

Jewish Cemetery Expedition and Archive (JCEAA)

Selected Research Bibliography

2019

15 December 2019

This bibliography lists entries in chronological order.

Web links included in this bibliography were valid as of the date of their publication.

100 Jewish graves were desecrated in France. A search for the websites that fueled the hate led to the US

CNN.com, 14 December 2019

Saskya Vandoorne and Melissa Bell

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/12/14/europe/france-anti-semitic-attacks-intl/index.html>

-- Swastikas and anti-Semitic graffiti were spray-painted onto 107 tombstones in the small village of Westhoffen in the Bas-Rhin region of Alsace, in eastern France. The cemetery is near Strasbourg.

Outpouring of Community Help For Vandalized Jewish Cemetery

Spring Hill Insider, 13 December 2019

<https://insiderfinancial.net/outpouring-of-community-help-for-vandalized-jewish-cemetery.html>

-- Dozens of volunteers from various faiths helped clean-up the Mount Carmel Cemetery in Philadelphia where vandals toppled scores of Jewish tombstones on 12 December 2019.

Kosovo's Jews in Race to Preserve Heritage

BalkanInsight, 11 December 2019

Jakob Weizman

<https://balkaninsight.com/2019/12/11/kosovos-jews-in-race-to-preserve-heritage/>

-- An account of the extensive Jewish community that once lived in Kosovo, with roots to the 15th century. An estimated 80 Jewish families now live in Kosovo, and the last synagogue was torn down by the Yugoslav Communist regime in 1963.

New Rochelle Family Restores Jewish Cemetery in Derechin

The Jewish Link, 11 December 2019

Yvette Finkelstein

<https://www.jewishlinkbwc.com/index.php/features/11875-new-rochelle-family-restores-jewish-cemetery-in-derechin>

-- George Sokolowski and his family traveled to Derechin (Dereczyn), Belarus in 2010 to trace his family roots. Finding the cemetery overgrown by trees and brush with gravestones lying on the ground he initiated a restoration project.

Student Travels to Poland to Help Restore Jewish Cemetery

snhu.edu (Southern New Hampshire University), 11 December 2019

Rebecca LeBoeuf

<https://www.snhu.edu/about-us/newsroom/2019/12/student-service-project>

-- SNHU Student Vivianne Schill traveled to Bialystok, Poland and spent 10 days restoring graves in the Bagnowka Cemetery. She was supported by the Bialystok Cemetery Restoration Project which restores Jewish cemeteries that were destroyed and desecrated during the Holocaust.

Revealed: how the Caribbean became a haven for Jews fleeing Nazi tyranny

The Guardian, 7 December 2019

Harriet Sherwood

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/dec/07/trinidad-cemetery-jewish-refugees-holocaust-forgotten-story>

-- The story includes a photograph and information on the Jewish section of the Mucurapo graveyard in Port of Spain, Trinidad. The refugees founded a synagogue in a rented house.

France to open anti-hate crimes office following Jewish graveyard vandalism

The Jerusalem Post, 6 December 2019

<https://www.jpost.com/Diaspora/Antisemitism/France-to-open-anti-hate-crimes-office-following-Jewish-graveyard-vandalism-610069>

-- A dedicated office to combat hate crimes will be created in France after 100 Jewish graves were vandalized at a cemetery near Strasbourg. About 107 graves were painted with swastikas, which is known for housing Karl Marx's ancestors.

Jewish Footprints in Basque Country

The Canadian Jewish News, 4 December 2019

Ron Csillag

<https://www.cjnews.com/culture/travel/jewish-footprints-in-basque-country>

-- The Jewish cemetery in Bayonne, France holds 3000 above-ground tombs.

Grace: Vandalism at Jewish cemetery prompts \$5,000 gift from Muslim charitable group

Omaha World-Herald, 25 November 2019

Erin Grace

https://www.omaha.com/news/local/grace-vandalism-at-jewish-cemetery-prompts-gift-from-muslim-charitable/article_8b699fcc-6d75-5406-93c8-5dc318b48fd4.html

-- Eighty-five headstones were knocked down by vandals at the Jewish cemetery on North 42nd Street in north Omaha. The Philadelphia-based Celebrate Mercy charitable organization contributed \$5,000 to the restoration as part of their effort to teach about the Muslim Prophet Mohammed.

