

The Old Jewish Cemetery of Vadul-Raşkov (Vad-Rashkov)

Before 1917 Vadul-Rashkov was part of the Soroki Uezd, Bessarabia gubernia of the Russian Empire. Now it is part of the Republic of Moldova,

Еврейское Кладбище, Вадул Рашков, Молдова

Final report (Phase 1+Phase 2), Yefim Kogan, October 30, 2018



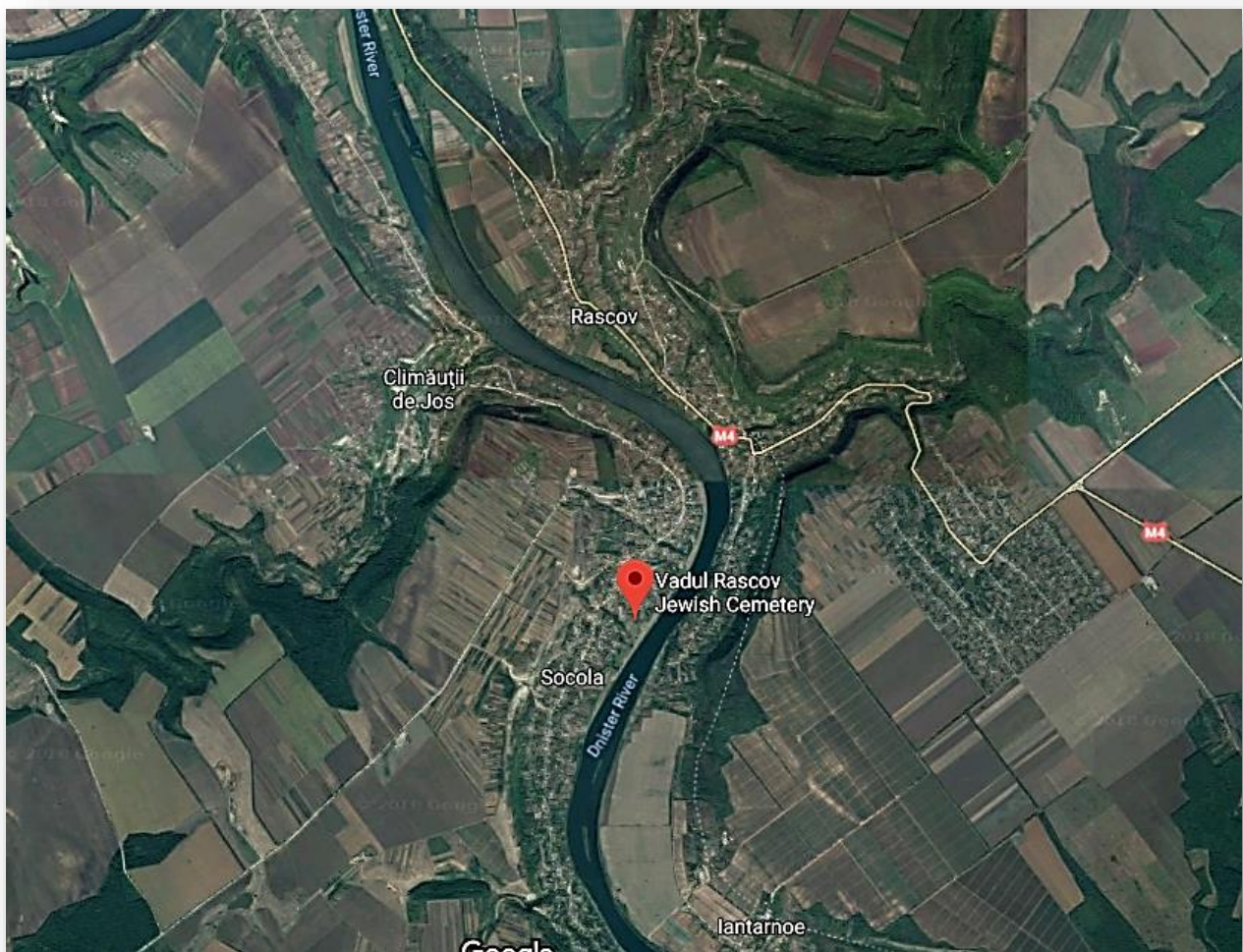
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Introduction

