

The Jewish Cemetery of Chişinău (Kishinev)

Before 1917 Kishinev was a center of Bessarabia gubernia
of the Russian Empire.

Now it is the capital of Republic of Moldova.

Еврейское Кладбище,
Кишинёв, Молдова

Final report, Yefim Kogan, February 28, 2017



Reproduced from site www.oldchisinau.com

Location, address

Address of the cemetery: Milano 1, MD-2069, Kishinev, Republic of Moldova, 47-036811, 28-797923

Most Jews who lived in that town will call it Kishinev and not Chisinau. Chisinau is the current official name though.

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Introduction

This is the beginning of the project of the Jewish Cemetery in Kishinev. Quarter 2 is what was photographed and indexed.

The photos were taken by Pavel Tuev, who is the head of a company providing care for the burial places in Kishinev and Orgeev. www.pavetex.md, skype: pavel.tuev, phone: (+373 22) 768 578; email: pavel.tuev@gmail.com.

Our appreciation to all **members** who donated money for the project! Without your support we would not be able to making it happen.

Maps



Chisinau (Kishinev) on the Google Map. Cimitirul Evreiesc – Jewish Cemetery (from Romanian)



See Chisinau (Kishinev) on the Google map of Moldova.

Ukraine is to the East and South, about 30-35 miles, Romanian border is to the West, about 30 miles.

Jewish life in Chisinau (Kishinev), Moldova

There was a Jewish community in Kishinev during the second half of the 18th century, 10509 Jews lived in Kishinev in 1847 (12% of total population), 18,327 Jews in 1867 (22% of total population), 50,237 Jews in 1897 (about 46% of total population) and 75,000 Jews lived in Kishinev before the war started (1940) (50% of total population). In 1924/25 there were 1669 registered Jewish businesses in the town.

For more information about Kishinev see KehilaLinks Kishinev website at <http://kehilalinks.jewishgen.org/Chisinau/>, created by Ariel Parkansky

You may also find helpful information on a several conference presentations:

Kishinev, my native town: Can we now visit Kishinev and find help in our genealogical research? Yefim Kogan, 2015. See <http://www.jewishgen.org/Bessarabia/Conferences2015.html> for several articles at the presentation.

Jewish cemeteries in Chisinau (Kishinev)

During the long history of Jewish Chisinau there were several Jewish cemeteries in town, from which only part of one of them exists now. The cemetery was called the Jewish cemetery on Skulyanka or “New” cemetery. It was established in the 18th century and there were about 40,000 graves in the cemetery. On the first page of this report you can see how large the cemetery was. In 1958, part of the cemetery was used for a market square and later for a park with tennis courts and buildings. In the 1960s it was called Park Kuybysheva, and now it is Park Alunel.

For details on the destroyed Kishinev cemeteries see <http://www.jewishgen.org/Bessarabia/files/conferences/2014/KishinevDestroyedCemeteries.pdf>

