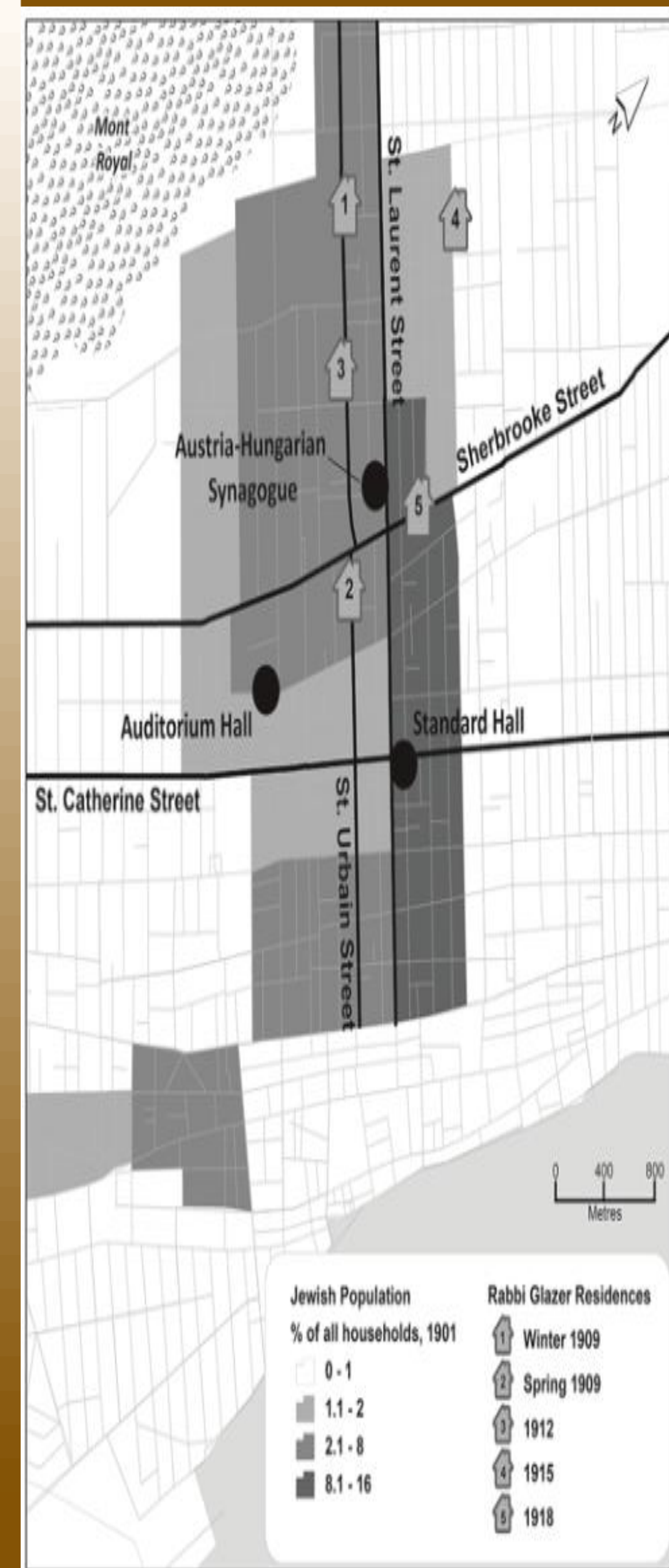


Mapping Montreal's Religious History: Jewish Montreal, c. 1850-1950

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Abstract: An analysis of the Jewish communities' claims on space in industrializing Montreal, and how such a process has shaped this unique cultural grouping's institutionalization along Montreal's Main. The research conducted in turn focused on how the cluster of synagogue's within a 5 kilometer radius of St Laurent street set the stage for the development of local businesses, cultural services and transnational philanthropic organizations. The Main's built environment provides a framework for understanding Jewish group identity, the political capacity of religious leadership and the relative monopoly that Jewish-elite collectives yielded over the provision of social services.



