

Imperial War Museum Holocaust Fellowship Scheme
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As humanities practitioners we are used to working with physical sources. What do you do when that evidence simply does not exist, when all you are left with is an empty space representing what had been?

In November 2008 I visited the site of the Treblinka Death Camp in Poland with a group of fellow educators who were enrolled on the Imperial War Museum Holocaust Fellowship Scheme. Over 800 000 Jewish children and adults were murdered in this empty field. Nothing remains but a range of post war memorials. It is impossible to do little but weep in the face of such emptiness.

During the two year fellowship programme the theme of ‘what had been’ was a constant one. The programme included a week of workshops in London led by international Holocaust historians such as Tim Cole and David Cesarini. This was followed by a week at Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial Museum in Jerusalem and then one further week in Lithuania and Poland.

I would highly recommend the programme. My fellow teachers were a joy to work with; my knowledge and understanding of the Holocaust has improved tremendously and all of this has had a major impact on Holocaust teaching in school. On a more personal level, I know that as a result of the programme I have changed – and that surely goes to the very heart of what learning and education are all about.

[Tideway School Holocaust Project 2009](#)

