

RG Number:

RG-50.632*0004

This file includes two digital files.

File 4a

Interview conducted on July 15, 2005 by V. Fedchenko and A. Kushkova

Interview Summary:

Beta Leibovna Pankina, born in 1927 in Tulchin.

(On the way, an unidentified Ukrainian said that the Jewish cemetery was located at Kaptsonivka.)

Her father, a shoemaker, was taken into the army and was later released.

Her mother with her four children was a Pechora camp. Her husband from Kaluga was not Jewish; he died. They did not have a Jewish wedding with a chuppah. Her father died in '94; he is buried at the Jewish cemetery; her mother died at the camp.

There were many Jews in Tulchin before the war – 20 thousand. In Kaptsonivka below lived the Jews. In Tulchin there was one large Jewish school. In 1939 a non-Jewish school was built. All students were transferred there and all studies were translated into Russian. She completed 7 grades, 5 of them in Yiddish. At home her parents spoke Yiddish, as did the neighbors. Her children speak Russian and Yiddish. Her daughter lives in Kiev with her family.

She is not interested in religion. Before the war there were 2 synagogues. Her father and she did not attend. There were many shysters – both Jews and non-Jews. Jews were tailors and cask makers. There were 2 shoykhets (ritual kosher slaughterers). One lived across the street. His name was Moishe. They paid him 50 kopeks for his services.

When they returned from the camp they found that their house was plundered. They bought a house from a Jewish woman. There were no conflicts with the Ukrainians upon return from camp.

They bought matzo for Passover; it was made in Tulchin.

Language:

Russian

Geographic Name:

Tulchin (Ukraine)

Kaptsonivka

Interview conducted on July 16, 2005 in Tulchin by A. Kushkova and V. Fedchenko

Interview Summary:

Beta Leibovna Pankina, born in 1927 in Tulchin and Yuri Isaakovich Keselbrenner (neighbor of Ms. Pankina)

Three generations of her family are from Tulchin. Her mother's father was a klezmer musician. She says that Moishe the shoykhet performed circumcisions on the 8th day. She had two younger brothers who were circumcised in 1933. Small biscuits – krishmeleynen were given to the children at circumcison.

He does not speak Yiddish – only a few words. His aunt Voya Shayevna Rosenshtein was in the camp. There were 2 synagogues in Tulchin. His father attended synagogue on Shabbat. A house was rented for synagogue on street named Shevchenko. His grandmother, Sura Leibovna Shraibman born in 1887, died

in 1964. She baked bread in Russian oven. She went to synagogue on Yom Kippur. His grandmother lived in Kapsonivka. His grandmother baked two types of matzo for Passover. She made kugel from matzo meal; also made gefilte fish and horse radish.

Religious Jews from Moldavia distribute books.

He studied in a Russian school, but there were only Jews there.

Jews were buried without a casket in white shroud and white slippers "tachrikhim" made by special tailor. Jews were buried in crypts. Old man named Rappoport carved inscriptions in Hebrew on tomb stones. He lived on the street named Pestel. There was a watchmaker named Weichman.

There was a ghetto in Bershadi.

They both suggest an interview with Yurkovetsky – he is the oldest and will know the rituals.

Language:

Russian

Geographic Name:

Tulchin (Ukraine)

File 4b

Interview conducted on July 11, 2006 by N. Evseyenko and A. Kushkova (expanded by A. Kushkova)

Interview Summary:

Beta Leibovna Pankina, born in 1926 in Tulchin; her daughter (young woman from the community gives separate responses).

She says that the Jewish community was organized some time ago. It sends parcels with provisions – such as butter, sugar, tea, cookies, buckwheat, and tinned food once a month and a young woman to help with the cleaning twice a week. She is unable to walk and thus does not attend community gatherings for holidays. Some members from the community speak Yiddish. Only a few Jews remain. In her youth she celebrated Yom Kippur and fasted; she also celebrated Passover.

She was at a children's home in concentration camp in Balta (Beym Odes?). She was there at the ghetto. She was there for three months until liberation by the Russians on March 14, 1944.

There were many Jews in Tulchin after the war but many have left. There were a few medical doctors, but they left for America and Israel.

Her father was a shoe-maker. He died recently at 95.

There was a Jewish school until 1939; most classes were taught in Yiddish. There was a kosher butcher named Moishe. Now there are few Jews here. Many died, left for America, Germany, Israel.

Language:

Russian

Geographic Name:

Tulchin (Ukraine)

Balta, Odessa oblast