

GRANT REQUEST
Submitted to
HANADIV CHARITABLE FOUNDATION
Originally submitted, 24 January 2005
Revised, 18 September 2005
Revised 29 March 2006

**THE KREMENETS JEWISH CEMETERIES
RESTORATION AND DOCUMENTATION PROJECT**

Submitted by

The U.S. Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad
Jeffrey Farrow, Executive Director
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Washington, D.C. 20006 USA

On behalf of

The Kremenets Jewish Cemeteries Project
Dr. Ronald D. Doctor, Co-Coordinator
3815 SE Taylor Street
Portland, Oregon 97214 USA

18 September 2005

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1. Title of Project:

Kremenets Jewish Cemeteries Restoration and Documentation Project (KJCP)

2. Full name and address of organization:

U.S. Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad (US CPAHA)
Attn: Jeffrey Farrow, Executive Director
888 17th Street, NW, Suite 1160
Washington, DC 20006 USA

On behalf of the

Kremenets Jewish Cemeteries Project (KJCP)
Attn: Dr. Ronald D. Doctor, Co-Coordinator
3815 SE Taylor Street
Portland, Oregon 97214 USA

3. Telephone numbers (including mobile):

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KJCP: 503-234-9528 (day and evening)
503-490-6761 (cell)

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US CPAHA: 202-254-3934

KJCP: 503-234-9528 (Please call before sending fax, so that fax program can be activated)

5. E-mail address:

US CPAHA: krzysztofiak@heritageabroad.gov (for Katrina Krzysztofiak, Program Director)

KJCP: rondoctor@earthlink.net

6. Directors and trustees of organization

US CPAHA: Warren L. Miller, Chairman

Rabbi Chaskel Besser

Amy S. Epstein

Rabbi Edgar Gluck

Phyllis Kaminsky

Rabbi Zvi Kestenbaum

Rabbi Daniel Lapin

Gary J. Lavine

Prof. Michael Levy

Rabbi Rachmiel Liberman

Laura Raybin Miller

Vincent Obsitnik

August B. Pust

Menno Ratzker

Harriet Rotter

Lee R. Seeman

Steven E. Some

Irving Stolberg

Ari Storch

KJCP: Co-Coordinator, Dr. Ronald D. Doctor

Co-Coordinator, Sheree Roth

7. Applicant's name and title:

The applicant is the US CPAHA, which will serve as fiscal sponsor for receipt and disbursement of funds. The KJCP is responsible for conception, development, and execution of this project.

Jeffrey Farrow, Executive Director, US CPAHA

on behalf of

Ronald D. Doctor, Co-Coordinator, KJCP

8. Major activities and aim of your organization:

The US Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad (US CPAHA) was created by an Act of the United States Congress in 1985 in recognition that as a nation of immigrants, the United States has an interest in preserving the cultural heritage of all national, religious and ethnic groups that were victims of genocide during World War II. The mandate of the Commission is to encourage the preservation and protection of monuments, cemeteries and historic buildings associated with the foreign heritage of American citizens from the twenty-three countries that comprise eastern and central Europe and the former Soviet Union. The violence perpetrated by the Nazis extended to physical places as well. Synagogues, churches and cemeteries were vandalized and destroyed. The legacy

of oppression of minorities and neglect of their cultural sites continued under Communist governments.

The Commission negotiates diplomatic agreements that commit each country to take appropriate actions to protect and preserve these cultural heritage sites, including identifying and preserving of such sites; ensuring that no discrimination will exist against any victimized group; and establishing in each country a Joint Cultural Heritage Commission to oversee and implement these goals. To date, agreements have been entered into with thirteen of the twenty-two countries with which the Commission has jurisdiction. Projects have been completed or are ongoing in fifteen countries in fulfillment of the Commission's mandate. The historic and moral importance of the Commission's work helps emerging democracies confront their past and recognize the value of sites of importance to religious and ethnic minorities.

The KJCP is an activity of the Kremenets Shtetl CO-OP, which is part of Jewish Records Indexing-Poland (JRI-Poland), a US 501(c)(3) organization. The aim of the Kremenets Shtetl CO-OP is to memorialize and document the Jews and Jewish life of Kremenets. The CO-OP currently is working on the following projects:

- **Vital Records Translation Project.** Translate from Russian and Hebrew/Yiddish to English the vital records of Kremenets (1870-1907), which are on Mormon microfilms. Through an agreement with the Ukraine Central State Archives, the Genealogical Society of Utah (GSU/LDS) has provided us with these records on cd-rom. We have completed translation of 8,152 records, about 55% of the total, resulting in a Surname Index of 15,000 entries.
- **Yizkor Book Translation Project.** Translate from Hebrew and Yiddish to English about 2,000 pages of Kremenets Yizkor Books and 546 pages of the Vishnevets Yizkor Book. All 274 Hebrew pages of one Yizkor Book (*Pinkas Kremenets*) have been completed by volunteer translators. Of the remainder, 1,060 pages have been assigned to volunteers and 333 pages have been completed. In addition, we have begun translating the 546 page Vishnevets Yizkor Book (*Sefer Vishnevets*).
- **Kremenets-area Jewish Cemeteries Restoration Projects.** Coordinate restoration and documentation of the historic Kremenets Jewish Cemetery and other Jewish cemeteries in Kremenets Rayon (District), particularly the two Vishnevets cemeteries. The historic Kremenets Jewish Cemetery contains between 3,200 and 5,000 *matzevot*, most of which still are readable. According to the Center for Jewish Art at Hebrew University, Jerusalem, about 120 of these *matzevot* date to the 16th and 17th centuries. The first phase of a *matzevot* photography project, obtaining "before restoration" photos, has been completed. A Kremenets volunteer has photographed all 3,231 upright *matzevot* in the Cemetery. The "old" Vishnevets Jewish Cemetery has more than 100 *matzevot* visible, of which 50 readable stones have been photographed. The "new" Vishnevets Jewish Cemetery has about 700 *matzevot*, of which 645 readable stones have been photographed. In addition,

at the “old” Yampol Jewish Cemetery, we assisted in recovering 17 *matzevot* fragments from the River Gorin. We have photographed and translated these fragments. We also have photographed and translated 48 accessible *matzevot* in the “new” Yampol Jewish Cemetery. Outside of Ukraine, we are about to begin a project to photograph, transcribe, and translate *matzevot* inscriptions from five Kremenets, one Pochayev, and two Shumsk landsmanshaftn burial sites in the New York City area. We also will obtain burial and tombstone data for Kremenetsers who migrated to Buenos Aires, Argentina.

- **Revizskaya Skazka Translation Project.** Translate the Kremenets Uyezd *Revizskaya Skazka* (Census) records (various years from 1806 through 1874). We have begun acquiring these records. They are critical because they provide a bridge between the period of patronymics and the period when permanent surnames were adopted.
- **1783 Polish Census Project.** Translate the 1783 Polish Census of Kremenets. We have obtained a copy of this Census. Of 1,100 entries, about 150 clearly are Jewish.
- **Kahal and Magnate Records Project.** Locate and translate Kremenets Kahal and Magnate records. We have a copy of a 1747 ritual murder trial document, and are in the process of acquiring almost 200 key documents from the 16th century through 1939. Many others have been located, but not yet obtained.
- **Landsmanshaft Incorporation Records Project.** Transcribe and incorporate into our Master Surname Index names from the Kremenets Landsmanshaft Incorporation Records of New York. We have obtained these records and are processing them.
- **Polish Passport Project.** Translate and post on the web, Polish Aliya Passports for emigrants from Kremenets and surrounding shtetlach. These are passports used by Jews who made aliya in the inter-war years. We have obtained, from The Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw, copies of 13 Kremenets, Shumskoye, and Novyy Oleksinets passports. Names from them will be included in the Kremenets Master Surname Index.
- **Polish Business Directory Project.** Translate names and other data from Polish Business Directories. Post the database on the web and incorporate the names in our Master Surname Index. We have obtained the 1929 Polish Business Directory entries for Kremenets, Oleksinets (Novyy and Staryy), Vishnevets, Yampol, and Shumskoye. We also have the 1932 Directory entries for Kremenets. Translation and name extraction have not yet begun.
- **Vsia Rossiya Project.** Extract and transliterate names and translate other data from Vsia Rossiya (Russian Business Directory) for Kremenets and surrounding villages. Post the database on the web and incorporate the names in our Master Surname Index. We have copies of Vsia Rossiya for Kremenets for 1895 and 1902. Translation and name extraction have not yet begun.
- **Hebrew Subscription List Project.** Extract and transliterate names and translate other data for Kremenets and surrounding villages from Berl

- Kagan's *Hebrew Subscription Lists*. Post on the web and incorporate in the Master Surname Index. We have copies of the lists for Kremenets.
- **Ellis Island Database Project**. Extract data from the Ellis Island Database for Kremenets and other towns in Kremenets Uyezd. This project has not yet begun.
 - **Yad Vashem Database Project**. Extract names and other data for Kremenets Uyezd towns and villages from the on-line Yad Vashem database. Include the names in the Master Surname Index. This project has not yet begun.
 - **Kremenets Holocaust History Project**. Obtain and translate other documents relating to Jewish Kremenets. We have obtained the following: Extracts from *The German invasion of Poland (Polish Black Book)*, the *Jewish Encyclopedia*, *Yad Vashem's Pinkas HaKehillot*, *Yalkut Vohlin (1945-1947)*, *Jewish Partisans and fighters of Volyn (1997)*, and the website, *www.polandsholocaust.org*. These extracts await translation and processing.
 - Gather and post on-line information and photos about Kremenets and Kremenetsers and their descendants. Hundreds of photos already have been posted on our website (<http://www.shtetlinks.jewishgen.org/Kremenets/>).
 - Provide a contact and information coordination point for former Kremenetsers and their descendants.
 - Initiate new projects that can help us honor the memories of the Jews of Kremenets and surrounding villages.

All translations and information are posted on-line. They are freely available to other researchers. Our JewishGen Shtetlinks website serves as a gateway to most of this information (<http://www.shtetlinks.jewishgen.org/Kremenets/>).

9. Has your organization previously submitted a grant request to our foundation or one of its associate bodies? If so, please provide dates and details.

