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Dr. Barry Stiefel to speak on Synagogues as a Museum Type

Dr. Barry Stiefel from the College of Charleston and Clemson University's Historic Preservation and Community Planning Program will speak at the Adas Yeshurun Synagogue, 935 Johns Road in Augusta, Georgia on Thursday, October 22, 2015 at 7:00 pm. Dr. Stiefel will present his paper "The Other House Museum: Places of Worship and the Case of Synagogues" as part of Historic Augusta's fall architectural history lecture series. The presentation will explore houses of worship as an overlooked museum type and how house of worship museums differ from traditional residential house museums. Using synagogues as an example, this talk will introduce new ways of thinking about house museums and the religious and ethnic minority groups who are often underrepresented in their interpretation.

Erick Montgomery, Executive Director of Historic Augusta, Inc. says, "This event is a timely discussion about plans currently being developed for a Jewish history museum in Augusta. We look forward to learning about historic synagogues and important issues to consider in converting them into museums."

Dr. Barry Stiefel received a Ph.D. in Historic Preservation from Tulane University. He earned a M.U.P. from the University of Michigan, a Historic Preservation Certificate from Eastern Michigan University, and a B.S. in Environmental Policy from Michigan State University. He has experience in the implementation of preservation planning projects, historic building surveys, nominations, and reports, and in creating archival inventories, designing historic house museums, and genealogical research.

This lecture is made possible by funding from the Porter Fleming Foundation.

The event is free and open to the public. A reception will follow. For more information, call Historic Augusta, Inc. at 706-724-0436.