

The Jewish Cemetery of Chişinău (Kishinev)

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

Now it is the capital of Republic of Moldova.

Еврейское Кладбище,
Кишинёв, Молдова

Final report (sectors 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6), Yefim Kogan, October 30, 2021



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 called it Kishinev and not Chisinau. Chisinau is the current official name.

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Introduction

This is the result of photographing and indexing Quarters 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6

The photos were taken by Serghei Daniliuk, friend and supporter of Bessarabia group, and 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 make 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 https://www.jewishgen.org/bessarabia/PTM_Article.asp?id=82 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>

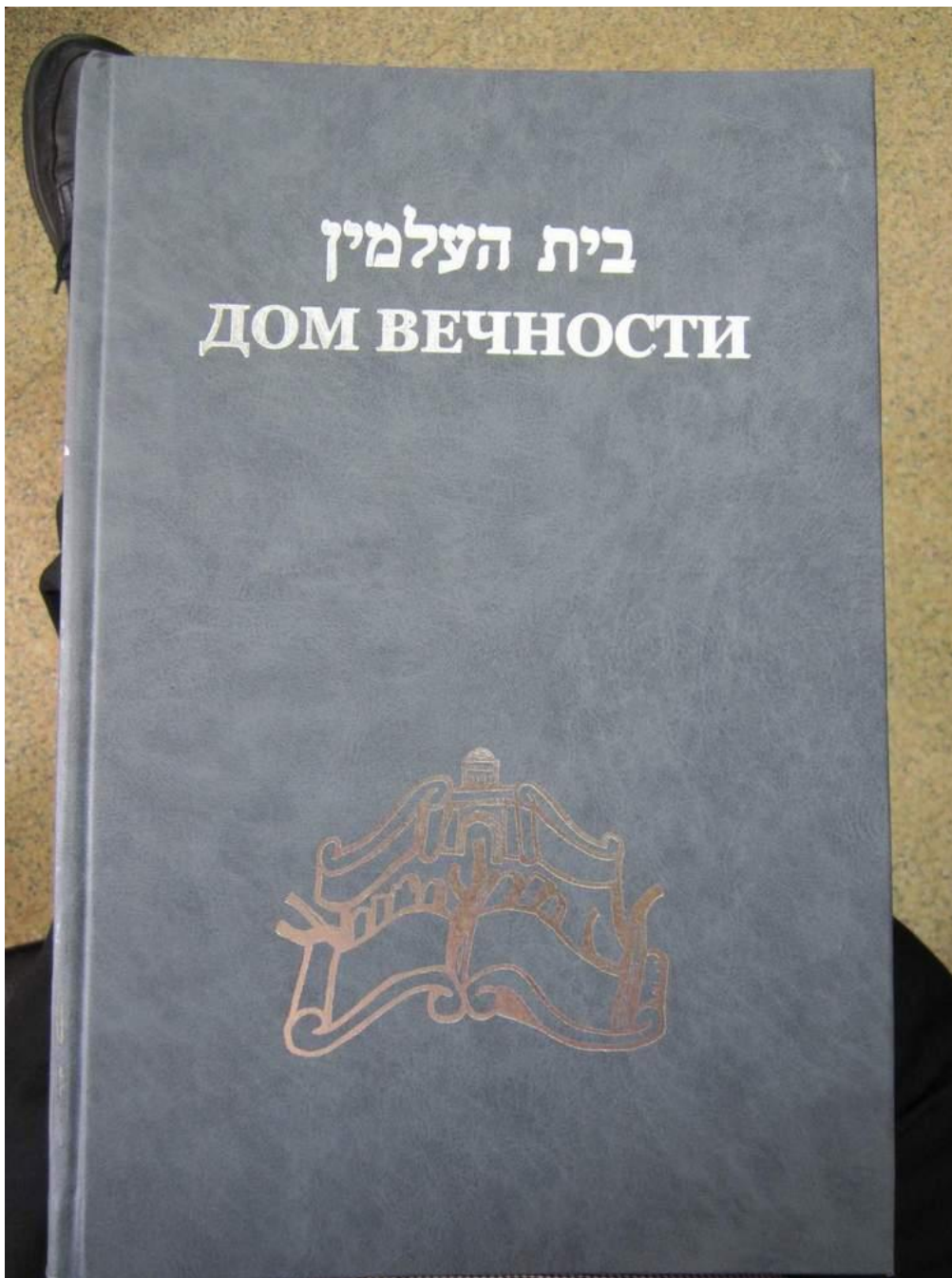
Also, see a presentation at a conference in 2014: **Jewish Cemeteries in Bessarabia and Moldova: History, Current state, Indexing, Photographing**, Yefim Kogan, 2014. See at https://www.jewishgen.org/bessarabia/PTM_Article.asp?id=83

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.