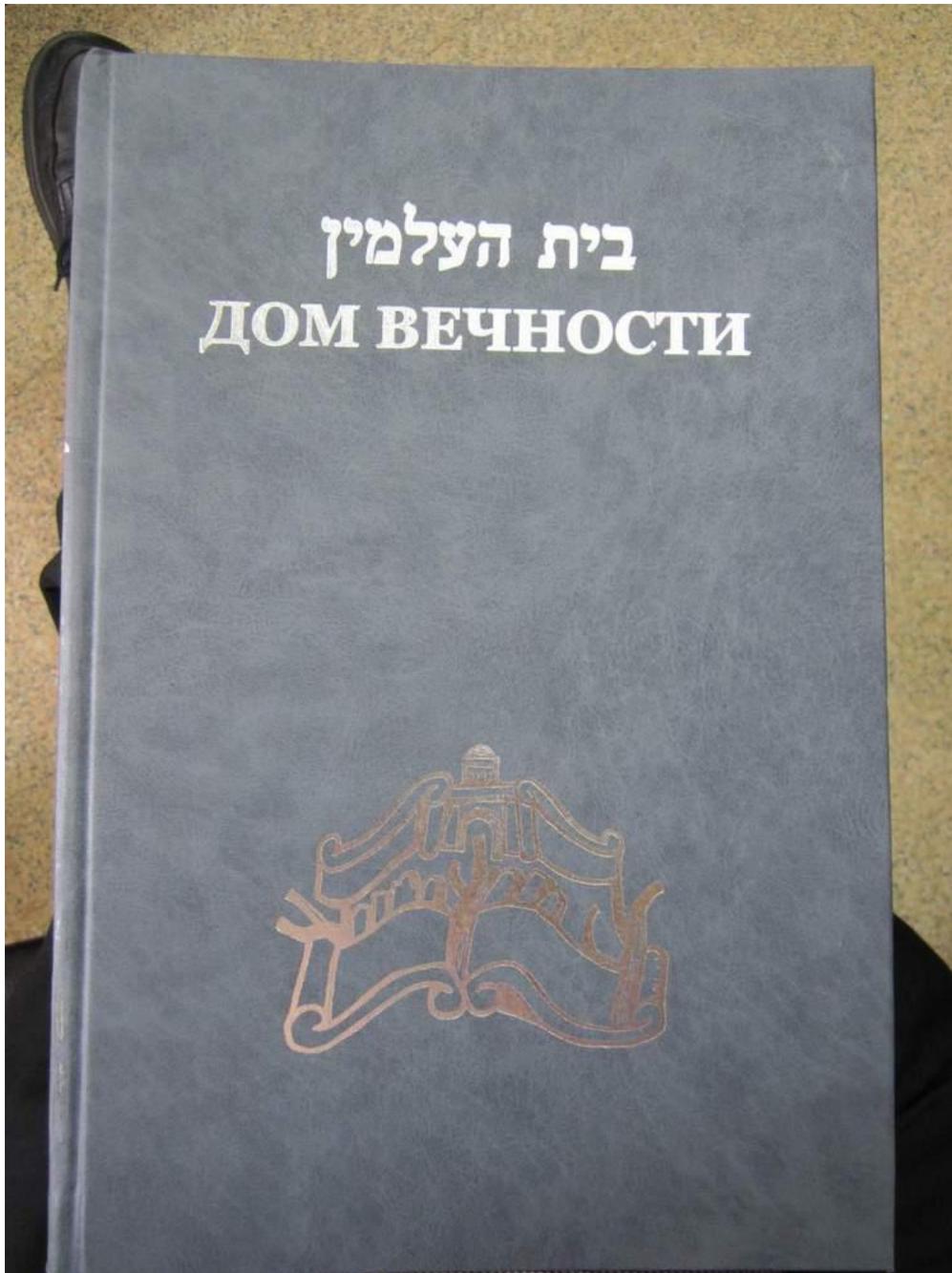
Also, see a presentation at a conference in 2014: **Jewish Cemeteries in Bessarabia and Moldova: History, Current state, Indexing, Photographing**, Yefim Kogan, 2014. See at <http://www.jewishgen.org/Bessarabia/Conferences2014.html>

There is also a town cemetery Doyna in Kishinev where Jews have 21 sectors. 9630 records with 9333 photos were sent to JOWBR and are now available, see Doyna Cemetery report at <http://www.jewishgen.org/Bessarabia/files/cemetery/Kishinev/KishinevDoynaReport.pdf>

Jewish House of Eternity, Jewish Cemetery Registry

The registry of all burials in Kishinev Jewish Cemetery was compiled and published in a book:
House of Eternity, Kishinev, 2004

JewishGen / Bessarabia SIG signed an agreement with the publisher that JewishGen will
translate the registry into English and post at the JewishGen.org.