The US CPAHA has submitted the following grant requests to the Foundation or its associated bodies.

- **Restoration of pre-burial House/synagogue at the Jewish Cemetery, Sarajevo**. (Bosnia). A grant of \$40,000 was awarded in January 2001, and paid in three installments. Work has been completed. One third of the Hanadiv Charitable Foundation grant, together with matching funds from the U.S. government, was spent on restoration work. Additional funds have been provided to the project by the City of Sarajevo.
- **Restoration of the Brody (Ukraine) Jewish Cemetery**. The Foundation provided funds for restoration of the Cemetery. Restoration started in Spring 2003 and was completed in 2004.
- **Berdichev Jewish Cemetery Restoration Project**. A \$10,000 grant was provided in 2004 to research the true boundaries and clear trees and brush.

- **Restoration of Plovdiv Synagogue, Bulgaria.** The Foundation provided a matching grant for this project, which has been completed.
- **Estonia Labor Camp and Mass Grave Project.** The Foundation approved the Commission's proposal for this project in August 2005.
- **Karczew Jewish Cemetery, Poland.** A Commission proposal to restore this Jewish Cemetery was rejected by the Foundation.

The KJCP submitted this grant request in the previous Foundation grant cycle. The Foundation deferred action on it to the current cycle (submission deadline, 26 September 2005). The current submission is a revision of the original request.

10. Title of proposal:

Kremenets Jewish Cemeteries Restoration and Documentation Project (Kremenets Jewish Cemeteries Project, or, KJCP).

11. Brief description of the project.

Briefly, the aim of this project is to restore, document, and preserve the historic Jewish Cemeteries of Kremenets and Vishnevet. By restoring the two Vishnevet Cemeteries at the same time as we restore the Kremenets Cemetery, we expect to achieve significant savings relative to the cost of restoring the three Cemeteries as separate projects.

Kremenets Jewish Cemetery

The Kremenets Cemetery contains 3,200 to 5,000 *matzevot* (gravestones). Many of these are of great historic and artistic value. About 120 of them are from the 16th and 17th centuries. Currently, the municipality of Kremenets holds title to the Kremenets Jewish Cemetery. The Cemetery itself is on a steep hillside (Figure 1 and Figure 2), occupying about 2.5 hectares (about 25,000 square meters, 6.2 acres). It rises about 51 meters from its lowest elevation and has an irregular perimeter about 750 meters in total length. Much of the original stone perimeter wall still exists. The Cemetery is badly overgrown with vegetation and trees and many *matzevot* have tumbled to the ground. Some are partially buried. We have not yet been able to locate the entrance gates. The remainder of this section describes the project in greater detail.

The perimeter wall is 3 to 4 feet high. It encircles the Cemetery except for a portion on the southwest side where the hillside down to the road is quite steep. Although about 75% of the original stone wall of the Cemetery still is in place, much of it needs repair or replacement. The perimeter wall and the *matzevot* themselves are made of blocks of local limestone (Figure 3).

There is no wall along the 160-meter southwest side of the cemetery. Instead a very steep slope drops off to a badly rutted dirt road. The road leads to the "new" part of

the Cemetery, where burials occurred in the 1920s and 1930s, and continued in the postwar period. One of the possible entrances to the Cemetery is along this road. In addition, local residents use the road to gain access to their properties farther up the hillside. The Mayor has requested that we include repair and paving of this road as part of the Cemetery restoration. On the other side of the dirt road, there is a ravine. Access to the Cemetery from this side is quite difficult.

The lack of a wall on the ravine side has resulted in some erosion, and we found *matzevot* fragments embedded in the road (Figure 4). The City's Lands Director has agreed to recover these fragments and will place them within the Cemetery boundaries until we can arrange more suitable disposition. Building a wall along the upper slope and taking other measures can alleviate this erosion problem.

A significant part of the Cemetery is heavily overgrown with grasses, shrubbery and trees (Figure 5). The city occasionally cuts the grasses and some of the shrubs, but the remaining overgrowth still obscures much of the cemetery ground. This makes it difficult to determine the number of *matzevot* in the Cemetery and to count the *matzevot* that are down, semi-buried, and/or damaged. As a result, we cannot yet estimate the total cost of restoration. The large shrubs and trees that have grown in the last 75 years endanger the remaining *matzevot* and gravesites.

In addition, examination of Figure 2 reveals tilled farmland in an area that the earlier photo (Figure 1) indicated was part of the Cemetery (the green patch in the center of Figure 2). This requires further investigation, and possibly, remediation. On the other hand, there is no other indication of encroachment by the local population on the Cemetery grounds. When I hiked around the boundary of the Cemetery with the surveyors in September 2004, it was evident that the old perimeter wall was mostly intact, although we could not determine its structural integrity. In two places, small farms are cultivated right up to the wall, but there is no indication that the wall has been breached.

Kremenets Mayor Andriy Andriyevich Huslavskiy and the town council are cooperating with us on this project. Mayor Huslavskiy has written a letter of endorsement for the Kremenets Jewish Cemetery Restoration Project. The original letter, in Ukrainian, along with an English translation, is in Figure 6. He also arranged for us to contract with a private company to do a survey of the Cemetery boundaries. The survey was completed in September 2004 and approved by the city. This survey establishes the official legal boundaries of the Cemetery. These boundaries coincide with the two older, but unofficial, maps that we obtained. Figure 7 and Figure 8 show the two official survey maps. Figure 7 is a contour map. It shows the terrain, adjacent roads, other adjacent properties, and the possible location of entrance gates. Figure 8 shows the distances between boundary markers around the perimeter of the Cemetery.

Figure 9 is an undated contour map of the city that Mayor Huslavskiy's staff located in the municipal archives. It shows the location of various buildings around

the City and its environs. The Jewish Cemetery is outlined in yellow. Figure 10 also is an undated map of the city. We obtained it from Volodymyr Sobchuk, a professor of history at a local college. It shows the location of buildings throughout the town, as well as around the Jewish Cemetery. Figure 11 is a 1997 sketch of the Cemetery boundaries. We obtained it from the Center for Jewish Art at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. These various maps are consistent with regard to the Cemetery's boundaries.

Vishnevets Jewish Cemeteries

The *old* Vishnevets Jewish Cemetery is located on top of a small hill near the town center (Figure 12). It is approximately 150 meters by 115 meters and is surrounded by small farms, an orchard, homes, and a public road. The public road and two garbage dumps currently are within the original boundaries of the Cemetery. (Figure 14). Vegetation obscures part of the site, but it is not as thick as the vegetation at the Kremenets site. The cemetery is not fenced, and there is no trace of any original wall.

The Old Cemetery has about 50 partially readable *matzevot* and many more that are "down" and partly buried. Many of the stones are covered by so much lichen, moss, and earth that they will remain unreadable until restoration is complete. We have photos of all the readable *matzevot* and have translated them. At least 7 of the stones are from the 18th century. The oldest we have been able to read is from 1730 (Figure 13). During a visit in 2004, a neighboring farm woman advised us that local people have been dumping garbage and trash in the cemetery, and municipal authorities have not acted to stop it. We also were advised that some *matzevot* have been stolen from the cemetery. She is eager to see the cemetery restored and the desecration halted.

The *new* Vishnevets Jewish Cemetery dates from the early 20th century. The cemetery is on level ground and is in fair condition, but it is open to a road and an adjoining farm (Figure 15). Farm animals wander freely through the cemetery (Figure 16). A wire fence on one side partially separates the Jewish cemetery from a well-maintained Christian cemetery. We have photos of 645 readable (or partially readable) *matzevot* and have finished translating all the inscriptions. The earliest stone is from 1900, the most recent is from 1941, although, in August 2005 a visitor from our group noted a new burial had occurred there.

Restoration in both Vishnevets cemeteries includes clearing excess vegetation, resetting downed and tilted *matzevot*, cleaning all *matzevot*, rerouting the road, building a new wall around the cemetery and an entry gate, creating walkways through the cemetery, installing appropriate identification and directional signs, and arranging for ongoing maintenance. In addition, in the Old Cemetery, the garbage dumps must be cleaned up and abandoned. Mayor C.I. Samets has agreed to cooperate with our efforts and has written a letter of endorsement for the project (Figure 17).

In addition to the two Cemeteries, through our recent translations of the Vishnevets Yizkor Book (*Sefer Vishnevets*) we learned that there are mass graves in Vishnevets. We know only the approximate location of these Nazi-era mass graves, and do not yet have information about their condition. A hand-drawn map, c.1941-1942, shows the approximate location of the mass graves (Figure 18 and Figure 19). As part of this project, we will try to precisely locate the graves, obtain cost estimates for appropriate in-situ memorials, and begin the memorialization process.

12. Total detailed project budget

The detailed project budget is based on our previous budget for the Kremenets-only project, plus an add-on for the Vishnevets work. The Vishnevets add-on is relatively small because we intend to do the Kremenets and Vishnevets work concurrently and will realize significant savings by doing so.

Planned work is divided in four phases, though some work for different phases may take place simultaneously. At present, we request funding only for Phase I, Planning and Preliminary Work, a total of \$28,135. This Phase includes obtaining official surveys to establish the legal boundaries of the Cemeteries (completed for Kremenets, underway for Vishnevets), obtaining professional environmental assessment and a landscape plan for the sites, clearing excess vegetation from the sites, evaluating the structural integrity of the existing wall around the Kremenets Cemetery, initial photographic documentation of *matzevot*, *in situ* (completed for all three cemeteries), photographic documentation of key locations to provide a baseline for restoration, and photographic (still and video) documentation of the work as the project proceeds.

In Phase I, we also will determine if there are *matzevot* under the paving of the parking lots at former Gestapo HQ in Kremenets. We have indications that this is the case. (See our response to Section 16 in this Grant Request.) If it is, we will obtain bids to recover the *matzevot* and repave the lots. Kremenets Mayor Huslavskiy has agreed to ask City staff to develop cost estimates for the parking lot work. City staff also will develop cost estimates for paving the roads adjoining the Kremenets Cemetery. We also will try to identify the location and extent of the mass graves in Vishnevets and will initiate action for appropriate boundary markers and memorials there.

