

CATALOGUE OF SKALA DOCUMENTS AT YIVO IN NYC

1. Copy of Skala entry in "Słownik Geograficzny", published in Warsaw in 1880-1884, zeszyt (notebook) 117, pp.642-643; also copy of similar entry in "Polska Starożytna" by Balinski-Lipinski, volume III. In almost identical language they state that "the census of the year 1570 shows that . . . the town had 186 Christian households who paid rent of 12 groszy, 10 Jewish who paid 1 zloty each and the following who paid nothing: 2 county officials; members of the landed gentry; 4 of clergy; 25 occupied by castle servants and 2 by municipal servants. In another reference to Jews it is stated: " the last census of 1765 provides the following details: Skala has no other merchants, but Jews, who are inn keepers and have stores selling small articles." (c-2 pages)
2. "Yosefinska Metryka" - a 1787 record listing property owners in Skala and the adjacent Old Town, handwritten on German language forms. Of those listed 62 are Jews' ,14 are innkeepers, two are tailors. None have family names. Most are listed by first names and the names of their fathers, i.e.Zelig Mayerowicz, Chaim Benyaminowicz etc. Some ladies are listed according to their status, i.e. Malka the widow or Esther the widow. Most significant is the listing on this record of three Jewish Communal properties: the Synagogue, the Jewish public bath and the Jewish cemetery. (vpc - 14 pages).
3. "Extractus ex Inventario Oppidi Skala & Iwankov - 1810" - document lists 66 Jewish families residing in Skala, referred to as "Chalupniki" (tenants). One third of them own between 1 and 10 heads of livestock: cows, calves, sheep and horses.(In the 23 years that separate this document from the "Yosefinska Metryka", most of the Skala Jews acquired germanized family names due to statues enacted by the liberal Austrian Emperor Joseph I, who granted full citizenship to the Jews of the Empire and wanted them to assimilate.) Jews in this document are listed under the separate heading of "Zydzi" (Jews) and their communal and religious autonomy is confirmed by listing Jonah Bilgoraj as head of the Community and three others as members of the Community Council. (c- 3 big sheets).
4. Alphabetical listing in German of property owners in Skala, dated March 04, 1827, includes 76 Jews of a total of 261. (Comments in right hand column and closing four lines with signatures on last page need to be deciphered and translated.) Along the listed names is shown the peoples religious affiliation. (c- 13 pages).
5. Another alphabetical list of property owners in Skala, dated March 8th, 1828. Of the total of 262 names, 65 can be identified as Jewish. (Many pages from this list are missing). The only listed Jewish Communal property in this document is the "Juden Gemeinde Markt Skala" (Jewish Community, Market Skala). (c - 20 pages)

c - copy ; o - original ; phc - photo copies; vpc - verified photo copies.

- 2 -

6. "Verzeichniss der Wahlberechtigten Gemeindeburger und Angehoerigen" - list of eligible voters, citizens and their dependents, dated January 22, 1867. (incomplete) Of the 378 listed names 124 can be identified as Jewish. Handwritten on German language forms with following columns: 1. Consecutive numbers; 2. First & last names; 3. occupation; 4. house number; 5. annual debts for a variety of taxes.; 6. Remarks. (Columns 3 & 6 need to be deciphered and translated). (c - 17 pages).
7. 1811-1812 court document in Polish concerning official complaint lodged by 24 Jewish inn keepers in Skala against the imposition of unfair taxes and levies by local authorities. (c- 3 ps).

8. April 27, 1877 document of Borshchov County Government listing 39 Jewish religious classes called "Chadarim" in the county, including 18 in Skala, that were closed by the authorities for their "inability to prove that they are qualified to maintain talmudic schools". The list includes the names of the teachers. (c - 1 pg.)

9. 1879 records of Jewish land owners in Skala (on Polish and Russian language forms) listing names of owners, size of properties, their estimated values, based on regulations of same date. Among the owners is also the Jewish Community. (c - 22 pages).

10. "Wykaz Stanu Posiadlosci Gruntowej" - October 14, 1880 record of land owners in Skala and the Old Town (among them 148 Jewish), their names, house numbers, size of properties and incomes derived from same. (c - 30 pages).

11. Document of Borshchov County dated November 24, 1890 lists five Jewish Communities in the County, including Skala. The Skala Community includes Jews living in the surrounding villages of Cygany, Iwankov, Losiacz, Burdiakowce, Gusztyn, Berezanka, Gusztynek, Trojce, Zbryzh, Debowka, Podfilipie, Slobodka with Puklaki, Turylcze, Zalucze and Wierzbowka, numbered 695 families. Community institutions listed were a Synagogue, four houses of prayer, a cemetery and a public bath. (c - 2 pages).

12. Bylaws of the Jewish Community Council of Skala (printed in German) adopted on March 21, 1897 and signed by seven Council members and Rabbi Laufer with stamp of Council and of Rabbi Laufer. Also included is draft copy with corrections. (c - 16 photo copies).

13. Documents of Borshchov County dated January 1900, April 1906 and April 1908 list all existing and approved Jewish religious study rooms (chadarim) in the county, including those in Skala, the names of the teachers, their house numbers, numbers and dates of their permits, number of students in attendance, numbers of Jewish children obligated to attend public schools and the actual number attending. (phc - 8 pages).

14. Minutes of Jewish Community Council and correspondence in German (1897-1900) concerning the by-laws of the Council and their approval by the authorities (vpc - 14)

- 3 -

15. Jewish Community Council report in German dated August 8th, 1890 submitted to the County Office in Borshchov with statistical data about the size of the Jewish Community, including those in nearby villages: 596 families in Skala proper and 99 families in the 15 nearby villages, i.e. a total of 695 families. (phc - 3 pages).

16. Medical certificate issued in Skala on Nov.10,1890 to Shmarye Melzer, head of the Jewish Community, as being unable to travel to Borshchov (he was apparently summoned by the County authorities) because he suffers from a case of lumbago. (phc - 1 page).

17. Litigation file (1902-1905) concerning a legal challenge by Moshe Buga (Skala resident) and Jacob Scharfstein (resident of Cygany) to the Communal election results in Skala. (phc - 45 pages).

18. 1929 correspondence between the County Police Office in Borshchov and the Police Precinct in Skala concerning the regional representative of the Singer machine company suspected of espionage. (vpc - 3 pages).

