Primary Sources

Personal Interviews


We had the opportunity to interview Holocaust survivor, Micheline Federman, who spent time in Le Chambon. Micheline spoke about how she was very young during her time in Le Chambon, and how her memories from that time period still impact her today. She also discussed how she immigrated to America after the war, became a pathologist, and eventually a professor at Harvard University. This interview added to our project, as it revealed the triumph brought about through Le Chambon, not just through saving lives, but also in the work of the survivors after the war.


We were fortunate to be able to speak with Peter Feigl, a Jewish Holocaust survivor who spent time in Le Chambon. He was one of the 3,500 Jews who were saved from deportation to concentration camps by the people of Le Chambon. Mr. Feigl shared personal stories about his time there, as well as explaining his parent's decision to send him to an American Quaker camp, in an effort to hide his Jewish ancestry. This interview was a great addition to our project because it gave us a broader understanding of what life for the Jewish children was like during their stay in Le Chambon, and just how much personal tragedy many of the Jewish children experienced during their fight to survive.


After speaking with Peter Feigl over Skype, we had a few more questions about his career after the war. Peter spoke with us over email about his job at the Pentagon, and how he negotiated U.S military sales with countries such as Austria, Italy, and Saudi Arabia. He also told us about his volunteer work at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. The additional information was beneficial to our project, as it provided further evidence of triumph that was brought forth through the work in Le Chambon.


Walter Jaye is a Jewish Holocaust survivor who was rescued by the people of Le Chambon as a child. He spoke with us about why he felt the people of Le Chambon were willing to risk their lives for the Jewish people. Walter also talked about how Hitler persuaded so many people to persecute the Jews, by making them a scape goat for the multiple issues Germany faced at the time. This interview benefitted our project by increasing our knowledge about the history leading up to the Holocaust, as well as demonstrating what a significant triumph the people of Le Chambon brought about for so many survivors.


Film maker and Holocaust survivor, Pierre Sauvage, gave us the unique experience of interviewing him via email about his time in Le Chambon. He shared with us about Alexandre Grothendiek, another survivor from Le Chambon, who became one of the
greatest mathematicians of the 20th century, and one of many amazing stories of triumph that came out of Le Chambon. Pierre also discussed how Burns Chalmers, leader of the American Friends Service Committee, played a key role in beginning the transfer of Jews from the camps to Le Chambon. This interview was significant to our project because it further demonstrated the triumph of the survivors who were rescued through the work in Le Chambon.


We had the opportunity to interview the Jewish Holocaust survivor from Le Chambon, Renée Kann Silver. She was eleven years old when she first moved to Le Chambon, and she described how the conditions there were primitive, with no running water or electricity. In addition, she discussed the history of anti-Semitism in France, and how the resistance in Le Chambon functioned throughout the war. This interview was important to our project, as it explained how the resistance in Le Chambon participated in the triumph of the Allies during World War II.


We were very excited to interview Nellie Trocmé, who is the daughter of Pastor André Trocmé. She described her parents and their role in the work of Le Chambon, as well as how she understood her family's mission very early on in her childhood. Nellie shared with us about how her father organized the operation and aided the Jews around the plateau with the help of other pastors and organizations. The interview was extremely helpful to our project because it gave us first-hand information about why the Trocmé family led the charge to fight against such great tragedy, as well as what her life was like as a child growing up in the midst of such an important operation.

Trocmé, Nelly. “Personal Email Interview.” 22 Jan. 2019

After initially interviewing Nelly Trocmé, we had the opportunity to ask her a few more follow up questions over email. She gave us information about additional sources, as well as getting us in contact with the mayor of Le Chambon, Denise Vallet, and answering our questions about the survivors and their descendants. Lastly, Nelly fact checked our documentary script, making sure that all of the information we discuss throughout our video is accurate. Maintaining close email contact with Nelly proved extremely beneficial to our project, as she helped us remain factual, as well as helping us better understand the triumph that took place in Le Chambon.

Interviews Accessed Online


This is an Oral History interview with Paulette Fink, who worked in the underground resistance in Le Chambon in occupied France. She talks about how her dad joined World War I when she was at a young age, and how he became a prisoner of war. She also spoke about how she lost her husband during the war. This interview assisted our project by giving us a greater understanding of the underground resistance that hid in Le
Chambon, and how they brought triumph to much of France by assisting the Allies in their defeat of the Nazi regime.


This is an Oral History interview with Elizabeth Kaufmann Koenig, a Holocaust survivor from Le Chambon, who eventually became the Librarian at the United States Holocaust Museum. She spoke about her experiences while trying to escape from Germany to France, and being beaten and stripped when she was caught. Mrs. Koenig also discussed how she finally made it to Paris, to be with her father, and how they chose to help other Jews who were in need of shelter. The interview gave us a deeper perspective of the harsh tragedies that occurred for many of the families who were attempting to flee persecution at the time.


This video documented the oral history given by Le Chambon survivor, Max Liebmann. In it, he described going to a public school during the initial spread of anti-Semitism, and at times, being mocked while having to fight other students, one by one, just to leave the building. He also spoke about how he and his father joined the song club while hiding Le Chambon, so that they could bring cheer to those living there at the time. The video proved beneficial to our project, as it revealed the various tragedies the Jewish children endured, not just through hiding, but also in facing the pain and rejection of anti-Semitism.


This is the Oral History of Magda Trocmé, André Trocmé's wife. In her interview, she discussed how André began the operation in Le Chambon, and how he worked with the other pastors on the plateau. Magda also spoke about how they were able to free a large number of Jews from the internment camps and hide them in Le Chambon. The interview proved invaluable to our project, as we were able to glean first hand, how the operation took place on a daily basis, as well as the many risks and tragedies that both rescuers and survivors experienced throughout the war.


