

[Passing of Prof. Lee Shai Weissbach](#)

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H-Judaic is greatly saddened to learn of the passing, after a prolonged illness, of Lee Shai Weissbach (1947-2022), emeritus professor of history at the University of Louisville, where he also had served as a department chair and associate dean. Prof. Weissbach was born in Haifa. After graduating with highest honors at the University of Cincinnati, he went on to Harvard, where he worked on a dissertation that was later published as *CHILD LABOR REFORM IN NINETEENTH-CENTURY FRANCE: ASSURING THE FUTURE HARVEST*. Subsequently, he turned to Jewish history, completing a volume on *THE SYNAGOGUES OF KENTUCKY*, and, in 2005, his masterwork, *JEWISH LIFE IN SMALL-TOWN AMERICA: A HISTORY*. In 2013, he published, with introduction and notes, the memoir of his grandfather, Menahem Mendel Frieden, under the title *A JEWISH LIFE ON THREE CONTINENTS*. Prof. Weissbach was a leading expert on small-town Jews and synagogues, and participated in the activities of the American Jewish Historical Society, and the Southern Jewish Historical Society. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

We extend deepest condolences to his family, colleagues, students and friends.

Jonathan D. Sarna

Chair, H-Judaic