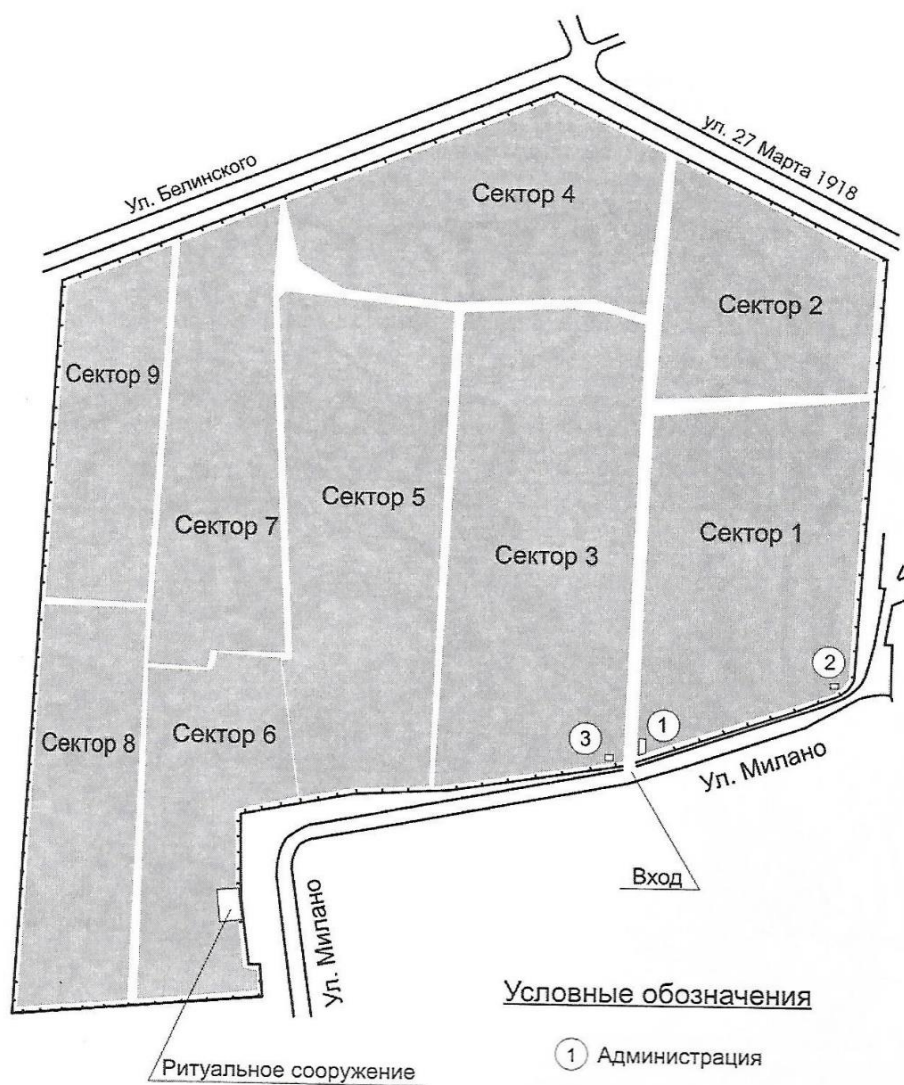




ПЛАН-СХЕМА Кишиневского еврейского кладбища

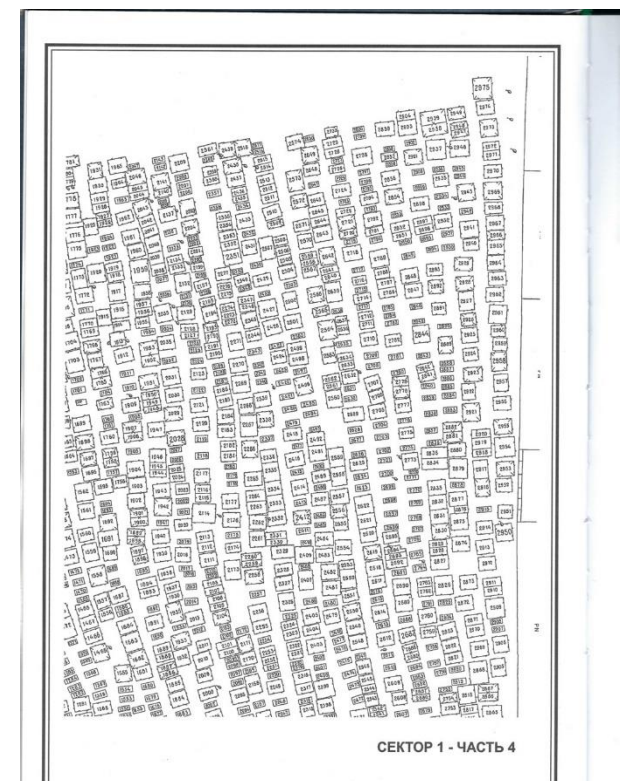
