

Documentary film about Kovel

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We are preparing a documentary film about Kovel.

First, it's about my mother's family.

My mother's name was Fryda Rozenblat. She left Kovel with her brother Miron (Meir) and his wife Fira just before the German invaded the city. They spent the war in Central Asia before immigrating to France.

Most of the members of the family: Rozenblat, Celniker, Czimerman, Rubinstein, Libermann etc. were murdered in Kovel or in other Ukrainian towns.

My grand uncle Aaron Czimermann, his wife Rosa and their son (Benjamin?) were hidden in a small village near Kovel where Rosa's parents were living. All of them were murdered; his wife and child were probably taken to the Kovel synagogue before being killed.

Unfortunately, we don't know the name of the village and the maiden name of Rosa.

The film will not only be about my family research but mainly about the Jews of Kovel before and during the Shoah, especially about what happened in the synagogue.

We traveled three times to Israël where we interviewed and filmed the last witnesses.

Then, last year (summer 2008) we went to Kovel.

We spent five days in Kovel. We stayed in the hotel "Naché misto".

We filmed twice the synagogue, outside and inside, spoke with the workers.

We went to the Jewish cemetery, then to Bachiv, visited the historical museum (where there is almost nothing about the Jews)

.We met a deputy mayor at the town-hall.

I think I found the place where my mother was working as the headmistress of a kindergarten on Lutcka street.

We interviewed some Ukrainian witnesses and we had the impression they were ready to speak about the Second War events.

We are looking for any information or testimony concerning the Rozenblat and Czimermann families and about the events which happened in Kovel before, during and after the Shoah.



Main (great) Synagogue in Kowel, outside view (summer 2009)



Inside the Main (great) Synagogue in Kowel (summer 2009)



Interviews in Lutcka street (summer 2009)



Pharmacy Fredriksen (summer 2009)