19. "Schematyzm Wojewodztwa Tarnopolskiego" (1935-36) - pages from a guide book to the State of Tarnopol with basic data about Skala, i.e. size of population, leading members of clergy, city administration, police, medical personnel, fire dept. etc. (vpc - 2 pages).
20. 1923 document of Borshchov County Office listing all Jewish Communities in the County, including Skala, with their respective population figures. Skala with 2640 souls was largest in the County. (vpc - 1 page).
21. Borshchov County Office document of September 15, 1932 listing all Jewish Civil Record Offices in the County, including Skala, with the names and backgrounds of their administrators. (phc - 1 page)
22. Letter from Borshchov County Office dated March 10, 1939 to the State Office in Tarnopol, advising it of the composition of the newly elected Jewish Community Council in Skala. (vpc & o - 2 pages).
23. 1936/37 State Comptroller report on the activities of the Jewish Community Council in Skala. (vpc - 4 pages)
24. Comprehensive typed Police report of April 12, 1932, providing general description of Skala with adjacent villages, incl. ethnic and religious make up of population, business, trade, commerce, political and social activities, educational and medical facilities etc. (vpc - 12 pages)
25. 1929-1937 Skala Police reports submitted to Borshchov County headquarters, about criminal or political activities of individuals and groups, mostly Jewish and Ukrainian that were monitored by the police. (vpc - 26 pages).

- 4 -

26. "Bikur Cholim" (Society to help the Sick) - 1927-1933 file includes application for State approval, by-laws of organization, elections of officers, correspondence with State Agencies etc. (phc - 17 pages).
27. "Gmilat Chessed" (Free Loan Assn.) in Skala. 1928 file includes application for State approval of by-laws of organization, correspondence with Central Jewish Aid Committee in Lvov etc. (phc - 5 pages).
28. "Noseh Hamita" (Burial Society) 1927-1937 documents include application for State approval; 1914 by-laws, annual reports, elections of officers etc. (phc - 16 pages).
29. "Yad Charutzim" (Welfare Org. to help the needy) - 1933 documents concerning the dissolution of the organization. (phc - 5 pages).
30. "Safa Berura" - Hebrew Cultural Association dedicated to the promulgation of the modern Hebrew language and literature among the youth. 1933-37 documents concerning membership, elections of officers, their names, political affiliation, ages, occupation etc. Legal body that administered all the activities in the "Beth Am' - Jewish Community Center. (phc - 3 ps)
31. "Hechaluth" - Zionist youth organization, application for State approval (1925) and other documents about its leadership, membership, activities etc. (phc - 11 pages).

32. "Hitachduth" - Labor Zionist Organization with large following. 1929-1939 file includes application for State approval, mandatory annual reports to the Government, correspondence with regulatory State agencies. Details about membership, officers, elections etc.(phc - 15 pages).
33. "Zohar" - Zionist Revisionist Organization with large following. File includes annual reports to regulatory State authorities, details of elections, names of officers etc.(phc - 9 pages).
34. Birth certificates issued by the Jewish Community Office for civil records in 1902, 1921,1927 and 1934. (c - 4 pages).
35. Copies of wedding invitations dated 1922, 1923, 1927, 1934 and 1936. (c - 4 pages)
36. Printed invitation to a circumcision in 1937. (o - 1 card)
37. "Certyfikat Przynaleznosci"- 1921 right of residence document issued by the Municipality of Skala confirming a persons' place and year of birth and her/his "belonging" to the town and County. Known as "heimatschein" in German. (c - 1 copy).

- 5 -

38. 1912 Identification and travel permits issued by the County Office in Borshchov to two Skala Jews for travel to Russia.(c - 2 pages).
39. Hebrew report cards from the Hebrew "Tarbut" school in Skala issued to students between 1922 and 1937, including a young German, who resided with his family in Skala and an evening class adult student. (o - 4 pages; c - 1 page)
40. Polish Public School report card from 1923. (o - 1 page).
41. Hand drawn map of Skala by the artist Emanuel Shary in 1970's for the Yizkor book (o-1 p)
42. Jewish Community Council documents from 1935 and 1936 listing contributors to the Community chest, their names, professions, addresses and amounts contributed. 1935 document states total membership in the Community as 1700 souls. Both documents signed by leaders with official stamps and submitted to the State Govt. in Tarnopol for approval. (vpc-14 p)
43. Jewish Community budget for the 1936 calendar year lists all income, sources of revenue and all expenditures. Signed by leaders and stamped with official seal. Submitted to State Govt. in Tarnopol as mandated by law. (vpc -7 pages).
44. Jewish Community document dated December 12, 1936 lists all Communal property with their estimated value of 89,458.30 Zlotys. (vpc - 9 pages).
45. Extensive correspondence between the Jewish Community Council and Polish authorities in 1934-36 concerning the appointment of Rabbi Yehuda Drimmer as Community Rabbi in place of his older brother Shlomo who was appointed to the position of deputy chaplain of the Polish Army. Documents

include minutes of meetings, appeals in support of appointment, important letter with history of the Drimmer dynasty and copy of eventual approval by the Ministry of Religion and Education in Warsaw. (vpc - 48 pages).

46. Statistical table (in Ukrainian) of all towns and villages in the County of Borshchov dated Dec.08, 1914 showing size of population, composition of administrative personnel, their nationalities, sizes and ownership of arable lands. Skala is listed with a population of 6180 and three Jewish landowners from Skala (Shmarye Melzer, David Melzer and Wolf Stock) owned a total 4937 "morg" (acres ?) of land. Table clipped from 1993 Ukrainian publication. Encl. clipping from "Davar" (1970's) about Jewish Agriculture in Galicia. (c - 7 pages).

47. List of 1939 electors (incomplete) from Skala and the village of Turylcze (District 65) qualified to vote for candidates to the Polish Senate. Next to the name of each elector is listed date of birth, occupation and address. Among the electors is also Solomon Weidenfeld (my father). (c - 14 pages).

- 6 -

48. Hebrew letter dated June 19,1938 from Motie Weidberg ,Zionist leader and last head of the Jewish Community in Skala, to his children in Palestine, discussing his plans of moving to Palestine. He perished in 1943.(c - 2 pages)

49. Jewish Community document of January 5, 1939 listing widows and children of deceased members of the Skala clergy, who were receiving pensions from the Community Council. (phc - 1 page).

50. 1921 correspondence between Skala Community leaders Israel-Leib Freifelder and Moshe Feuerstein and the office of the American Joint Distribution Committee in Lvov concerning requested assistance for the reconstruction of the Communal bath house. Drawn plans of the project are included. (c - 14 pages)

51. 1921-1926 correspondence in Polish and Yiddish between the Central Jewish Assistance Committee in Lvov and the Mutual Aid Committee in Skala concerning emergency assistance for the impoverished Jewish population following World War I and their return from exile to Skala. From this Committee emerged later the Free Loan Society in Skala - the "Gmilath Chasadim Fund" that played a vital role in restoring the economic life in the Community. (c - 20 pages)

52. 1927 correspondence between the Central Committee in Lvov and the Committee in Skala. For details see # 51 above. (c - 19 pages).

53. Financial Reports and balance sheets of the Mutual Aid Committee and the Free Loan Society in Skala for the years 1926-1927.(c - 18 pages).