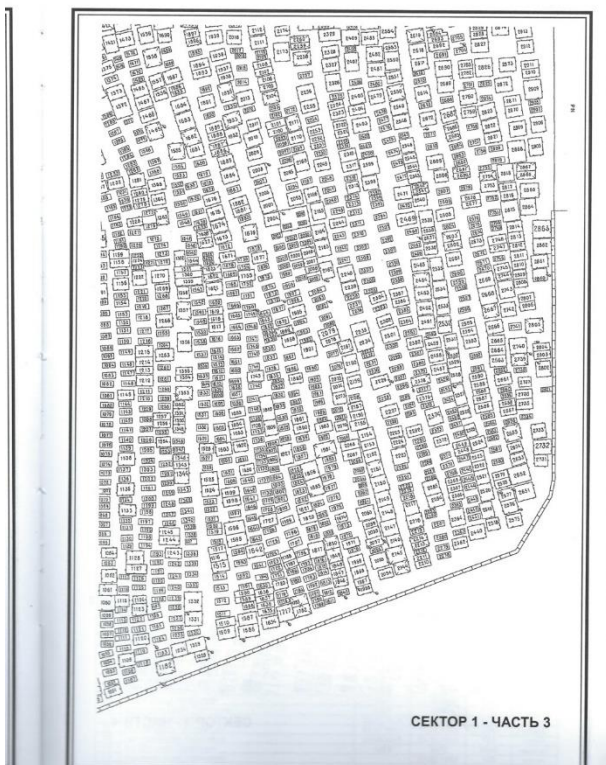
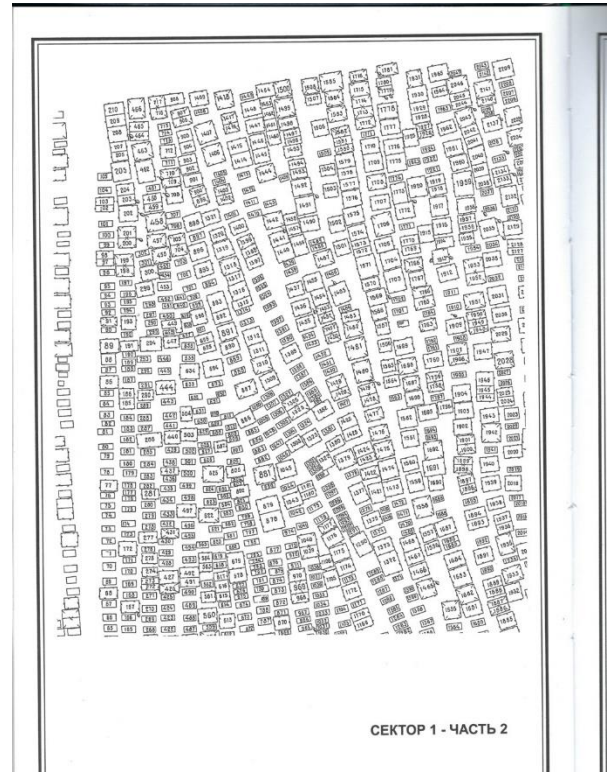
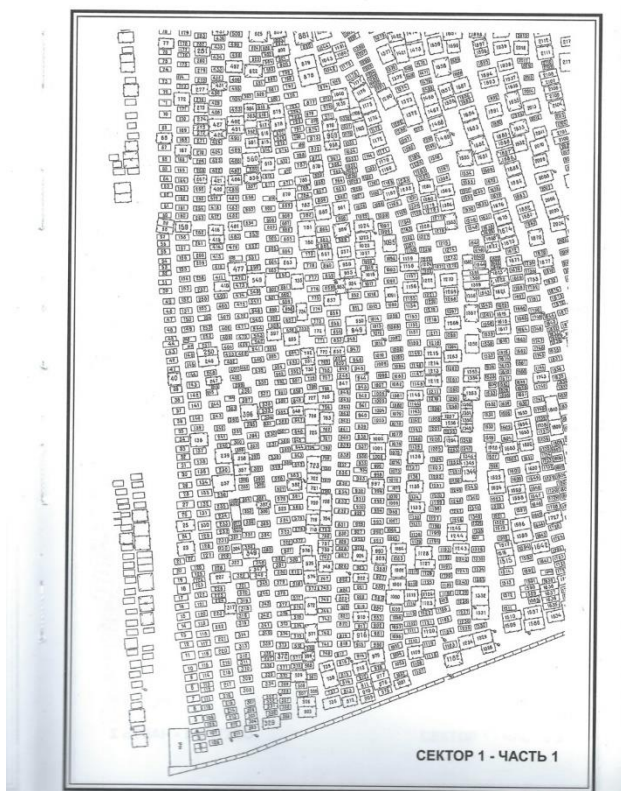