The Jewish cemetery in no man's land

SWI (Swissinfo.ch), 23 November 2019

Ester Unterfinger

https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/religion_the-jewish-cemetery-in-no-man-s-land/45384526

-- A description of the largest and oldest Jewish cemetery in Switzerland, located in a wooded area between the villages of Endingen and Lengnau in the north of the country.

Israeli students revive 15th-century Jewish cemetery in Greece

The Jerusalem Post, 20 November 2019

Ilanit Chernick

<https://www.jpost.com/Diaspora/Israeli-students-revive-15th-century-Jewish-cemetery-in-Greece-608450>

-- 30 Israeli students spent time restoring the Ioannina Jewish cemetery in Greece, one of the oldest in the country. They were part of an Ayalim leadership program which was established in order to consolidate the communal and social involvement in the Negev, Galilee and the city of Lod.

Jewish gravestones used as cobblestones to be returned to Old Jewish Cemetery

New York Post, 19 November 2019

Christopher Carbone

<https://nypost.com/2019/11/19/jewish-gravestones-used-as-cobblestones-to-be-returned-to-old-jewish-cemetery/>

-- Jewish gravestones removed from the Old Jewish Cemetery in Prague will be returned to the cemetery. They were removed in the 1980s and used in street-building works near Wenceslas Square. The gravestones were chopped into squares.

Neo-Nazi Leader Arrested in Connection With Vandalization of Jewish Graves in Denmark

the algemeiner, 15 November 2019

<https://www.algemeiner.com/2019/11/15/neo-nazi-leader-arrested-in-connection-with-vandalization-of-jewish-graves-in-denmark/>

-- Two men, including neo-Nazi Jacob Vullum Andersen were arrested for the vandalization of 84 Jewish tombstones on the 81st anniversary of Kristallnacht. The graves were in a cemetery in the central Denmark city of Randers.

About 75 Headstones Toppled at Omaha Jewish Cemetery

Huffpost, 8 November 2019

https://www.huffpost.com/entry/omaha-jewish-cemetery-vandalism_n_5dc5ff75e4b00927b233288b

-- Forensic specialists are investigating the vandalism at the Temple Israel Cemetery in Omaha, Nebraska. \$50,000 in damaged was caused when headstones were pushed off their bases, and many were broken.

In Italy, a good Samaritan restores a Jewish cemetery abandoned for centuries

The Times of Israel, 8 November 2019

Giovanni Vigna

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/in-italy-a-good-samaritan-restores-a-jewish-cemetery-abandoned-for-centuries/>

-- The Jewish Cemetery of Ostiano in Northern Italy's Po Valley had been abandoned until 1987. A retired Catholic artisan, Giuseppe Minera, decided to tidy it up and has now started work on other cemeteries.

After Halloween, Grave Digger Finds 60-Year-Old Remains Dug Up In Jewish Cemetery

Fast-Forward, 7 November 2019

Ari Feldman

<https://forward.com/fast-forward/434471/cemetery-halloween-grave-jewish-remains-dug-up/>

-- Police are investigating a 61-year-old grave in the Agudas Achim Jewish Cemetery in Hartford Connecticut that was dug up, possibly on Halloween. The gravestone was dated 1958.

Police investigate after 300-year old Jewish cemetery in Kent desecrated on Rosh Hashanah

The Jewish Chronicle, 23 October 2019

Daniel Sugarman

<https://www.thejc.com/news/uk-news/police-investigate-after-300-year-old-jewish-cemetery-in-kent-desecrated-1.490548>

-- Vandals shattered several gravestones, probably with sledgehammers. The gate to the cemetery was also ripped off, even though it was already open.

A Jewish Tale of the Great American Prairie

San Diego Jewish World, 19 October 2019

Rebecca Bender

<https://www.sdjewishworld.com/2019/10/19/a-jewish-tale-of-the-great-american-prairie/>

-- Includes a reference to the Ashley Jewish Homesteaders Cemetery in North Dakota (USA).

