

# **CIDOC 2018**

## **Topic: Object information as historical source**

**Title:** Identify and Define What We See

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Short paper (10 minutes plus question time)

The Rishon Le-Zion Museum presents the uniqueness of Rishon Le-Zion as a creator of fundamental national values and symbols: It is here that the flag, the national anthem, the first Hebrew school, the first Zionist Jewish national fund and more, were created. Alongside these, the Museum displays the daily life in the colony.

The Rishon Le-zion Museum Collection is one of the largest and most impressive of the First Aliya period. The collection include objects, photograph, movies, maps, posters and other collections. Research on the items is carried out frequently in order to arrive at provenance of knowledge about them. The research is carried out through internet research, distribution on the social media and in constant contact with the community in Rishon Le-zion and other. As a result, we have been able to enrich the information about the objects and understand their exact context as to their origin, dating and use.



Example for this are three pieces from dining set that belonged to Baron Edmond de Rothschild. Monogram: E.R., without a stamp. It is not clear how these three pieces belonging to Baron Edmond de Rothschild reached Rishon Le-zion and unfortunately the person who donate them to the museum didn't know either. We know that the baron visited Rishon Le-zion twice, in 1887 and in 1899. The person who identified them as having belonged to the Rothschild family was none other than Baroness Nadine de Rothschild, who visited Rishon Le-zion with her husband Baron Edmond de Rothschild, the grandson, in 1987. She recognized the pieces as belonging to a porcelain dinner set still owned by the Rothschilds and showed the monogram, E.R. – Edmond de Rothschild.

The identification reveal an important historic information.