This was an interview with Pierre Sauvage, a Jewish Holocaust survivor from Le Chambon, and Bill Moyer, which aired on PBS in 1990. In the interview, Pierre discussed his film, "Weapons of the Spirit," where he told the story of Le Chambon, and why they chose to aid the Jews. He also spoke about how the story of Le Chambon speaks to future generations, inspiring them to take a stand and participate in the triumph of good. The interview was a great addition to our project as it gave us a broader
understanding of how the people of Le Chambon fought to bring about triumph in the midst of great evil, and what motivated them to do it.

Site Visits


During a layover on a family trip to Kazakhstan, one of our group members had the opportunity to visit the Warsaw Ghetto Wall. The Ghetto was the largest of its kind in Poland and was used to imprison Jews who were later sent to Auschwitz. The Ghetto wall was built by the Germans, and torn down during the Ghetto uprising. There was one part of the wall that was left and memorialized by Yad Vashem. This was very valuable to our project because the experience of seeing an actual place where the tragedy of the holocaust occurred brought our passion for our project to a much deeper level.


As part of our research, we had the opportunity to visit the Holocaust Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles, California. The museum featured a detailed replica of a gas chamber, and inside it, gave first hand, tragic, personal stories inflicted by the Nazi Regime, as well as many actual artifacts from the concentration camps. It also displayed examples of the beginnings of anti-Semitism in Germany before World War II, helping us understand the historical background behind the holocaust. Our visit to the museum allowed us to gain a greater perception of the many tragedies experienced by the Jews within the walls of the concentration camps.

Books

Chapters 3 and 4.” Salvaged Pages: Young Writers' Diaries of the Holocaust, by Alexandra Zapruder, Yale Univ. Press, 2015.

This book is a compilation of diaries from multiple Holocaust survivors, including Peter Feigl and Elizabeth Kaufmann, both of whom were survivors from Le Chambon. In reading Peter Feigl’s diary, I learned about the many physical challenges on his trip to Switzerland to escape the Nazi regime. Elizabeth Kaufmann discussed the many tragedies she experienced while being separated from her family at a young age during the Holocaust. This book benefitted our project by giving us first-hand accounts of the various tragedies faced by so many of the survivors who made their way to Le Chambon.


I had the opportunity to read the autobiography of Le Chambon survivor, Francois Lecomte. In his book, he spoke about how their family was separated during World War II, and how his father went to fight in the war while Francois hid with other Jews in Le Chambon. Francois spoke about his relationship with the families he stayed with in Le Chambon, and the activities they participated in on a daily basis while living there. The book portrayed Francois Lecomte's life story, and how Le Chambon helped him overcome the tragedies he endured during the war.

This book told the story of Sandra Scheller's mother, Ruth Goldschmiedova Sax, a Holocaust survivor. Soon after Ruth first heard the name of Hitler, all of her non-Jewish friends rejected her, for fear people would think they were Jewish, as well. Oscar, her cousin, was placed in Auschwitz, and tattooed and tortured by Nazi soldiers. Ruth’s story demonstrated the great tragedy that Jews faced almost overnight, once Hitler’s pursuit of a supreme Aryan race began.


This book is the personal story of Renée Kann Silver, a holocaust survivor who was hidden in Le Chambon. In it, she gave important information about the French Prime Minister before World War II, as well the start of anti-Semitism in France. In addition, she described how France participated in persecuting the Jews during the war. This book was extremely important to our project, as it gave us a broad background of how anti-Semitism began in France, and the deep tragedies faced by the Jews at the hands of the Vichy government.


We had the opportunity to read a book called, *Angels and Donkeys*, written by André Trocmé, the pastor of Le Chambon. The book is a compilation of stories André told the children hiding in Le Chambon. Every story taught a lesson to the students, such as, “if you give, you shall also receive.” This book helped our project by giving us a better understanding of the triumph that occurred in Le Chambon, not just in saving the children’s lives, but also in bringing joy and a sense of “normalcy” to their experiences in Le Chambon.


This book was written by Pastor André Trocmé, about what inspired him to become involved in rescuing the Jews. In it, he describes the history of the Jewish people from a biblical perspective. It also talks about pacifism, and what birthed the town's pacifistic values. This book was helpful to our project because it revealed first-hand information about why the people of Le Chambon chose to fight for triumph, even at great risk to themselves and their loved ones.


This is the personal story of Ruth Uzrad, who fled across Europe from the Nazi regime. After the arrest of her father by the Gestapo, Ruth's mother sent her and her sister, Betty, by train to the safety of Belgium. Later, when the Nazis conquered Belgium, Ruth and her sister escaped to France by taking on false identities and new names. This story was helpful to our project, as it showed how cruel the Nazi regime really was, and what great tragedy they brought upon those they were trying to eliminate.
Archival Sources

“This Arrestations, Juillet 1942. Image.” Bild.bundesarchiv.de/Archives, German Archives, Aug. 1941, www.bild.bundesarchiv.de/archives/barchpic/search/_1559350957/?search%5Bform%5D%5BSIGNATUR%5D=Bild+183-B10813.

This photo in our documentary shows a Jew being searched by a Vichy official in during the Vel D'Hiv arrests.


This powerful, original image of malnourished, Jewish prisoners in our documentary demonstrated the true tragedy that took place in the concentration camps.


This original picture in our documentary shows resistance fighters being arrested in France, as part of the raids in Le Chambon.

“German Control Post on the Demarcation Line. Image.” Bild.bundesarchiv.de, German Archives, 1941, www.bild.bundesarchiv.de/archives/barchpic/search/_1556935099/?search%5Bform%5D%5BSIGNATUR%5D=Bild+101I-017-1065-44.

We used this actual image in our documentary to show the Nazi border between Northern and Southern France.


When we did our research, we came across the actual speech in the National Archives given by President Obama on Holocaust Remembrance Day. This speech was about the tragedy that occurred in the midst of the Holocaust. During the speech, he honored Le Chambon, as well as, five Polish men and women for their bravery and humanity in rescuing the Jews. This powerful speech impacted our project by showing us how the story of Le Chambon's triumph was so important, that President Obama honored their story almost 70 years after it occurred.


