

US COMMISSION FOR THE PRESERVATION OF AMERICA'S HERITAGE ABROAD
1101 15TH Street NW Suite 1040
Washington, DC 20005

Survey Instrument for Jewish Cemeteries

I. The town: Present Circumstances

1. Present name of the town or village in which cemetery is located or nearest cemetery.

2. Address of cemetery or location vis a vis above named town or village.

3. Alternate/former names of town or village

Yiddish:

German:

other:

4. Province or region

5. Longitude and Latitude

6. Distance from larger towns or centers (specify)

7. Present total town population

a. under 1,000

b. 1,000-5,000

c. 5,000-25,000

d. 25,000-100,000

e. over 100,000

8. Present Jewish population

a. none

b. under 10

c. 10-100

d. 100-1,000

e. 1,000-10,000

f. over 10,000

Contact People

(give as complete information as possible, with names, titles, addresses and telephones numbers)

9. Name of town officials (mayor, administrator, etc.) and offices (municipal office, records office, etc.) with addresses and telephones numbers

10. Names of local government, conservation and religious authorities or offices responsible for site

11. Names of regional political, preservation, religious authorities or offices responsible for site

12. Names of local or regional individuals, institutions or organisations interested in site even if they are not responsible for it

13. If the Jewish cemetery is locked, who has the key? (give address and telephone)

14. If the Jewish cemetery has a caretaker, give name and address
15. List other individuals, offices, institutions or organisations who may have information about the cemetery.

III. History.

16. Date of earliest known Jewish community in town
17. Jewish population as of last census before World War II (give date, if known)
18. Noteworthy historical events involving or affecting the Jewish community
19. Noteworthy individuals who lived in this Jewish community
20. Date Jewish cemetery was established
21. Tzadakkim and other noteworthy Jews buried in cemetery
22. Date of last known Jewish burial in cemetery
23. Type of Jewish community which used this cemetery
 - a. Orthodox (If Hasidic list branch)

 - b. Orthodox (Sephardic)
 - c. Conservative
 - d. Progressive/Reform
 - e. Neolog
 - f. other (specify)
24. Did communities from other towns and villages use this cemetery?
25. Approximate distance of cemetery from congregations which used it
26. Is the cemetery listed and/or protected as a local, regional or national landmark or monument?
 - a. yes
 - b. noIf yes, give details

IV. Location, Markers, Access, Security

27. The cemetery location is
 - a. urban
 - b. suburban
 - c. rural (agricultural)
 - d. rural (woods/forest)
 - e. between fields and woods
28. The cemetery is located
 - a. on flat land
 - b. on a hillside
 - c. at the crown of a hill
 - d. by water
 - e. other

29. The cemetery is
- isolated
 - part of a municipal cemetery
 - separate, but near other cemeteries
30. The cemetery is marked by
- a sign or plaque in local language (Polish, German, Czech, Slovak, Hungarian, Romanian)
 - a sign or plaque in Yiddish
 - a sign or a plaque in Hebrew
 - inscriptions in Hebrew on gate or wall
 - inscriptions on pre-burial house
 - no sign but Jewish symbols on gate or wall (Star of David, Menorah, etc.)
 - no sign or marker

30.11. If you answered question 30 by checking a, b, c, does the marker mention

- Jews
- the Holocaust
- the Jewish Community
- famous individual buried in cemetery
- other (specify: _____)

31. The cemetery is reached by
- turning directly off a public road
 - turning directly off a private road
 - crossing other public property (specify: _____)
 - crossing private property
 - other (specify: _____)

32. Access to the cemetery is
- open to all
 - open with permission
 - entirely closed

33. The cemetery is surrounded by
- a continuous masonry wall
 - a broken masonry wall
 - a continuous fence
 - no wall or fence

34. The cemetery has
- a gate that locks
 - a gate that does not lock
 - no gate

VI. Appearance and Condition of Cemetery

35. Approximate size of cemetery before World War II

36. Present size of cemetery

37. Approximate number of gravestones in cemetery, regardless of condition or position
- no stones visible
 - 1 to 20
 - 20 to 100

- d. 100 - 500
- e. 500 -5000
- f. more than 5000

38. Approximate number of gravestones in original locations, regardless of condition

- a. none
- b. 1 to 20
- c. 20 to 100
- d. 100-500
- e. 500-5000
- f. more than 5000

39. Approximate number of stones in cemetery, but not in original locations

- a. none
- b. 1 to 20
- c. 20 to 100
- d. 100-500
- e. 500-5000
- f. more than 5000

40. Approximate percentage of surviving stones toppled or broken, whether or not in original locations

- a. none
- b. less than 25%
- c. 25%-50%
- d. 50%-75%
- e. more than 75%

41. Is the location of stones that we have been removed from the cemetery from the cemetery known?

- a. yes
- b. no
- c. n/a

41a. If the answer to 41 is (a), how many stones are

- a. in another cemetery (location:_____)
- b. in a museum or conservation laboratory (location:_____)
- c. incorporated into roads or structures (location:_____)
- d. in private collections (location:_____)
- e. elsewhere (location:_____)

42. Vegetation overgrowth in the cemetery is

- a. not a problem
- b. a seasonal problem, preventing access
- c. a constant problem, disturbing graves
- d. a constant problem, disturbing stones
- e. a constant problem, damaging stones

43. Water drainage at the cemetery is

- a. good all year round (not a problem)
- b. a seasonal problem
- c. a constant problem

VI. Tombstones and memorial Markers

(note: check as many answers are appropriate)

44. Is the cemetery divided into special sections

- a. yes
- b. no
- c. unable to determine
- d. impossible to determine

44a. If the answer to 44 is yes, which sections?

