeley

2011

Course: Middle Eastern Studies, International and Area Studies Academic Program

## **Research Experience**

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**Researcher, Archivist and Coordinator of Architectural Collections**, The "Traces and Treasures of German-Jewish History" Project, Franz Rosenzweig Minerva Research Center, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Deutsches Literaturarchiv Marbach

**Research Assistant** for Professor Nitzan-Shiftan, Department of Architecture, Technion, 2009-2010

**Research Assistant**, study on spatial demographic processes in the Old City of Jerusalem, for Professor Rehav Rubin and Dr. Doron Bar, Department of Geography, The Hebrew University, 2008

## **Professional Service**

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External Reviewer for peer-reviewed journal *Cathedra*, 2017

Interdisciplinary task force on planning tourism and archeology in the Historic Basin of Jerusalem, The Van Leer Jerusalem Institute, Jerusalem 2015-2016

Roundtable Residency Research (RRR) curatorial project, interdisciplinary task force on artist-run-residencies in the context of Jerusalem as a contested city, Homebase Project ([www.homebaseproject.org](http://www.homebaseproject.org)), May 2014

Panel Reviewer of research projects for the course "Postwar Architectural Theories," Department of Architecture, Technion Haifa, January 2014

External Reviewer for peer-reviewed *Berkeley Planning Journal* (BPJ), Volume 26: "Experiments in Planning", Summer 2013

## **Media and Public Talks**

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"The 'Sharon Plan' for Population Dispersal, 1953: The Uncensored Version," The Young Planners Forum-Israel, May 2017

"The Archive, the Canon and Historical Writing: The Case of the First National Population Dispersal Plan, 1948-1951," Liebling Center for The Preservation of the White City, January 2017

"What do we know about Israeli 'New Towns'? The Unexplored Transnational Roots of Local Place-Making", Bat Yam Center for Urbanism and Mediterranean Culture and The Social TV, August 2015 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eiG4KmY7dos>

“Villa in the Jungle? The Case of Rawabi,” presentation and dialogue with artist Nir Evron, Bat Yam Center for Urbanism and Mediterranean Culture, July 2015

“Kahlon’s Reform Disregards Propensity,” op-ed in *Local Call* News Portal, the Hebrew equivalent of +972 magazine, June 2015 [mekomit.co.il/לא-סופרת-את-הדור-כחלון-רפורמת-הנדלן-של](http://mekomit.co.il/לא-סופרת-את-הדור-כחלון-רפורמת-הנדלן-של)

“The Experiment of Rawabi: A Disneyesque Fantasy under the Auspices of Occupation?,” *Local Call* News Portal, the Hebrew equivalent of +972 magazine, September 2014 [mekomit.co.il/רוואבי-הדיסנילנד-של-פלסטיין](http://mekomit.co.il/רוואבי-הדיסנילנד-של-פלסטיין)

“The Dark Side of Planning: Colonial Urbanism and Contemporary Professional Practices,” Guest Lecturer, Rethinking 1948: The Nakhba, the Palestinian Refugees and Israeli Spatial Construction, Special Course for Professional Planners, Zochrot, January 2015

## Languages

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Hebrew (mother tongue); English (near mother tongue); Arabic (writing, reading and conversant in several dialects); German (basic reading knowledge)