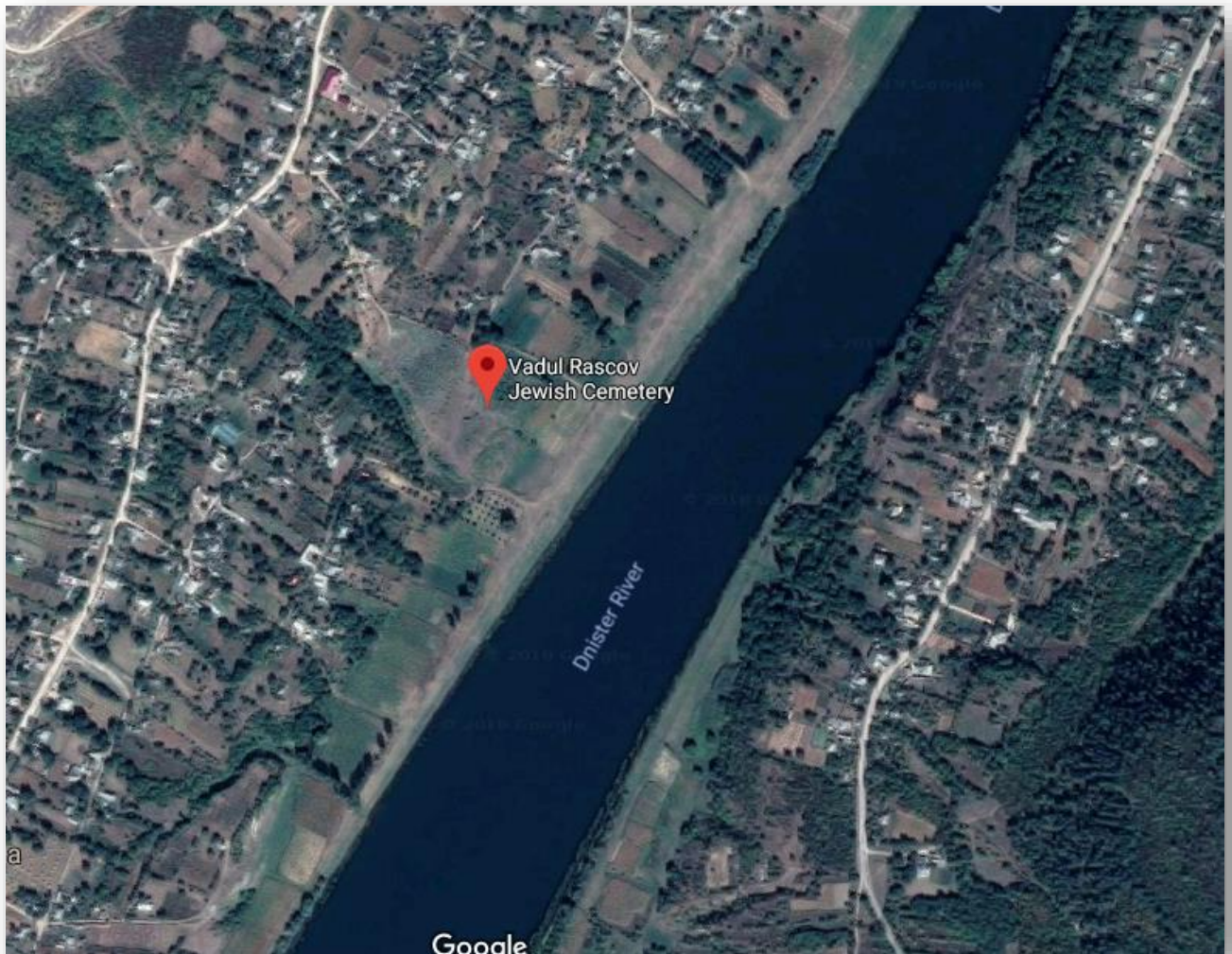
The project was started by JewishGen, Bessarabia SIG in 2017. The photography was taken by **Serghey Daniliuk**, a resident of Kaushany, Bessarabia SIG long time photographer and researcher.

Location, Maps

Vadul Rashkov Jewish Cemetery on the Google Map. At the other side of Dniester River you can see another town Rascov, where there is also an old Jewish Cemetery.



The cemetery is located in the South part of town of Vadul Rashkov.