Сектор
—
Sector
or
Quarter

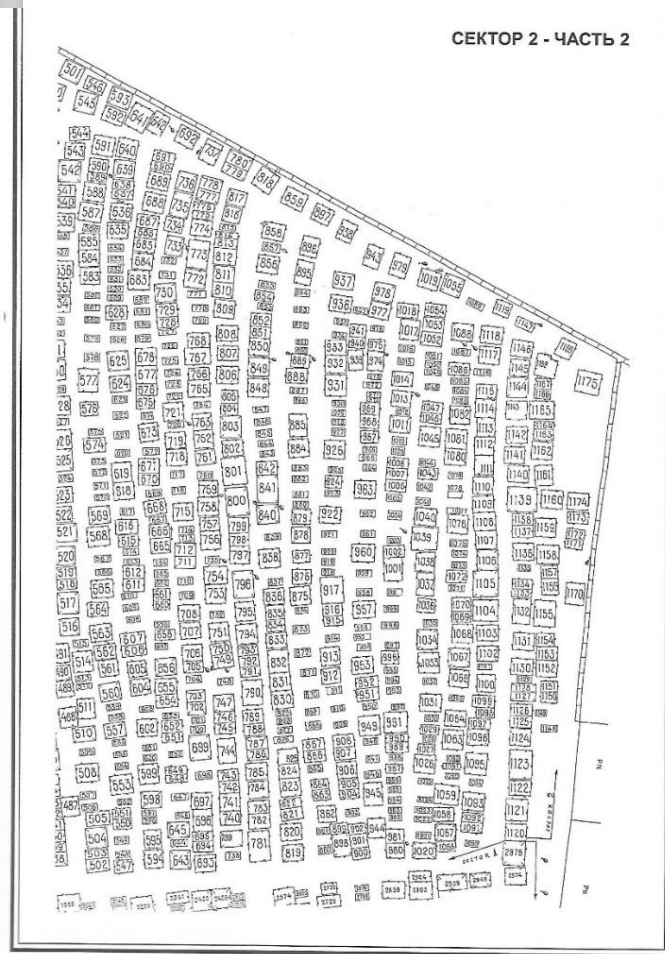
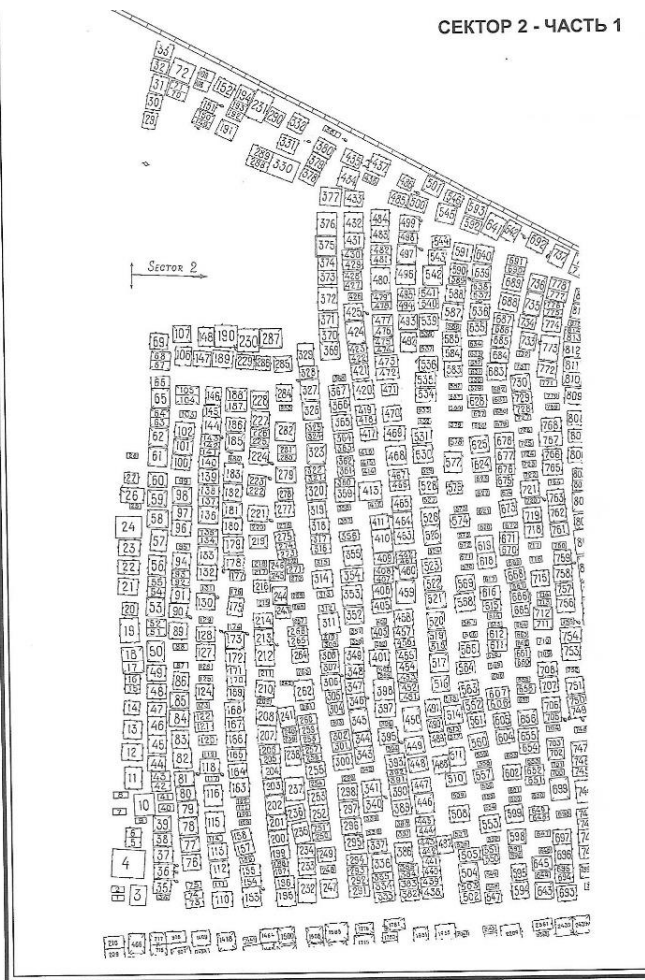


