

Country Name: NETHERLANDS

Looted Judaica and Judaica with Provenance Gaps in Country		Yes
Existing Projects	<p>Yes</p> <p>Please see below for information on Herkomst Gezocht und the NK collection. (http://www.herkomstgezocht.nl/)</p> <p>In addition, the website http://www.joodsmonument.nl/ provides information on the spoliation of Jewish property in the Netherlands.</p>	
Overview	Looted Cultural Property Databases	<p><u>Sources:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Origins Unknown Database: http://www.herkomstgezocht.nl/, last accessed June 2014. (2) Advisory Committee on the Assessment of Restitution Applications For Items of Cultural Value and the Second World War (3) http://www.restitutiecommissie.nl/, last accessed June 2014. <p>The online database of the NK collection lists four Judaica objects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NK 2990 – Gilt silver cabinet for the scroll of Esther (originally owned by Mannheimer) ▪ NK 2991 – Brass plaque with Hebrew text (originally owned by Mannheimer) ▪ NK 399 – Channukiah (no provenance information available) <p>In 2007, the Minister for Education, Culture and Science agreed to restitute an eighteenth-century tin Maccabee lamp (NK 399) that was part of the Netherlands Art Property Collection (NK collection). The restitution was a result of the exhibit ‘<i>Geroofd, maar van wie?</i>’ (<i>Looted, but from whom?</i>) in the Hollandsche Schouwburg (Dutch Theatre) in Amsterdam at which the applicant recognized the object as “<i>the Chanukkiyah</i>” that was “<i>given to me by my uncle, Mr B. Z. in Amersfoort</i>” at the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah.</p> <p><i>Jewish Historical Museum</i></p> <p><u>Source:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Jewish Historical Museum: Database of missing objects and objects without provenance information: http://www.jhm.nl/collection/wwii-looted-judaica/search, last accessed June 2014. <p>The database allows to search for missing objects of the prewar collection and objects with unknown provenance of the museum’s collection. The database also includes objects from prewar lenders that were registered as museum property in 1955.</p> <p><i>Netherlands Museum Association</i></p> <p><u>Source:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) “Museum Acquisitions from 1933 Onwards,” download from http://www.musealeverwervingen.nl/18/english/, last accessed June 2014. <p>The Netherlands Museum Association provides access to an online database of objects with provenance gaps in Dutch museums. The online listing also includes thirteen (13) Jewish ritual objects</p>

		(http://www.musealeverwervingen.nl/1508/objecten/joodse-rituele-objecten/)
	Publications	<p><u>Sources:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Herman, Dana, <i>Hashavat Avedah: A History of Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, Inc.</i> PhD thesis, Department of History, McGill University, Montreal, October 2008. (2) <i>Spoils of War</i> No. 6, February 1999, p 49. (3) Muller, Eelke. <i>Museale Verwervingen 1940-1948.</i> Amsterdam: Nederlandse Museumvereniging, 2000 (Dutch). <p>After World War II, the Netherlands received 1,813 books from the JCR.</p> <p>In 1998, Dutch State Museums launched an investigation of objects acquired between 1940 and 1948. The committee was chaired by Professor Ronald de Leeuw, the director of the Rijksmuseum and operated under the aegis of the Dutch Museum Association, a national organization with which the majority of Dutch museums are affiliated. The study showed that some museums held Jewish property as safekeeping during the war as temporary gifts to prevent art belonging to Jews being confiscated by the Nazis. It further showed that the Ministry of Culture, Education and Science also bought several collections from Jewish owners in 1943 and 1944 with the aim of keeping these artworks in the Netherlands. In almost all cases the artworks were returned. Where owners did not survive and the items were not claimed, the artworks were investigated, and some restitution took place. The report concluded that the number of problem cases that emerged as a result of this research was small, although a number of cases need further research.