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Don't let the
bastards
grind you down

The cemetery of the former Jewish community of Cham
by
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After the Jewish community of Cham was founded in the year 1886, their members decided to build an own cemetery. It was finished in 1889 and is situated east of Cham near Windischbergerdorf. The first burial took place there in January 1890. The latest inscription on a gravestone dates from the year 1999.

Altogether there are 95 gravestones and 3 memorials on the cemetery. The memorials commemorate the three Jewish soldiers, who fell during World War 1. Of course most of the funerals took place before 1941. The gravestones preserve the memory of the former members of Cham's Jewish community till today.

(photo: Timo Bullemer)

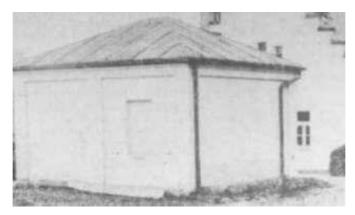(photo: Timo Bullemer)

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Among others, the following families have had their burial places here before 1945:

Last names	Places of origin (selective) - Czech towns with their German names in brackets	Places of residence (selective)
Altmann	Pobezovice (Ronsperg), Beharov (Wihorschau)	Cham, Amberg
Bloch	Loucim (Lautschim), Nýrsko (Neuern)	Cham, Neunburg vorm Wald
Eisfeld	Zeitlofs	Cham
Fleischmann	Strázov (Drosau)	Cham

Gruenhut	Pobezovice (Ronsperg), Janovice n. Úhlava (Janowitz), Drahenice (Drahenitz)	Cham, Regensburg
Hahn	Loucim (Lautschim), Beharov (Wihorschau), Nýrsko (Neuern)	Cham, Koetzting
Hartmann	Nýrsko (Neuern)	Cham, Neunburg vorm Wald
Herrmann	Chyse (Chiesch)	Cham
Joelsohn	Gunzenhausen	Cham
Kirschner	-	Koetzting
Klein	Nectiny (Netschetin), Furth im Wald	Furth im Wald, Cham
Loewy	Bezirk Prestice (Prestiz), Neunburg vorm Wald	Neunburg vorm Wald, Cham, Neukirchen-Balbini
Neuburger	Ichenhausen, Regensburg	Cham, Regensburg
Schwager	Kasejovice (Kasejowitz), Janovice n. Úhlava (Janowitz)	Koetzting, Cham
Schwarz	Desenice (Deschenitz), Kozolupy (Kosolup)	Stamsried, Pemfling, Cham, Roding
Steindler	Janovice n. Úhlava (Janowitz)	Cham
Stern	Ermershausen	Cham
Sternschein	Ruzomberok (Rosenberg), Sattelpeilnstein	Sattelpeilnstein, Cham

It seems that the cemetery wasn't damaged by the Nazis. However in December 1949, 13 gravestones were damaged and in May 1977 numerous gravestones were tipped over again. A reward was offered, but the police could not capture the perpetrators.

In the year 1903 the Jewish mortuary (Gemara) had been built. Its location was unusual, because it was situated on the Christian cemetery. In the year 1953 the local authorities considered a removal of the Gemara and its transfer to the Jewish cemetery, but this plan was never realized. Some years ago the buildings of the Christian cemetery were modified and enlarged. At this time the Jewish mortuary was demolished.

The photo is from a local newspaper. It shows the Jewish mortuary in the year 1977.

The building on the left is the Christian chapel and mortuary. To the right there is the small Jewish mortuary (Gemara). The photo was taken in the late 1950s.