Methodology:

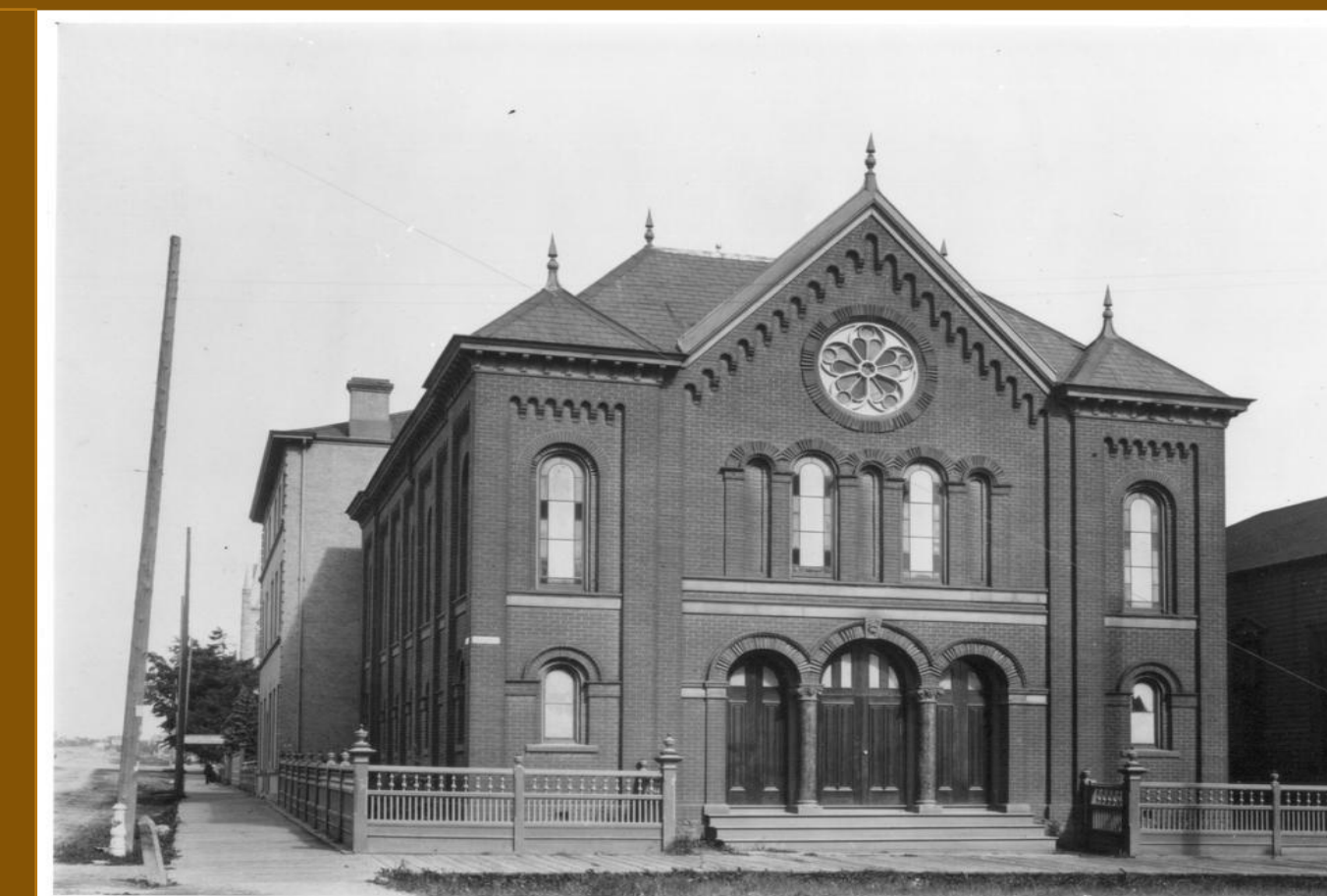