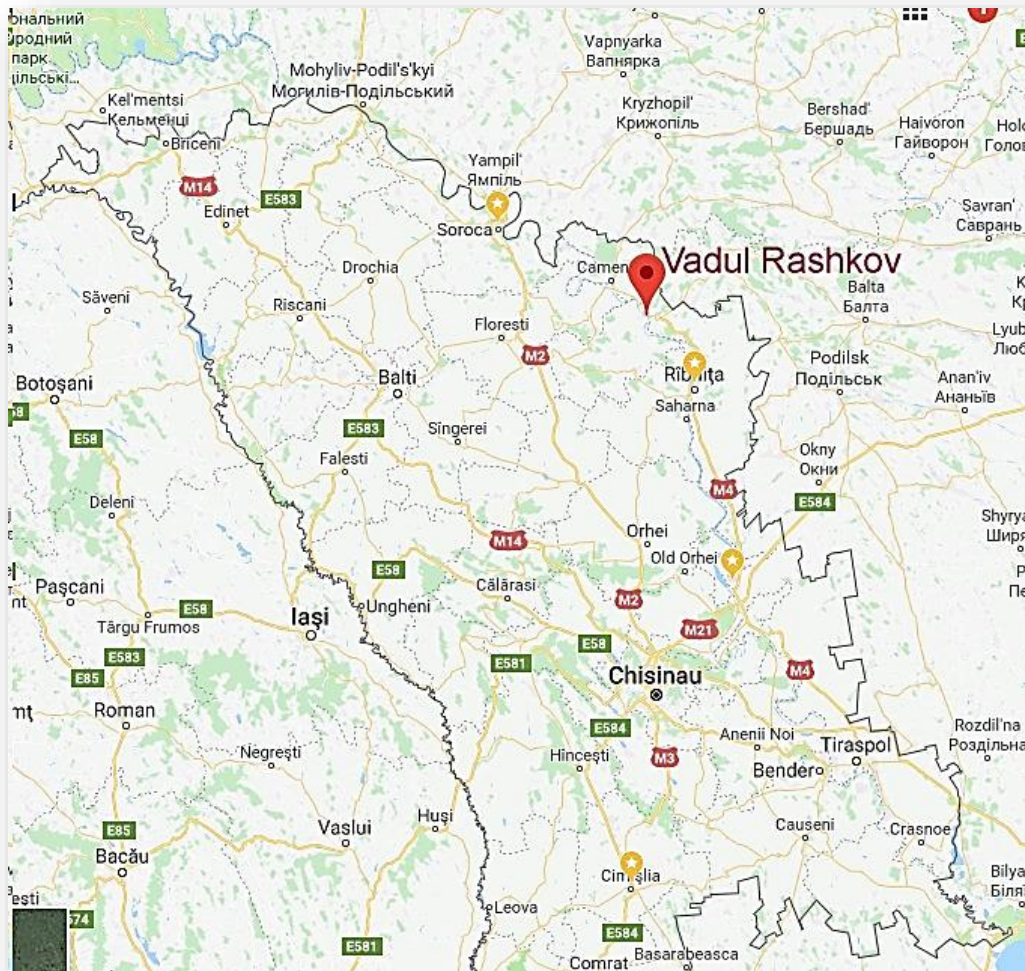
Across the Dniester River is the town of Rashkov, part of Podolia Gubernia before 1917, and now is part of Moldova, Transnistria, non-recognized region.

Jewish Population

3,237 Jews lived in Vadul-Rashkov in 1897 from a total population of 4,641. 8 Jewish businesses were found in the Klyachkin directory of 1901. In 1924 there were 98 Jewish businesses for a total population in the town of 9,140.

1,970 Jews from a total of 3,976 lived in Vadul-Rashkov in 1930. The Jewish community was founded around the middle of 18 century.

Vadul Rashkov at Google Map of Moldova



See close by to the North – Camenca, to the South Rybnita, to the West – Floresti, Beltsi, Riscany, to North-West – Soroca, Yampol (Ukraine), to the South – Orhei, Kishinev, Dubossary, to the East – Balta, Ananiev both in Ukraine.

From Jewish Heritage Sites and Monuments in Moldova

Report “Jewish Heritage Sites and Monuments in Moldova”, created by the United States Commission for the Preservation of America’s Heritage Abroad, 2010, did not mention the town of Vadul Rashkov and it’s a very old Jewish Cemetery!

Phase 1 of the project, Volunteers

Phase one of the project was done in 2017- April of 2018. All photos were translated and deciphered by **Nathan Gabriel**, and another person who did not want his name be published.

The first phase consists about half of burial records and images, and it included more than 1,300 graves. From the **862** graves that were identified, and submitted to JOWBR (+**860** images), **454** graves are Unknown and can be viewed at Bessarabia SIG website at [Unknown Graves at Vadul Rashkov cemetery](#).

