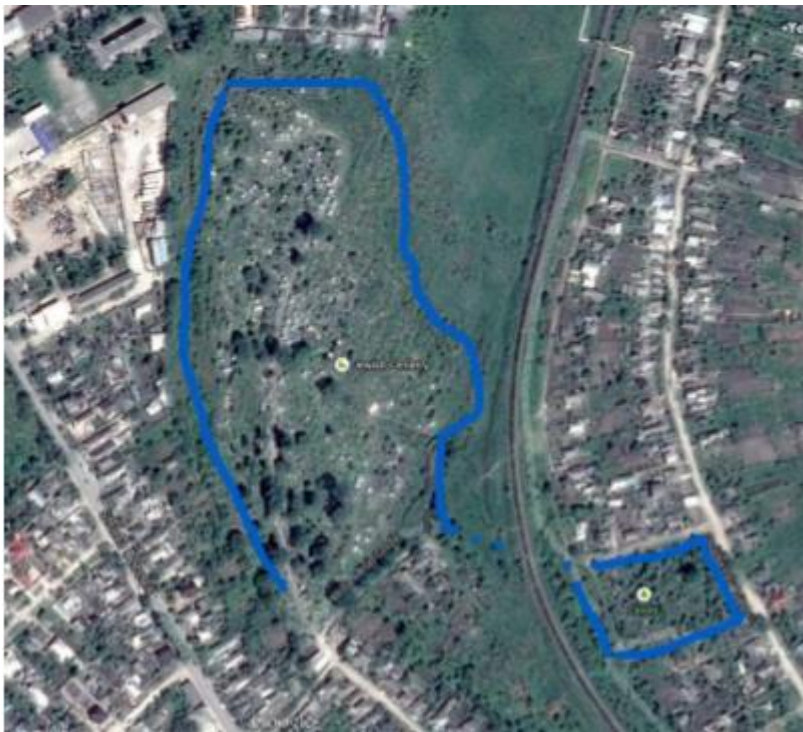# The Jewish Cemetery of Bălţi (Beltsy, Belz)

before 1917, **Beltsy** was part of Bessarabia Gubernia
now it is part of Republic of Moldova

Еврейское Кладбище
Бельцы, Молдавия

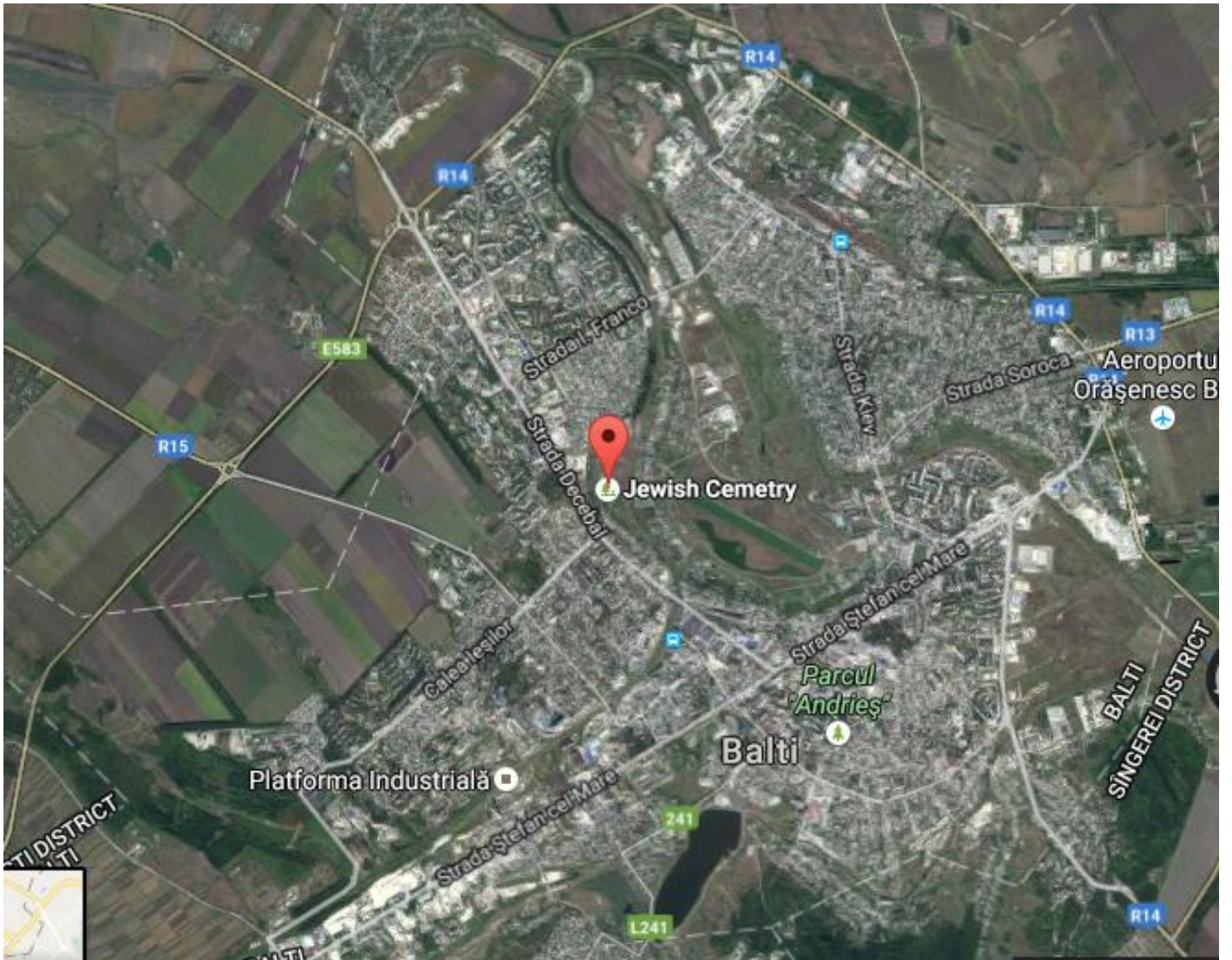Final report, Yefim Kogan, Project Leader and Coordinator,