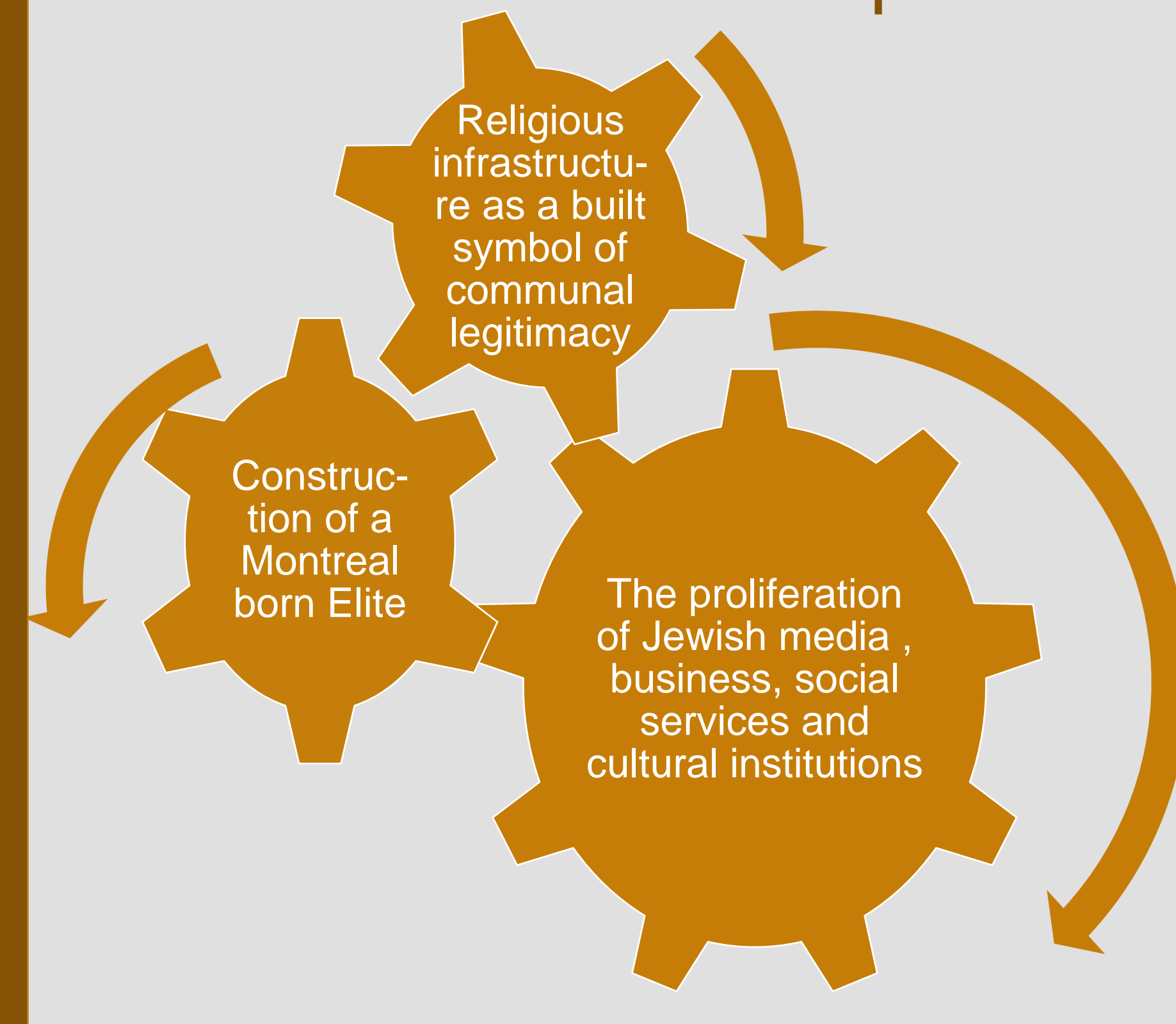
Primary source collection