This speech from the National Archives showed Ronald Reagan reminding citizens not to forget the Holocaust. At the start of his speech, he talked about being a solder during World War II, and seeing the original videos taken by soldiers when they first discovered the concentration camps. He also spoke about how the reaction of the solders deeply affected him years later. This speech helped our documentary by giving us a deeper
understanding of the tragedy that occurred in World War II, and reminding us never to forget the 6 million lives that were taken during the Holocaust.


We used this original photo of malnourished Jewish prisoners in our documentary to show the tragedy the Jews experienced within the Concentration Camps.


This is an original photo of the anti-Semitic exhibit in France, visited by 13,000 French citizens on the first day alone. We used this image in our documentary to give evidence of the anti-Semitism present in France at that time.

“Two Jewish Women in Occupied France. Image.” Das Bundesarchiv, German Archives, 1942, www.bild.bundesarchiv.de/archives/barchpic/search/_1556856096/?search%5Bform%5D%5BSIGNATUR%5D=Bild+183-N0619-506.

When we created our documentary, we used this original image of Jews being arrested during the Vel D’HIV round up, as it represented the suffering experienced by so many on that tragic day.

Periodicals


This article contained a timeline that turned out to be an extremely important resource to our project, as it helped us gain a better understanding of the history that took place in Southern France and Le Chambon before and during World War II. It contained a detailed description of Huguenot history. It also explained the story of two Holocaust survivors, Hanne and Max Liebmann, and their journey to Le Chambon. This timeline was beneficial to our project, as it revealed how the triumph in Le Chambon came together over a number of years, long before the start of World War II.


When we did our research, we came upon this article published by Yad Vashem about the work that was done by André Trocmé, and the town to rescue what they referred to as, "the people of the Bible." The article gave direct quotes by André Trocmé himself, such as, "These people came here for help and shelter. I am a shepherd, and a shepherd does not forsake his flock." This article added to our project by demonstrating the passion of the villagers for their mission, which drove them to fight for triumph no matter what the cost.


This is an article published by Yad Vashem, that told the story of Le Chambon and how they, as well as the surrounding villages, rescued 3,500-5,000 Jews and refugees. The article talked about the different hiding places that the people of Le Chambon used including a farm, underground shacks and their houses. Reading this article proved
beneficial to our project because it gave us a better understanding of the overall story, and the
details of how their triumph actually took place.

Vashem, Yad. “The Holocaust in France: The Vel' D'Hiv Roundup.” Yadvashem.org,

This article discussed the "Vel' D'Hiv" round up in Paris on July 16, 1942, which proved to
be the largest round up of Jews in France during World War II. It revealed that there were a
total of 13,000 Jews arrested, and forced to live under harsh conditions within the walls of
the Velodrome D’Hiver sports stadium. Soon after, they were deported to concentration
camps, and most were executed. In reading this article, we gained a deeper awareness of
the tragedies that French officials inflicted upon the Jews, especially displayed in the small
number of survivors who lived to tell about the ordeal.

Films

Archive, AP, director. France: Paris: Jacques Chirac Admits to France's Atrocities in WWll. AP Archive, Apararchive.com, 21 July 2015,
www.aparchive.com/search?startd=&endd=&allFilters=&query=FRANCE%3A+PARIS %3A+JACQUES+CHIRAC+ADMITS+TO+FRANCE%27S+ATROCITIES+IN+WW2 &advsearchStartDateFilter=&advsearchEndDateFilter=&searchFilterHdSDFormat=All&
searchFilterDigitized=All&searchFiltercolorFormat=All&searchFilteraspectratioFormat= All.

We used this video in our documentary to show the viewers actual footage of when
President Jacques Chirac gave his speech in 1995, claiming responsibility for France's
role in the Vel D' Hiv round up.

Community, Birthright Israel Alumni, director. Chambon Sur Lignon Survivors. YouTube,
Birthright Israel Alumni Community, 30 Oct. 2014,
m.youtube.com/watch?v=e6yipefXwHU#fauxfullscreen.

This video contained a live presentation, given by Rudi Appel and Hanne Hirsch
Liebmann, both survivors of Le Chambon, who spoke about their experiences during the
war. The first survivor, Rudi Appel, talked about how he delivered forged identity
papers, made by Oscar Rosowsky, to the foreign Jews living in Le Chambon. The second
survivor, Hanne Hirsch Liebmann, spoke about how she escaped from Le Chambon into
Switzerland, with the help of the villagers. The video assisted our project by helping us
gain a stronger grasp of how the forgery system functioned in Le Chambon, as well as
giving us a powerful quote by Rudi Appel to use in our documentary.

CSPAN, director. Anti-Semitism in France. c-Span.org, C-SPAN.org, 2004, www.c-
span.org/video/?182787-1%2Fanti-semitism-france.

We used this video in our documentary to show when President Jacques Chirac came to
Le Chambon to give an inspirational speech celebrating the triumph that occurred there
and challenging French citizens to follow their example.

“Jewish Children Singing ‘Hatikvah’ the Early 1930's.” Yadvashem.org, Yad Vashem, 1 Oct.
2013,
In our documentary, we used this video of Jewish children singing as a powerful ending to our video. Tragically, 75 percent of the children singing did not survive the Holocaust.


We used this video in our video to display the area in which Le Chambon is located on the map.


As part of our research, we watched a video with Nelly Trocmé, daughter of André and Magda Trocmé. In the video, Nelly discussed why her father, André Trocmé, was a pacifist, and therefore, had difficulty being placed in a church, as his values were considered extreme. She also described her father's famous sermon, in which he challenged those living on the plateau to uphold their Christian values and begin giving aid to the Jews. This video contributed to our project by revealing the story of André Trocmé from a first-hand perspective, and how his leadership ultimately brought about triumph for so many people in desperate need of aid.