Last update August 27, 2023

Google map of Beltsy
Cemetery

2012

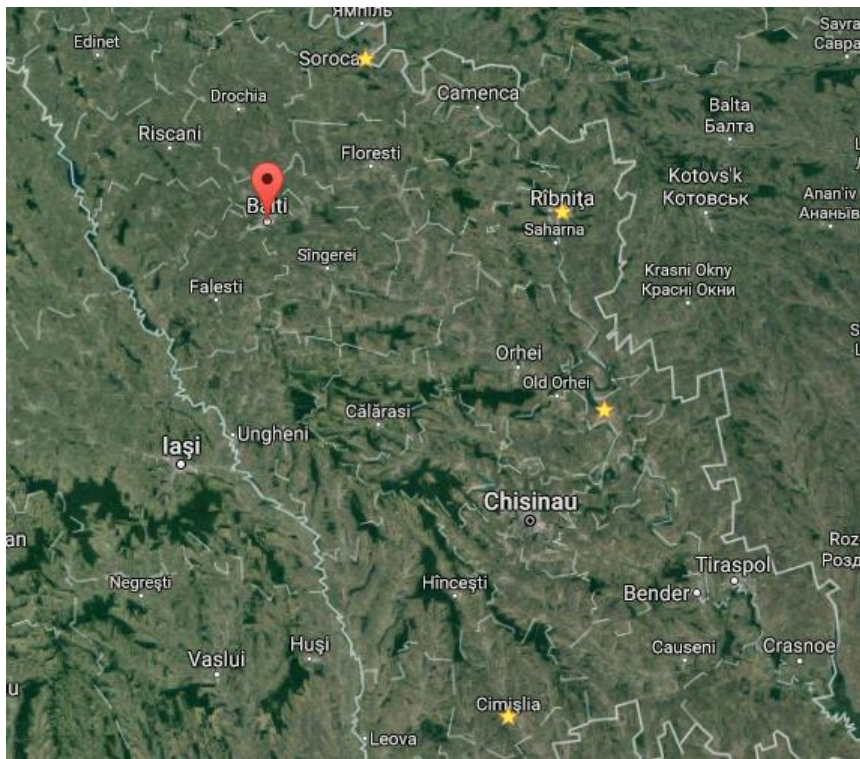**Address:** M. Costina Lane, Beltsy. In another sources address is on Decebal (former Artema) Street.

Directions to the cemetery: From Strada (street) Stefan cel Mare (one of the center street), go to strada Decebal (Decebal starts at Stefan Cel Mare in T intersection). In about 1 km it is going to be a bridge above the Railroad. One street will go left – str Burebista, and before the second left street Victorei… in less than 50 m should be a turn right, might be dangerous during snow… From that Decebal (old name Artyoma street) to the cemetery is probably 1/4 of a mile. Address is on M. Costina Lane (old name Barbutse). There is also a section of the cemetery across the Railroad. To get to that part you need to turn right from Strada Decebal before the bridge to str. Igor Vieru. It should bring you to that section, see it on the map.

The Jewish Cemetery of Beltsi at the Google Map

See the KehilaLinks website for the town of Belti: http://kehilalinks.jewishgen.org/balti/

Video on YouTube about Beltsy cemetery: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B45WjRQXeCA

Beltsi at the Google map of Moldova.

Five phases were completed at the Beltsy Jewish Cemetery by Bessarabia SIG members.

Phase 1.   422 records with 400 photos uploaded to JOWBR on July 7, 2012.

Phase 2.   788 records, no photos, uploaded January 13, 2013. This set came from a handwritten registry with no Photos. All transcription was done by Terry Lasky.

Phase 3.   1142 records with 1121 photos completed in October of 2014. 17 photos are for unknown graves and added to Unknown Graves at Beltsy Cemetery collection.

Phase 4.   1397 records with 1321 photos completed in November of 2016. 29 photos are for unknown graves and added to Unknown Graves at Beltsy Cemetery collection.