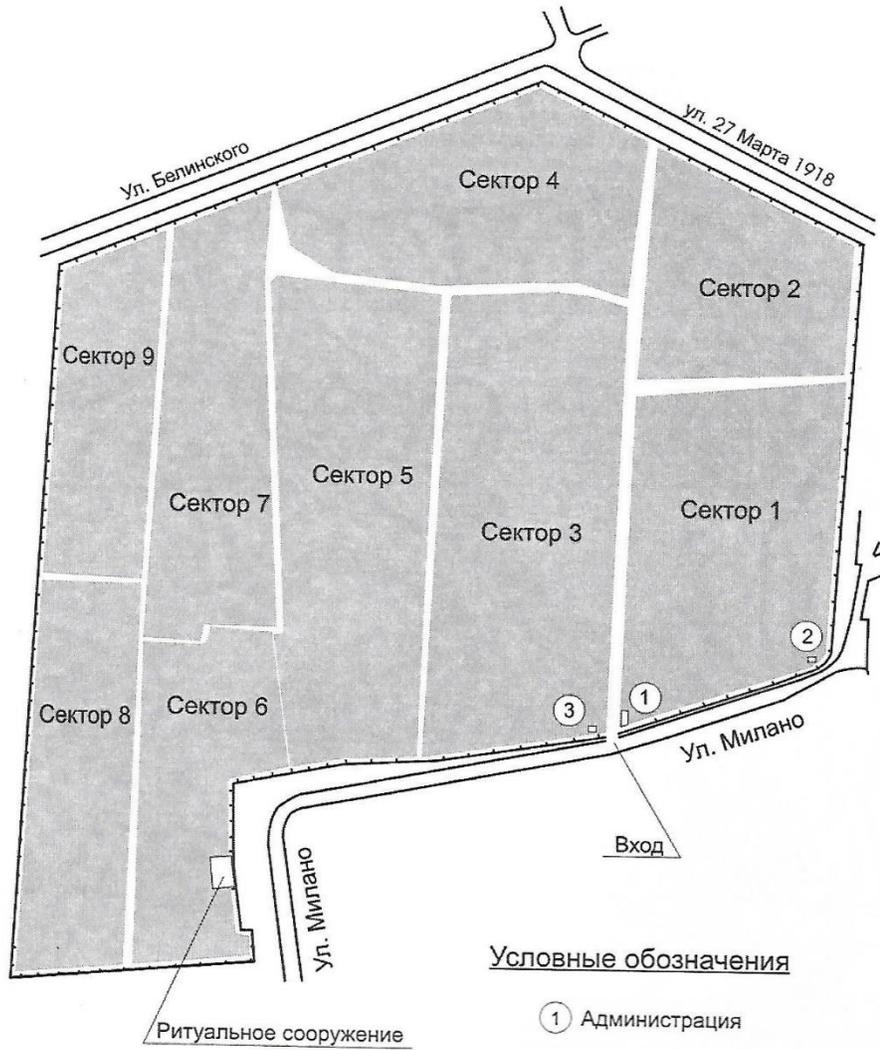
Schema Kishinev Jewish Cemetery



ПЛАН-СХЕМА
Кишиневского еврейского
кладбища

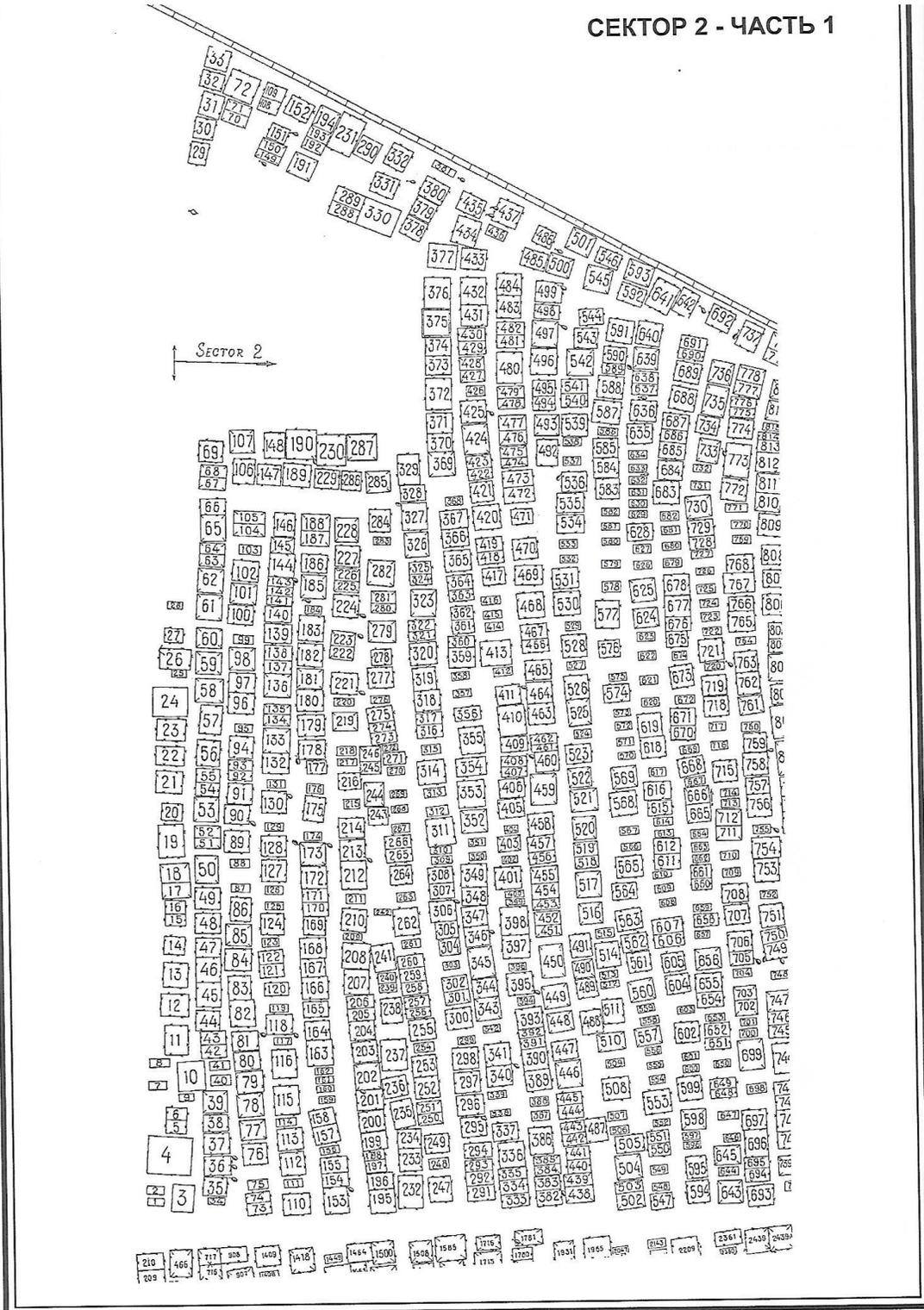


Сектор –
Sector or
Quarter



Условные обозначения

- ① Администрация
- ② Туалет
- ③ Емкость с водой



Phase 1 of the project – Sector 2

The published registry has **1191** burials in Sector 2, but we submitted to JOWBR **1341** records. The difference is because there some newer burials not included in the book, and also there are many names listed on the tombstones, most likely they died in the war in some other places.

There are also 48 Unknown Graves that you can access at [Unknown Graves at Kishinev Jewish cemetery](#).

Every burial has a plot number in the book, and the same plot number is uploaded to JOWBR. All burials in Sector 2 have a prefix “02” and after that a 4 digit plot number. For the records added to the registry, there is a letter added to the end of the plot number: A, B



Main Cemetery Gates

From “Jewish Heritage sites and Monuments in Moldova”

According to the report “[Jewish Heritage Sites and Monuments in Moldova](#)”, created by United States Commission for the Preservation of America’s Heritage Abroad, 2010, about Kishinev Jewish cemetery: *The very large Jewish cemetery in Chişinău, then the single largest Jewish site in the country, is still in use and it is frequently visited. The approximately 100 hectare area is surrounded by a continuous masonry wall with a gate. It contains more than 20,000 graves, which date back to the 17th century. Gravestones and markers are made of marble, granite, limestone, sandstone, slate and other materials. Some graves are marked with ornate structures in the form of mausoleums. Many graves have metal fences around them; others have portraits applied to the stones, as well as other decorative items. There is a monument to the victims of the Holocaust, and the ruins of a pre-burial house. Several restoration efforts, including re-erection of stones and clearing of the vegetation, have been carried out here in past years. Several Jewish groups from Moldova and abroad have participated in caring for the site. Address: Milano Street 1.*

Photo of Kishinev cemetery from report “Jewish Heritage Sites and Monuments in Moldova”.



Grave stones with swastikas

Five monuments in Sector 2 were desecrated with swastikas:



Volunteers

Translation of the whole registry (book) was done by **Terry Lasky**, and he also worked on Sector 2 first reading. The second reading was done by **Yefim Kogan**.

Our appreciations to **Ariel Parkansky, Ron Miller, Maury Kitces and Rick Levine** who helped remove swastikas from the five memorials above.

Mass Grave of Jews killed in village Chuchuleni, Kalarash district



Some of the burial sites were put into cages, without access