The second and third phases involve completing landscaping, repairing and restoring the perimeter wall, interior pathways, access roads and gates, cleaning, repairing and resetting *matzevot*, completing photographic documentation and translation of *matzevot* inscriptions, placing appropriate signage and finalizing arrangements for ongoing maintenance. Potentially, Phase II also involves excavating *matzevot* from under the paving of the parking lots at the former Gestapo HQ in Kremenets, repaving the lots, and restoring the recovered *matzevot* to the Cemetery in an appropriate way.

Because overgrown vegetation obscures many of the *matzevot* and large sections of the existing wall around the Kremenets Cemetery, costs for Phases II and III cannot be estimated accurately until some of the tasks in Phase I are completed. In Phase IV

we will create memorials to the Jews who were murdered by the Nazis at three known Kremenets killing sites and the two Vishnevets mass graves. This work will not begin until Phases I, II, and III are complete.

Phase I, Planning and Preliminary Work, Cost:**\$28,135**

1.	<p>Obtain an official survey of the Cemeteries to establish their legal boundaries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Kremenets Cemetery Survey is complete. The \$350 fee was paid by member donations. * Surveys of both Vishnevets Cemeteries have been authorized. Payment of \$500 will be made through a grant from ISJM 	Task 1 was paid by donations to project
2.	<p>a. Investigate the possible encroachment of farms into the Kremenets Cemetery as indicated in Figure 2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * search municipal records regarding the involved property * interview local residents regarding the involved property * develop remediation actions, if necessary. <p>b. Investigate encroachment of private and public activities into the two Vishnevets Cemeteries as indicated in Figure 14.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * search municipal records regarding the involved property * interview local residents and city officials regarding the involved property * negotiate with city officials regarding the road and garbage dumps in the old cemetery * develop remediation actions to deal with other encroachments that may be identified. 	<p>\$ 200</p> <p>375</p>
3.	<p>a. Obtain a professional environmental assessment and landscape plan, and prepare a restoration plan that includes erosion control for the Kremenets Cemetery.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * specify actions to deal with soil erosion * mark for removal large trees that interfere with gravesites * layout pathways through the cemetery * recommend a permanent caretaker * includes fees and travel from US or UK for landscape/environmental designer & travel for project co-coordinator (one trip), ground transport in Ukraine, services of translator/driver, lodging and meals. <p>b. Obtain a professional environmental assessment and landscape plan, and prepare a restoration plan that includes erosion control for the two Vishnevets Cemeteries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * specify actions to deal with soil erosion, especially at old cemetery * mark for removal large trees that interfere with gravesites * layout pathways through the cemeteries * recommend a permanent caretaker * includes fees for landscape/environmental designer, services of translator/driver, lodging and meals. 	<p>5,000</p> <p>2,700</p>
4.	<p>a. Photographically document the Kremenets project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * photograph existing individual <i>matzevot</i>, <i>in situ</i>, before restoration. (Completed. A \$210 fee was paid by member donations.) * photograph all aspects of the site for documentation and to provide a baseline * photograph (stills and possibly video) work on the project as it proceeds <p>b. Photographically document the Vishnevets project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * photograph existing individual <i>matzevot</i>, <i>in situ</i>, before restoration. (Photos were completed by a local volunteer.) * photograph all aspects of the sites for documentation and to provide a baseline * photograph (stills and possibly video) work on the project as it proceeds 	<p>500</p> <p>300</p>

5.	a. Clear trash and inappropriate vegetation, including small shrubs, bushes, brambles, thickets & tall grass ... Kremenets. * dig out selected vegetation * prune or cut remaining vegetation and dead branches * gather and load debris into vehicles and remove to disposal site	3,500
	b. Clear trash and inappropriate vegetation, including small shrubs, bushes, brambles, thickets & tall grass ... Vishnevets. * dig out selected vegetation * prune or cut remaining vegetation and dead branches * gather and load debris into vehicles and remove to disposal site	1,200
6.	a. Remove unwanted larger trees and prune remaining trees, according to the landscape plan ... Kremenets. * identify and remove trees that adversely affect gravesites * excavate and remove dead trees * prune remaining trees, lopping branches that are below 10 m * gather and load debris into vehicles and remove to disposal site	4,500
	b. Remove unwanted larger trees and prune remaining trees, according to the landscape plan ... Vishnevets. * identify and remove trees that adversely affect gravesites * excavate and remove dead trees; * prune remaining trees, lopping branches that are below 10 m * gather and load debris into vehicles and remove to disposal site	1,500
7.	Fee for a local person to oversee vegetation clearing activities	1,000
8.	In cooperation with town government, determine whether <i>matzevot</i> are under the paving of the former Gestapo HQ parking lots ... Kremenets. * remove paving from several locations in the large parking lot * examine the area to determine whether or not <i>matzevot</i> are under the paving * repave the areas where paving was removed * if <i>matzevot</i> are under the large parking lot, get bids to excavate them, relocate them to the Jewish Cemetery, and repave the parking lot. * excavate stones in small parking lot and determine if they are <i>matzevot</i> . * if excavated stones are <i>matzevot</i> , obtain cost estimates and bids to excavate the remainder, relocate them to the Jewish Cemetery, and repave the parking lot.	1,500
9.	In cooperation with town government, identify and survey the Vishnevets mass grave sites, and develop plan and cost estimate for appropriate boundary markers and memorial.	400
10.	Obtain & evaluate cost estimates and bids for the work of Phases II and III.	300
11.	Travel for Project Co-Coordinator (1 quality control & inspection trip, 4 days; and 1 final review trip, 4 days), airfare from Portland, Oregon USA plus lodging & meals * inspect & evaluate the work of Phase I and arrange for Phases II and III; * arrange for the involvement of local schoolchildren in Phases II - IV.	3,400
12.	Fees & expenses for translator/driver to assist with negotiations in Ukraine (8 days).	1,760

Phase II, Landscaping, Construction and Restoration, Costs

1.	Repair and pave two access roads that run alongside the Kremenets Cemetery.	Costs to be determined as part of Phase I.
2.	Repair existing wall around the Kremenets Cemetery and replace with similar materials where necessary to secure the site and demarcate its legal boundary. Construct fences around Vishnevets Cemeteries.	
3.	Clean, restore, repair, and/or re-erect individual gravestones, as appropriate.	
4.	Create pathways through the Cemetery according to the landscape plan. Place benches in the Kremenets Cemetery to serve as resting places for visitors.	
5.	Obtain professional archeological assistance to locate the original entrance gates and sites of structures such as <i>ohels</i> and pre-burial buildings in the Kremenets Cemetery.	
6.	Install entrance gates and place appropriate signage on-site. Signage will include historical information re the significance of the Cemetery and the local Jewish community. It also will indicate important features within the Cemetery.	
7.	If Task 9 in Phase I revealed <i>matzevot</i> in the parking lots of former Gestapo HQ in Kremenets, excavate the <i>matzevot</i> , relocate them to an appropriate area in the Jewish Cemetery, and re-pave the parking lots.	
8.	Locate, retrieve and restore to the Cemetery, <i>matzevot</i> and <i>matzeva</i> fragments that have been removed from the Cemeteries and are in possession of local citizens.	

Phase III, Documentation, Dedication and Maintenance, Costs

1.	Map and photograph each surviving gravestone, translate each gravestone inscription, and post the resulting database on the JewishGen Online Worldwide Burial Registry (JOWBR). The database, including photos and maps, also will be placed with appropriate Jewish institutions and with each Municipality.	Costs to be determined as part of Phase I.
2.	Map and photograph gravesites of notable people, including Rabbis.	
3.	In a cooperative effort with city governments, create and publish printed maps and brochures showing the features of the Cemeteries.	
4.	In a cooperative effort with city governments, place appropriate signage in town and on the access roads pointing to the Cemetery.	
5.	In a cooperative effort with city governments, establish a fund to pay for security and ongoing maintenance, including caretakers and periodic clearing of vegetation.	
6.	Travel and other costs for an official rededication ceremony.	
7.	Obtain cost estimates and bids for Phase IV.	

Phase IV, Holocaust Memorials, Costs

1.	Obtain designs and cost estimates for appropriate memorials to be erected at three known Nazi killing sites in Kremenets and two mass graves in Vishnevets. Coordinate design approval with the Jewish Community and with the municipal government.	Costs to be determined as part of Phase I.
2.	Construct an appropriate memorial to Jewish intellectuals murdered at the Gestapo killing field in Kremenets. A Jewish memorial would be added to existing Polish and Ukrainian memorials. This will be done in cooperation with City government. Construct an appropriate memorial to the Jews murdered and buried in two mass graves in Vishnevets.	
3.	Place appropriate plaques memorializing the Jews murdered at two other known killing sites in Kremenets. This will be done in cooperation with City government.	
4.	Place appropriate memorial plaques at the site of the Great Synagogues in Kremenets and Vishnevets, and other locations of Jewish historical significance which were destroyed by the Nazis. This will be done in cooperation with City governments.	

13. Amount requested from our foundation:

US \$28,135

14. Other possible contributors (including amounts):

Not counting the City's in-kind contributions, the KJCP has received from other sources about \$15,190 in cash contributions, services and equipment and in-kind contributions to date (see details below). The KJCP and the Commission will continue to seek funds from private donors to assist with subsequent phases of this project.

- Dr. Ronald D. Doctor, the Co-Coordinator of this project has paid about \$6,000 out-of-pocket for two exploratory visits to Kremenets regarding this project.
- The KJCP has raised about US \$1,100. A portion of this has been used for preliminary tasks. The remainder will be used for unforeseen and critical tasks during Phase I. In addition, the KJCP has obtained the services of volunteers to assist with translation and online posting of the database.
- JewishGen, Inc. has donated the temporary use of a digital camera and associated equipment (about \$500 total cost) for the purpose of documenting the gravestones in the Kremenets Jewish Cemetery. JewishGen also will host the online database that results from this project, at no cost to the project.
- Alexander Dunai, a Ukrainian researcher, guide and translator, has provided translation and coordination services between the Project Co-Coordinator and professional, governmental, and volunteer contacts in Kremenets. We estimate the value of these services at about \$1,500.
- Valeriy Rosenblit, a local young man of Jewish heritage, has taken more than 4,000 digital photos of all the upright gravestones, *in situ*, for a fee of only \$210. We estimate the value of his services at about \$800.
- Nineteen volunteers are translating matzevot inscriptions from the Kremenets and Vishnevets Jewish Cemeteries. We estimate the value of their translation services at \$5,000 to date. When the translations all are complete, we estimate the value of translation and proofreading services will exceed \$10,000.
- The International Society of Jewish Monuments (ISJM) has awarded the KJCP a \$500 grant for formal surveys of the two Vishnevets Cemeteries. The surveys, if accepted by the municipality, will establish the legal boundaries of the Cemeteries.
- Over the past several years, the City of Kremenets has periodically cleared vegetation from much of the Cemetery, thus preventing the vegetation problem from becoming drastically worse. The City also has provided staff to coordinate with the professional surveyors, and has provided documents regarding the Cemetery's historical boundaries. In addition, City Land Department personnel have been dispatched to retrieve gravestone fragments from the bordering road. In-kind value of these services is not known.