Language of the inscriptions: Phase 1: all writings are in Hebrew, except a couple which are in Hebrew and Russian.

Dates: Phase 1: burials are from the middle of the 18 century. The last burial is dated 1955.

Phase 2 of the project, Volunteers

Phase one of the project was done in 2018. All photos were translated and deciphered by **Terry Lasky** and **Nathan Gabriel**.

The phase 2 included more than **1,600** graves. From that number **1,065** graves were identified and submitted to JOWBR together with **1,057** images. **613** graves are Unknown and can be viewed at Bessarabia SIG website at [Unknown Graves at Vadul Rashkov cemetery](#).

Language of the inscriptions: Phase 2: same as Phase 1.

Dates: Phase 2: burials are from the end of 19 century up to middle of 20 century.

Total records

submitted to JOWBR for this project JOWBR for this project is **1,927** with **1,917** images. Also there are **1,067** Unknown graves which can be viewed from this report [Unknown Graves at Vadul Rashkov cemetery](#).



Overview of Rashkov and Vad-Rashkov on two sides of Dniester River

From Simon Geissbuhler

Simon Geissbuhler (born 1973): a diplomat and historian, studied in Brno and at the Yale University; since 2000 he has worked for the Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs – between 2007 and 2010 he was a deputy ambassador in Bucharest and since 2010 he has served as a vice ambassador in Warsaw. Mr Geissbuhler is the author of books and albums on the subject of Bessarabian Jews: “Like Shells on a Shore. Synagogues and Jewish Cemeteries of Northern Moldavia” (2010), “Spuren, die vergehen. Auf der Suche nach dem jüdischen Sathmar/Satu Mare” (2010). See more information about Simon’s work in Moldova at <http://jewish-heritage-europe.eu/focus/issues-2/documentation-simon-geissbuehler-in-romania-ukraine-moldova>.



Courtesy of Simon Geissbühler, Switzerland

I would strongly recommend Simon’s book: “Like Shells on a Shore. Synagogues and Jewish Cemeteries of Northern Moldavia” (2010), where you see and feel what the Jewish Heritage is.

Many thanks to Simon Geissbühler for his books and preservation work in Moldova/Ukraine.

From Christian Herrmann – Vanished World



See beautiful black and white photos of Vadul-Rashkov and many other cemeteries in Moldova and Ukraine at <https://vanishedworld.blog/tag/vadul-rascov-vadul-rashkov/>

Christian, your photos will remain forever even when some stones will disappear! Thank you.



From Olga Sivac, Kishinev, librarian at I. Manger Jewish Public Library ([website](#))



From Cassio Tolpolar



This is a picture of the grave of my great-grandparents, **Meyer and Ene Tolpolar**, who were murdered together and were buried together (at *Vadul Rashkov Jewish Cemetery*). Standing on the left side is my grandfather **Avrum Tolpolar**. On the right side it's his older brother **Yeshaya Tolpolar**. Shortly after this picture was taken my grandfather immigrated to Brazil, to never come back to his homeland. Yeshaya stayed

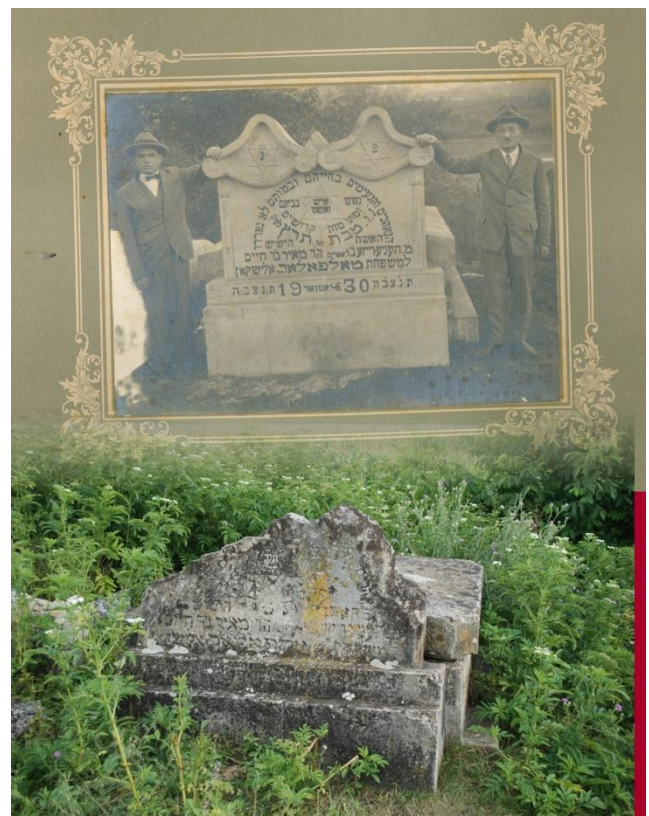
and was killed during the Holocaust. If you are interested to know more about it and the film this picture inspired, go to <http://www.mamaligablues.com>