Phase 5.   683 records with 666 photos added to the JOWBR. Completed in August of 2017. 18 photos are for unknown graves and added to Unknown Graves at Beltsy Cemetery collection.

Phase 6.   525 records with 502 photos added to the JOWBR. Completed in November of 2019. 17 photos are for unknown graves and added to Unknown Graves at Beltsy Cemetery collection.

Phase 7.   568 records with 547 photos added to the JOWBR. Completed in July of 2020. 6 photos are for unknown graves and added to Unknown Graves at Beltsy Cemetery collection.

Phase 8.   331 records with 325 photos added to the JOWBR. Completed in August of 2023. 39 photos are unknown graves and added to Unknown Graves at Beltsy Cemetery collection.

Total from all Phases: 5,856 records with 5,018 photos added to the JOWBR. 109 photos of unknown graves

The photographing and indexing were done by a group of people in Beltsy, Moldova, USA and Israel with coordination of **Arkadiy Verzub** and **Roman Rahlis**.   Second proof reading was done by Yefim Kogan.

A number of images were placed on ViewMate and with help of

Matthew Saunders,   Madeleine Isenberg

Andreas J. Schwab,   Emma Karabelnik

 many names and dates were identified.

Many writings were deciphered by **Nathen Gabriel.**

See the Unknown Graves at Beltsy Cemetery collection.

Thank you to all who made these projects possible! Thanks to our members who donated money to pay for the photos.

There is going to be one more phase to complete the cemetery. Please donate to Bessasrabia SIG – General Fund, that we could use money for this project.

http://www.jewishgen.org/JewishGen-erosity/v_projectslist.asp?project_cat=43

The gates to the Beltsy Jewish Cemetery

2008

Courtesy of Arkadi Verzub

Preservation Project

The same group led by **Arkadiy Verzub** and **Roman Rahlis** are doing a terrific job of cleaning the cemetery, clearing paths, cleaning the writings on the tombstones and preserving the cemetery for the future generations.   If you have ancestors from Beltsy or not, I encourage you to help that project to continue.

Here is a report of what they did this year at the cemetery: http://shtetlbelts.ru/cemetery/2017letter.html

The report is written in Russian, but you can easily translate using Google or other means.

People are working to clear the paths at the Beltsy cemetery.

Go the report at http://shtetlbelts.ru/cemetery/2017letter.html

and donate to this group to be able to do more cleaning next year!

Future phases:

- Complete the newer sections, total about 5-6,000 graves, part of it will be done in 2020-2022.

- Work on the oldest part of the cemetery with graves prior to World War II with 1,000-2,000 graves, many of them are broken or fallen, without inscription.

According to different sources Beltsy Jewish Cemetery has a size from 800,000 sq. m. to 1,000,000 sq. m. with graves numbering from 20,000 to 25,000! We will know the final number of graves with writings when the project is completed.

Information is available in the records indexed.

Cemetery is divided into several **regions.** So far, we have indexed and photographed graves from Region 1 and 2. Every region has sectors, from 01 to about 40 or more. Every sector has up to 100 graves.

Plot Number is identification for the graves, and it is usually a combination of sector, row and # of the grave in the row. Every record added by Project 1 and Project 3 had a Plot Number, which is a combination of region, sector and grave number. For example, 201010 – region 2, sector 01, and grave number 010. In most cases the last 6th digit is 0. Next Plot number is 201020, etc. Project 2 was indexed from different lists provided by members of the Beltsy community, and the numeration was different. After we complete all indexing and photographing, the Project 2 records might be removed, because we will index them again with the photographs.

Date of Death is written in many cases in regular calendar date and in the Hebrew calendar if written on the memorial.

Date of Birth in most cases, is only the year even though on the monument there might be a full date of birth written. After World War II, people put the names of those killed in the war in combat or during evacuation on many monuments. These names are part of the records, and the LAST NAMES are also searchable at JOWBR. In many cases, there are whole lists of family members who died or were killed during the war with names, dates of birth and dates of death.

In some cases, you will find additional information on the gravestone, such as profession: mostly for teachers, doctors, lawyers, etc.

In a number of graves, the stone was broken, turned over, or the inscription was missing. If we knew for sure that this monument, without the inscription is for a particular person, you will see the image without writing at the JOWBR record. If the name of a person is unknown, such unnamed images of gravestones will be displayed for your viewing at the Bessarabia SIG website / Cemetery section. In some cases, there might be a photo of a person on such stones.

Different corners of the corners of the Beltsy Jewish Cemetery

Photos

Courtesy of Arkadi Verzub

עבד עשני שלא העולם מלך אלהינו יי אתה ברוך

Blessed are you Lord, that you have not made me a slave

Here, in a Mass grave lie victims of Holocaust,

killed in June of 1941

in the village of Novaya Tzura, Synzhera district.

Re-buried on April 4 of 2001 by Jewish Community of Beltsy.

Part of the Old section of the Cemetery (not yet indexed).

Courtesy of Brock D. Bierman.

View at the cemetery

Courtesy of Arkadi Verzub