

In the footsteps of the Jews from Biłgoraj



1. Memorial Park:

Monument of Trzcińscy family: for hiding two Jewish families- Wisława and Paweł Trzcińscy were tortured and then killed by Nazis on 2 March 1943.

Memory Wall: commemorates the Jews of Biłgoraj who lived and died in our town. They do not have their own cemeteries or matzevot, and the place of their eternal rest is unknown.

Memory oaks: to the right side from entrance to Jewish cemetery, there is oak, that was planted by Israel Zamir- the only son of writer Bashevis Singer. To the left from entrance, oak planted by Samuel Atzmon- Wircer- born in Biłgoraj, founder and director of theatre playing in „jidysz”

2. Third Jewish cemetery: cemetery was built at the beginning of 19th century. It occupied the area of about 2,44 hectares. There were about thousand steles on it, most of which were used for paving roads during the war. In the years 1939-1942 the bodies of Jews from Biłgoraj and those brought from Tarnogród were buried on the cemetery in collective graves, before liquidation of ghetto. On its area executions took place. Before 1984, the area of cemetery was divided into few plots. Currently the Jewish cemetery occupies 1/8 of the original area. On 12 March 1990 it was listed in the register of monuments.

3. The place, where most probably was the house of Szmuel Ben Arci (who lived there for 14 years) the father of Sary Netanjahu- wife of Israeli prime minister.

4. Second Jewish cemetery: it functioned from 1725. On the cemetery there were over 400 graves, also there were several hundred year old oaks. In the spring of 1941 German troops destroyed cemetery. The graves were used for building roads and pavements in the town. Before 2 November 1942, Germans built barracks (3 warehouses) on the grounds of the cemetery, where the Jews were detained before being deported to extermination camps. In the seventies of 20th century on the south-western part of former cemetery, the construction of the complex of buildings of high school started. Human remains and the fragments of Jewish graves (found during construction works) were transferred to the Jewish cemetery in Piaski (Konopnicka street).

5. Singer bench: unveiled on September 13, 2009 during the Singer Days celebrated in the town in honour of the four-year stay of the Nobel Prize winner in Biłgoraj, the hometown of his mother Baszewa- the daughter of the rabbi. Singer was a writer of three nations: Jewish creating in Yiddish, American and Polish. His love of writing manifested itself in Biłgoraj.

6. Small ghetto: From June 1940, the Nazis designated the area of the following streets: 3 Maja, Nadstawna, Ogrodowa, Lubelska to Targowa, where the Jewish population could live. Initially, the area was open. Jews could leave it at certain times. With time, the rights of Jews were more and more limited, so that they were finally shot or taken to the death camp in Bełżec in November 1942. The 70 craftsmen needed for the German industry were left on designated three plots at Kościelna Street - currently 3 Maja, that is from the Sitarska restaurant towards the WNMP church in the "small ghetto". In fact, about 300 people were hiding there. The final liquidation of the district took place on January 15, 1943.

7. Monument: it symbolizes Synagogue Complex from the beginning of 20th century. W jego skład wchodziły: synagoga, domy modlitw, cheder, łaźnia, przytułek, najstarszy w mieście kirkut. It consisted of: a synagogue, prayer houses, a cheder, a bathhouse, a shelter, and the oldest Jewish cemetery in the city.

8. The house- of the rabbi from Biłgoraj – Szor.

9. Rabbi hill”: according to verbal reports the area belonged to the Jewish community and according to the local tradition rabbi from Biłgoraj lived there. In post-war time it was a place for winter games for children and youth.

10. Town on the trail of Kresowe Cultures Miasteczko na Szlaku Kultur Kresowych: created to save the architecture, culture and atmosphere of a Kresowe town from oblivion, the wooden synagogue from Wołpa and the Singer's house were recreated there.