15. Aims and goals of the Project:

The primary aims and goals of the Project are to restore, protect, and arrange for ongoing maintenance of the historic Jewish Cemeteries of Kremenets and Vishnevets (Ukraine), and to document the historic and artistic information included on gravestones and other artifacts on the sites. A secondary goal is to establish good working relationships with the non-Jewish leaders of Kremenets so that other restoration and memorial projects in the town can move forward and so that the Jewish history of the town will be formally recognized and respected in the future. Another secondary goal is to create an environment that will help revitalize the small and struggling Jewish community of Kremenets and will help re-establish Jewish life in the town through recognition of past contributions.

16. Describe those characteristics of the project, which make it innovative, creative, or especially deserving of support.

Kremenets and Vishnevets are in an historic border region, between Poland, the Austro-Hungarian Empire, and the Russian Empire. The first mention of Jews in Kremenets appears in historical documents from the year 1438. The first documented Jewish settlements in Vishnevets occurred about a century later. Both towns were under Lithuanian rule until formation of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth in 1569. Poland and Polish Princes ruled Kremenets and Vishnevets until the final partitions of Poland (1792-1795), and again between World Wars I and II. The towns were under Russian rule between 1792 and WW I, and after WW II were in the Ukrainian SSR, part of the Soviet Union. With dissolution of the Soviet Union in the early 1990s, the two towns became part of Ukraine. Much of this history is reflected in the *matzevot* of the Jewish Cemeteries.

Kremenets

The historic Jewish Cemetery of Kremenets contains between 3,200 and 5,000 *matzevot*. About 120 of these are from the 16th and 17th centuries, and many of them still are readable. The old Vishnevets Jewish Cemetery has 50 to 150 *matzevot* and the new Vishnevets Jewish Cemetery has at least 700. Researchers from the Center for Jewish Art at Hebrew University in Jerusalem visited both cemeteries in 1997. In Kremenets, their goal was to document the cemetery of "this very cultured and prosperous community." In the old section of the Kremenets Cemetery, their researchers found,

"... a state of deterioration, with some of the tombstones crumbling and engravings legible on seventy-five percent of the remaining tombstones. Researchers documented fifty tombstones from the sixteenth century, and seventy from the seventeenth and eighteenth century, some of which were beautifully decorated with animal and flower motifs, a very rare find in tombstones of the early seventeenth century. Newer tombstones with unusual motifs were also documented, such as a nineteenth century tombstone with a pitcher motif, designating the tombstone of a Levite."

(<http://www.hum.huji.ac.il/cja/NL14-Ukraine.htm>)

Figure 20 and Figure 21 are examples of *matzevot* from the 16th and 17th centuries. Figure 22 shows four additional examples of matzevot art, covering a 200 year period, from the 1732 to 1915.

Kremenets was home to a number of notable Rabbis. The Jewish Encyclopedia notes that,

“Among the rabbis of that period [the 16th and 17th centuries] were Mordecai b. Abraham Jaffe and Samson b. Bezalel, brother of Judah Loew b. Bezalel of Prague. The community participated in the work of the Councils of the Lands. Outstanding among the scholars of the yeshiva at the beginning of the 17th century was Joseph b. Moses of Kremenets. ... The Haskalah writer Isaac Baer Levinsohn [Rabbi Yitschak Ber Levinzon (1788-1860)] lived there, as did the Hasid R. Mordecai, father-in-law of Nahum Twersky of Chernobyl.”

We don't know how many of these and other Rabbis are buried in the Kremenets Cemetery, although about 3% of the gravestones we have translated so far are for Rabbis. However, the Kremenets Yizkor Book (*Pinkas Kremenets*) mentions that Rabbi Yitschak Ber Levinzon was buried near the center of the Jewish Cemetery. A photo (Figure 1) taken sometime between 1900 and 1939 shows several *ohels* (an *ohel* is a structure built over the grave of a revered person) and possibly a pre-burial building in the Jewish Cemetery, to the right of the quarry. As part of this project we will try to locate the remains of those structures and reconstruct them. Figure 2 shows the same area in a photo taken in September 2004. Note the heavy growth of trees in the right center portion of the photo. This is an area that clearly showed numerous *matzevot* in the older photo (Figure 1).

The Nazis destroyed Jewish Kremenets. Before the Nazi onslaught, about 8,800 Jews lived and worked in Kremenets, out of a population of 25,000, and they were active in the life of the town. Just before the Nazi invasion, the Jewish population swelled due to an influx of refugees. When the Nazis took control of the town, they forcibly relocated Jews from surrounding villages to the newly created Kremenets ghetto. About 15,000 Jews were in Kremenets before the mass murders. Several hundred Jews managed to flee eastward toward Russian territory. In July 1941, local Ukrainians, aided by the invading Germans, murdered 800 men, women and children in a pogrom. In August 1941 the Gestapo ordered all Jews and Poles with academic status to report for registration. All those who reported were murdered, destroying the intellectual leadership of both the Jewish and Polish communities. This killing field is in a forested area above the former Gestapo Headquarters. There is a Christian memorial at the August 1941 Gestapo killing field, but none for the Jewish intellectuals murdered there (Figure 23). In Phase IV of this Project, we propose to build an appropriate memorial to the Jewish intellectuals who were murdered by the Gestapo.

The building that was the Gestapo's Kremenets headquarters is a youth center today. It overlooks a high school soccer field and has two parking lots, a small one

and a large one. The small parking lot is paved with large flat stones that appear to be gravestones (Figure 24). In September 2004, we were told that these are *matzevot* that were removed from the Jewish Cemetery. Any inscriptions are likely to be on the underside of the stones. This small lot is ringed with rock fragments, among which there is at least one piece of a *matzeva* (Figure 24). We also were advised that the asphalt paving of the large parking lot covers other *matzevot* that were removed from the Jewish Cemetery (Figure 25). We cannot confirm this unless we excavate a portion of the lot. A memorial to the Christian intellectuals who were murdered by the Nazis is in the parking lot at the former Gestapo headquarters (Figure 26). As part of Phase I we will determine whether or not there are *matzevot* in these areas. If there are, we will obtain cost estimates for excavating them, restoring them to a dedicated area of the Jewish Cemetery, and repaving the parking lots with asphalt. The work will be done as part of Phase II.

In 1997, The Center for Jewish Art at Hebrew University in Jerusalem reported that their survey of the Cemetery revealed relatively few *matzevot* from the 18th Century. If this is true, it indicates that there has been some vandalism and tombstone removal in the past. We have not yet been able to determine whether such vandalism is continuing, although there are clear indications that some vandalism has occurred. On a recent visit, Sol Sylvan of Seattle observed a Rabbi's tomb (from the 1920s) had been opened (Figure 27)

On our September 2004 visit, we heard numerous reports that over the years tombstones from the Kremenets Jewish Cemetery had been removed and were used as part of the foundation of local houses and as basement and walkway paving stones. We investigated one report of a marble column from a Cemetery tomb that was in the possession of a young Ukrainian couple, Mr. & Mrs. Sasha Shtuka. We located and spoke with the couple and photographed the marble fragment from the tomb of Dr. Hokhberg, d. 1931/5671 (Figure 28). They agreed to store and care for the column until we can arrange to have it returned to the Cemetery. Time did not permit us to verify other reports, but we will investigate them as part of Phase I of the project. If the reports are true, then in Phase II we will try to recover and return to the Cemetery as many of these lost *matzevot* as feasible. Kremenets Mayor Huslavskiy has agreed to issue an appeal to the population to return to the cemetery any Jewish gravestones and gravestone fragments that may have been removed from the Cemetery.

Between July 1941 and 10 August 1942, about 1,500 Kremenets Jews were transported to slave labor in Bialokrynica, where they later met their death. In a two-week *aktion*, beginning on 10 August 1942, the Nazis and their collaborators murdered the remainder of the 15,000 Jews gathered in Kremenets. Only 14 escaped the murderous onslaught. The Nazis and their Ukrainian collaborators eliminated almost all traces of more than 500 years of Jewish life. Miraculously, most of the historic Jewish Cemetery of Kremenets survived the Nazi onslaught and subsequent rule by Soviet Russia. Today, the Jewish Cemetery is the only tangible reminder of Jewish Kremenets.

A few Jews returned after the war. But by the year 2000, none were left. Today, there is a nascent Jewish community of about 20 people, including some whose families had lived there for centuries before the war. This group of Jews has few resources, but they are on the verge of forming a new Jewish community. However, except for the Cemetery, there is nothing in Kremenets to remind them of their Jewish heritage. In September 2004, Dr. Ronald D. Doctor met with most of the Jewish community to discuss the Cemetery Project. They are enthusiastically in favor of the restoration project and have volunteered to help in any way that they can. Restoring and maintaining the Cemetery and placing appropriate informational plaques around the City, will provide tangible reminders of the contributions that Jews made to the City over the past 500 years.

In addition, inscriptions on the gravestones are a unique and irreplaceable source of historical and genealogical value. These gravestones must be restored and documented before they are lost. The inscriptions on them must be translated and made publicly and widely available.

And, finally, those of us whose ancestors lived and worked in Kremenets feel a moral responsibility to honor the lives and memories of those who gave us life. Restoring and maintaining the Cemetery will help us do that.