Условные обозначения

- ① Администрация
- ② Туалет
- ③ Емкость с водой

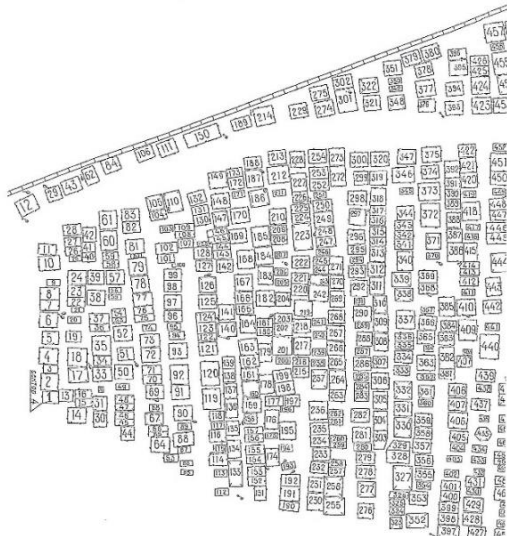


Sector 1, parts 1-4

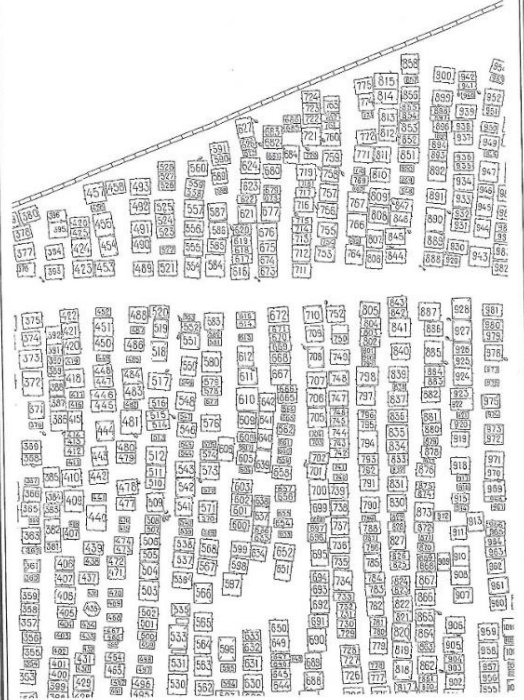


Sector 2, parts 1 and 2

СЕКТОР 4 - ЧАСТЬ 1

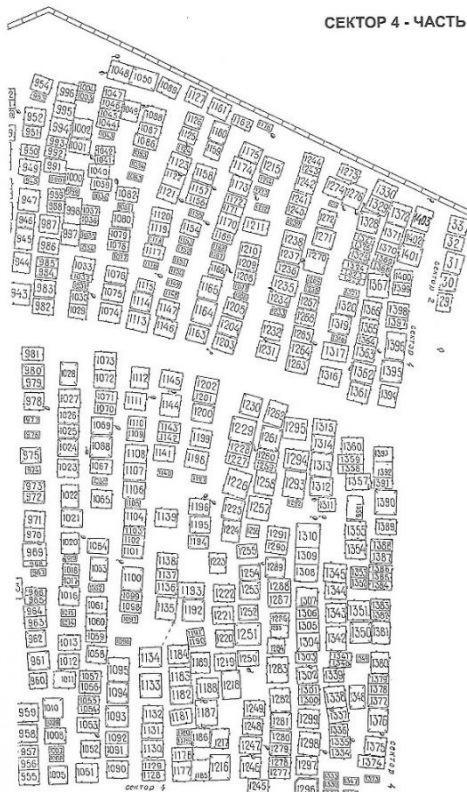


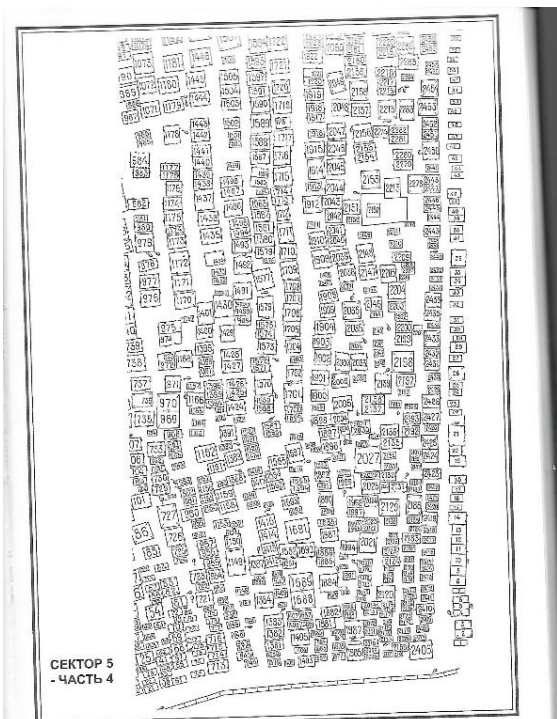
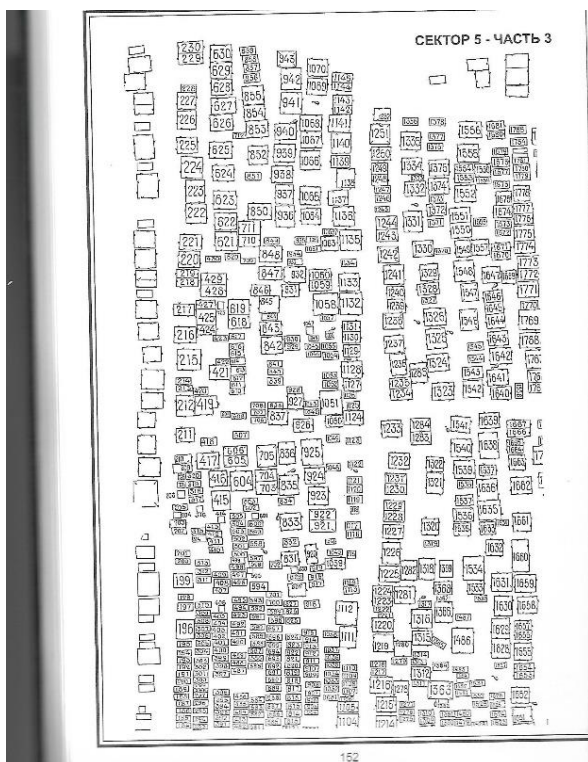
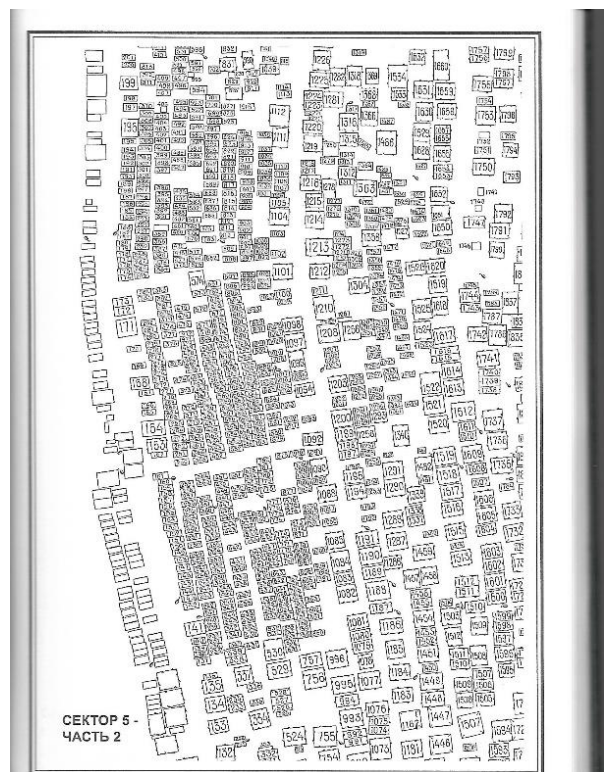
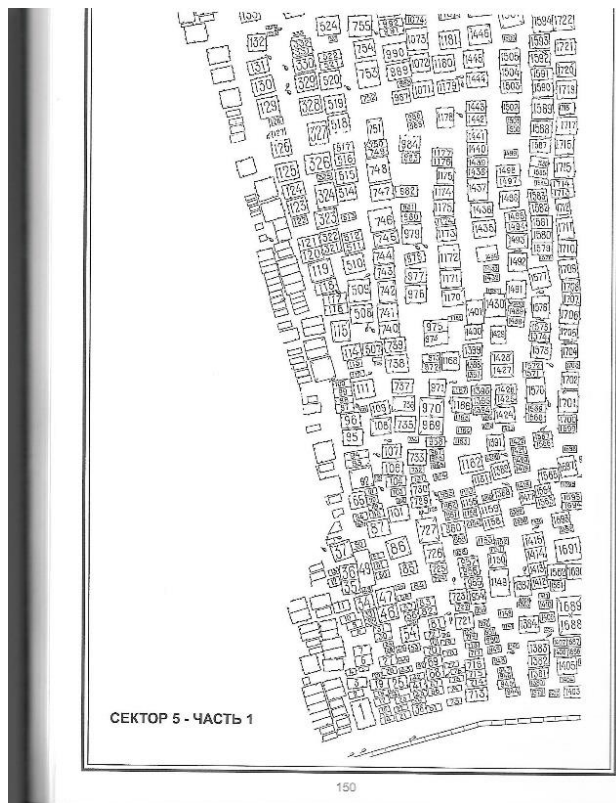
СЕКТОР 4 - ЧАСТЬ 2



