

Survey of Jewish History and Holocaust-Related Sites in Moldova
Initiated by Stuart Saffer, JDC Country Director for Moldova and Ukraine, in 2004.
Donated to CJA in 2021.

Jewish Cemetery in Rashkov

I. The Town: Present Circumstances

1. **Present name of town in which cemetery is located:** village of Rashkov

2. **Address of cemetery:** Near the end of the village Rashkov

3. **Alternate names of town:**

Russian: Rashkov
Ukrainian: Rashkiv

4. **Distance from larger towns or centers (specify):**

| City | Distance |
|----------|----------|
| Kishinev | 131 |
| Ribnita | 25 |
| Camenca | 22 |

5. **Present total town population:** Approximately 2000

6. **Present Jewish population:** 1

II. Contact people

| Full name | Address | Phone | Function |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------|---|
| Aranchuk Michail Maksimovich | Rashkov | 6 73 28 | Pensioner, client of Hesed Rahel |
| Akulov P. | Ribnita, Gvardeiskaia street 43 | | Director of Hesed Rahel Ribnita |
| Sigal S. | Ribnita, Kirov street. 137, ap. 48 | 2 20 07 | Chairman of the Jewish Community. Ribnita |

III. Location, Markers, Access, Security

7. **The cemetery location:** In the suburb

8. **The cemetery is located:** On the plain

9. **The cemetery is:** Isolated

10. **The cemetery is marked by:** There are no signs, nor other designations

11. **The cemetery is reached:** directly by the public road

12. **Access to the cemetery:** It is available for all people to enter

13. **The cemetery is surrounded by:** by the destroyed stone wall

14. **The cemetery has:** a gate that does not lock

IV. Appearance and Condition of cemetery

15. **Present size of cemetery in square metre:** more than 20000 sq.m.

16. **Approximate number of gravestones in original locations, regardless of condition:** more than 5000

17. **Approximate number of stones in cemetery, but not in original locations:** from 500 up to 5000

18. **Approximate percentage of surviving stones toppled or broken, whether or not in original locations:** 50 % - 75 %

19. **Is the location of stones that have been removed from the cemetery known?** not known

20. **Vegetation overgrowth in the cemetery is:**

- is a constant problem, harming the tombs
- is a constant problem, harming the gravestones

21. **Water drainage at the cemetery is:** Constant problems

V. Tombstones and Memorial Markers

22. **Is the cemetery divided into special sections:** It is impossible to determine

23. **Tombstones in the cemetery are datable from:** by the 18-th century

24. **Tombstones and memorial markers are made of:**

- granite
- limestone
- sandstone

25. **The cemetery contains tombstones that are:**

- flat stones
- well ground stones with inscriptions
- flat stones with the cut out pattern
- double gravestones
- horizontal plates with inscriptions

26. The cemetery has tombstones:

- with marks of pictures on the surface
- with iron ornaments or inscriptions
- with other metal elements
- with portraits on stones
- with metal fencings around the tombs

27. Inscriptions on tombstones are in:

- Hebrew
- Yiddish
- Russian

28. The cemetery contains special memorial monuments to:

No special monuments

VI. Current Use of Cemetery Site

29. The present owner of the cemetery property is: Municipality

30. The cemetery property is now used for: It is not used as Jewish cemetery

31. Properties adjacent to cemetery are: residential

32. Compared to 1939, the cemetery boundaries enclosed: a smaller area

32 a. If the boundaries are smaller, they have been reduced as a result of:

- housing construction
- developments of agriculture
- natural destruction of tombs and gravestones

33. The cemetery is visited: Seldom

34. The cemetery is visited by: Local people

VII. Care and Restoration of the Cemetery

35. The cemetery is known to have been vandalized:

It did not happen during recent ten years (1993-2003/4)

36. **What care has been taken of the cemetery:** No care

37. **If restoration has been carried out, who has responsible for the work:**
There was no restoration at all

38. **How is the cemetery cared for now:** No care at all

39. **If there is a caretaker, how is he paid:** No care taker

VIII. Structures

41. **Within the limits of the cemetery:** There are no services

IX. Survey Background

42. **Name, address and telephone numbers of persons completing this survey and visiting the site:**

| Name | Address | Phone | Function |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------|
| Aranchuk Michail Maksimovich | Rashcovo | 6 73 28 | Pensioner, client of Hesed Rahel |
| Akulov R. | Ribnita, Gvardeiskaia street 43 | | Director of Hesed Rahel Ribnita |

X. Basis for completing the survey

43. **Was the site visited for this survey:** Yes

43. a. **date of the visit:** on February, 18 2004

43. b. **Who visited the site:**

| Full name | Address | Phone | Function |
|------------|----------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Teper Igor | Chisinau | +37369174616 | The Project coordinator |

44. **Were interviews conducted for this survey:** Yes

XI. Recommendations: cemetery is deserted and needs restoration.

XII. Comments and additional supervision on a site:

Rashkov is one of the most ancient Jewish places in Moldova. It was founded in 1402. Before the war about 2000 Jews (50 % of all population) lived in the village. Now only one Jew lives in the village – Aranchuk Michail Maksimovich with his wife. Michail Maksimovich was the director of the village school, the historian. He studied the history of the village and well knows the Jewish history of it. Now

Michail Maksimovich practically does not go outside his house. Most likely, he is the last Jew living in once Jewish place Rashkov.