The Jewish Cemetery of Raskov (Rashkov)

Before 1917 Rashkov was part of the Olgopol uezd, Podolia gubernia of the Russian Empire. Now it is part of the Republic of Moldova, Transnistria region.

Еврейское Кладбище,
Рашков, Молдова

Yefim Kogan, March 27, 2016, Phase 2 – February 28, 2018

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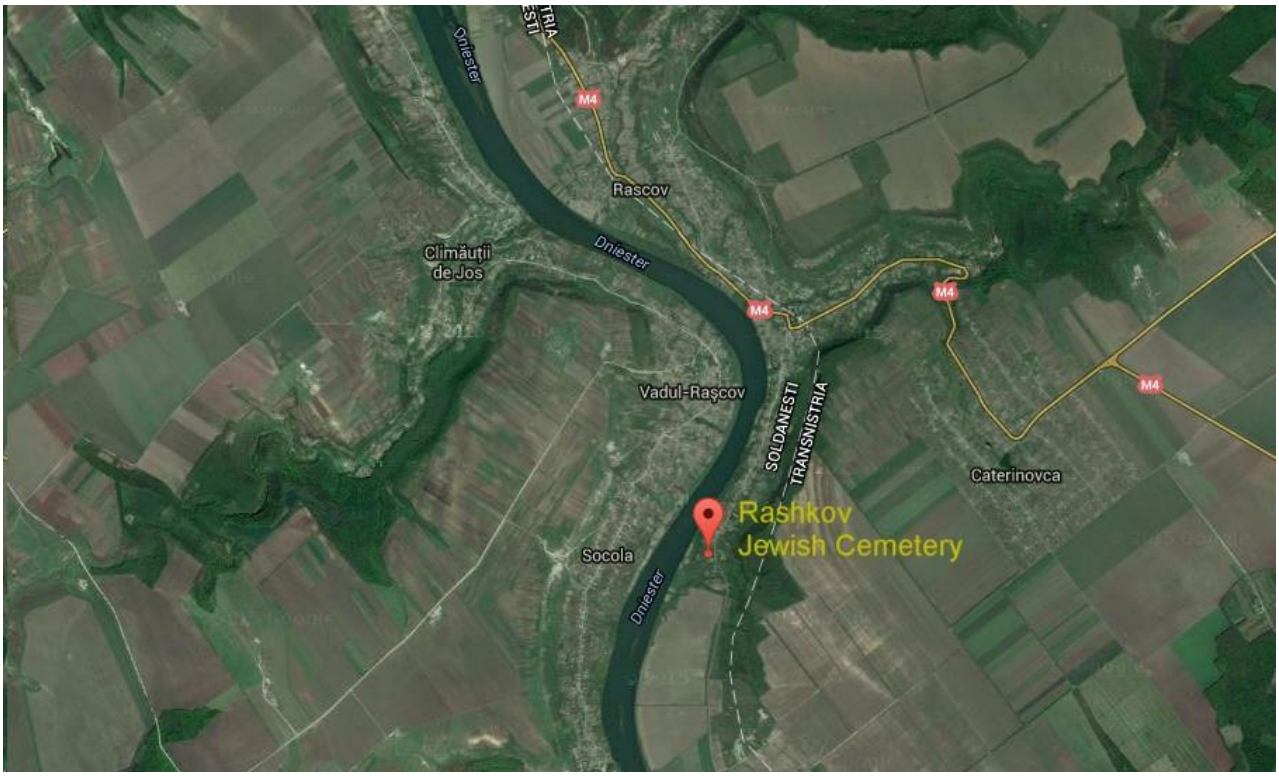
Introduction

The project was started by JewishGen, Bessarabia SIG in 2015. The photography was taken by **Serghey Daniliuk**, a resident of Kaushany, Moldova, Bessarabia SIG long time photographer and researcher.

Location, Maps

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



Jewish Population

3,201 Jews lived in Rashkov in 1897 from a total population of 5,823. 4 Jewish businesses were found in the Klyachkin directory of 1901, and 13 Jewish businesses were in Rashkov in 1913.

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, Kotovsk both in Ukraine.

The gates of the cemetery

The gates to the Rashkov Jewish Cemetery

From Jewish Heritage Sites and Monuments in Moldova

According to the report "Jewish Heritage Sites and Monuments in Moldova", created by the United States Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad, 2010, Rashkov was one of the oldest Jewish settlement in Moldova. About 2,000 Jews (50% of the town's population) lived there before the Second World War.

The 20,000 square meter cemetery is surrounded by a ruined stone wall. The cemetery contains more than 5,000 extant gravestones that date from the 18th to the 20th centuries. The site is now deserted and overgrown and more than half of the stones are toppled or broken.

Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the project

Phase 1 has **45** records with **43** photographs.

Phase 2 brought number of burial records to **1,451** with **1,443** photographs.

The photos of **213** Unknown graves can be seen at Unknown Graves at Rashkov cemetery.

Language of the inscriptions: Phase 1: mostly Russian, some are written in Hebrew and Russian; Phase 2: all but a few inscriptions are written only in Hebrew.

Dates: Phase 1: burials in this cemetery are from 1930s. The last burial dated 1985. Phase 2: most burials are from the beginning to later 19 century. The oldest grave was from 1826.

Phase 1 was translated by **Seth Talyansky** and **Nathen Gabriel** and Phase 2 inscriptions translated by **Bianca Gamarnik**, **Terry Lasky, Nathen Gabriel and Yefim Kogan.**

From Samuel Gruber's Jewish Art & Monuments

From Samuel Gruber's Jewish Art & Monuments. Rashkov Jewish Cemetery

http://samgrubersjewishartmonuments.blogspot.com/2011/05/moldova-first-survey-of-moldova-jewish.html

Rashov synagogue of 1749

In Rashkov the impressive Baroque-style synagogue, built in 1749, is only a ruin with its outer walls and part of the Aron ha-Kodesh (Holy Ark) intact.

This synagogue – even in its ruinous state – is architecturally the most impressive Jewish building in Moldova.

One of the oldest graves

David Levi ben Yakov

27 Nisan, 5586

(May 5, 1826)

Frima Yudis bat Shmuel

The woman giving birth

5607

(1847-1848)

The old man,
Rabbi Yitzchak ben Yakov Meir

2nd day of Chol HaMo'ed Pesach, 56?4

Danil ben Tzevi

20 Shevat, 5603

(January 21, 1843)

Yisrael ben Nissan haKohen

22 Adar, 5660

(February 21, 1900)

Levi Yitzchak ben Moshe haLevi

The young married man

9 Kislev, 5662

(November 20, 1901)

Yisrael Aba ben Yehuda Leib

27 Tevet, 5676

(January 3, 1916)

Images from the cemetery

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

Old fence