Jewish section of Oak Grove Cemetery a lesson in tolerance

The Brunswick News, 18 October 2019

Larry Hobbs

https://thebrunswicknews.com/news/local_news/jewish-section-of-oak-grove-cemetery-a-lesson-in-tolerance/article_1c04bd41-99c7-51a9-9488-d86a323d57cc.html

-- Refers to an item in the 22 January 1879 edition of the Brunswick Advertiser titled "Council met". The non-Jewish council members approved the establishment of the Jewish Cemetery of Brunswick with minimal discussion.

House of Life exhibition reveals stories buried at Willesden cemetery

Jewish News, 17 October 2019

Francine Wolfisz

<https://jewishnews.timesofisrael.com/house-of-life-exhibition-reveals-stories-buried-at-willesden-cemetery/>

-- Willesden Jewish cemetery at what the article refers to as the “Rolls-Royce of London’s Jewish cemeteries.

Dutch government gives \$2.76 million for restoring Jewish cemeteries

The Times of Israel, 16 November 2019

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/dutch-government-gives-2-76-million-for-restoring-jewish-cemeteries/>

-- Local Jews have trouble maintaining the graves because the community’s numbers never recovered after the Holocaust. Dutch Jews suffered the highest death rate of any Western European country occupied by the Nazis.

Jerusalem opens underground city for burials

The Jewish Star, 7 November 2019

Sam Sokol

<http://www.thejewishstar.com/stories/jerusalem-opens-underground-city-for-burials,18428>

-- Multiple elevators will take mourners down into the tunnels to the 10 story pit which will eventually provide for 23,000 bodies. The lack of space for new above ground cemeteries in Jerusalem makes it necessary for alternative methods.

Polish students clean local Jewish cemetery, learn to read Hebrew gravestones

Jewish News Syndicate (JNS), 29 October 2019

<https://www.jns.org/polish-students-clean-local-jewish-cemetery-learn-to-read-hebrew-gravestones/>

-- Students from a school in the Polish town of Zalewo cleaned up a local Jewish cemetery and learned to read the Hebrew inscriptions on the gravestones. The effort was co-financed by the Polish-American Freedom Foundation.

Headstones Smashed At Jewish Cemetery Near London

Fast-Forward, 23 October 2019

<https://forward.com/fast-forward/433474/headstones-smashed-at-jewish-cemetery-near-london/>

-- Four headstones at a disused Jewish Cemetery belonging to Chatham Memorial Synagogue in Rochester were smashed by vandals. The unknown vandals also destroyed the gate to the cemetery which is located 30 miles east of London.

Germany attack: Police manhunt after ‘grenade thrown at Jewish cemetery’ – two dead

Express, 9 October 2019

Rachel Russell

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/1188418/halle-shooting-police-grenade-synagogue-jewish-cemetery-germany-news-yom-kippur>

-- Two people were killed after a gunman threw a grenade at a Jewish cemetery in Halle, Germany.

Jewish cemetery ‘raises stink’ to force RV campers away in North Seattle

KOMO News, 4 October 2019

Suzanne Phan

<https://komonews.com/news/local/frustrated-residents-act-because-of-rv-campers-at-jewish-cemetery-in-north-seattle>

-- Citizens are taking action due to RV campers, trash, and drugs found beside Bikur Cholim Cemetery in North Seattle. Concerned citizens are pumping methane and adding fertilizer to the ground near the campers to make the smell too bad for parking.

Jewish cemetery near Buenos Aires vandalized

The Times of Israel

30 September 2019

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/jewish-cemetery-near-buenos-aires-vandalized/>

-- The Argentinian Israelite Mutual Association reports that a Jewish cemetery in La Tablada had the exterior wall knocked down, and a number of gravestones damaged and bronze plaques on grave stolen. The incident occurred over the weekend, near the start of the Rosh Hashanah holiday.

Giant menorah, big hearts on display at century-old Jewish cemetery in Memphis

commercial appeal (USA Today), 17 August 2019

John Beifuss

<https://www.commercialappeal.com/story/news/2019/08/17/menorah-sculpture-display-jewish-anshei-sphard-cemetery-airways-boulevard-memphis-tyler-french/2001917001/>

-- A 15 foot high, 8,000 pound menorah was installed at the Anshei Sphard Cemetery on 16 August 2019. Created by Memphis sculptor Tyler French the menorah was constructed from steel alloy that contains cooper and requires no maintenance.