Vishnevets

The history of Jews in Vishnevets varies a bit from Kremenets history. Although Kremenets always was the larger town, Vishnevets was home to the Wisniowiecki family, royal Polish Princes. They built a large castle in 1395 and the town of Vishnevets grew around it. The castle was both a home to the Princes and a first line of Polish defence against repeated Tatar and Turkish invasions, some of which overran the town and resulted in the death of its Jews. A history chapter in *Sefer Vishnevets*, the Vishnevets Yizkor Book, suggests that a Jewish community was first established in 1396. Some Jews served as representatives and lessees of the nobles who owned the settlement, and many served in Prince Michael Wisniowiecki's war against Russia in the 1600s. As a result, the Jews of Vishnevets were granted economic privileges and thrived ... until Russian rule in the early 1800s.

In 1765, there were 475 Jews in the Old City and 163 in the suburbs. By 1897, there were 2,980 Jews, more than 70% of the population. Just before the Nazi murders, the Jewish population was still about 3,000, 60% of the total population of 5,000. Today, there are no Jews in Vishnevets.

The dominance of Jews in pre-war Vishnevets created a flourishing and notable religious community. At least 10% of the graves in the new Vishnevets Jewish Cemetery are graves of Rabbis. And, 18% of the readable gravestones in the old Vishnevets Jewish Cemetery are for Rabbis. These are unusually high percentages, especially compared to Kremenets, where only 3% of the stones we have translated

so far are for Rabbis. As in Kremenets, these stones relate an important history of the Jews in this region.

17. Describe the specific activities that will be conducted as part of the project:

1. Obtain official survey of the Cemeteries to establish their legal boundaries. (Completed for Kremenets; In progress for Vishnevets.)
2. For Kremenets, investigate the possible encroachment of farms into the Cemetery. For Vishnevets, investigate and remedy encroachment of private and public activities into the two cemeteries.
3. Obtain professional environmental assessments and landscape plans, and prepare restoration plans that include dealing with potential soil erosion.
4. Photographically document the projects using both still photographs and possibly video.
5. Clear trash and inappropriate vegetation, including small shrubs, bushes, brambles, thickets & tall grass.
6. Remove unwanted larger trees and prune remaining trees.
7. Engage a local person to oversee vegetation-clearing activities.
8. For Kremenets, determine whether *matzevot* are under the paving of the former Gestapo HQ parking lots. Arrange for recovery and restoration as necessary.
9. For Vishnevets, identify and survey mass grave sites and develop a plan and cost estimate for boundary markers and memorials.
10. Obtain and evaluate cost estimates and bids for Phases II and III.
11. Travel to inspect progress and the completed work of Phase I and to make arrangements for Phases II and III, including arrangements for the involvement of local schoolchildren.
12. Hire translator/driver to assist with negotiations in Ukraine.

18. What is the estimated length of the project and the schedule for the planned activities?

Pending availability of funds, Phase I will begin in Spring 2006 after the snow melts and will be completed by the end of July.

If funding is available, Phases II, III and IV will begin in August 2006 and will be completed before winter 2007. The tasks of Phases I and II can not be done in winter when the area is covered with snow.

19. In which places will the project operate?

The project will be conducted in the towns of Kremenets and Vishnevets, Ukraine. Matzeva translation and proofreading activities are taking place in the US, Israel, the UK, and the Netherlands, coordinated via the Internet.

20. Who is the project's target population?

There are several target populations, both living and dead. First and foremost is our obligation to honor and pay respect to the several thousand people buried in the Cemeteries by making them presentable and respectable places.

Second is the Jews of Kremenets, present and future, who will see the Cemetery Restoration as their link to their Jewish past.

Third is the non-Jewish communities of Kremenets and Vishnevets, including municipal government leaders. We hope the cooperative relationships that will be established as part of the restoration projects will imbue them with a respect for past Jewish contributions to their towns. In addition, the existence and continuing maintenance of proper Jewish burial grounds will be a reminder to adults and schoolchildren that Jews helped to form and continue to contribute to the well-being of the town.

Fourth is the large and growing group of Jews all over the world whose ancestors lived and worked in Kremenets and Vishnevets. Some of these descendants of former Kremenetsers and Vishnevetsers have visited the towns since the breakup of the Soviet Union. We expect many more descendants and others interested in the Jewish history of this historical border area will visit in the future. The restored Jewish Cemeteries will serve as key attractions for these visitors.

Fifth, Jewish genealogists and Jewish history researchers will find the restored Jewish Cemetery and our documentation of it an invaluable and unique resource. Data from the *matzevot* inscriptions will help them bridge the gap from the era when permanent surnames first were adopted (early 19th century) to the earlier era when only patronymics identified family relationships.

Sixth, the people and governments of surrounding towns that have unrestored Jewish Cemeteries (e.g. Yampol, Lanovets) will see the Kremenets and Vishnevets restoration project as examples that can be followed in their own towns.

And seventh, Jews who become interested in establishing restoration projects in other towns will be able to follow the example of the Kremenets and Vishnevets project and will be assisted in this by our written and photographic documentation of the project.

21. What is the estimated number of participants?

The number of participants will vary depending on the tasks being undertaken. We estimate that the planning and work teams will total 30 to 40 people, including at least a half dozen from the nascent Jewish community. In addition, 19 volunteers in the US and Israel currently are translating and proofreading the *matzevot* inscriptions from the Kremenets, Vishnevets, and Yampol Jewish Cemeteries.

22. Which aspects of the project are already in operation? Please describe those aspects of the project that involve activities that your organization has not previously undertaken.

Three aspects of the project are either completed or underway:

1. Preliminary planning began in September 2002 and is ongoing. This planning included:
 - a. Meetings with the Mayors and other municipal authorities to gain their cooperation. These meetings have been successful. The Mayors and civil authorities of both towns are eager to work with us. Each has provided a letter expressing their interest and intent to cooperate;
 - b. Consultation with a local Kremenets historian and a search of the town archives for relevant documents to establish the legal boundaries. The search produced several photographs and a map showing the Kremenets Cemetery, but no legally sufficient documents to establish its boundaries;
 - c. Several photography expeditions to document the current state of the Cemetery. Some illustrative photos are included as part of this application. Many more are available on a cd-rom upon request; and
 - d. Meeting with Jewish community of Kremenets to solicit their opinions, advice, and assistance regarding the Project. About half of the community met with Dr. Ronald D. Doctor in September 2004. They unanimously endorsed the project and volunteered to help in any way they can.
2. The Kremenets Mayor arranged for us to contract with a commercial survey firm to produce an official survey of the Cemetery boundaries. The Survey was completed and signed off by the Mayor on behalf of the town council. This survey establishes the historic legal boundaries of the Cemetery.
3. We have contracted with the same survey firm to survey the two Vishnevets Cemeteries. This work is underway.
4. On a visit to Vishnevets in 2002, Dr. Ronald D. Doctor photographed the viewable stones in the old Vishnevets Jewish Cemetery.
5. Arrangements were made with Valeriy Rozenblit, a young Jewish photographer from Kremenets, to take digital photographs of all the standing and accessible individual *matzevot* in the Cemetery. He completed this task and has provided us with 3,231 photographs on cd-rom. He also photographed 655 individual *matzevot* in the "new" Vishnevets Jewish Cemetery. Valeriy's ancestors resided in Kremenets for at least 200 years.
6. A team of 19 volunteers is at work translating and proofreading the Kremenets and Vishnevets *matzeva* inscriptions. These volunteers are in the US, Israel, the UK, and the Netherlands. We are using the Internet to

coordinate the translation project. To date, we have translated *all* of the inscriptions from the two Vishnevets cemeteries and 2,203 (68%) of the Kremenets stones.

All of the remaining activities (Tasks 2 through 9) in Phase I, and all of Phases II, III, and IV remain to be done.

23. How do you plan to evaluate the success of the project? Please be specific.

Success of the project will be determined by the time it takes to complete each task of Phase I, and by the cost of completion relative to the budgeted cost. Dr. Ronald D. Doctor, the Project Co-Coordinator will monitor progress and will visit the sites before, during and at the conclusion of Phase I to evaluate the quality of work done and to finalize arrangements for continuation into Phases II, III, and IV. In addition, success will be indicated by the willingness of town officials to continue cooperating with ongoing activities, and ultimately by documenting increased Jewish tourism and economic activity in the area.

24. How do you plan to continue the activity following completion of our foundation's grant?

As Phase I proceeds and vegetation clearing gives us a better idea of the difficulty of Phase II environmental and restoration tasks, we will begin getting cost estimates and arranging for bids for the Phase II work. As soon as we have reasonable estimates, we will seek further funding so that Phase II can begin in late summer to early fall 2006, shortly after conclusion of Phase I activity.

With assistance of the Commission, the Project Co-Coordinator will work with local and national Ukrainian authorities, and with Ukrainian and international Jewish organizations to develop long-term preservation and access plans for the Cemeteries. This will be done in conjunction with the US-Ukrainian Joint Cultural Heritage Commission established in 1997.