- a. men
- b. women
- c. unmarried women
- d. rabbis
- e. Cohanim
- f. children
- g. women who died
- h. during childbirth
- i. suicides
- j. refugees
- k. other: _____

45. What is the oldest known gravestone in the cemetery?

46. Tombstones in the cemetery are datable from

- a. before 1500
- b. 16th century
- c. 17th century
- d. 18th century
- e. 19th century
- f. 20th century

47. Tombstones and memorial markers are made of

- a. marble
- b. granite
- c. limestone
- d. sandstone
- e. slate
- f. iron
- g. other

48. The cemetery contains tombstones that are

- a. rough stones or boulders
- b. flat shaped stones
- c. finely smoothed and inscribed stones
- d. flat stones with carved relief decoration
- e. double tombstones
- f. sculpted monuments
- g. multi-stone monuments

49. The cemetery has tombstones

- a. with traces of painting on their surfaces
- b. with iron decorations or lettering
- c. with bronze decorations or lettering
- d. with other metallic elements
- e. portraits on stones
- f. metal fences around graves
- g. none of the above

50. Inscriptions on tombstones are in
- a. Hebrew
 - b. Yiddish
 - c. Polish
 - d. German
 - e. Czech
 - f. Slovak
 - g. Russian
 - h. Other (specify _____)

51. The cemetery contains special memorial monuments to
- a. Holocaust victims
 - b. pogrom victims
 - c. epidemic victims
 - d. Jewish soldiers
 - e. other _____

52. The cemetery contains
- a. marked mass graves
 - b. unmarked mass graves
 - c. no known mass graves

VII. Current Use of Cemetery Site
(note: check as many answers as appropriate)

53. The present owner of the cemetery property is
- a. the local Jewish community
 - b. the national Jewish community
 - c. the municipality
 - d. a regional or national governmental agency
 - e. private individual (s)
 - f. unknown

54. The cemetery property is now used for
- a. Jewish cemetery use only
 - b. agricultural use (crops or animal grazing)
 - c. recreational use (park, playground, sport field)
 - d. industrial or commercial use
 - e. storage
 - f. waste dumping

55. Properties adjacent to cemetery are
- a. recreational
 - b. commercial or industrial
 - c. agricultural
 - d. residential
 - e. other: _____

56. Compared to 1939, the cemetery boundaries enclose
- a. the same area
 - b. a larger area
 - c. a smaller area
 - d. not known

If answer is a, b or d, skip to #4.

56a. If the boundaries are smaller, they have been reduced as a result of

- a. new roads or highways
- b. housing development
- c. commercial or industrial development
- d. agriculture
- e. other (specify)_____

57. The cemetery is visited

- a. frequently
- b. occasionally
- c. rarely

58. The cemetery is visited by

- a. organized Jewish group tours or pilgrimage groups
- b. organized individual tours
- c. private visitors (Jewish or non-Jewish)
- d. local residents

VIII. Care and Restoration of the Cemetery

59. The cemetery is known to have been vandalized (stone overturned, broken or stolen; graffiti painted on walls or stones, etc; graves desecrated)

- a. never
- b. prior to World war II
- c. during World War II
- d. not in the last ten years
- e. occasionally
- f. frequently

60. What care has been taken of the cemetery?

- a. re-erection of stones
- b. patching of broken stones
- c. cleaning of stones
- d. clearing of vegetation
- e. fixing of wall
- f. fixing of gate
- g. no maintenance

If answer to #60 is (g), skip to question #63

61. If restoration has been carried out, who was responsible for the work?

- a. local non-Jewish residents
- b. other individuals or groups of non-Jewish origin
- c. local/municipal authorities
- d. Jewish individuals within country
- e. Jewish individuals abroad
- f. Jewish groups within country
- g. Jewish groups abroad

specify_____

62. If restoration work was carried out, when was it done?

specify: _____

63. how is the cemetery cared now?

- a. not at all
- b. occasional clearing or clearing by individuals
- c. occasional clearing by authorities
- d. regular caretaker

64. If there is a caretaker, how is he paid?

- a. not paid
- b. paid by the Jewish Congregation of _____
- c. paid by a local contribution
- d. paid regularly by Jewish survivors (specify: _____)
- e. paid by contributions from visitors
- f. paid by the government
- g. other _____
- h. n/a

IX. Structures

65. Within the limits of the cemetery

- a. there are no structures
- b. there is a pre-burial house
- c. there is an *ohel*
- d. there is more than one *ohel*
- e. there is a well
- f. there are other structures (specify: _____)

66. If there is a pre-burial houses, it has

- a. a tahara (table)
- b. a catafalque
- c. wall inscriptions
- d. a chimney
- e. other distinctive features (specify: _____)

X. Recommendations

Please rate the problems facing this cemetery, using the following code:

- 1 = not threat
- 2 = slight threat
- 3 = moderate threat
- 4 = serious threat
- 5 = very serious threat

67. Security (uncontrolled access)	1	2	3	4	5
68. Weather erosion	1	2	3	4	5
69. Pollution	1	2	3	4	5
70. Vegetation	1	2	3	4	5

71. Vandalism (destruction or defacement of stones and graves)	1	2	3	4	5
72. Incompatible nearby development (existing)	1	2	3	4	5
Incompatible development (planned or proposed)	1	2	3	4	5

When possible, provide specific information on threats rated 4 (serious) or 5 (very serious)