We used this film of Eva Slonim's testimony in our documentary to portray the tragedies that took place in the concentration camps across Europe.

“Rescued in Le Chambon Sur Lignon; Peter Feigl’s Testimony.” Rescued in Le Chambon Sur Lignon; Peter Feigl’s Testimony, USC Shoah Foundation, 18 Apr. 1997, vhaonline.usc.edu/viewingPage?testimonyID=30152&returnIndex=0.

This is a video of Peter Feigl’s spoken testimony about his experiences during World War II, as a Le Chambon survivor. He spoke of warm memories about the people of Le Chambon who sheltered him and other foreign Jewish children. He also shared a story about how the teachers would send the children to the forest to pick mushrooms during Nazi raids. It wasn't until later that he found out about the raids being conducted, and how the teachers made great efforts to prevent the children from being afraid. This video was a great addition to our project because we learned first-hand stories about what happened in Le Chambon, and how the operation functioned to bring about triumph for so many survivors.


We had the opportunity to watch a film by Pierre Sauvage, a Jewish Holocaust survivor who was born in Le Chambon during the war. In his film, he interviewed multiple survivors about their experiences in Le Chambon, and how they survived the Holocaust. He also talked about how some of the German officials were willing to help the Jews hide in Le Chambon. This film proved valuable to our project by allowing us to experience first-hand stories about the tragedies that occurred for many who faced persecution.
during the war, as well as the many stories of triumph brought forth through the work in Le Chambon.


In our documentary, we used this video to portray the triumph that occurred when Jews were able to make it safely to Switzerland.

“The Vel D'Hiv Roundup.” Vhaonline.usc.edu, USC Shoah Foundation, vhaonline.usc.edu/viewingPage?testimonyID=21585&returnIndex=0.

We used this video of Joseph Kogen's testimony about his experiences during the Vel D'Hiv roundup to cast a visual understanding of the tragedy that took place during that historic event.


This video documented a tribute to the people of Le Chambon, given by the survivors they aided during the war. In watching the video, we gained a better understanding of just how many lives were impacted by the heroic efforts of the people in Le Chambon. Also, it provided information on how high the risks truly were for those involved in the operation. The video was beneficial to our project as it helped us better understand the far-reaching triumph brought about through Le Chambon, not only for those who survived, but also for the future generations that would not have existed without their efforts. This film was also helpful for our documentary to cast a visual aspect of the speech André Trocmé gave to persuade the people to resist the Nazis, with the weapons of the spirit.

Images


This image in our documentary shows the devastation the Jews faced as they were being hunted throughout Europe.


This website helped our documentary by providing an actual image of Le Chambon, and the people who sought refuge.

This picture displayed in our documentary shows holocaust survivors saved in Le Chambon, as well as some of the rescuers years after the war.


This image in our documentary showed how Hitler even measured facial features to identify a person's race. We used the image to show Hitler's true obsession with his pursuit of the Aryan race.


This image was useful in our documentary, as it showed the spread of Hitler's anti-Semitic agenda throughout Europe.


This is an actual image of Hitler in front of the Eiffel Tower that we used in our documentary to signify the Nazi regime taking over Southern France.


This website provided a current picture of Alexander Grothendieck, a survivor from Le Chambon. After the war, he became one of the greatest mathematicians of the 20th century.

“André Trocmé, Shown Here with His Assistant Pastor Édouard Theis and School Principal Roger Darcissac, During His Brief Confinement to the Saint-Paul d’Eyieaux Internment Camp. Image.” Khc.qcc.cuny.edu, Kupferberg Holocaust Center, 2014, khc.qcc.cuny.edu/goodness/themes/rescuers-and-collaborators/.

This photograph portrays Roger Darcissac, Edourd Theis, and André Trocmé during their stay at Saint-Paul d’Eyieaux Internment camp after they were arrested. We used this picture in our documentary to show the camaraderie and teamwork they employed throughout the war.


When we came across this image we were very excited because it contained actual newspapers for when the Vel D'Hiv roundup occurred.

We used this photo in our documentary to represent the hospitality and triumph the children experienced during their time in Le Chambon.


This photo in our documentary portrays some of the refugees that were rescued from internment camps and hidden in Le Chambon.


In our documentary, this photo revealed the anti-Semitism present in France before World War II. It shows a French anti-Semitic exhibit right after Germany took over Northern France. We were shocked to find out that over 13,000 French citizens visited the exhibit on the first day alone.


We came across this actual class picture of school children hiding in Le Chambon, as part of our research. We were excited to find one of the survivors we interviewed, Micheline Federman, in this image. It proved to be a great addition to our documentary, as it showed an important aspect of the triumph that took place in Le Chambon, in providing education and a sense of normalcy for the children living there.


When we read the book, Hidden on the Mountain, we came across this photo and chose to use it in our documentary, as it is an original photo of one of the guides who escorted the Jews into Switzerland.


We included this image in our documentary to portray some of the Jewish refugees who hid in Le Chambon.

We used this original image in our documentary to show the true tragedy experienced by Jews in the concentration camps.


In our documentary, this photo shows French President, Jacques Chirac, giving an inspirational speech in Le Chambon in 2004, honoring the town and it's important place in French history.


We came across this original photo when we read the book, A Good Place To Hide, by Peter Grose. We used it to show an actual picture of when Le Chambon was liberated on September 3, 1944.


We used this image in our documentary to show viewers actual footage of what Le Chambon looked like during World War II.


In our documentary, we used this photo to show the actual identification card of Daniel Trocmé, André Trocmé's cousin.


We used this image our documentary to give viewers a visual understanding of what the concentration camps looked like throughout Europe.


This original image shows a class of students in Le Chambon, many of whom being Jewish. It was extremely useful in our documentary to depict the triumph of the work brought about through Le Chambon for the many children hiding there.