ADDENDUM

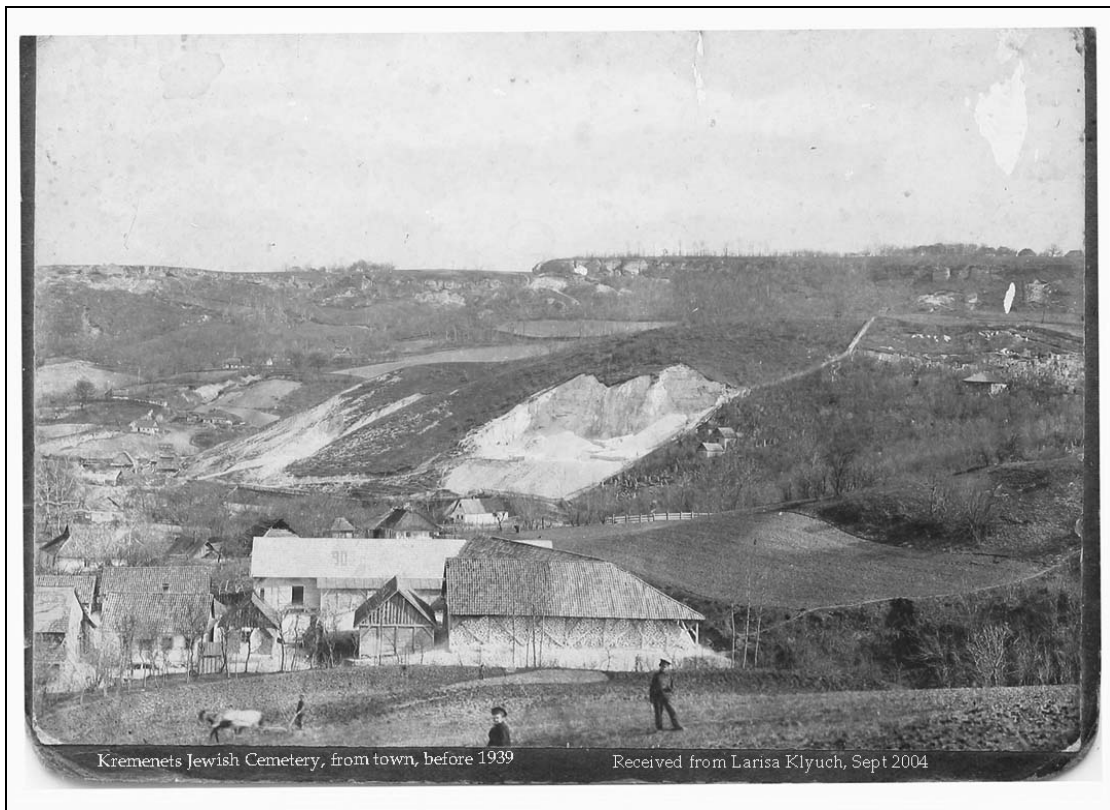


Figure 1 - The Kremenets Jewish Cemetery from a hillside on the opposite side of town, c.1900-39
The Jewish Cemetery is in the right center of the photo, next to the quarry. It reaches diagonally up the hill to the right. Close examination reveals several buildings in the lower parts of the Cemetery. These probably are *Ohels* and a pre-burial building.



Figure 2 - Kremenets Jewish Cemetery from the opposite hillside, September 2004



Figure 3 - Section of Cemetery Wall
The wall is 3 to 4 feet high and is made of local limestone.





Figure 4 - Matzeva fragment embedded in Sichivka Street
Erosion of the Cemetery hillside above the road causes *matzevot* to fall and tumble to the road where fragments become embedded in the dirt road.



Figure 5 - Large shrubs and trees and overgrown grasses obscure many of the "downed" *matzevot*
There are many tumbled *matzevot* semi-buried among the trees and shrubs shown in the photo on the left. This scene is repeated in numerous places throughout the Cemetery. Small shrubs and tall grasses shown in the photos on the right and below also hide many "downed" and broken *matzevot*.



Figure 6 - Project Endorsement Letter from Kremenets Mayor Andriy Andriyevich Huslavskiy
An English translation of the letter is on the next page.

	
Україна	
Кременецька міська рада	
Виконавчий комітет	
<hr/>	
47003 Тернопільська область, м.Кременець, вул.Шевченка,67	
тел.2-27-39, 2-42-90	
<hr/>	
09.09.04р. № 12.35	Роналду Д.Доктору,
На №	співкоординатору проекту відновлення єврейського цвинтаря в Кременці .
<p>Завдяки своїй багатющій історії, початок якої губиться в імлі віків, Кременець відомий не тільки в Україні, а й за її межами. У минулому в місті була численна єврейська громада. За переписом 1921 р., вона нараховувала 6 397 осіб (на 16 068 душ усього населення). Єврейські квартали займали всю центральну частину міста. У 1941 р. фашистські окупанти створили тут гетто, в яке зігнали євреїв з усього Кременця й навколишніх сіл. У 1942 р. мешканців гетто вивезли на околицю міста й знищили. Нині про цю трагічну подію нагадує пам'ятник, установлений на братській могилі тисяч жертв нацизму. З Кременцем пов'язані життя й діяльність багатьох відомих діячів єврейської культури. Серед уродженців міста видатний єврейський просвітитель XIX ст. Ісак Бер-Левінзон, знаменитий музикант XX ст. Ісак Стерн. На схилі однієї з гір добре збереглося велике єврейське кладовище, вік якого нараховує близько п'яти століть. Мальовничі красиви, овіяне легендами минуле, численні пам'ятки старовини приваблюють у Кременець тисячі туристів. Серед гостей, які будуть відвідувати місто, ми очікуємо й нащадків людей, що належали до місцевої єврейської громади. Однак бюджет міста, на жаль, замалий, для того, щоб утримувати пам'ятки старовини, які в нас збереглися, у належному стані. Зокрема, необхідно чимало зусиль для впорядкування єврейського кладовища та прилеглої до нього території, щоб у перспективі порушити клопотання про надання йому статусу пам'ятки історії та передати в державний заповідник. Міська Рада Кременця буде вдячна нащадкам вихідців із колишньої єврейської громади міста за участь у приведенні в порядок, вивченні та пропагуванні пам'яток старовини, пов'язаних із життям і діяльністю їхніх предків, а зокрема в упорядкуванні і реставрації єврейського кладовища в м.Кременець.</p>	
Міський голова	 А.А.Гуславський

Ukraine
Kremenets City Council
Executive Committee

47003 Ternopil'ska Oblast, Kremenets Municipality, Shevchenko Street, 67

Tel: 2-27-39, 2-42-90

9 September 2004 No. 1235

Ronald D. Doctor
Co-Coordinator, Kremenets Jewish
Cemetery Restoration Project

The very long and rich history of Kremenets has made it well known not only in Ukraine, but also in other countries. In the past there was a big Jewish community in town. According to the 1921 Census, the Jewish community counted 6,397 persons (total population was 16,068). Jewish quarters covered all the central part of the town. In 1941, Nazi occupiers created a ghetto there, and Jews from Kremenets and surrounding villages were moved there. In 1942, the inhabitants of the ghetto were transported to the outskirts of the city and murdered. Now, we are reminded of this tragic event by a memorial erected on the mass grave of thousands of Nazi victims. The lives and activities of many famous Jewish people are connected with Kremenets. Among the famous Jews is Isak Ber-Levinzon in the XIXth century and musician Isak Stern in the XXth century. On one of the hills in town, there remains a large Jewish cemetery, about 500 years old. Beautiful landscapes, a past rich in legends, and numerous monuments of history draw thousands of tourists to visit Kremenets. Among the guests who visit the town, we expect to see also the descendants of people who belonged to the local Jewish community. However, the budget of the town unfortunately is too small to maintain the monuments of history properly. For example, many efforts would be involved in cleaning out the Jewish cemetery and surrounding area. Yet this would be necessary so that we might apply in the future to obtain historical monument status for this area and to include it in the National Reserve. The Town Council of Kremenets will be grateful to the descendants of the inhabitants of the former Jewish community for their participation in fixing up, studying, and promotion of these monuments of history, connected with the life and activity of their ancestors. We would be particularly grateful for their efforts to restore the Jewish Cemetery in the town of Kremenets.

Head of the Town

[signed]

A.A. Huslavs'kiy

Figure 8 - Kremenets Jewish Cemetery, Official Survey Map. shows Distances, September 2004 (not to scale)



Figure 9 - Contour Map of Kremenets from the City Archives
The Jewish Cemetery is toward the upper right of the map. Date of the map is unknown.