Drug delaers set up shop at Jewish cemetery in Hamburg, Germany

Jewish Telegraphic Agency, 15 August 2019

<https://www.jta.org/quick-reads/drug-dealers-set-up-shop-at-jewish-cemetery-in-hamburg-germany>

-- The Harburg Jewish Cemetery began attracting addicts and dealers because it is located near the Abrigado rehabilitation center. Addicts inect themselves with heroine between the gravestones.

Righting a wrong: East Greenville woman helping restore a Jewish cemetery desecrated by Nazis

The Morning Call, 5 August 2019

Daniel Patrick Sheehan

<https://www.mcall.com/news/local/mc-nws-polish-cemetery-holocaust-20190805-yw5ouq5bi5dgigi6q7ngv26cdm-story.html>

-- Iva Gardner of East Greenville, Pennsylvania spent a week helping to restore the Jewish cemetery in Bialystok, Poland last year. Nazi's ran tanks and trucks through Bagnowka, the Jewish cemetery, toppling thousands of headstones.

Jewish cemetery vandalized in the Czech Republic

The Times of Israel, 2 August 2019

By JTA

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/jewish-cemetery-vandalized-in-the-czech-republic/>

-- The Jewish cemetery in Osoblaha, Czech Republic. At least one headstone was smashed and several others were etched with obscene drawings.

The Jews Given Military Funerals With Honors by Their Nazi Captors

Haaretz, 29 July 2019

Ofer Aderet

<https://www.haaretz.com/world-news/europe/.premium-the-jews-given-military-funerals-with-honors-by-their-nazi-captors-1.7580008>

-- Jewish POWs taken by Germans during World War II were buried with gun salutes while their relatives were being slaughtered nearby. An account of the burials of veterans in the Rakowicki Cemetery in the Old City of Krakow.

Historic Jewish Cemetery in Poland Vandalized a Month After Rededication

HAARETZ, 23 July 2019

JTA and Katarzyna Markusz

<https://www.haaretz.com/world-news/europe/historic-jewish-cemetery-in-poland-vandalized-a-month-after-rededication-1.7566720>

-- After an \$800,000, 2.5 year renovation, vandals scrawled "Jews eat children" on the fence of Jewish cemetery in Tarnow, Poland. Local residents said they would paint over the vandalized fence. The cemetery was established in 1581.

Ireland's oldest Jewish cemetery to reopen after 40 years

The Irish Times, 15 July 2019

Olivia Kelly

<https://www.irishtimes.com/culture/heritage/ireland-s-oldest-jewish-cemetery-to-reopen-after-40-years-1.3956466>

-- The Jewish cemetery on Fairview Strand in Ballybough is to be refurbished and reopened to the public. The Dublin City Council took control of the cemetery after the Dublin Jewish Board of Guardians could no longer afford the upkeep.

Cuba restores oldest Jewish cemetery as Havana is spruced up

AP, 25 June 2019

Andrea Rodriguez

<https://apnews.com/4be05c4c9a90486e817ef6b8af25d69e>

-- In preparation for the 500th anniversary of Havana's founding, the Jewish cemetery in the Guanabacoa neighborhood on the city's east side is being repaired and restored. Tombstones are being scrubbed and reconstructed, vegetation is being cleared, and a special room for bodies are ritually washed has been fixed.

Jewish cemetery vandalized in Estonia

DW, 25 June 2019

<https://www.dw.com/en/jewish-cemetery-vandalized-in-estonia/a-49351552>

-- The 110-year old Rahumae cemetery had graves broken and overturned over the weekend. Swastikas were also found spray-painted near a bus stop.

Jewish cemeteries desecrated in South Africa

The Times of Israel, 24 June 2019

Stuart Winer

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/jewish-cemeteries-desecrated-in-south-africa/>

-- Vandals damaged four graves in Strand, near Cape Town. Vagrants sleeping in the cemetery appear to be responsible.

