Out of the Shtetl

Sinkoff, Nancy

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Publishers’ Preface

Brown Judaic Studies has been publishing scholarly books in all areas of Judaic studies for forty years. Our books, many of which contain groundbreaking scholarship, were typically printed in small runs and are not easily accessible outside of major research libraries. We are delighted that with the support of a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities/Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Humanities Open Book Program, we are now able to make available, in digital, open-access, format, fifty titles from our backlist.

In Out of the Shtetl: Making Jews Modern in the Polish Borderlands (2003), Nancy Sinkoff examines some of the thinkers, particularly Mendel Lefin and Joseph Perl, who as part of the Jewish Enlightenment movement (Haskalah) of the nineteenth century attempted to articulate a vision and plan for how the Jews of Eastern Europe could become modern while remaining Jews.

This edition contains a new preface that puts this book into the ongoing scholarly context while also grappling with the application of the ideology of the Haskalah to contemporary events. It also contains a new bibliography. There have been typographical changes to the original text.

Michael L. Satlow
Managing Editor
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