</p> <p><i>Judaica at the Jewish Historical Museum</i></p> <p><u>Sources:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Cohen, Julie-Marthe. "Dealing with Looted Art. The Pre-war Collection of the Jewish Historical Museum of Amsterdam Reexamined." Read at the conference 'Jewish Art in Context: The Role of Meaning of Artifacts and Visual Images', Tel Aviv, January 14-16, 2008. (2) Cohen, Julie-Marthe. "Relics of the Second World War: Dealing with Missing and Misplaced Objects in Jewish Museum collections." Paper presented at the 43rd Annual AJL Convention, Cleveland Marriott East, Cleveland, Ohio. June 22-25, 2008 and read in the session on 'Dutch Jewish Library Collections since WW II: The Recuperation And Reconstruction Of Dutch Jewish Collections In Post War Europe', June 24 2008. Presentation given by Julie-Marthe Cohen at the Meetings of the Association of European Jewish Museums in Amsterdam, November 22-26, 2008 <p>The Jewish Historical Museum (JHI) represents a clear example of a Jewish museum that existed prior to World War II that both was looted and continued to exist after World War II (it reopened in 1955). A pre-War inventory resurfaced in 1987 that has permitted the JHI to do detailed research. Of the 940 objects in the pre-War collection, 610 were looted by the ERR in 1943 and brought to the <i>Institut zur Erforschung der Judenfrage</i> in Frankfurt. Of these, approximately 200 were returned in 1946, including some valuable objects from the Amsterdam Portugese Sephardic Community held in the Offenbach depot. In 1947, another 300 museum objects were returned, but approximately 400 remain lost. The returns, for example, did not contain wooden and silver Torah crowns, and also</p>

		<p>missing were two pairs of zinc finials. All told it is estimated that about 400 items are missing. In addition, some items were returned by mistake to the JHI. Of the lost items, one had gone to the <i>Bibliotheca Rosenthaliana</i> and was returned to the Museum in 1980. However, a Torah mantle dating from 1763 that was loaned to the JHI in 1936 by the Leyden community went to the Wiesbaden collecting point after the War, where it was turned over to Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, which gave it to the Israel Museum. With the launch online last year of the Israel Museum's database of what it had received from Jewish Cultural Reconstruction, it was possible to identify the Torah mantle as the one loaned to the JHI before the War by the Leyden community.</p> <p>On the other hand, recent research established that at least two Judaica objects were erroneously restituted to the Jewish Historical Museum from the Offenbach Collecting Point:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A pair of zinc finials. 2) A finial by Peter van Hoven from the early 18th century. (Some years ago its counterpart was found in the collection of the Consistoire Israélite de Paris). <p><i>Please see the database of the Jewish Historical Museum for more information:</i> http://www.jhm.nl/collection/wwii-looted-judaica/search</p> <p><i>Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg</i> <u>Sources:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Cohen, Julie-Marthe. "Theft and Restitution of Judaica in the Netherlands During and After the Second World War". <i>Neglected Witnesses. The Fate of Ceremonial Objects During the Second World War and After</i>. Heimann-Jelinek, Felicitas. Cohen, Julie-Marthe (ed.) Buih Wells: Institute of Art And Law, 2011. <p>The ERR's (<i>Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg</i>) activities in the Netherlands focused mainly on the looting of libraries and Judaica. Very few objects of the 610 items looted by the ERR in 1943 from the Jewish Historical Museum were recovered after the war. (p. 201, 221)</p> <p>One of the ERR's targets was the Portugese Jewish Community. Surviving documents point to the fact that the looting of the Community's