54. September 1939 Report of Ing. M. Weissglass, Comptroller of the Association of Jewish Free Loan Societies in Lvov about the activities of the Free Loan Society in Skala. (c - 20 pgs)

55. List of 61 contributors to a community project (1925-1927). Columns with Hebrew headings show amounts , dates, names of contributors, amounts pledged in \$ and Zlotys; cash received in \$ and Zlotys. Contributors include Zionists, orthodox and Community Council.(Campaign could have been either for the Public Bath or the "Beth Am".)(phc - 3 pages.)

56. 1929 telegram from Skala Community Council to Zionist headquarters in Lvov expressing condolences over the death of an important Zionist leader. Name not given. (c - 1 page).

57. Text of resolutions in Hebrew adopted at an August 23, (probably 1929) public meeting expressing pain and outrage over the anti-Jewish Arab riots in Palestine and calling on the British Government to live up to the terms of the Balfour declaration and League of Nations Mandate re: Jewish National Home in Palestine. Related to this is draft of letter to "Keren Haganah" office in Lvov dated August 17, 1929. (c - 2 pages).

- 7 -

58. 1933 Correspondence in Yiddish and Hebrew between Motie Weidberg, Ben-Zion Fiderer and Max Feuerstein (local Zionist leaders) and Dr. Abraham Stoop, General-Secretary of the Zionist Executive Council in Lvov concerning the "Shekel" drive etc. (phc - 16 pages).

59. Two letters in Polish (Oct.1933) from Max Feuerstein (Skala Zionist youth leader) to the Zionist Executive Committee in Lvov, concerning a "conspiracy" led by Solomon Wiesenthal and Fischel Fish to hijack the organization . Letters request immediate intervention. (phc - 2 pgs).

60. March 1933 letter in Polish from the administration of the Skala Community Council to the Zionist Executive Committee in Lvov about the controversial figure of Solomon Jaeger, a native of Korolowka, former municipal secretary, an assimilated Jew, suspected of intrigues against the Community Council and its leaders. Letter endorsed by M. Weidberg on behalf of local Palestine Committee, requests the Zionist Executive to deny Mr. Jaeger a "certificate" for immigration to Palestine. (phc - 1 page).

61. Jan. 21, 1934 letter from Zionist Executive Committee in Lvov to Motie Weidberg and Y. Freifelder (local leaders) concerning 800 zlotys, pledged or raised in Skala for Kfar Osyshkin, a General Zionist pioneering settlement in Palestine. (phc - 1 page).

62. 1934 Zionist Exec. Committee questionnaire duly completed by Skala leaders with vital, factual information about Zionist activities, i.e. youth, JNF, leaders, cultural activities, library, Hebrew school and Communal politics. phc - 4 pages).

63. 1935 exchange of correspondence between Skala Zionists and the Exec. Committee in Lvov concerning the "Shekel" drive and elections of delegates to forthcoming Zionist Congress. In July 15 postcard Weidberg reports that among the ballots cast was one with following text: " Down with the British lackeys! Down with the Zionist oppressors of poor Arabs! Long live the Soviet Union! Long live the commune!" Weidberg suggests to publicize this matter in the Zionist Press as it may help in elections still to be held in certain areas. (phc-9p)

64. Two letters dated May 31 and June 6th, 1935 Weidberg criticizes leadership of Zionist Executive Committee in Lvov for the disarray in their ranks & their ineffectiveness in conducting the "Shekel" drive resulting in the loss of positions to the labor Zionists.(phc-4 pgs.)

65. 1935 activities report of General Zionist Org. in Skala and their role in Community affairs, fund raising, Free Loan Society and Hebrew education. (phc - 1 page)

66. February 1935 letter from local Zionist leaders to Executive Committee in Lvov requesting their

assistance in securing a "Certificate" for their colleague Nissan Olinger, to facilitate his immigration to Palestine. (phc -2 pages).

- 8 -

67. 1936 correspondence between Dr. Stoop, Sec.Gen. of Zionist Committee in Lvov and local leaders Weidberg and Freifelder re: "Tarbut" Conference, activities report etc (phc -10 pgs)..

68. 1937 postcards from Weidberg to Zionist Council in Lvov re: "Shekel" and membership drives, registrations and payments by member made eligible for recommendations to receive "Certificates" for immigration to Palestine. (phc - 10 pages).

69. 1938 post cards from Weidberg to Zionist Central Committee in Lvov listing leading members (among them Rabbi Yehuda Drimmer) who contributed to the Organizations' Fund and one appointing Rabbi Drimmer as the Community delegate to a Conference in Warsaw scheduled for Nov. 30, 1938. (phc - 5 pages)

70. 1939 post cards to/from Zionist Central Committee re: distribution of "Shkalim" and immigration to Palestine. (phc - 10 cards).

71. 1929 correspondence between the "Shekel" Committee in Skala and the National "Shekel Commission in Lvov concerning distribution and sale of "shkalim". (c - pages).

72. Extensive 1933 file about "shekel" campaign, includes minutes of meetings of local Commission with representatives of General Zionists, Labor Zionists, Revisionists and Mizrachi, distribution and sale of "shkalim" and list of those who purchased them and are qualified to vote for delegates to the 18th World Zionist Congress. (c - 26 pages).

73. 1935 file of "Shekel" Commission reflects departure of Revisionists from official Zionist bodies and growing influence of Labor Zionists. List of qualified voters for delegates to the 19th World Zionist Congress numbers 562 people, an increase of 64 over the 1933 list of qualified voters. (c - 22 pages).

74. 1936 correspondence between the Skala "shekel" Commission and National Commission in Lvov. (c - 4 pages).

75. 1937 file of "shekel" campaign includes correspondence between the Labor Zionist block and the National Commission in Lvov and separate lists of qualified voters submitted by Labor Zionist block with 209 qualified voters for delegates to the 20th Zionist Congress.(c- 18 pages).

76. Copies of pledge cards by leading Zionists and the wealthiest Jews in Skala (among them members of Agudath Yisrael, Rabbi Drimmer and the Jewish Community Council with their contributions to the Keren Hayessod Society in Lvov for the rebuilding of Palestine, (July - October, 1938). (c - 11 pages).

77. Registration forms by four young men, ages 21 to 31, who signed up in 1935 for a "hachshara" (training program) of the Zionist youth organization "Achva" in preparation of immigration and settlement in Palestine. (c - 4 pages).

78. Clipping from Ukrainian newspaper "DELO" published in Lvov (March 21, 1910) in which author (unnamed) unleashed an ugly antisemitic diatribe against the Jews of Skala for collaborating with the local Polish minority against the Ukrainian majority. (c - 2 pages).