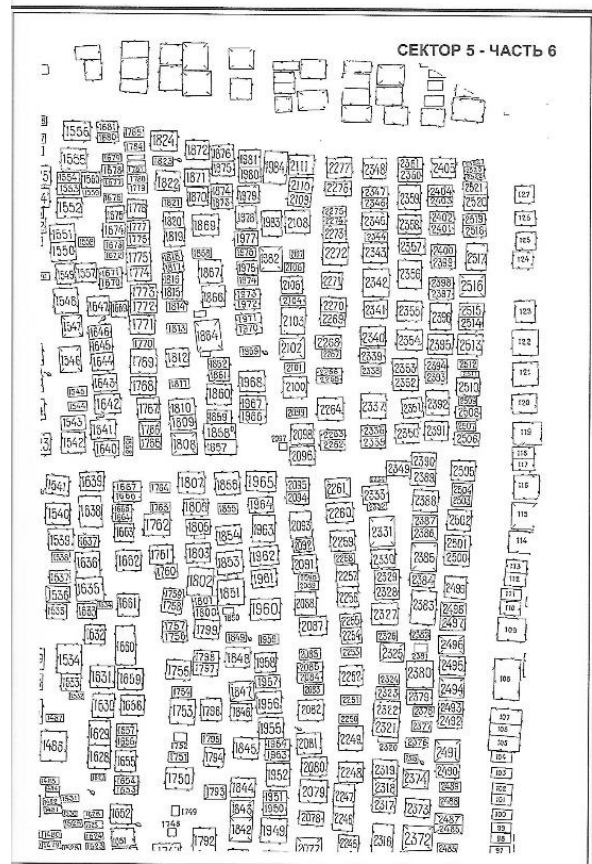
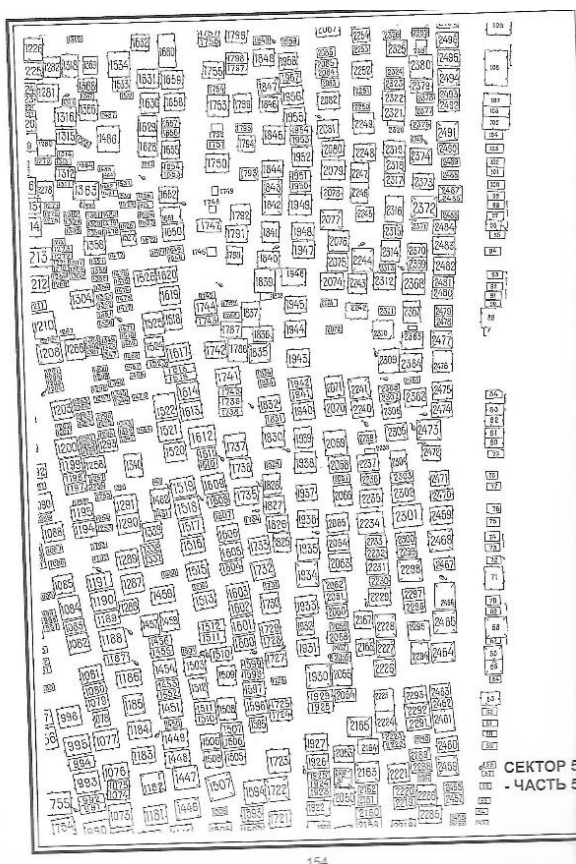
Sector 4,
parts 1, 2
and 3