ceremonial objects was not conducted in an organized fashion. Among the looted libraries was the Ets Haim library and books that had been previously stored by Jewish officials in the <i>Kasvereniging</i> safe. The stolen objects were sent to <i>the Institut zur Erforschung der Judenfrage</i> and were later discovered by US soldiers in 1945. (p 224-225) Like the Portugese Jewish Community, the Ashkenazi Jewish Community also suffered material losses as a result of the ERR's plundering: while it was able to store away 50 Torah scrolls and silver, most of the textiles and books were looted. In December 1943, a shipment of 577 boxes holding Hebraica, Torah scrolls, textiles, etc., were sent to <i>the Institut zur Erforschung der Judenfrage</i>. After the war, only a small percentage of the lost objects were returned to Amsterdam from the CCP in Offenbach.</p> <p>Estimated minimum number of ceremonial objects lost (p. 252): Column lamps: 128 Scones: 58 Chandeliers: 90 Candelabra: 19</p>
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	Information from Other Sources	<p><u>Source:</u></p> <p>(1) Information provided by Charlotte van Rappard-Boon, former chief inspector for Cultural Heritage.</p> <p>Some historical research suggests that ritual objects from Jewish synagogues that were hidden during World War II were often given to Dutch museums following the end of the war. As there were few to no survivors who would have made the re-opening of synagogues possible, many of these objects remained in the Dutch museums. Yet there are no “transfer” registries that would officially confirm this.</p>
	Historical Commission	<p>On 2 October 1997, the Secretary of State for Education, Culture and Science assigned the Ekkart Committee (R.E.O. Ekkart served as the Chairman) to carry out a pilot study researching the provenance of parts of the Netherlands Art Property Collection, the so-called NK collection. The actual research was carried out by the project bureau <i>Origins Unknown</i> (Herkomst Gezocht), which falls under the jurisdiction of the Cultural Heritage Inspectorate.</p> <p>On 1 January 2002, an Advisory Committee on the Assessment of Restitution Applications was launched by the Secretary of State for Education, Culture & Science.</p>
Selected Bibliography	→ Please note that the general literature may also contain information on the specific country.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Aalders, Gerard. <i>Nazi Looting: The Plunder of Dutch Jewry during the Second World War</i>. Oxford, New York: Berg, 2004. ▪ Aalders Gerard. <i>Pilferage: The Plundering of Jewish Possessions during the Second World War</i>. The Hague: SDU Uitgeverij, 1999 (Dutch). ▪ Campfens, Evelien. Marck, Annemarie. Muller, Eelke. “Recht auf Umwegen. Die niederländische Restitutionskommission“. <i>Osteuropa, Kunst und Konflikt. Kriegsfolgen und Kooperationsfelder in Europa</i> 56. Jahrgang, Heft 1-2, Januar/Februar 2006, pp 415-432. ▪ Cohen, Julie-Marthe. “Dealing with Looted Art. The Pre-war Collection of the Jewish Historical Museum of Amsterdam Reexamined.” Read at the conference ‘Jewish Art in Context: The Role of Meaning of Artifacts and Visual Images’, Tel Aviv, January 14-16, 2008. ▪ Cohen, Julie-Marthe. “Relics of the Second World War: Dealing with missing and misplaced objects in Jewish museum collections.” Paper presented at the 43rd Annual AJL Convention, Cleveland Marriott East, Cleveland, Ohio. June 22-25, 2008 and read in the session on ‘Dutch Jewish Library Collections since WW II: The Recuperation And Reconstruction Of Dutch Jewish Collections In Post War Europe’, June 24 2008. ▪ Cohen, Julie-Marthe. “Theft and Restitution of Judaica in the Netherlands During and After the Second World War”. <i>Neglected Witnesses. The Fate of Ceremonial Objects During the Second World War and After</i>. Heumann-Jelinek, Felicitas. Cohen, Julie-Marthe (ed.) Buihl Wells: Institute of Art And Law, 2011. ▪ Hoogewoud, F.J. “The Looting of a Private and Public Library of Judaica and Hebraica in Amsterdam During World War II: The Cases of Ets Haim/Livraria Montezinos and Bibliotheca Rosenthalianam”. <i>Jewish Studies in a New Europe: Proceedings of the Fifth World Congress of Jewish Studies in Copenhagen 1994</i>. Haxen, Ulf (ed.). Copenhagen: C.A. Reitzel, 1998. ▪ Hoogewoud, F.J. (ed.). <i>The Return of Looted Collections (1946-1996). An Unfinished Chapter</i>. Proceedings of an International Symposium to Mark the 50th Anniversary of the Return of Dutch Book Collections from Germany in 1946, 15 and 16 April 1996, Amsterdam, 1997. ▪ Ketelaar, Eric. “The Return of Dutch Archives from Moscow.” <i>Returned from Russia:</i>