79. File of 1931-1932 trial in the District Court in Chortkow against Meir-Leib Herzog and other Jews from Skala and the area accused of anti-State communist and espionage activities on behalf of the Soviet Union. These activities were according to the indictment carried on under the cover of the "Braterstwo" (Jewish trade union organization) banned later by the Polish authorities. The case was moved from Chortkow to the Appellate Court in Lvov, where Herzog and co-defendants were sentenced to several years in prison. The case was defended by the famous Jewish attorney Landau in Lvov. (c - 56 pages).

80. Carbon copy of document in Polish, prepared in July 1944 by Chaim Brettler, Berish Weidberg and assisted by Dora Sandberg (who typed it) for the Soviet Commission of inquiry about the atrocities committed by the Nazis and their Ukrainian collaborators against the Jews of Skala. This document and accompanying list of victims was translated into English and published in 1977 in the Skala Yizkor book, pages 48-98. (c - 38 pages)

81. July 1947 letter from Aron Edelman, a Skala survivor in the Cyprus internment camp, to Jacob Herzog, secretary of the Skala Benevolent Society in New York. (o - 1 page).

82. 1902 letter in Polish from the Royal Postal Administration in Skala to a Mr. Elias Weidenfeld, confirming that he was in the employ of the local Post Office from October 01, 1901 to August 06, 1902 and that he carried out his duties to the fullest satisfaction of the management. The person he replaced during that time returned to his duties hence his temporary employment was terminated. (c - 1 page).

83. Copies of two "ksubos" (marriage contracts) executed in Skala in 1902. (c-2pages)

84. October 1944 document in Russian submitted to a Soviet Commission of Inquiry about the scope of material damage and destruction inflicted by the German occupation forces on Jewish communal property. Document was signed by Chaim Brettler and Itzik Fisch on behalf of the surviving Jews and confirmed by the local Soviet authorities. (vpc -16 pages).

85. Certificate issued on July 24, 1908 by the district administration in Borszczow, releasing Mr. Mechel Herscher, a resident of Skala, from military duty. (c- 1 page).

86. Permit issued by the district authorities in Borszczow on July 29, 1937 to Mr. and Mrs. Harris from England to visit relatives in Skala (Herschers), a border region. (c-1p).

87. Certificate of Incorporation of the Skala Benevolent Society, incorporated in New York on June 1st, 1893 together with a Certificate of Report of Existence dated June 05, 1952 and again certified by the State of New York Department of State on October 25, 1988. (c- 8 pgs).

88. 90-page booklet in English and Yiddish entitled: "Constitution of the Skalar Unterstutzungs Verein", organized June 2nd, 1893, published in 1931. Lists the articles of Constitution, the bylaws, the past and present officers and the roster of members totaling 198 heads of families.(o).

89. Copy of a "thank you" letter from the Welfare Committee in Skala, dated November 8, 1938 to the Society in New York for all the help extended by the Society to its impoverished brethren in Skala. The letter is taken from a Dinner Journal of the Society that took place that year. (c- 1 page).

90. Leadership of Skala Benevolent Society in New York in mid 1930's (2 copies from dinner journals.)

91. Copy of an October 29, 1979 feature article about Edward I. Koch, Mayor of the City of New York, whose great- grandfather came from Skala. (c - 4 pages).

92. Letter of Ed Koch to Max Mermelstein, acknowledging receipt of Skala Yizkor book. (o - Nov.14,1979.)

93. Polish passport of Bluma Czechanowski, (daughter of David Ele & Rachel Weidenfeld), born and raised in Skala, lived in Hamburg, Germany and came with her family to America in 1939. (o - 1935)

94. Yiddish letter from two survivors, David Tabak and Esther Jaegendorf, mailed from Bytom, Poland, dated Nov. 1945, to Jacob Herzog, secretary of the Skala Benevolent Society in New York and Moshe Wiesenthal. The letter includes list of survivors and pleads for help in getting the survivors out of Poland. (o & c - 1 page)

95 English text of Skala entry in the computer of the Diaspora Museum in Tel Aviv giving a brief history of Skala from its inception in the year 1570 to its destruction in 1943. (c-4 ps).

96. March 1930 file of dispute between Skala Community Council and a group of 10 members, who challenged the authority of the Council to assess internal taxes. Includes list of assessments, correspondence with town and district authorities, letter of complaint, sample bill, etc.(10 pages in Polish plus letter of English translation/summary).

- 11 -

97. Personal file of a survivor (Leon Schwartzbach): passport, DP documents, autobiographical notes, letters and 3 notebooks from the early 1930's when he studied dentistry in Lvov.

98. File of MANUSCRIPTS for "Sefer Skala" (Skala Yizkor book) published in 1977, handwritten and typed in Hebrew, Yiddish and Polish, (some that were not published); originals and copies of lists of Skala Jews who were murdered by the Germans and their Ukrainian collaborators between 1941 & 1944, documents pertaining to those atrocities. (several inches thick).

99. Correspondence between contributors to the Skala "Yizkor" book and the publication Committee as well as between members of the Editorial Board in the United States and Israel; also copies of promotional

materials; records and speeches at the festive dinner marking the publication date.(several inches thick).

100. Skala Society correspondence between 1962 and 2002. (blue file).

101. Society Minute Book from May 1968 through November 14, 1999.

SKALA PHOTO ARCHIVE “A”

Communal institutions, organizations & events:

1. "Beth Am" Community Center building: A. under construction in early 1920's; B. After completion in mid 1920's; C. in 1990's. Until 1939 the "Beth Am" housed the Hebrew Tarbut School, the Community Library & all Zionist youth organizations. Its main hall (2nd floor) and balcony (3rd floor) were used for public meetings, lectures, exhibits, weddings, Purim balls, Hannukah parties and stage shows of Hebrew school children and the Yiddish amateur theater.
2. Jewish Community leaders Zionist activists and Hebrew school educators in 1928 photo taken in front of the "Beth Am". *Standing in top row, left to right:* Todres Zimmerman, Eliezer Fisch, Fischel Garfinkel, Nissan Olinger, Abraham Bilgorei, Shlomo Rosenbaum, Motel Hausner, Motie Gottesfeld, Moshe Wiesenthal. (women not identified) *Seated in second row, left to right:* Motie Weidberg, leading Zionist and last head of the Jewish Community Council; Ben-Zion Fiderer, Abraham Lederman and Chaim Roiz, Hebrew school educators; Israel-Leib Freifelder, another leading Zionist; Moshe Feuerstein, Executive-secretary of Jewish Community Council between the two World Wars; Moshe Weidberg. *Front row, seated left to right:* Feivel Gottesfeld, Yulik Frankel and Mendel Kelman.
3. The "Port Arthur" synagogue, one of nine houses of prayer in Skala (ca.1930)
4. Communal bath house with "Mikveh" (ritual bath) in four photos taken in 1990 and 1998. In one photo, part of cemetery, restored in 1997, can be seen in background.
5. Skala Jews celebrating in 1920 the anniversary of the Balfour Declaration favoring the establishment of a Jewish National Home in Palestine. (3 pix).
6. The office and administration of the "Gemilat Chassadim Fund" (Free Loan Society-early 30's) *Seated left to right:* Eliezer Fisch, administrator; Ben-Zion Fiderer and Israel-Leib Freifelder. *Standing in the middle:* Motie Weidberg. Other two men not identified.
7. First Hebrew School in Skala (1908) with some of the Zionist leaders seen in the back row.
8. Hebrew School with teachers Chaim Roiz and Abraham Lederman in early 1920's photo in front of the "Beth Am", its permanent campus.
9. Hebrew School class in the mid 1920's with teachers Lederman and Roiz.
10. Hebrew School in 1929 photo with new principal Shraga Ochshorn.