СЕКТОР 4 - ЧАСТЬ 3

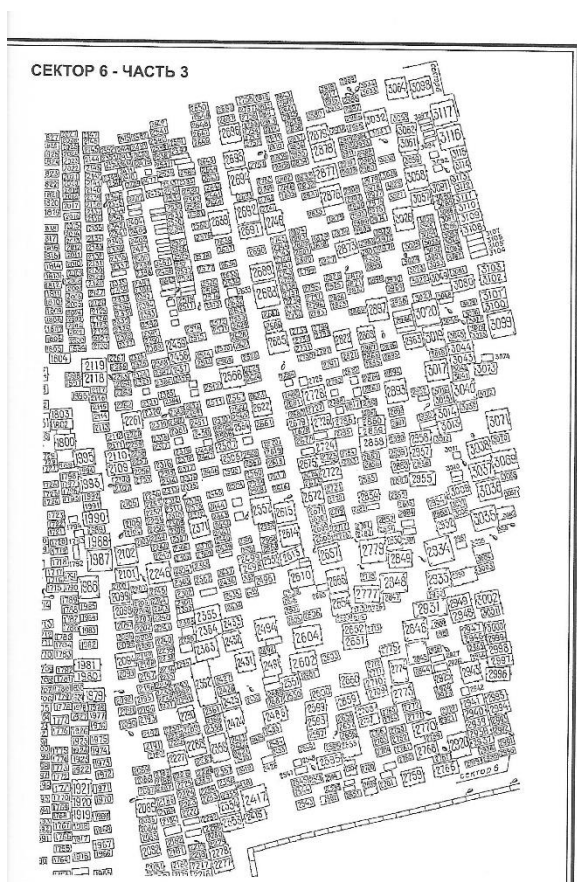
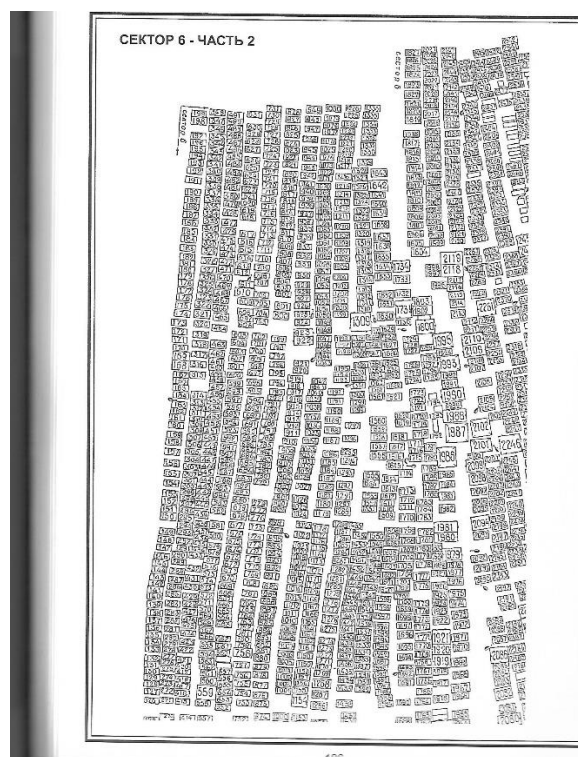
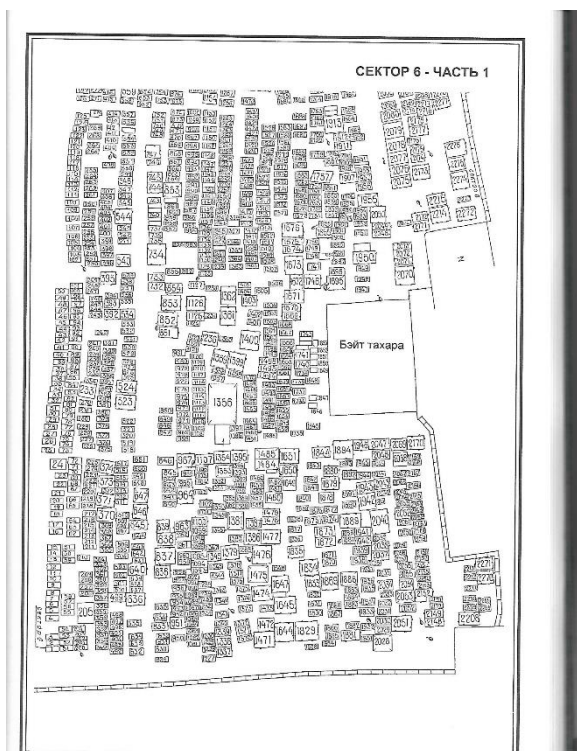




Sector 5, part 1-4 (total of 6 parts)



Sector 5, parts 5 and 6.



Sector 6, parts 1 - 3

Work done at Sectors 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6

	Burial Registry			Submitted to JOWR			
	# of graves	# of identified	# of unknown	# of records	# of identified	# of unknown	# of images
Sector 1	3,073	2,990	83	3,266	3,185	135	2,911
Sector 2	1,215	1,191	24	1,387	1,293	48	1,166
Sector 3							
Sector 4	1,471	1,438	33	1,517	1,481	36	1,371
Sector 5	2,611	2,072	539	2,681	2,342	339	2,441
Sector 6	3,137	1,809	1,431	3,214	2,355	859	2,685
Sector 7							
Sector 8							
Sector 9							
Total	11,507	9,500	2,110	12,065	10,656	1,417	10,574

Burial Registry numbers are from the book



, see more on page 5.

Why we submitted more records when exist in the book? It is because there are new burials not included in the book.

