

Summary of Oral History: Barlanetska Nadiia

RG#: RG-50.575.0067

This summary was authored by a USHMM contractor 05/2022

Barlanetska Nadiia, born in 1924, lived in the village Zhuravnyky, of Polish origin, it used to be a Jewish "little town" (shtetl), where there were about 20 shops and stores, small businesses, a slaughterhouse, a tailor's shop, a shoemaker's shop, and others. There was a large pond where the Jews bred fish and for sale in Lviv. There were 3 Jewish houses of worship (possibly synagogues, she does not specify). Poles, Ukrainians and the Jews lived in the village. Ukrainians borrowed money from the Jews. She describes that she went to school with Jewish children, and names her Jewish teacher by the surname "Tsukermanova." In 1941, a ghetto was established in the area where the Jewish houses were located a few months after the arrival of the Germans. The Germans came from Volodymyr-Volyns'kyi. She shows that she brought milk to her Jewish teacher, who was in the ghetto. She dumped a bottle of milk on the roadside near the ghetto when there were no police/polizei. There were up to 20 policemen/ polizei – Ukrainians from neighboring villages, they guarded the ghetto and guarded the pit in which the Jews were executed. Police/Polizei forced local Ukrainian men to dig a pit to shoot Jews. The interviewee's father managed to hide near the local pond. Local Ukrainians, who were forced by the police/polizei, dug a hole 20 by 10 meters on the outskirts of the village in the field. After the war, on the same field, she received a plot of land where she grew beets and the contours of the pit were still preserved. Executions of the Jews were performed for 2 days. On the first day, local Jews were executed, and on the second day, the Jews were brought from nearby villages. The Jews from the ghetto were put in an open truck. She indicates that there were several cars of this kind, although she saw only one. The ghetto was close to her house. The execution was carried out by a German, the perimeter of the pit was guarded by the police/polizei. The Jews did not try to resist. Clothes and personal belongings were left in front of the pit. The execution took place on the edge of the pit, where the bodies fell after the shot. The execution was carried out in single shots during the day, from morning to evening. The same local Ukrainian diggers were forced to bury the pit after the execution.

She claims that at least 5 Jews managed to escape. She names only one – "Duvyd", who was friends with her brothers and went walking with Ukrainian boys and girls. Her brothers fled to Poland during the war, fearing they would be shot by Ukrainian police/polizei. After the war, he wrote a letter to find out about their fate. The Germans themselves exterminated only the local Jews. The property of the Jews was destroyed during the counteroffensive of the Red Army, the village was on the line of fire during the attack of the Red Army on Lviv. After the restoration of Soviet

power, some police officers/polizei were sentenced to exile in Siberia, and their descendants still live in this settlement.