11. Hebrew “Tarbut” school in the mid 1930’s with Ochshorn and Temer.
12. Hebrew school kindergarten in early 1930’s in front of the “Beth Am”.
13. Hebrew “Tarbut” school in 1935-36 with teachers Ochshorn and Ginsberg.
14. Hebrew school students who distinguished themselves in raising funds for JNF (Jewish National Fund) in 1937 photo with teachers Ochshorn and Temer.
15. Two (2) Hebrew kindergarten classes with their teachers on an outing and in front of the “Beth Am”.
16. Zionist scouts in 1922 photo
17. The all-girls branch of Gordonia”- a Zionist youth organization in 1929 photo.
18. The “Hechalutz”, a labor Zionist youth group in early 1930’s photo.
19. “Hanoar Hatziyoni” a General Zionist youth group dancing the “hora” at the entrance to the estate of Count Goluchowski (local landowner).
20. “Hashomer Hatzair”- an egalitarian Zionist youth group on an outing - late 1920’s.
21. “Hashomer Hatzair” leaders at the organizations’ summer camp in 1931 photo: *Left to right*: Max Plitt, Abraham Schnitzer, Shaul Bloch, Arye Schwartzbach, Hersch Schwartzbach, Shaul Shatner.
22. “Hashomer Hatzair” group on a Passover picnic in 1931
23. Hebrew Adult Education class with Shraga Ochshorn in 1930’s photo.
24. “Braterstwo” (Brotherhood) - a left-leaning Jewish trade Union group in 1927-28 first anniversary photo. Accused by Polish authorities of pro-Communist activities, the group was later banned.
25. Seven (7) pix of celebrated Jewish library (largest in town) and its October 1933 exhibit in the “Beth Am”, its permanent home.
26. Young men and women from Skala and other communities in Galicia, at an “Hachshara” (Zionist training farm) in Iwanie Puste (late 1920’s) to prepare for agricultural settlement in Palestine.

27. Railroad Station farewell to people leaving for Palestine in early 1930's (2 pix)
28. Two Skala volley ball teams: a) middle class students; b) workers, tailors & clerks.
29. Beloved Hebrew teacher Chaim Roiz (Brenman) in 1928 farewell photo with family and friends, prior to his departure for Montreal, Canada, where he served for many years as principle of the largest Hebrew day school.
30. Purim Ball in the "Dom Polski" (Polish cultural center) in the early 1930's, attended by Jews and gentiles.
31. Former students and admirers of Chaim Roiz welcoming him back to Skala on Aug.10, 1935, when he visited the town en-route from a World Zionist Congress in Europe, which he attended as a delegate from Canada.
32. Local Yiddish amateur theater group in January 1932 photo.
33. Members of visiting theater group (seated in center with lady in hat) surrounded by local admirers, among them (in top row) Solomon Blutstein, Solomon Wiesenthal, (second row) Hersch Helman, Leon Schwartzbach; (third row) Shulem Greenberg, Wladzio Yagendorf, Schwebel (dentist) & Moshe Frankel.
34. Funeral procession of Rabbi Noote Drimmer, scion of famous rabbinic family, that served the Community since 1848. He was the father of Shlomo and Yehuda Drimmer, the last Rabbis of Skala.
35. Public School buildings in Skala in 1 b/w photo (from 1930's) and 2 from 1990's
36. Graduating classes of Public school (4) in 1924 and 1927 with principal Bednarski (with mustache) and teachers Osuch (math), Skoroda (music & Ukrainian lit.) and Deliewski (science). Approximately half the students in the photos are Jewish.
37. Polish National holiday celebration in the center of town in two 1930 pix featuring parade of army border troops.
38. Local transport: "Shmiel der royter" (Shmiel, nicknamed the red) with his fiacre, one of a handful of horse-drawn carriages that carried passengers to and from the railroad and to/from the neighboring towns of Borszczow, Czortkow and others.

39. Group of young Zionists on a wintry day, apparently at the railroad station to bid farewell to someone leaving for Palestine.
40. At a regional “hachshara”- Zionist training farm in Nadworna, a few Skala boys, among them (standing) Shlomo Bilgoray, Abraham Schnitzer and Arye Schwartzbach.
41. Remnants of Skala cemetery restored in 1997 with close-up photos of about 100 tombstones. (See separate red Cemetery album.)
42. Open air public assembly in nearby Buczacz in 1930's. Photo from Mermelstein family album, due to fact that cousin, Motie Geller-Stock, who lived in Buczacz, is seen in lower right-hand corner (man in glasses).

Updated: Feb. 26, 2003

SKALA PHOTO ARCHIVE “B”

People of Skala:

1. Wolf Itzik Freifelder, community leader and deputy mayor of Skala, prior to World War I. (o & c-1909).
2. Hersch Freifelder, son of Wolf Itzik, in the uniform of an Austro-Hungarian Army officer. (o & c-1909)
3. Motie, the oldest water carrier in Skala with his horse and water barrel. (o & c - 1927)
4. Feivisch Lieber Stock, land owner of family estate in the nearby village of Podfilipie, inherited from his father Velvl Stock, who died in 1935. (c - 1920's)
5. Velvl, called the “nachshteler” - the oldest porter in town. (o & c - 1927)
6. Ryvke Schwartzbach, midwife, called “Ryvtsie the bube” who attended to the births of several generations of Skala Jews. (o - 1938).
7. Shlomo Schwartzbach, son of Ryvke (above) with his wife and famous mother. (o-1936 & 1938).
8. Leon Schwartzbach, the other son of Ryvke, one of two dentists in town, riding a bicycle on the so called “nayer shtroose” (new street).
9. Two town notables on their way to synagogue in their Sabbath attire (left to right): Hersch Auerbach, Zalman (Salomon) Hausner and younger son Motel. The last two are respectively the grandfather and first cousin of Evelyn Lauder, wife of Leonard..(o& c -1930's)
10. Zalman (Solomon) Hausner and his wife Chaya in separate close up photos (c- 1930').
11. Itzie (Isaac) Hausner, son of Solomon, seen against the background of the Zbruch and the Russian village of Hukov, across the river. (o - 1920's). [note from Tony Hausner: I believe this man is Eisig (Ernest) Hausner, not Itzie]
12. Two brothers (left to right: David Ele and Shloime (Solomon) Weidenfeld. (c & o-1920's)
13. Two younger brothers (left to right): Max and Shike Weidenfeld, sons of Solomon (o & c-933).
14. Two sisters (left to right): Sara Wiesenthal- Weidberg and Sheindel Sobel. (o - 1920's)

o - original; c- copy; year - date of photo.