We used this actual image in our documentary to show a typical group of Jewish children hiding in Le Chambon.

This is a tragic, original photo of Jews that were arrested during the Vel D' Hiv round up.


We used this image in our documentary to show how Jews were transported to internment camps within France following the Vel D'Hiv arrests.

“Jews From the Lodz Ghetto Board Deportation Trains for the Chelmno Death Camp Image.” Ushmm.org, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, collections.ushmm.org/search/catalog/pa27537.

We used this photo in our documentary to represent Jews being loaded into trains like cattle, as they were being transferred to concentration camps.


This photo in our documentary represents the triumph the Jewish children experienced even during their stay in Le Chambon. It shows them playing in the snow, and enjoying a sense of "normal life," even in the midst of being hunted.


In our documentary, we used this image of Hanna Hirsch, a Le Chambon a survivor, to demonstrate the many lives saved through the work in Le Chambon.


This is an actual image of children living in Le Chambon, who were sitting under a sign that points to the town.


This was another original photo that we used in our video to show the village of Le Chambon as it looked during the time period of World War II.

This image in our documentary showed Le Chambon as it appeared around the time of World War II.


We used this photo of Le Chambon survivors in our documentary to demonstrate the triumph that took place for so many after the war.


As part of our research, we came across this original picture of Daniel Trocmé and the school where he served as principal in Le Chambon. We used this picture in our documentary to show the tragedy that occurred when the school was later raided and Daniel, along with his students were taken to concentration camps during the war.


In our documentary, we used this image to show the triumph that occurred when André and Magda Trocmé were honored by Yad Vashem.

“Memorial of the Vel D’Hiv Roundup.” Sfi.usc.edu, USC Shoah Foundation, sfi.usc.edu/blog/leticia-villasenor/place-vél-d’hiv-roundup-french-collective-memory.

This image was used in our documentary to provide visual evidence of the monument in France that commemorates the Vel D’Hiv roundup.


When we worked on our documentary, we used this image of French General Marshall Petain and Hitler to demonstrate the puppet government that was established in Southern France after the Armistice.


In our documentary, we used this photo to portray André Trocmé, the Pastor of Le Chambon.


This is a photo of André Trocmé, the pastor of Le Chambon, who was one of the main leaders in the operation on the plateau.

This photo in our documentary shows André Trocmé and Edouard Theis' close, working relationship during their time in Le Chambon.

“Pastors André Trocmé and Edouard Theis, circa 1940. Image.” Khc.qcc.cuny.edu, Kuperberg Holocaust Center, khc.qcc.cuny.edu/goodness/themes/spiritual-resistance/.

In our video, we used this image to show Pastor Edouad Theis and André Trocmé in Le Chambon.

“Pastors Edouard Theis and His Wife Mildred. Image.” Db.yadvashem.org, Yad Vashem, db.yadvashem.org/righteous/family.html?language=en&itemId=4042954.

In our documentary, we used this photo to display real footage of Edouard Theis and his wife, Mildred, when they were honored by Yad Vashem.


This image in our documentary shows a current photo of Peter Fiegl, a survivor from Le Chambon. His story was a great example of the triumph that took place in Le Chambon, as he held an important position at the United States Pentagon after the war.


In our documentary, we used this image to show viewers a picture of Peter Feigl, a survivor from Le Chambon, who held an important position at the pentagon after the war.


We used this image in our documentary to show viewers actual footage of French General Marshall Pétain, the leader of the Vichy Government during World War II.

“Portrait of Rudi Appel During the War. Image.” Khc.qcc.cuny.edu, Kuperberg Holocaust Center, khc.qcc.cuny.edu/blog/2018/02/22/whats-that-wednesday-week-11/.

In our video, we used this photo of Rudi Appel, a Le Chambon survivor, to further demonstrate the triumph that took place in Le Chambon.

We used this photo of actual survivors in our video to further demonstrate the triumph took place in Le Chambon.


We used this image in our documentary to give visual evidence of French President Jacques Chirac’s visit to Le Chambon to give an inspiration speech about the town's triumph in 2004.


This photo in our documentary portrays members of the American Friends Service Committee, which is the organization that worked with André Trocmé to free Jews from the French internment camps and transport them to Le Chambon.


This photo in our documentary shows the Gurs internment camp in France during the war.


This is an image of Renée Kann Silver, a survivor from Le Chambon, as a child during her time in Le Chambon.


We used this photo in our documentary to show Rudi Appel, a Le Chambon survivor, who gave an amazing lecture about the triumphant work in Le Chambon.


This photo in our documentary shows how French President, Jacques Chirac, enters Le Chambon to give a speech there in 2004.

“Stiff-Armed Salute Used in France Long before the National Socialist German Workers Party Gained Power in Germany. In Other Words, French People Engaged in Nazi Salutes and Flag Fetishism before the ‘Nazis’ Did It. Image.” Rexcurry.net, Rex Curry, rexcurry.net/pledge-of-allegiance-scouting.html.

This image in our documentary demonstrates the anti-Semitism present in France, long before World War 2.
“The Various Escape Routes from Villages on the Plateau to Switzerland. Image.”
Khc.qcc.cuny.edu, Kupferberg Holocaust Center, khc.qcc.cuny.edu/goodness/themes/hiding-escape/.

This photo was used in our documentary to show the many escape routes used to escort Jews into Switzerland.

“The Visit of Vichy’s Minister of Youth Affairs, Georges Lamirand, During Which Young Protestants Threw a Letter—Believed to Have Been Written by Pastor Trocmé—at Him Saying That They Would Not Reveal the Names of Any Jews in the Village. Image.”
Khc.qcc.cuny.edu, Kupferberg Holocaust Center, khc.qcc.cuny.edu/goodness/reflect/authority-and-morality/.

This is an actual photo that we used in our video that shows Prefect Bach and Georges Lamirand during their visit to Le Chambon.