Why some American Jews pay more than \$20,000 to get buried in Israel

Jewish Telegraphic Agency, 7 June 2019

Josefin Dolsten

<https://www.jta.org/2019/06/07/lifestyle/why-some-american-jews-pay-more-than-20000-to-get-buried-in-israel>

-- The practice can be traced back to the Bible, and the Foreign Ministry reports that 1580 foreigners died abroad and were buried in Israel in 2016. The practice can have great meaning to Americans burying their loved ones in Israel.

Jewish graves lie neglected, toppled on the South-Side: 'It's an eyesore'

Chicago Sun Times, 28 May 2019

Stefano Esposito

<https://chicago.suntimes.com/2019/5/28/18638621/jewish-cemetery-neglected-disrepair-oak-woods-chicago>

-- The Jewish section of Oak Woods Cemetery is knee-high in grass, headstone fallen over and otherwise neglected. The synagogues that oversee the cemetery say it's too expensive to provide anything but minimal maintenance.

Save the planet, don't cremate, says this Jewish cemetery

Jewish Telegraphic Agency, 13 May 2019

Ben Sales

<https://www.jta.org/2019/05/13/lifestyle/save-the-planet-dont-cremate-says-this-jewish-cemetery>

-- Rabbi Jay Lyons, founder of the South Florida Jewish Cemetery, wants to persuade local Jews to choose traditional burial as opposed to cremation. Lyons says, "There are plenty of Jews out there who are more concerned about the environment than about Jewish tradition." Cremation releases more than 800 pounds of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

Thieves loot \$30K of goods from historic Jewish cemetery

New York Post, 21 April 2019

Larry Celona and Craig McCarthy

<https://nypost.com/2019/04/21/thieves-loot-30k-of-goods-from-historic-jewish-cemetery/>

-- A thief stole the doors off mausoleums and made off with dozens of air vents from the historic Beth Olam Jewish Cemetery on the border of Queens and Brooklyn.

GM plant's pending future puts Jewish cemetery in limbo

The Detroit News, 15 April 2019

Breana Noble

<https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/detroit-city/2019/04/15/gm-idling-detroit-hamtramck-plant-jewish-cemetery-beth-olem/3375897002/>

-- The Beth Olem Jewish cemetery, which is only open twice a year, is the only place remaining of the old Poletown neighborhood in Detroit. However, it now is located in the northwest corner of the GM Cadillac plant campus.

A Jewish cemetery in Missouri was vandalized and repaired and now a man has been sentenced

SBS News, 26 March 2019

Christine Hauser

<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/a-jewish-cemetery-in-missouri-was-vandalised-and-repaired-and-now-a-man-has-been-sentenced>

-- A man was sentenced to three years of probation for toppling 154 headstones at the Orthodox Jewish Chesed Shel Emeth Cemetery in University City, Missouri in 2017. Police used DNA from a jacket dropped by the vandal and matched it with DNA obtained in a previous arrest.

Fall River police say vandalism at Jewish Cemetery worse than first thought

Providence Journal, 20 March 2019

Amanda Burke

<https://www.providencejournal.com/news/20190320/fall-river-police-say-vandalism-at-jewish-cemetery-worse-than-first-thought>

-- Aside from damaged gravestones, graffiti and inscriptions were written on graves, such as, "Expel the Jew", "Heil Hitler", and swastikas.

Gravestones vandalized at Jewish cemetery in Fall River; anti-Semitic graffiti found

Boston Globe, 19 March 2019

Emily Sweeney

<https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2019/03/19/gravestones-vandalized-jewish-cemetery-fall-river-anti-semitic-graffiti-found/ydkVC1kAADCxruqnGe1SML/story.html>

-- Vandals attacked the Hebrew Cemetery on McMahon Street and damaged 25 gravestones.

Aerial drones to map Jewish cemeteries in preservation efforts

Built in, 1 March 2019

Folake Dosu

<https://builtin.com/robotics/aerial-drones-map-jewish-cemeteries-preservation-efforts>

-- To assist in the preservation efforts of thousands of aging Jewish cemeteries, The European Jewish Cemeteries Initiative will employ aerial drones to map burial sites in Holocaust-stricken countries.

END