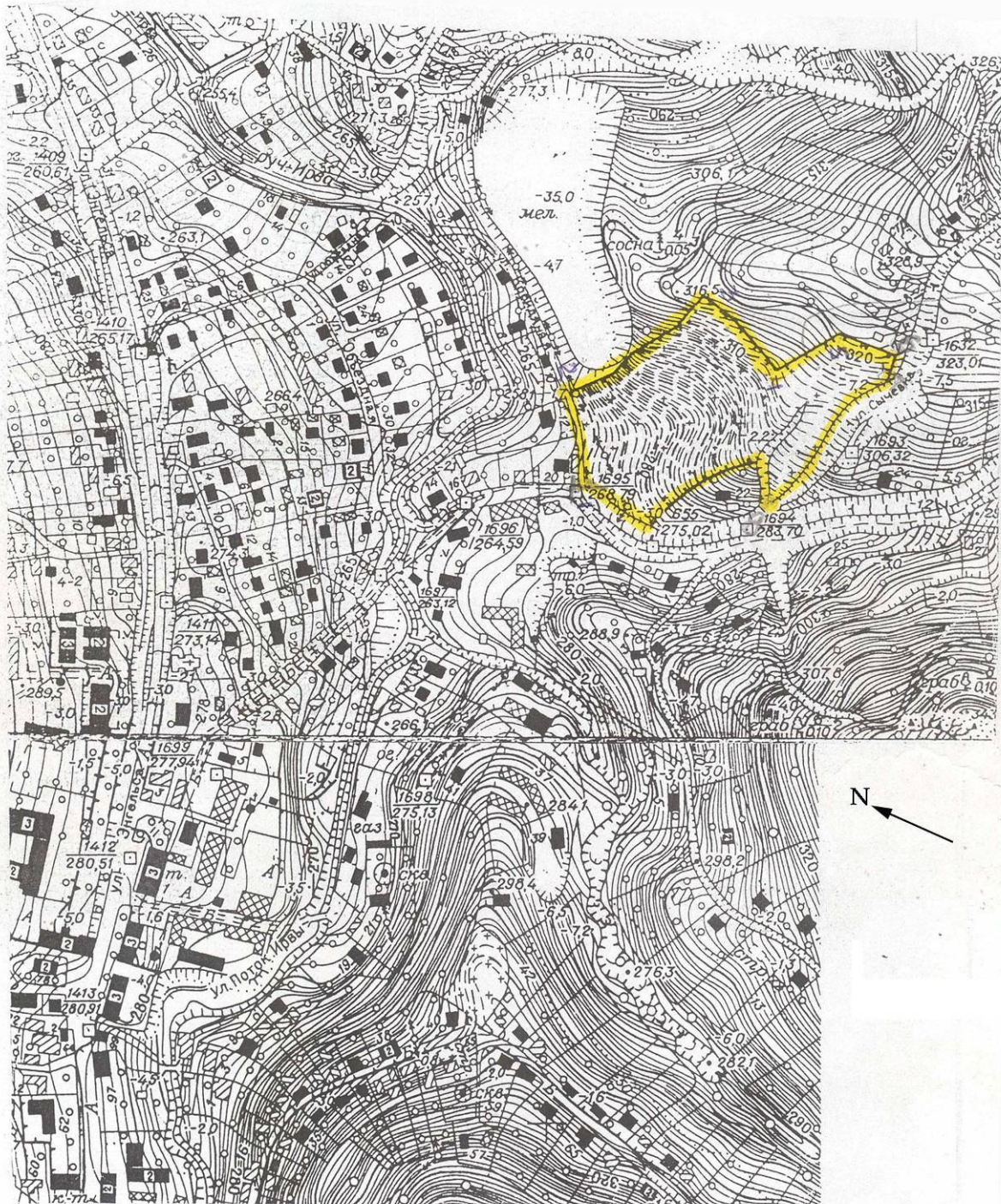
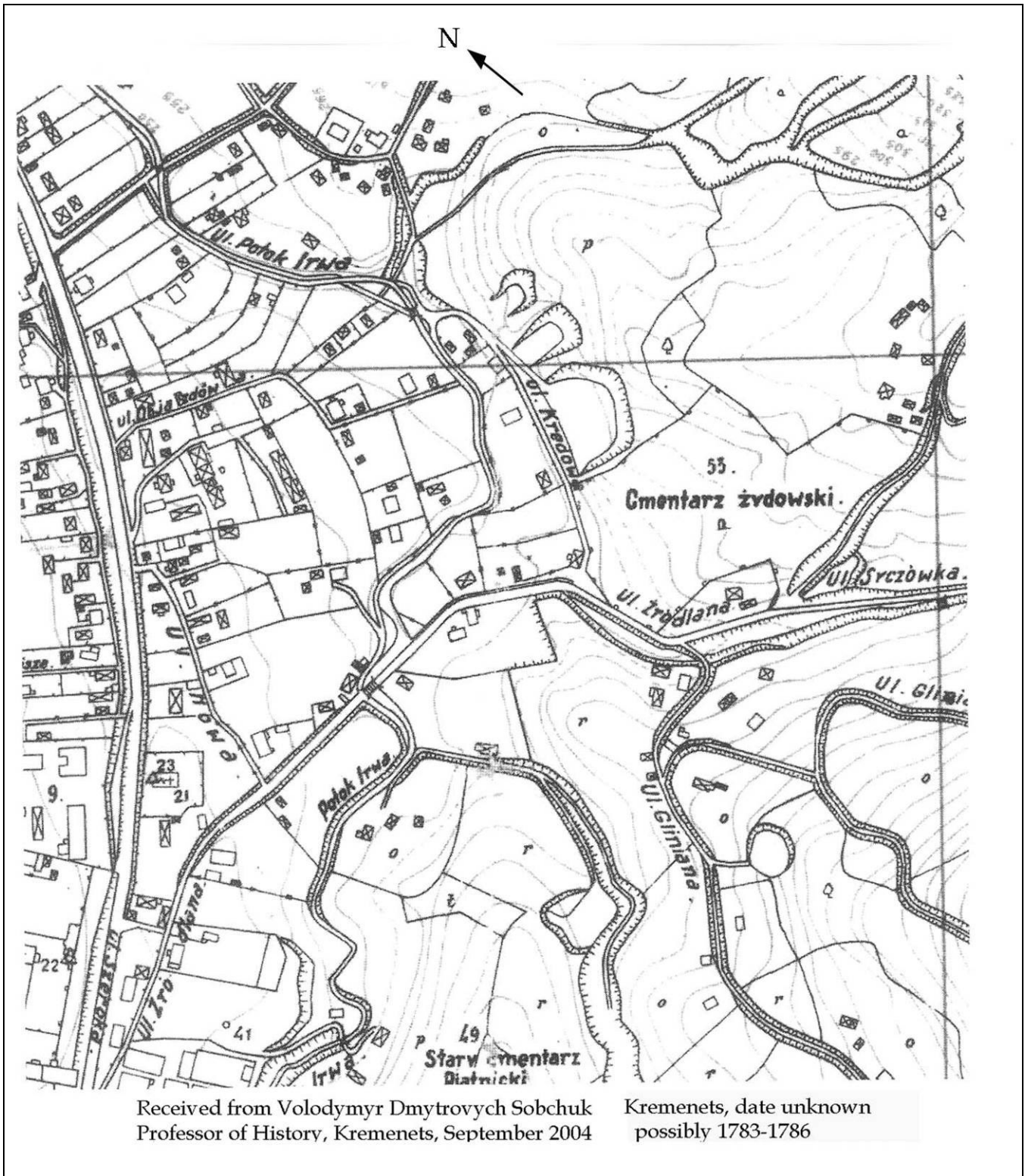


Figure 10 - Kremenets, date unknown, possibly 1783-1786
Note the Jewish Cemetery (no. 53) at center right



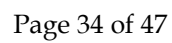




Figure 12 - Vishnevets, Old Jewish Cemetery
This view of the "old" cemetery is from the road (foreground), looking up the hill.



Figure 13 - A 1730 Matzeva in the "old" Jewish Cemetery of Vishnevets
The inscription reads: *"here lies buried / a modest woman, Hisil Madli / daughter of Mr. Zev, of blessed memory, died 24/ Nisan [5]490 [11 April 1730], May her soul be bound in the bond of everlasting life"*.

Figure 14 - Sketch of "Old" Vishnevets Jewish Cemetery
Note the two garbage dumps and the public road within the Cemetery's original boundaries.

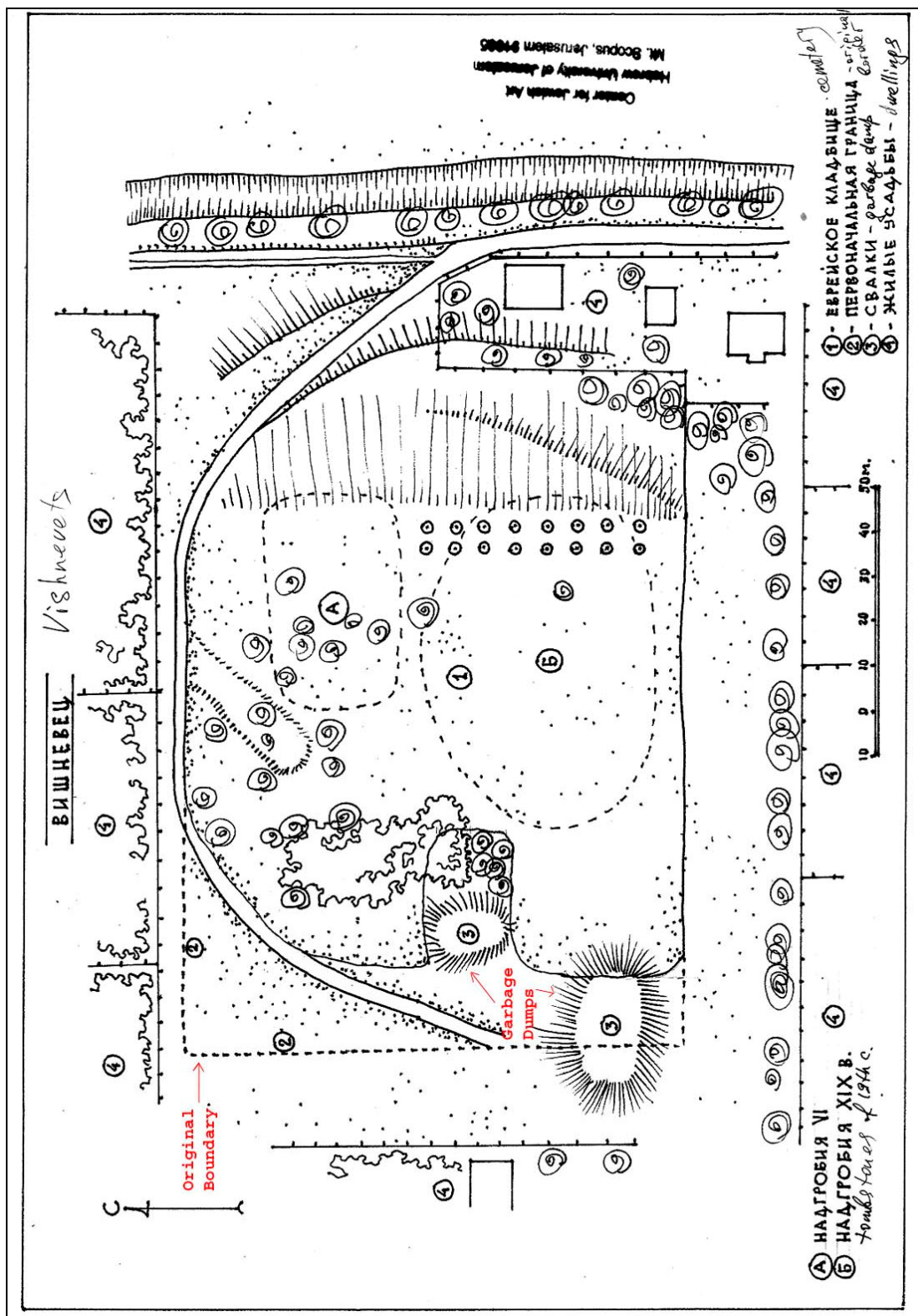




Figure 15 - Vishnevets, broken entrance gate to the New Cemetery
The Jewish Cemetery begins to the left of the gate. Note the Christian Cemetery in the background.