During our research, we found this original image of Prefect Bach and Goerges Lamirand's visit to Le Chambon. We were excited to be able to use this image in our documentary.


We used this photo in our documentary to display an actual image of Le Chambon today.


In our documentary, this photo displays an image of André Trocmé’s cousin, Daniel Trocmé, who was tragically killed in a concentration camp.


In our documentary, we used this photo of Jews inside the Velodrome D’ Hiver bicycle stadium to give viewers a visual understanding of the tragedy they faced during the Vel D’ Hiv arrests.


While we were working on our documentary, we found actual images of the Vel D’ Hiv round up on this website.


This image in our documentary portrays the Warsaw Ghetto, and the Nazi's hatred toward the Jews living there.
Secondary Sources

Personal Interviews


Peter Grose is the author of the book, A Good Place to Hide, which tells the story of the operation that took place in Le Chambon, ultimately saving 3,500 Jews. Peter spoke about some of the most impactful interviews he conducted as part of his research. He also shared about why he felt the people of Le Chambon were willing to risk their lives in the rescue effort. Talking with Peter Grose was extremely beneficial to our project as it allowed us to understand the personal tragedies the refugees faced on a much deeper level.


After our initial interview, we had a few more questions for Peter Grose, the author of the book, A Good Place to Hide. He told us over email that once Andrè Trocmè, pastor of Le Chambon, met Burns Chalmers, leader of the American Friends Service Committee, they spoke about housing refugees from the camps in the plateau. He also spoke about how Andrè Trocmè was nominated for two Nobel Peace prizes. The conversation was helpful to our project, because we gained valuable information about how the triumph in Le Chambon began.


Patrick Henry is the author of the book, "We Only Know Men," which tells the story of the people of Le Chambon, and why they chose to come to the aid of the Jews. He shared with us how he conducted his research in writing his book, and about all of the survivors he interviewed. In addition, he spoke about his opinions regarding how horrible and tragic the Holocaust truly was. This interview was a great addition to our project as we gained a broader perspective of why the people of Le Chambon chose to get involved in the rescue effort, and just how much personal tragedy many of the survivors experienced while fleeing the Nazi regime.


After our interview with Patrick Henry, we remained in contact over email, as we had a few more questions remaining in our research. He provided us information about survivors from Le Chambon that created triumph, having a long-term impact on society. Patrick also included information about the role Burns Chalmers played in placing Jews from Internment camps in Le Chambon.


We had the chance to interview the current mayor of Le Chambon Sur-Lignon, Denise Vallat. She talked to us about how Le Chambon is still saving refugees today and has been for the last 400 years. She also spoke to us about the inspiring speech given by President Jacques Chirac in 2004, where he honored the extraordinary work done in Le Chambon during the holocaust. This interview was invaluable to our project, as it
revealed what Le Chambon is like today, and the triumph the town continues to participate in, even generations after the Holocaust.

Books


This book is about the different stories of the children that were hidden in Le Chambon during the war. It provided a useful timeline of the events that took place during World War 2 in France. Also, the book gave a broad overview of how the children came to Le Chambon, and what their lives were like while living there. We found that this book gave us a better understanding of what the children participated in on a daily basis, while in Le Chambon, as well as the triumph displayed in their stories after the war.


This book was written about how the people of Le Chambon got involved in the rescue of the Jews, and the specifics of how the operation took place. It also gave a detailed account of how they obtained the forged identity papers for those being hunted by the Nazi regime. In reading the book, we also learned about how the French resistance functioned within Le Chambon's borders, and the importance of their role in the triumph of the Allied Forces in World War II. We found this book to be an important resource as it gave us a strong foundation for the overall story and timeline of events in Le Chambon.


This book addressed the overall story of Le Chambon and analyzed the reasons why the villagers chose to come to the aid of the Jewish population. The book gave us information about André Trocmé, the pastor of Le Chambon, and his wife, Magda Trocmé. It also told the story about his childhood, and how he became a pacifist, as well as the pastor of Le Chambon. This book was a great addition to our project because it provided a greater foundation as to why the town of Le Chambon was willing to be involved in the rescue effort, and the tragedies that occurred in André Trocmé's life that influenced his pacifistic values.


This book discussed the overall story of what took place on the plateau, and who was involved in it. In the book, the author revealed important information about Daniel Trocmé, André Trocmé's cousin, who was arrested and deported to a concentration camp in Germany, where he passed away. The book also talked about the Jewish rescuers in Le Chambon, who risked their lives to rescue other Jews. This book was important to our project because it brought a deeper perspective of the true tragedy faced by the rescuers involved in the operation.

This book gave a broad overview of the schools the children attended in Le Chambon, and detailed information about the different backgrounds of the children being hidden. Specifically, it told the story of Anna Hirsch’s suffering through the loss of her grandmother, while in the Gurs Internment camp. Also, the book discussed how the people of Le Chambon hid the children during Nazi raids, often sending them into the forest to pick mushrooms. This book gave me a better understanding of how the children functioned on a daily basis in Le Chambon, and the personal tragedy that many of them experienced first-hand while fleeing from persecution.

**Periodicals**


As part of our research, we came across this article, written about Alexander Grothendieck, a survivor of the Holocaust, who hid in Le Chambon. The article told the amazing story of how Alexander Grothendieck went on to be one of the "greatest mathematicians of the 20th century," after the war, discovering multiple, ground breaking mathematical theories. It also discussed how he received his initial schooling while hiding in Le Chambon, and how he moved to Montpellier with his mother to continue his education after the war. We found this article to be beneficial to our project, as it revealed how the work in Le Chambon produced great triumph for Alexander Grothendieck, in giving him the opportunity to survive and pursue his career in advanced mathematics as his gift to the world.