	<p><i>Nazi Archival Plunder in Western Europe and Recent Restitution Issues</i>. Grimsted, Patricia Kennedy, F.J. Hoogewoud, and Eric Ketelaar (ed.) United Kingdom: Institute of Art and Law, 2007, pp 250-255.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Reparation and Restitution in Germany, 1947-49: The Story in Documents</i>. State Department Publication 3556. Washington: GPO, State Dept., 1950. ▪ Röhling, Kerstin. <i>Restitution jüdischer Kulturgüter nach dem Zweiten Weltkrieg</i>. Baden-Baden: Nomos, 2004. ▪ Van Voolen, Edward. Faber, Irene. Weber, Annette. “Jewish Ceremonial Silver from Germany in the Jewish Historical Museum, Amsterdam”. <i>Leo Baeck Institute Year Book</i> Vol. 40. , London, 1995, pp 265-288. ▪ Vis, Ruben. “In Between a Thousand Files-Data on My Dutch Family.” <i>Returned from Russia: Nazi Archival Plunder in Western Europe and Recent Restitution Issues</i>. Grimsted, Patricia Kennedy. F.J. Hoogewoud, and Eric Ketelaar (ed.) United Kingdom: Institute of Art and Law, 2007, pp 256-260. ▪ Vlessing, Odette. “Dutch-Jewish Archives Come Home from East and West.” <i>Returned from Russia: Nazi Archival Plunder in Western Europe and Recent Restitution Issues</i>. Grimsted, Patricia Kennedy. F.J. Hoogewoud, and Eric Ketelaar (ed.) United Kingdom: Institute of Art and Law, 2007, pp 250-255. ▪ The following reports of the Origins Unknown Agency can be downloaded at: http://www.herkomstgezocht.nl/eng/rapportage/index.html Origins Unknown, Report on the pilot study into the provenance of works of art recovered from Germany and currently under the custodianship of the State of the Netherlands. Origins Unknown, Interim report I, The Hague, October 1999 Origins Unknown, Interim report II, The Hague, October 2000 Recommendations for the restitution of works of art, Ekkart Committee, April 2001 Origins Unknown, Interim report III, The Hague, February 2002 Recommendations for the restitution of artworks of art dealers, Ekkart Committee, 28 January 2003 Final recommendations Ekkart Committee, December 2004 ▪ All recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the Assessment of Restitution Applications for Items of Cultural Value and the Second World War can be downloaded at: http://www.restitutiecommissie.nl/en/overzicht_adviezen.html (Please note that a few recommendations deal with Judaica objects, e.g. Recommendation RC 1.30 (03.04.2006) concerning a silver Kiddush cup: http://www.restitutiecommissie.nl/en/rc_1.30/advies_rc_1.30.html)
Notes	<p><u>Source:</u></p> <p>(1) Röhling, Kerstin. <i>Restitution jüdischer Kulturgüter nach dem Zweiten Weltkrieg</i>. Baden-Baden: Nomos, 2004, p 50.</p> <p>In August 1942 alone approximately 499 crates of Jewish books, archives, antiquities and objects from religious organizations, in addition to 153 crates of Jewish manuscripts of the Bibliotheca Rosentalia were seized.</p> <p>(2) Grimsted, Patricia Kennedy, <i>Returned from Russia: Nazi archival plunder in Western Europe and recent restitution issues – Afterword</i> 2013. Institute of Art and Law, 2013, pp.8-9, 13, 17.</p> <p>In March 2008 three boxes of Austrian Jewish archives that had been inadvertently returned to the Netherlands from Moscow were given by the Dutch archives to the Austrian archives. Some fragmentary archives from Greece that were mixed in with the archives returned from Moscow to the Netherlands were given by the Dutch archives to the Jewish Community of Thessalonica. And in 2000 the Czech State Archives returned some Jewish community records to the Netherlands.</p>