

Map Corner

Jewish Community Sites in 19th Century Kopyczyńce

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ELSEWHERE IN THIS ISSUE, Matan Shefi of the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw describes how sleuthing work with online records and a historical cadastral map in the **Gesher Galicia Map Room** helped him to suggest plausible locations where family homes had stood in Kopyczyńce (Kopychyntsi), now in Ukraine.

On these pages, we feature the **ca. 1859 cadastral map of Kopyczyńce** which Matan used, and show how the map and records can also detail where the town's Jews gathered publicly as a community in the nineteenth century.

The archived map is incomplete but the several surviving sheets include the entire town center. The title sheet is missing, but correlation with surviving cadastral text records allows us to date the map to approximately 1859. The map is also heavily revised with red lines to show property changes, but is still very clear and easy to use.

Unusual for a late-state map of this type, stars mark two synagogues, making them easy to identify; they are circled in blue on the map excerpt on the following page. Each is also labeled in the property records as *Synagoge*, and so would have been identifiable even without the stars.

Jewish cemeteries are usually easy to identify on the historical maps because of the symbols the Austrian cartographers used to label them: small triangles, probably intended to represent *matzevot*

(tombstones). There are two Jewish cemeteries on the map, one circled in violet on the next page, and the other off the excerpt but shown in the detail below. Each of these land parcels was listed as belonging to the Jewish community in the 1859 records. Both contain small buildings used by a *chevrah kadisha* to prepare bodies for burial.



Another Jewish cemetery southwest of the town center.

One Jewish religious building which we could not have identified from the map alone is listed in the property records as a Jewish community *Badhaus*, meaning a *mikveh*; the large masonry building is adjacent to the Kopyczyńce lake, and is circled in green on the excerpt on the next page.

Much more can be found on this map using similar approaches, including administration buildings, a large brewery, and the properties of the Christian communities in town.

Next page: *An excerpt from the ca. 1859 cadastral map of Kopyczyńce; images for this map were provided to Gesher Galicia by the Central State Historical Archives of Ukraine in Lviv (TsDIAL).*



Kopyczyńce.

B.

Helman's original

Kop