15. Two sisters (left to right): Pearl and Bronia Schorr. (o - 1920's)
16. Dvoyre and Simche Yaegendorf,(c - 1920's).
17. Hersch-Elye Wiesenthal sitting on the so-called "Iemberger stone" on Main Street, where town elders used to meet to discuss local gossip and world politics. (c -1920's).
18. Abush and Miriam Stern with their children Max and Rozia. (c - 1930's).
19. Feivish Wiesenthal in front of his dry-good store with his two younger children: Alter and Ethel. (c - 1930's).
20. Zecharye and Bruche Wiesenthal with their granddaughter Rozia Stern. (c- 1930's).
21. Esther Gottesfeld with her son Feivel. (c - 1920's)
22. Hersch Elye Wiesenthal (center) with his family. Seated with him are Chantse and her husband Yitzhak Herzog. Standing: Feyge, Tuvia, Leah and Rachel. (c - 1920's).
23. Two cousins (left to right: Bluma Chechanowski (nee Weidenfeld) with Fedusia Weidenfeld in front of Velvl Stock's house. (o - 1930's)
24. Fedusia Weidenfeld spending a quiet moment in the "bahn-veldl", a park near the railroad station. (o - 1930's).
25. Three seniors waiting for the mailman at the Skala post office, (clockwise): Gedalie Tabachnik, Srul Feuerstein and Moshe Gottesfeld. (c - 1920's).
26. Unidentified girls in their turn of the century dresses. (o -1900's)
27. Yachiel Schwartzbach with his bride Ryvka Weidenfeld, daughter of David-Elye and Rochel Weidenfeld. (o - 1929)
28. Shlomo and Shyfra Weidenfeld with their sons Shike (Oziasz) and Max. (o & c- 1932)
29. Nachman Brettler, father of Chaim Brettler, a survivor. (c- 1920's).
30. Yetta Stock, wife of Aziel Stock, with their children, left to right: Nechemia, Sarah, Malcia and Moshe. (o - early 1930's).

31. Moshe Stock, oldest son of Aziel and Yetta Stock in school photo attending the Korkis Trade school in Lvov in 1937-38. Was first Skala victim in the Nazi labor camp in Borki Wielkie near Tarnopol in February 1942.
32. Boys enjoying the outdoors at an open-air festival in the “bahn-veldl” - - the park adjoining the railroad station. (o -1920’s).
33. Shyke (Oziasz) Weidenfeld as a graduating “gymnazium” student in Trembovla with a friend in Polish army uniform. (o & c - 1937). Photo missing.
34. Single men and women in four (4) group photos taken at chosen backgrounds: tower of Turkish castle, entrance to Goluchovsky estate, the “old town” and next to the post office. Note the fashions of the period. (o - 1932).
35. Chaim Royz, beloved Hebrew teacher, with his sisters Chayke and Hinde, and two friends (o & c - 1920’s).
36. Single men in two (2) group photos taken in the studio of L. Grauer in Skala. (o - 1920’s)
37. Single women posing outdoors in three (3) group photos in the 1920’s. (2-o; 1-c).
38. Young men & women, friends of a younger generation, posing for two (2) group photos, one “oyvn toyer” a popular tree-lined promenade; the other at the entrance to the Goluchovski park. (c- 1930’s).
39. Three friends with a dog, left to right: Kuba Feuerstein, Eliezer Weidberg and Solomon Blutstein. The first two were the sons of Moshe Feuerstein and Motie Weidberg, respectively the last executive secretary and chairman of the Jewish Community Council. (c - 1930’s).
40. Rachel Blutstein, mother of Joseph, Solomon and Bluma Gottesfeld. (c- 1930’s)
41. Solomon Blutstein at his mother’s gravestone on the Skala cemetery in 1936. (c)
42. Two friends and sisters-in-law: Sara Kasierer-Blutstein (sitting) and Bluma Blutstein-Gottesfeld. (c- 1930’s)
43. Three girl-friends posing on the banks of the Zbruch, left to right: Sarah Kasierer (Blutstein) unidentified, and Bluma Blutstein-Gottesfeld. (c- early 1930’s).
44. Skala girls posing in their Sabbath dresses among the ruins of the Turkish castle. A young brother of one of them also got into the picture. (c- early 1930’s).

45. Young friends posing for this photo next to the “potik” - stream that flows into the Zbrucz. (c - 1930’s).
46. Simcha Weidberg with his daughters Ryve (left) and Golde (right). (c- 1920’s).
47. Simcha Weidberg with his five children prior to World War I. (c - ca.1910).
48. Three of the five Schwartzbach siblings, left to right: Chune, Betka and Max. (o-1930’s) Suzie and David, the two youngest (not shown in photo) survived.
49. Brandes (Tracy) family, one of several who lived in the “old town”, in two photos: A) Left to right seated: Baba Brandes with children Sosia and Abraham and father Jacob Ber. Standing: Chaya and Hersch. (c - 1920’s) B) Brandes children, Standing: Hersch and Chaya; seated: Sosie, Chune and Abraham.(c - 1930’s)
50. Kranie Feierberg, market woman, who sold pots and pans. (c - 1920’s)
51. Two “gymnazium” students and friends at the entrance to the Goluchovsky Park. Left to right: Shyke Weidenfeld and Shlomo Wiesenthal. (o & c - 1930's)
52. Two girls posing on the lake inlet with farm houses in the background. (o -1939).
53. Shyke Weidenfeld with Cousin Erich Czechanowski and behind them watching from a distance, are Nusia Wasserman and Zenia Sandberg. (o – 1937).
54. Usher and Dudie Herscher with family in front of their house in the “old town”.(c -1930's)
55. Young ladies with their male escorts near the lake. Among them Saul Bloch, Moses Frankel and Henie Edelstein (o - 1930's)
56. Two cousins, left to right: Basie Banner and Ziesel Fisch. (c- 1930’s)
57. Motie Weidberg, last chairman of the Jewish Community Council and most prominent Zionist leader. (o - 1935).
58. The Drimmer brothers: Captain Shlomo Drimmer, deputy chief Rabbi of the Polish Army between 1935 and 1939 and his younger brother Yehuda Drimmer, the last Rabbi of Skala. Both were scions of a rabbinic dynasty that served the community since 1846. (c- 1937).
59. Bruria and Etta Weidberg, daughters of Motie Weidberg, at the tombstone of their mother on the Skala cemetery. (o- 1932).