This article was about how the story of Le Chambon impacted multiple people, especially Philip Hallie, the author of the book, Lest Innocent Blood be Shed. It gave a detailed description of the sermon that André Trocmè shared, inspiring the people of Le Chambon to begin defending the Jews. In addition, the article explained the rationale behind the willingness of the people in Le Chambon to put their lives at risk in order to save the Jews. This article assisted our project by giving us a better understanding of what it was that inspired the people of Le Chambon to aid the Jews, as well as explaining how the triumph in the story of Le Chambon began.


This is an academic journal article that we read as part of our research. The journal discussed how there were many more organizations and people involved in the rescue, such as the Cimade and Tracy Strong Foundation. We also gained more information about the background of Le Chambon before the Holocaust. This Journal was helpful to our project by giving us a broader understanding of the different organizations that helped bring about Le Chambon's triumph.

This Academic Journal discussed the different aspects of anti-Semitism across Europe, such as religious, economic, political, and racial anti-Semitism. It also explains the theories behind why the Germans hated the Jewish people and what birthed it in the first place. The journal helped our project by giving us a broader understanding of the tragedies that antisemitism brought upon the Jews throughout Europe, and how it easily became widespread.


This article discussed the history of the Huguenots in France. It provided information about how Catholicism ruled France in the 16th and 17th centuries. The article also talked about how thousands of Huguenots were persecuted, tortured, and killed during that time period by the government, under Catholic rule. We found this article helpful to our project, as it gave a broader understanding of history of the Huguenots, and why Le Chambon may have chosen to fight for triumph in aiding the Jews generations later.


This was about an organization created by Adolf Hitler, named Schutzstaffel, otherwise known as the "SS." The commander of the SS was Heinrich Himmler, who served as Hitler's Deputy Propaganda Chief. The first subdivision of the SS was called Verfügungstruppe, or "SS-VT." The other division was referred to as Totenkopfverbande, or "Death's Head Unit." The article added to our project because it gave us a larger grasp of the role of the SS in the Holocaust, and how widespread the tragedy caused by the SS truly was.


This article was about how the process of the rescue operation occurred in Le Chambon. Their goal was to provide a safe place for the Jews to hide, while also making efforts to spare the Jewish children from living in fear. The villagers did not need to know their race or backgrounds, just the fact that they were human beings in need of aid was enough for them. This was helpful to our project because it showed the courage of the people of Le Chambon, and how all of them worked together to bring about triumph for whoever was in need of their protection.


This was an article about the anti-Semitism still present in France today. It talked about a popular anti-Semitic group that is coming against Jewish organizations that remain active in France. The article also discussed the tragedy occurring as anti-Semitism spreads across social media throughout France. This article was helpful to our project by
explaining the sorrow that continues to occur in France, as anti-Semitism continues to gain influence.


As part of our research we read this academic journal article, which discussed the history of France and the Vel D’Hiv. The article talked about the background behind the Vichy government, and how Marshall Petain followed Hitler’s lead in the unoccupied zone of France. In reading the article, we gained a broader understanding of the Vichy government, as well as the tragedy involved in the Vel D’Hiv roundup.


This article was about Oscar Rosowsky, one of the main people who was involved in forging false identity papers in Le Chambon. It gave important details about how he began his efforts as a forger, in working towards freeing his mother from Auschwitz. In addition, it gave a broader understanding of the techniques that were utilized in the process of forging the false papers. In addition, we also found an image of his false identity cards, which we used in our documentary. The article provided us a greater awareness of Oscar Rosowsky’s story, as well as how important the forgery process was in the triumph of Le Chambon.


This article states the process, as well as the motivation for the people of Le Chambon to save 3,500 Jews during the Holocaust. It also provided information about how the Vichy Government reacted to André Trocmé’s activities within the plateau. Despite threats from the government, the village of Le Chambon continued helping Jewish refugees in any way possible. The article added to our project because it helped us grasp the different methods utilized in the operation, and the personal tragedies faced by André and Magda Trocmé in the midst of their efforts to save the Jews.


This article helped us become more informed about the background surrounding World War II. It discussed Hitler's plan to take over Europe, and the how the Allied Powers came together to stop him. In addition, the article explained Hitler's plan to wipe out the Jewish race, along with Gypsies, disabled people, and multiple other people groups in order to create his perception of a superior race. This article was helpful to our project, as it gave us a better understanding of the history of World War II, as well as the overwhelming tragedy caused by the Nazi regime.

**Films**

In our documentary, we used this actual footage of Hitler giving one of his persuasive speeches to demonstrate his unique ability to influence a crowd.


This video gave important information about the number of Jews who arrived in Le Chambon. Also discussed how the Jews became a part of the town's activities and traditions while they lived there. In addition, the video explained how they transported the Jews into Le Chambon secretly. This video was extremely helpful to our project because it allowed us to better understand how the Jews were transported into Le Chambon, as well as how the Jews and villagers found points of triumph in their daily activities, even while being hunted by the Nazi regime.


In our documentary we used this video to show the triumph that took place when the Jews escaped safely to Switzerland.

“German Invasion of France - Battle of France.” *Periscopefilm.com*, Periscope Film's Operation Archive, 31 Jan. 2015, periscopefilm.com/?s=france&Search.x=0&Search.y=0.

In our documentary, we used this video to display actual footage of Germany invading France during World War II.


We used this video in our documentary to show the tragedy after the Treaty of Versailles was signed, and the struggle of the German economy.


We used this video in our documentary to portray the hardship experienced by German society after the signing of the Versailles Treaty.


As part of our research, we watched a film about a man named Oskar Schindler, who was a successful businessman throughout World War II, and went on to save 1,100 Jews during the Holocaust. During the war, he bribed many Nazi officials in his quest to save as many Jews as possible. The movie revealed the harsh challenges that the Jews faced in the Ghetto, as well as concentration camps. The film impacted us deeply, as it opened our eyes to the horrific tragedies that occurred during the Nazi occupation.