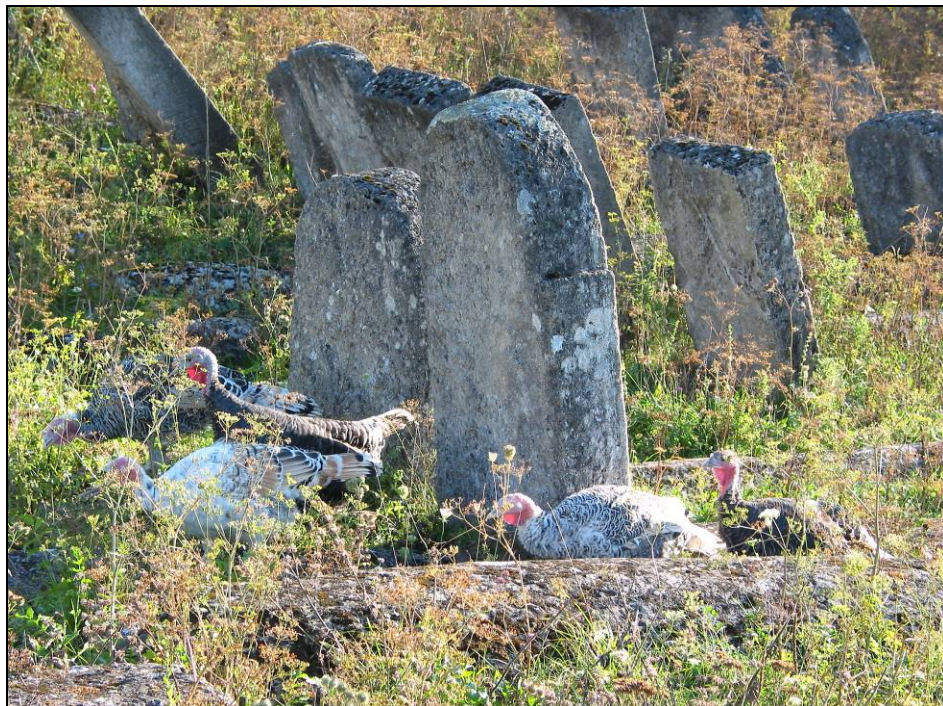



Figure 16 - Turkeys in Vishnevets' New Jewish Cemetery

Figure 17 - Project Endorsement Letter from Vishnevets Mayor C.I. Samets



ВИШНІВЕЦЬКА СЕЛИЩНА РАДА
ЗБАРАЗЬКОГО РАЙОНУ ТЕРНОПІЛЬСЬКОЇ ОБЛАСТІ
р/р 31429001000961 УДК у Тернопільській області МФО 838012 ЄДРПОУ 04396420

“17” Вересня 2004 р.
Вих. № 125/2-19

47313 Тернопільська область,
Збаразький район, смт. Вишнівець
вул. Грушевського, 6
тел/факс: (03550) 3-12-63 – голова
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Роналду Д.Доктору,
співкоординатору проекту
відновлення єврейських цвинтарів
в смт.Вишнівець.

Вишнівець – це одне з історичних містечок Волині, яке відоме в Україні та за її межами численними пам'ятками історії та архітектури. Серед цих пам'яток є і об'єкти єврейської культури. Найзначніша з них це синагога (кінець XVI- поч.XVII ст.), у якій зараз розміщена селищна рада. Недалеко від синагоги знаходиться старовинний єврейський цвинтар. Окремі поховання його теж датуються XVI- XVII ст. Багато стел вирізняються високою мистецькою майстерністю. Крім цього цвинтаря є на окраїні Вишневця ще новіший цвинтар XIX-XX ст.

З метою вивчення культури волинських євреїв та проведення наукових досліджень до Вишневця часто приїжджають вчені з Ізраїлю, Росії та інших держав. Вище вказані об'єкти єврейської культури знаходяться в занедбаному стані і потребують реставрації, на що необхідні чималі кошти.

На жаль, бюджет селища замалий для того, щоб утримувати дані пам'ятки та довести їх до належного стану. Зокрема, необхідні чималі зусилля для впорядкування прилягаючої до цвинтарів території. У дальнішому необхідно порушити питання про надання цим об'єктам статусу пам'яток історії та передати їх у державний заповідник.

Селищна рада Вишневця буде вдячна нащадкам вихідців із колишньої єврейської громади містечка за участь у приведенні в порядок, вивченні та пропагуванні пам'яток старовинних пов'язаних з життям та діяльністю їхніх предків, у тому числі в упорядкуванні єврейських цвинтарів Вишневця.

Вишнівецький селищний голова:



C.I.САМЕЦЬ.

Figure 18 - Map of Vishnevets (left half)

The map on this and the next page appeared on the flyleaf of *Sefer Vishnevets*. It was reconstructed and hand-drawn from memory by Moshe Segal, son of Hersh Matisis. It shows the town of Vishnevets with Jewish and other landmarks during the early Nazi-era, around 1941-1942. Note particularly the mass graves at top center (circled number 22). The large building to the right of circled number 10 is the Great Synagogue, now City Hall.

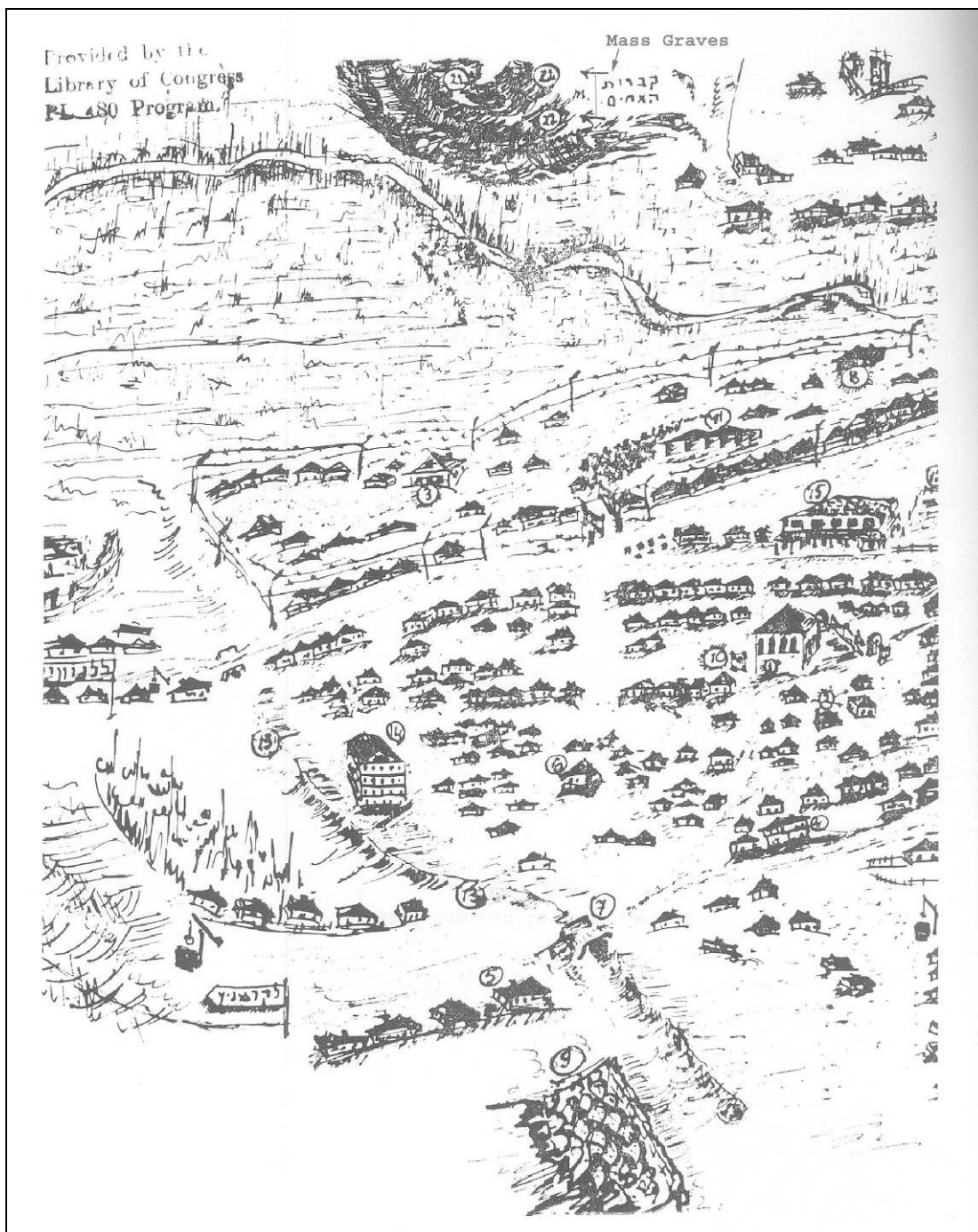


Figure 19 - Map of Vishnevets (right half)





Figure 20 - Matzeva in the Kremenets Jewish Cemetery (C7)
Tamara bat Avraham, died in Tevet (5)325 (1565)

Both *matzeva* photos are from the 1997 expedition to Kremenets of The Center for Jewish Art, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.



Figure 21 - Matzeva in the Kremenets Jewish Cemetery (C10)
Havil bat Moshe died at the beginning of the month... 5(381) (1621)



Figure 22 - Examples of artwork on matzevot in the Kremenets Jewish Cemetery

Above left: A 1732 matzeva near the main entrance

Above right: A 1915 matzeva in the "new" section of the Cemetery

Below: 19th century matzevot showing scroll & flower motif (left) and animals (right)





Figure 23 - Nazi Mass Burial Site #2

In this forested area on the hillside above Gestapo HQ, the Nazis murdered and buried in mass graves the Polish and Jewish intellectuals of Kremenets. The site is marked with Christian memorials to the Poles, but there is no Jewish memorial.





Figure 24 - The Small Parking Lot at the former Gestapo HQ

The small parking lot is paved with stones that are said to be *matzevot* from the Jewish Cemetery. If these are *matzevot*, then the inscriptions probably are on the underside. None were visible on the surface.

Note the bordering stones near the white curb. One of these clearly is a *matzeva* fragment.





Figure 25 - Large parking lot at former Gestapo HQ

The photo on the left is the front of the building. The photo on the right is the back. Both photos show the large parking lot under which there may be *matzevot* from the Jewish Cemetery.



Figure 26 - Memorial at former Gestapo HQ to Polish intellectuals murdered there by the Nazis
There is no memorial to the Jewish intellectuals who were murdered along with Poles.



Figure 27 - The open tomb of a Rabbi (1920s) was observed in 2002



**Figure 28 - Fragment of a marble column from the tomb of Dr. Hokhberg, d. 1931 (5671)
Currently at 41 Vokzalna Street under the care of Mr. & Mrs. Sasha Shtuka until it can be returned to the
Jewish Cemetery.**