- Municipal and Jewish archives
- Atlases, congregation pamphlets and architectural renderings

Secondary source Analysis

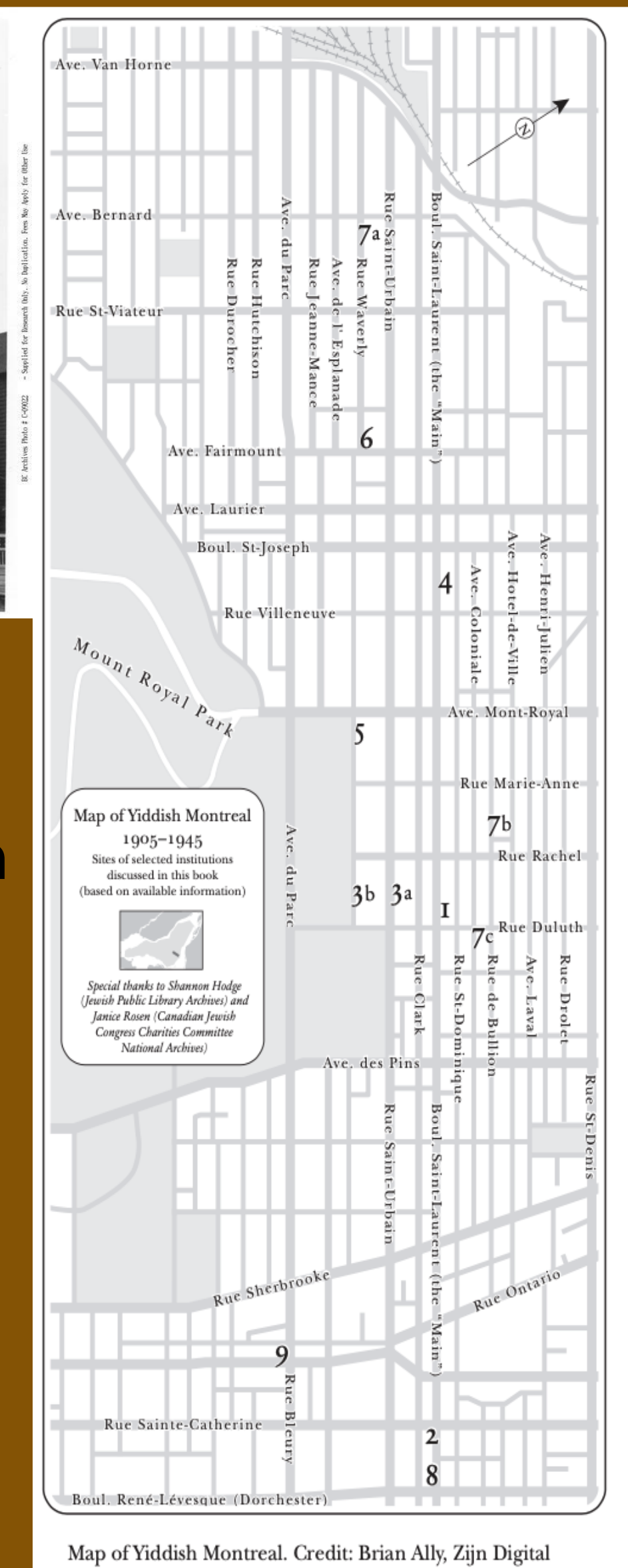
- Political analysis of the education question, the kosher meat industry, and the institutionalization of

Montreal Jewries' infrastructural Development



Learning Objectives:

- Map the development of Jewish institutionalization in industrializing Montreal
- Understand interfaith dynamics
- Uncover where internal communal politics begin and secular state governance ends
- Dissect why the Main?



1. Keneder Adler/ Canadian Eagle 4075 St-Laurent
2. Hershman's Jewish Library and Reading Room Saint-Laurent, corner Sainte-Catherine
- 3a. Jewish Public Library 4115 St-Urbain
- 3b. Jewish Public Library 4099 Explanade Avenue
4. Workmen's Circle/ Arbeter Ring 4848 Saint-Laurent
5. Home of Ida Maza 4479B Explanade, apartment 6
6. Jewish People's School 5120 Waverly, corner Fairmount
- 7a. Peretz School campus 1 5766 Waverly
- 7b. Peretz School campus 2 4231 de Bullion
- 7c. Peretz School 120 Dabith East
8. Monument National 1195 St-Laurent
9. Baron de Hirsch building 2040 Bieury Street

Map of Yiddish Montreal. Credit: Brian Ally, Zijn Digital
This content downloaded from 132.174.254.12 on Tue, 04 Aug 2020 21:34:39 UTC
All use subject to <https://about.jstor.org/terms>

References:

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- Aline Gabbay. "A Street Called the Main". 1989
- David Fraser. "Honorary Protestants". 2015
- Jewish Public Library Archives
- MA. Poutinainen and J. Gilliland. "Mapping Work in Early Twentieth-Century Montreal: A Rabbi A Neighborhood and A Community". 2017
- Rebecca Margolis. "Jewish Roots Canadian Soil: Yiddish Culture in Montreal 1905-1945
- Sara Taubin. "Aspirations and Adaptations". 2011
- The Montreal Holocaust Memorial Center
- The Museum of Jewish Montreal

Findings:

- The "Jewish Quarter" along the Main served as a hub of Jewish life that saw a mass transformation from the town of three synagogues in 1883 to a region consisting of 80 Kosher butchers, around 10 multinational Jewish orgs. and hundreds of synagogues.
- The social responsibility to support the vast influx of immigrant Jews lay primarily in the institutional capabilities of the primarily German Montreal born elite (rooted in legal and interfaith precedent).
- The construction of distinct congregational identities rooted in national, village level, ideological and linguistic loyalties. (the shul vs the shulelach vs the synagogue)