We had the opportunity to watch a documentary that portrayed the stories of multiple Holocaust survivors from Le Chambon. The film gave information about how many of the train conductors assisted in the operation, hiding many Jews in various parts of the train. It also discussed the areas used by the villagers to hide those being hunted during the Nazi Regime. This video was helpful to our project because it gave us a better understanding of how the Swiss pastors were an important part of the triumph in Le Chambon by assisting with the escape into Switzerland.

**Images**


This image was useful in our documentary, to show soldiers at war, and what they experienced on the battlefield.


This picture in our documentary shows some of the anti-Semitic propaganda used by the Nazi Regime across Europe.


We used this photo in our documentary to show how Le Chambon displays a historical example to the rest France.


We used this photo in our documentary to represent an example of the forged identity papers used to rescue Jews from persecution.


We used this photograph in our documentary to inform viewers about what it was like during the German occupation in Southern France.


We used this photo in our documentary to represent the concentration camps that Daniel Trocmé and his students may have been sent to during the war.


We selected this image for our documentary to represent what the memorial for Daniel Trocmé and the 12 young Jewish students who died in concentration camps may have looked like.

We chose this image of a firing squad for our documentary to show the retribution often faced by those who chose to take a stand against the Nazi regime.


We used this image in our documentary to give viewers a visual perspective of the occupied and unoccupied zones in France during WWII.


In our documentary, we used this image to represent what the Jews may have experienced while being transported to concentration camps during the Vel D'Hiv arrests.


This photo in our documentary shows German tanks invading southern France.


This image was a powerful reminder in our documentary of the tragedy experienced within the walls of the concentration camps.


We chose this image for our video to represent the threat of arrest for those hiding Jews in Le Chambon.


This photo was used in our documentary to represent what Jews may have experienced as they were boarding trains to concentration camps after the Vel D'Hiv arrests.


We used this photo in our documentary to portray what a list of Jewish names may have looked like during that time period.


This was an actual picture of Magda Trocmé, the wife of André Trocmé, who led the operation after he fled Le Chambon.

In our documentary, we used this photo to show the triumph Micheline Federman, a Le Chambon survivor, experienced after the war.


In our documentary, this picture portrayed André giving his speech to the villagers of Le Chambon, challenging them to fight the Nazi agenda using "weapons of the spirit."


We used this image in our documentary to give the viewers a visual understanding of the tragic anti-Semitism present in France at that time.


When we worked on our documentary, we used this image to portray the Treaty of Versailles that Germany signed after World War I.


This photo of suffering children was used in our documentary to portray the hardship the Jews faced as they were persecuted by the Nazi regime.


In our documentary, we used this image to cast a visual understanding of Andrè Trocmè, and his wife, Magda Trocmè.


We used this photo of Jewish women in a concentration camp to give a visual understanding of the tragedies that Jews had to face as prisoners of the Nazi regime.


We used this image in our documentary to provide a visual representation of refugees finding shelter in Le Chambon.

Music


While creating our documentary, we used this music to add meaning to our story.


We selected this music for our documentary to make the video more impactful for viewers.
   In our documentary, we chose this music to increase the emotional intensity of the video.

   When we created our documentary, we used this music to add to the impact of the story.

   This music added to our documentary as it made the story more powerful for viewers.

   We used this music in our documentary to increase viewer interest.

Ji Peong Kwon. “Sad Romance.” Drama Sonatina.
   This music in our documentary is meant to create emotional intensity for viewers.

Johannes Bornloff. “Legendary Walk Four.”
   In our documentary, we used this music to provide dramatic impact for our story.

   We chose this music for our documentary, as it increased the emotional intensity of the story.
Soon after deciding to participate in History Day, we began researching different topics online that would be interesting, as well as demonstrate both triumph and tragedy. Eventually, we came across the story of Le Chambon and were impressed by the bravery of the villagers, who were willing to risk their own lives to save the lives of others. The more we read about the people of Le Chambon, the more we were drawn to their story.

In beginning our research, we used online sources to gain a basic understanding of the story and the historical context surrounding it. Eventually, we came across the documentary, “Weapons of the Spirit,” which helped us grasp both the triumph and the tragedy experienced by all involved. We were so affected by it, that we researched the maker of the film, Pierre Sauvage, who is also a survivor from Le Chambon. The opportunity to speak with him proved to be extremely beneficial, as he gave us a first-hand account of his experiences in Le Chambon. He also put us in contact with Nelly Trocmé, the daughter of Pastor André Trocmé. Nelly turned out to be an amazing resource, as she gave us contact information for multiple survivors, as well as fact checking our research. We also discovered the Holocaust Museum in Los Angeles and were genuinely moved by the tragedies faced by so many during World War II. Later, one of our group members had the unique opportunity to visit the Warsaw Ghetto Wall in Poland, while on the way to Kazakhstan. The experience was deeply impactful, as the tragedy of the Holocaust became much more real to us. As our research continued, we came upon multiple primary sources, many of which told the stories of the survivors in their own words.

We chose to do a group documentary because we felt it was the best way to communicate the emotional story of Le Chambon, through video, images, and music. In addition, we thought the documentary would allow the opportunity to portray our actual interviews on screen. Having been friends since kindergarten, we thought it would be beneficial to work as a team in researching our topic and putting together the presentation. As we began to develop the documentary, we learned how to insert our images, music, and quotes into the iMovie program. As time went on, the process became simple.
In completing our research, we believe that the story of Le Chambon demonstrates the triumph, and acknowledges the tragedies faced at that time in history. With the start of World War II, Hitler’s pursuit of a superior Aryan race culminated, spreading tragedy throughout Europe, and forcing Jews to fight for their survival. In the midst of the suffering, the people of Le Chambon, along with the surrounding villages, put their lives at risk, to rescue 5,000 refugees, including 3,500 Jews. The villagers of Le Chambon chose to bring about triumph, saving the lives of thousands, and impacting future generations.