60. Weidberg brothers, sons of Moshe Weidberg, leading communal and Zionist activist: Left to right: Abraham, Edzio and David. (o - 1930's).
61. Six young ladies on an outing in the forest posing for photographer. (o- 1929).
62. Bruria and Etta Weidberg with Arye Schwartzbach on the lake shore prior to their departure for Palestine. (o - early 1930's).
63. Yehudit Yusem (left) and Esther Feierstein in Zionist Youth uniforms with an unidentified friend. (o - 1936).
64. Avrumtsie Bitterman, popular talmud teacher, with his wife Zelda in Palestine, shortly after their "aliyah" in 1927. (o - early 1930's).
65. Jacob and Miriam Wasserman with their children and grandchildren. Seated between them is Fanya Gottesfeld-Heller. Standing from left to right: Suzia Wasserman, Wolf Wasserman, his wife Malcia, Sheyntsie with her husband Benjamin Gottesfeld and Lola Wasserman. Seated in front is Bubcio Wasserman. (c - 1927).
66. Three generations of Stock-Weidenfeld family, left to right: Yetta Stock (wife of Uziel), Frieda Stock, mother and grandmother, her son Uziel, daughter Shyfra, her husband Solomon Weidenfeld, holding their infant son Max and Ben Stock, brother of Uziel and Szyfra. (o & c – 1927)
67. Boruch-Moshe Weidenfeld with his wife Dvorke and their three daughters, left to right: Fedusia, Hinde and Mathilda (Matel). (o & c - 1931)
68. Berish Stock, before immigrating to Canada in 1931, on an outing with friends in Skala (o).
69. Esther Yagendorf, seated first from left, with Brane Gottesfeld, Esther's mother and unidentified friends or visitors, in front of the Yagendorf store in the "old town". The sign in Polish reads: "trade in grains and eggs - M. Yagendorf".
70. Rozia Feuerstein, later known in Israel as the artist Shoshana Eden, as a young girl in Skala, prior to her departure for Palestine. (c – late 1920's)
71. Fisch brothers in their shop producing shoes and boots. Left to right: Joseph, Itzik at the machine and Fischel at the cutting counter. (o & c – late 1920's).

72. Motel Hausner, standing first on left, posing with five friends inside the ruins of Turkish castle, overlooking the Zbruch and the Russian village of Hukov across. (c - 1930's).
73. Gedalyahu Lachman and Aryeh Schwartzbach with two lady friends and unidentified boy, posing on the banks of the lake in the "old town". (c – late 1920's).
74. Sophie Gottesfeld-Zimmerman (on top) with two of her girl friends. (o – 1920's)
75. Clara Scheuermann, daughter of Feivish-Lieber Stock with her husband and daughter. (Lived in Romania and since the end of World War II in Romainville, France.)
76. Two groups of young Zionists posing for photos at the "bahn-veldl"- a park adjacent to the railroad station, apparently bidding farewell to a friend leaving for Palestine. (o-1932).
77. Muzio Meizer and Gedalyahu Lachman, sitting next to their teacher (standing) in the chemistry lab of the "gymnazium" they attended in nearby Borshchov (o-late 1920's).
78. Five bachelors from middle class families. Standing, left to right: 1.? Fischel Fisch, Joseph Schwartzbach. Seated, left to right: Tuvia Gottesfeld and ? (o - 1920's)
79. Two young couples in the 1930. Left to right, standing: Geza Bilgorej, Mrs. Shlomo Schwartzbach and Abraham Bilgorej. Seated with baby is Shlomo Schwartzbach.(o-1930's).
80. Esther Wiesenthal-Gottesfeld with her son Joseph and bride Dora. (c - 1920's)
81. Moshe Wiesenthal, first from left with fellow Jews in the Polish army. (c- 1927).
82. Fradl Stock, daughter of Shymon Stock, a controversial character involved in a sensational murder case prior to World War I. Fradl came to America in 1907 and made a name for herself as an active feminist and Yiddish writer of short stories and romantic sonnets and poems. Her volume of short stories depicting life in Skala was published in 1919. (print)
83. Chune Gottesfeld, another immigrant from Skala became in Yiddish literary and theatrical circles in America between 1920 and 1950. He was a staff member of the "Jewish Daily Forward" and authored many humorous sketches and comedies. His memoirs entitled "Vos ich gedenk fun mein lebn" (What I remember of my life) were published in the early 1950's. (print).
84. Engelbach family, a photo montage of a 19th century Skala photo. Seated in the center: Mariam Engelbach, nee Weintraub, with her husband Shlomo. Standing behind them are daughters Tilly and Rebecca. Photo was "doctored" in America to add on the left Fanny, another daughter. (c - 1880's).

85. Gedalyahu Lachman in a bar-mitzva photo with his father Shmaye. (c - 1926).
86. Young Zionists, standing left to right: Dora Edelstein, man unidentified, Fidusia Weidenfeld. Second row, left to right: Henia Goldhirsch, next two girls unidentified. Gedalyahu Lachman, in uniform, was founder of the Hanoar Flatziyoni (Zionist Youth Org.) (c - 1930's).
87. The family of Itsie Sandberg, owner of popular candy store with friends, including Henia Goldhirsch, Gedalyahu Lachman and children. (c - early 1930's).
88. Older girl friends in 1929 photo. Note the styles of dresses. (o - 1929).
89. Left to right: Sara Kasierer-Blutstein, Chaim Gottesfeld and wife Bluma.(c- 1930's).
90. Abraham Kasierer, uncle of Sarah Kasierer- Blutstein (c - 1920's).
91. Jacob Herzog, tinsmith from Skala immigrated to the US after the first World War, was for many years secretary of the Skala Benevolent Society in New York. (o - 1950's)
92. Count Agenor Goluchowski, landowner of Skala and several surrounding villages, served as Foreign Minister of the Austro-Hungarian Empire from. 1895 to 1906. (c- 1890's).
93. Bilgorey mother and daughter from the nearby village of Losiacz, part of the Skala Jewish Community. (c- 1930's).
94. Chaim Gottesfeld with two Bilgoray sisters (c- early 1930's)
95. Bluma Gottesfeld, nee Blutstein. (c- early 1930's)
96. Girls on a hay stack with one bachelor (Shlomo Schwartzbach). Among them Pesie Yusem, Esther Banner. Others not identified. (o - early 1930's).
97. Stefka Atamaniuk, Ukrainian woman, who together with her late husband Antoshko, saved 12 Jews by hiding them in an attic in their home in Skala in 1943-44, among them Abraham Bilgorey, his wife Gitel, her sisters Nunia and Chaya, Leon Schwartzbach, his wife Sarah, their son Israel and others. (o-1998).
98. Silberbush family from Turylcze, village near Skala. (c-ca 1900)

