## **Map Corner**

## **Łańcut Cadastral Map 1849**

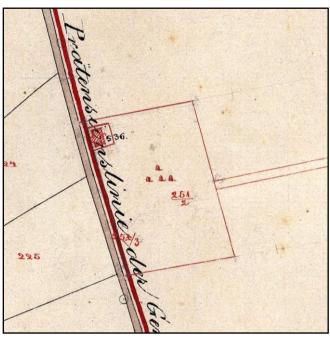
by Jay Osborn Gesher Galicia Digital Map Manager

IN THIS ISSUE, we are pleased to feature the beautiful lithographed cadastral map of Łańcut (also Lantzut and לאנצוט), between Rzeszów and Jarosław in southeastern Poland, surveyed and drafted in 1849. Cadastral maps capture snapshots in time of the towns they depict; the Austrian imperial surveyors returned to Łańcut sometime after 1849 to "re-ambulate" the city, recording changes since the map was first made in a large number of red lines added directly to this copy, indicating new buildings, parcel boundaries, roads, and other features.

The Łańcut of 1849 is still very recognizable in satellite images of today's city, more than 160 years later. The castle, the double market squares (ryneks), and nearly all of the roads downtown are intact in exactly the same locations. Łańcut's primary hospital service has moved, but its original building (marked "K.K. Spital" on the map) still stands at a corner of the northern rynek. All of these features are visible in the map excerpt shown on the next page, but in the online version on Gesher Galicia's online Map Room, researchers can zoom in to study locations in the entire cadastral area belonging to the city.

By the time this map was made, the Jewish community of Łańcut had been resident for 300 years, and had grown to a thousand people (more than 40% of the total city population); it had also become an important center of the Hasidic movement and home to a series of famous *tzadikim*. Jews worked in trade, crafts, and inn-keeping, and owned many of the houses in the

city center, where their imposing synagogue had been built near the castle grounds a century earlier. The map shows a large Jewish cemetery dating from at least the 17th century (northeast of the *ryneks*), and in the post-1849 redline revisions due south of the *ryneks* we can see the outline of the new Jewish cemetery established in 1860.



The new Jewish cemetery south of the city center.

Anyone with an interest in the Galician history of this city could walk it today with the 1849 map, to see all of the features described here.

This map and many more are on Gesher Galicia's online Map Room for free use. We give thanks to our partner the Foundation for the Preservation of Jewish Heritage in Poland (FODŻ) for historical information about Łańcut; FODŻ owns and manages the surviving synagogue and the old Jewish cemetery in town.

Next page: A town center excerpt from the 1849 cadastral map of Łańcut; images for this map were provided to Gesher Galicia by the <u>Polish National Archives in Przemyśl.</u>

