

The Jewish Cemetery of Villa Mariana, San Paulo, Brazil

Section of the cemetery for Jews originally from Bessarabia/Moldova and Podolia

Cemitério Israelita da Vila Mariana

Final report, Yefim Kogan, March 31, 2020

The project was Organized by JewishGen, Bessarabia Research division in 2018.

Address of the cemetery: Av. Lacerda Franco, 2.080 - Cambuci
CEP: 01536-001 - São Paulo – SP, Brasil Phone: (11) 5573-0414





Vila Mariana cemetery at the Google Map of San Paulo, Brazil

Cemetery at Vila Mariana was founded in 1919. It was the first Jewish cemetery in the State of São Paulo. The first burial took place in 1920 and shortly after **the Associação Cemitério Israelita de São Paulo - Chevra Kadisha** was created.

More information about the cemetery can be found at:

https://pt.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cemit%C3%A9rio_Israelita_da_Vila_Mariana

San Paulo has the largest Jewish community in Brazil with about 76,000 Jews. Ancestors of this Jewish population came to the country before World War I with waves of emigrants from Poland and Russia. In the period between the World Wars and during World War II, Jews arrived from Poland, Germany, other countries. From the 1950s there were waves of French and Arabic speaking Jews from Egypt, Syria, Lebanon and other Arab countries.

For more about the Jewish community in San Paulo see <https://www.jcpa.org/jl/jl124.htm>



Entrance to the Jewish Cemetery of Vila Mariana. (From Wikipedia website).

Bessarabia Cemetery Projects

The Bessarabia Research Group (former Bessarabia SIG) is working on many cemeteries, this includes indexing and photographing tombstones in former Bessarabia gubernia and current Moldova (including Transnistria). There are a total of 79 small and large cemeteries in the region. You can see the whole list of what was done, and what is in progress at <https://www.jewishgen.org/bessarabia/files/cemetery/Inventory201909-September.htm>

You also can see cemetery reports created for most of the cemeteries at https://www.jewishgen.org/bessarabia/RES_ProjectList.asp?doctype=14

Current project – indexing records for **Vila Mariana** cemetery in San Paulo, Brazil -- project #80!

Current Project

The project started when a resident of San Paulo, **Alen Biscevic** sent me copies of pages from Vila Mariana cemetery book with Jews originally from Bessarabia, Moldova, Podolia.

The next step was to put all these names into a table as best as possible, and that job was done by **Terry Lasky**. At this time, we had just a list of names, and towns they came from, without the Date of Death, and I felt that this is not enough information to publish.

At the last year's conference in Cleveland, OH, I met **Charles Goldenzon** from Rio de Janeiro and later got a message from him with personal questions. After replying to his questions, I asked about that cemetery in San Paulo, and Charles quickly found a website where you can search that cemetery by names, and get the Date of Death and names of parents. That was a success. I asked Charles if he can assemble a few people to search for all of the **502** names and copy all needed information into the table. **Charles Goldenzon** and **Eduardo Joelson** both from *Sociedade de Genealogia Judaica do Rio de Janeiro*, volunteered for this job, and in February of this year I received the table with all needed information for **503** burial records.

I would like to thank the whole team-- **Alen Biscevic**, **Terry Lasky**, **Charles Goldenzon** and **Eduardo Joelson** for a great job done for the groups of Bessarabia and Ukraine regions.

How to search the cemetery registry

Here is the address I got from Charles Goldenzon:

<http://chevrakadisha.org.br/campos-santos/vila-mariana/>. Site is in Portuguese, but you can easily translate it on your computer. After that click on **Advisory and Services** and **Find a Grave**. You can search all 4 Jewish Cemeteries in San Paulo area.

Comments from Charles Goldenzon and my final comments

Charles: Many given names and surnames were spelled differently from the original (book). In many cases, various alternatives had to be tried until the right individual was found.

Yefim: In a few cases the differences were significant, and I used both names

Charles: Some records didn't bring the names of the parents at all or just of one of them. The blank cells are correct.

Yefim: One name was found twice in the cemetery website: TABACOW Nathan, and I included both burial records.

Yefim: There were five names we could not find in cemetery website. Those are added to our table, but without plot # and parent's name.

Towns people were from

The names of towns in the book usually used the Yiddish or Russian way of pronouncing the town, like Brichon for Brichani or currently Briceni. We have included the names of towns as in the book in the Comments, and the current name of town in order to be able to search.

Majority of the people were from Bessarabia / Moldova (including Transnistria).

Bessarabia (no town)	18
Bălți , Moldova	22
Bilhorod-Dnistrovskyy , Ukraine	2
Briceni, Moldova	41
Briceva, Moldova	28
Calarasi, Moldova	2
Capresti, Moldova	1
Chisinau, Moldova	14
Dubăsari, Moldova	3
Edineț, Moldova	59
Falesti, Moldova	5
Izmayil, Ukraine	7
Khotyn, Ukraine	29
Lipcani, Moldova	4
Marculesti, Moldova	1
Nimereuca, Moldova	2
Novoselytsya, Ukraine	4
Orhei , Moldova	2
Otaci , Moldova	15
Raspopeni, Moldova	1
Rezina, Moldova	1
Rîbnița , Moldova	1
Rîșcani , Moldova	6
Sokyryany, Ukraine	128
Soroca , Moldova	10
Telenești, Moldova	7
Zgurița, Moldova	1

From Podolia

Podolia (no town)	4
Bar, Ukraine	3
Kamyanets Podilskyy , Ukraine	8
Klishkivtsi, Ukraine	1
Kopaihorod , Ukraine	3
Mohyliv-Podilskyy , Ukraine	15

Sharhorod, Ukraine	8
Trostanets, Ukraine	2
Vil'khovets', Ukraine	2
Vinnytsya, Ukraine	3
Yampil, Ukraine	18
Yaryshiv, Ukraine	2

From other regions:

Chernivtsi, Ukraine	12
Vasylivka, Ukraine (Taurida gub.)	1
Kremenchuk, Ukraine (Poltava gub.)	1
Iași, Romania	4

Two towns I was not able to recognize, at least near Bessarabia:

Ostrovica	1
Sadyk	1



Gates to the cemetery

This and the following photos are from website <http://chevrakadisha.org.br/campos-santos/vila-mariana/>



Corners of the cemetery