For some of the records we do not have images. This is probably because the writing of that inscription became illegible, and it might be among “Unknown” graves.

Also, why we have more records then images? The main reason is that in many cases one grave/inscription is for 2 or more people buried.

The 1,417 Unknown graves images were sent to JOWBR, but also available at Bessarabia website. You can access directly 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 in Sector 4 –“04” 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 or 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:





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

Volunteers

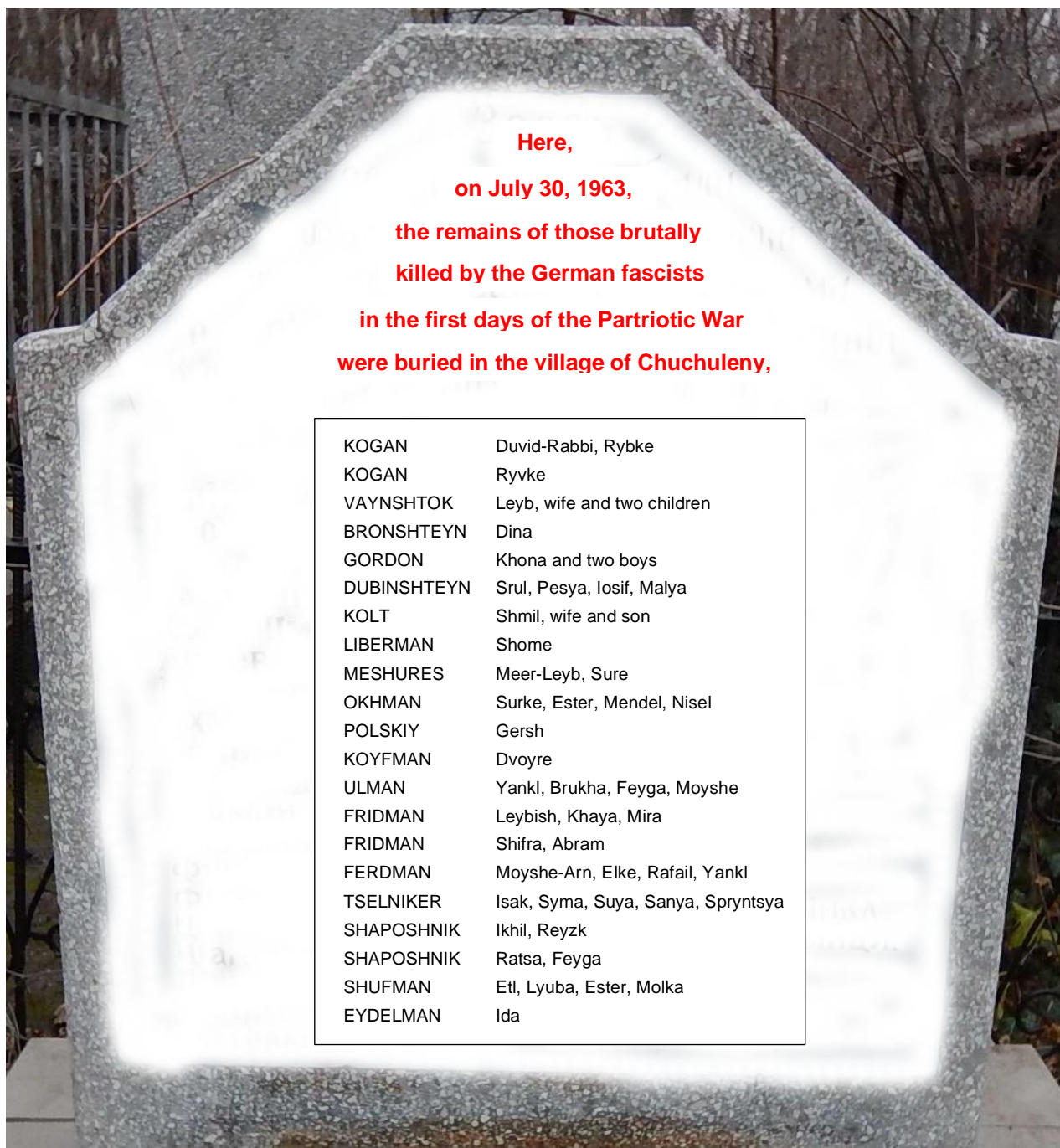
Translation of the whole registry (book) was done by **Terry Lasky**, and he also worked on first reading. The second reading was done by **Nathen Gabriel and Yefim Kogan**.

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



Mass Grave of Jews killed in village Chuchuleny, Kalarash district





List of Jews killed in Chuchuleny, translated in 2020. Names are also included into Kishinev Jewish Cemetery at JOWBR

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



Kishinev Jewish Cemetery events report (end of 2018 – February 2019)

December, 2018-February 2019 Damage done to the cemetery during cleaning process!

February, 2019 Aerial photos December, 2018 Cutting trees, bushes, cleaning

November 26, 2018 Work began on the improvement of the Jewish cemetery (List of my questions)

October 20, 2018 Moldova President's visit to the cemetery

To read the event report, click below:

<https://www.jewishgen.org/Bessarabia/files/cemetery/Kishinev/KishinevJewishCemeteryEvents2019.pdf>

It will include the aerial photos of the cemetery from February 2019, and also the damage done during Cleaning cutting trees process at the cemetery in December of 2018.