Updated: May 20, 2003

VISTAS of SKALA

(Photo archive "C")

- 1-C Ruins of Turkish castle (historic landmark). A) picture postcard with 1928 dedication on the back by Chaim Roiz to Arye Schwartzbach; B) two 1992 color photos.
- 2-C Summer residence of Count Goluchowski, Polish landowner & aristocrat. B&W picture postcard.
- 3-C Entrance to Goluchowski park (1990 color photo).
- 4-C Goluchowski chapel and grave at town's entrance.
- 5-C View of town with river in background, Turkish castle, church steeple as seen by unknown artist in copy of painting found inside Goluchowski monument, which stood on a hill across from the castle tower and was destroyed by the Soviets.
- 6-C A view of the "potik" (stream) with Old Skala in the background, which fell into the Zbruch. B&W photo.
- 7-C "Dom Polski"- Polish cultural center prior to World War II, now site of local library.
- 8-C Former Ukrainian cultural center, now movie house, in 1990 color print.
- 9-C The only pharmacy in town in 1990 color print.
- 10-C Building of pre World War II city hall. 1990 color print.
- 11-C Local Post Office in 1990 color print.
- 12-C Ruins of pre World War II flour mill on the river Zbruch.
- 13-C Skala railroad station, once important link to the outside world, now abandoned with service discontinued. 1998 color print.
- 14-C View of the river Zbruch with the Russian village Hukov across, as seen from inside the Turkish castle. Up to Sep.1939 the river marked the international border between Poland and the Soviet Union. Two 1991 & 1998 color prints. Copy of color painting commissioned by Ernest Hausner in New York prior to World War II. Property of Evelyn Hausner-Lauder.

15-C Roman Catholic church with clock, dominant landmark in town, in 1990 & 1998 color prints. prior to World War II. Property of Evelyn Hausner-Lauder

- 16-C Greek Catholic church further down the hill with its roadside chapel in 1990 color print.
- 17-C Former residence and synagogue of the late Rabbi Nute Drimmer and his sons Shlomo and Yehuda who succeeded him and were the last Rabbis of Skala. From July 1941 to September 1942 it also served as the office of the “Judenrat”. 1991 color print
- 18-C House of Taube-Mirel-Schwartzbach, site of only Jewish owned inn in pre World War II Poland. (1991 color print).
- 19-C Main and adjoining streets of Skala in over 45 color prints taken between 1990 and 1998. All streets and houses were inhabited by Jewish merchants, artisans and workers who lived there for many generations.
- 20-C Copy of one B&W photo, about 1920, of house and store front of Zalman Hausner (grandfather of Evelyn Lauder) and several color prints of the house taken in the 1990’s.
- 21-C Three B&W prints of pre World War I Jewish homes that survived the “big fire” of the 1890’s and were inhabited by poorer members of the Community.
- 22-C B&W print of the pre-World War II residence of the Trasawucki (Tracy) family who lived in Old Skala, mostly populated by Ukrainian and Polish peasants.
- 23-C Views of Old Skala in two color prints of the 1990’s
- 24-C “Korolowka” - the main source of the delicious drinking water located in Old Skala, that served all the people of Skala and also provided a meager livelihood to a handful of water-carriers, who filled here their horse-drawn barrels with water, brought it up town and delivered it in wooden pales to every household. In case of fire, the water carriers also assisted the volunteer fire brigade by supplying it with water at the site of the fire.
- 25-C Scene of threatened execution. In July of 1941, a handful of Skala Jewish leaders were rounded up by Hungarian occupation forces, forced to dig their graves, then lined up against the Turkish castle tower and threatened with execution unless they deliver a list of requested goods & money. The goods and money were delivered and the men were not executed.
- 26-C Unidentified victims of street executions in Skala in the summer of 1943.

See next page

SKALA in the Primitive Art of SHOSHANA EDEN

1. Woman lighting Shabbat candles (cc)
2. Inside a Matzah bakery before Passover. (cc)
3. Street scene outside the “Bet Am” and the Hebrew “Tarbut” school where Chaim Roiz was teaching, people were gathering, children playing and the matchmaker with the umbrella gossiping. (cc & mc).
4. After a circumcision when the “melamed” (teacher) comes with his students who recite the “Shma” prayer.
5. A scene from the bible: Abraham is about to sacrifice Isaac as the angle hovers above. (cc)
6. Mordche Bosyk., the shoemaker, with his son Mendel, the violinist. (cc & mc).
7. A Ukrainian woman at work, hired to wash the family laundry. (cc).
8. The “shtrik-drayer” (rope maker) at work. (cc)
9. The master tailor with his assistants at work. (cc)
10. At the apothecary seeking a remedy for a toothache. (cc)
11. Rejoicing with the “torah” on “Simchat Torah”. (cc)
12. Chaye-Brane, the market woman, with chickens for sale. (cc & mc + P).
13. Kiddush on Shabbat at the house of David Fisch, a pious man, who manufactured and sold shoes.
14. “Kedush Levana” - welcoming the new moon. (cc & mc).
15. Fetching water from one of the shtetl pumps used only for washing, not consumption. (cc)
16. The town crier summoning the people with his drum to make important announcement. (cc & mc + P).
17. Inside a Jewish home: mother rocks the crib with baby boy and sings popular Yiddish folk song about a kid crouching under the crib. (cc & cm + P).
18. Street scene with peddlers selling baked goods and apples, musicians and Mottie, the water carrier announcing the sale of water with his sing-song “hay-tay-tayu”. (cc & P). A similar scene with Mottie delivering water (mc- page 12).
19. Purim “shpiler” celebrating and entertaining. (cc & P).
20. “Shmiel der royster” (the red carriage driver) with his passengers watched by curious neighbors, the matchmaker among them. (cc & mc + P).
21. A wedding scene in shtetl. (cc)
22. The “badchan” serenading the bride. (cc)
23. Shabbat at home. (cc)
24. Children enjoying a sled ride down the hill. (cc & mc).
25. A “cheder” scene: home-based religious school with “melamed” (teacher).
26. Shoshana, the artist, at age eight, recites the “kaddish” after her dead mother. (mc - p32-33).
27. Aunt Sarah, on her way to help a poor, sick woman. (mc - pp -30-31).
28. Three dressmakers at work singing a Yiddish folk song “I haven’t sewn a wedding dress for myself yet... and my hair is already turning gray...”
29. Kraynche, the crockery vendor with her goat, and Beyle-Vittie at her

haberdashery stall in the shtetl square.

30. Poster of 1996 exhibit of Shoshana's art at Mane Katz Museum in Haifa
cc- color copy; mc = museum catalogue; P .museum poster.

May 20, 2003