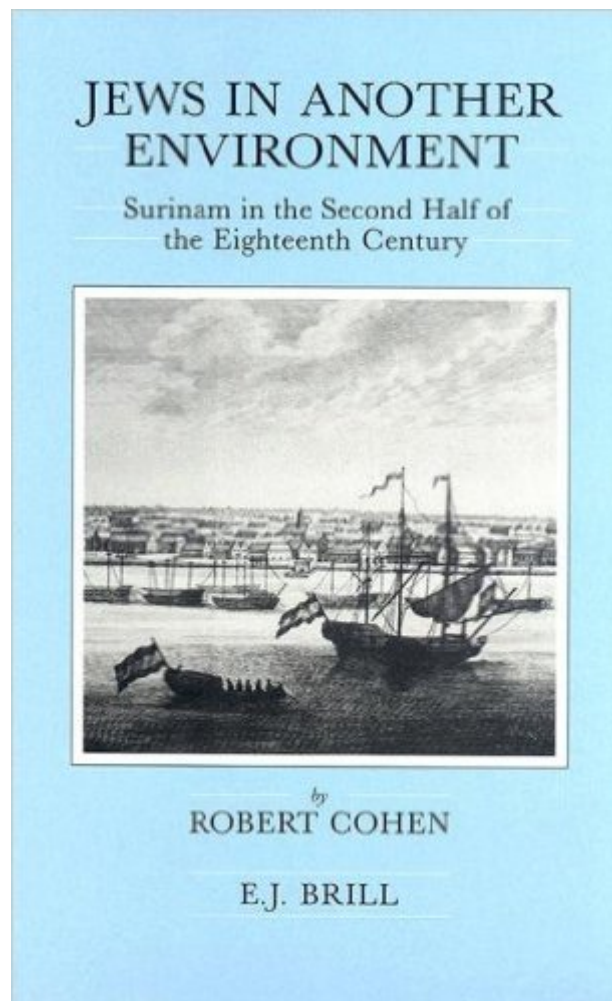


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Jews In Another Environment: Surinam In The Second Half Of The Eighteenth Century (Brill's Series In Jewish Studies, Vol 1)



Synopsis

The most important Jewish center in the western hemisphere during the eighteenth century was "the great colony" - Surinam. There, Jews formed perhaps the most privileged Jewish community in the world. They were often plantation and slave owners, as well as a sizeable proportion of the white population. They had their own village, with extensive autonomous rights. This book is a study of the impact of environment on Jewish life in a colonial society. It analyzes the impact of environment upon migratory patterns, health and mortality, economic structures, intellectual life, and communal dynamics. Following the methods of social history, this book uses an interdisciplinary approach to examine the impact of environment upon the modification of traditional values and modes of behavior. This is the first full-length monograph on Surinamese Jewry to appear in two hundred years. The first one, the "Historical Essay" of David Nassy, treated Jewish history as part of the colonial experience. This book treats the colonial experience as part of Jewish history.

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