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GRAPEVINE
• By GREER FAY CASHMAN



HANNAH LESSING and Prof. Herwig Hosele next to the model of the Turner Temple. (Aviv Hofi)

■ AMONG THE many exhibits at Beit Hatfutsot – the Museum of the Jewish People are models of buildings that were once integral to Jewish communities, and were destroyed during pogroms or by the Nazis. One such building was the Turner Temple, which was consecrated in Vienna in 1871 by the Sechshaus congregation, and served as a symbol of the community's autonomy and as a model of Jewish identification.

The building was torched during the ugly Kristallnacht riots of November 1938 and in 2010, a memorial was unveiled on the Turner Temple site as a permanent reminder of Nazi destruction and oppression. The monument includes text that tells the story of the temple, and its importance to the Viennese Jewish community.

A model of the Turner Temple was unveiled at Beit Hatfutsot this week in the presence of Prof. Moshe Yehuda, who was a boy in Vienna at the time the temple was destroyed and witnessed it burning to the ground. Seeing a model of the building in

Israel marked the closing of a circle for him, he said.

Also present at the unveiling of the model were **Hannah Lessing**, secretary-general of the National Fund of the Republic of Austria; and Prof. **Herwig Hosele**, secretary-general of the Future Fund of the Republic of Austria, who specially came from Vienna for the occasion – which was attended by many guests from Israel and abroad, including Ami and **Michal Federmann**, and **Yossi and Daniela Beilin**.

Beit Hatfutsot chief curator Dr. **Orit Shaham-Gover** said the institution, which already houses many models of synagogues from both East and West, was proud to include the Turner Temple in its collection. The model will be part of a new permanent exhibition that will be on display to the public from the end of 2017.