Cassio Tolpolar

<http://www.cassiotolpolar.com>



Here is the same grave in 2017



This is the combined image, which was sent to
JOWBR

One of the oldest graves



Pesye bat Shalom

14th of Elul, 5507

(20 August, 1747)



Chana Gitel
daughter of Yosef

28th of Cheshvan,
5507

(11 November,
1746)

One of the most recent graves



Writing is in
Hebrew and
Russian

**Baruch son of
Yehoshua**

11th of Tevet,
5715

(5 January,
1955)

**BEKERMANN
Boris son of
Elie**

1886 – 1955

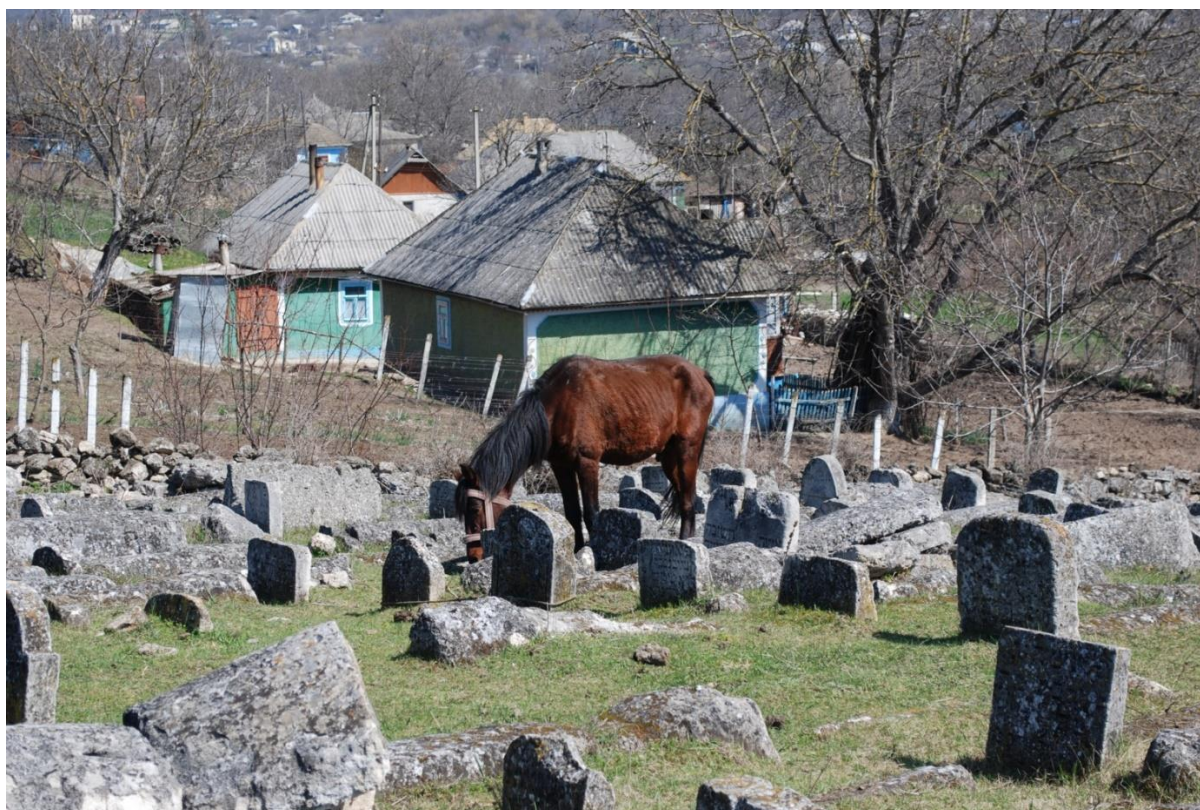
Images from the cemetery





Dnister River







**Ze'ev ben
Avraham**

25 Sivan 5667

(June 7, 1907)



Chana Feiga bat of Yehuda Leib,

5677? (1917/1918?)

