

The most important tasks of the Foundation, which we deem an integral part of the Polish Jewish community (UJCRP), are as follows:

- restitution of the property of pre-war Jewish communities: cemeteries, synagogues, and other buildings formerly serving religious, educational, charitable or social purposes
- managing the returned properties
- protecting sites of special religious or historical importance

Download a .pdf marking FODZ's 10th anniversary:

Preserving Jewish Heritage In Poland
highlighting our projects and programs:

http://fodz.pl/download/album_fodz_www.pdf

Consider our *Adopt-A-Jewish-Cemetery* initiative:

<http://fodz.pl/?d=5&id=101&l=en>

Download the *Chassidic Route* map and brochures for specific towns:

<http://fodz.pl/?d=5&id=32&l=en>

Find FODZ on Facebook and stay current on projects, news, and events:

www.facebook.com/fodz.jewish.poland

How you can help:

For more information on how you can participate in the preservation of Jewish heritage in Poland for future generations:

<http://fodz.pl/?d=16&l=en>

Donations to the *Foundation for the Preservation of Jewish Heritage in Poland* may be made by PayPal, credit card, check, bank draft, money order, or wire transfer.

Donate



You can indicate your wish to directly support individual projects on the online donation forms or with your donation letter.

FOUNDATION FOR
THE PRESERVATION
OF JEWISH HERITAGE
IN POLAND



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ABOUT US

FODZ was established in 2002 by the Union of Jewish Communities in Poland and the World Jewish Restitution Organization (WJRO). Our primary mission is to protect and commemorate the surviving sites and monuments of Jewish cultural heritage in Poland. The Foundation is active where no Jewish community exists today or where distance from major urban centers or lack of sufficient financial resources makes it difficult for present-day small Jewish communities to provide adequate long term care and maintenance of historic Jewish properties.

To learn more about our Foundation and our many important projects in Poland, including our latest initiative - *Adopt-A-Jewish-Cemetery* - please visit our website. And now:



SAVING JEWISH HERITAGE IN POLAND,
ONE STONE AT A TIME



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Adopt a Jewish Cemetery in Poland

The Foundation for the Preservation
of Jewish Heritage in Poland
(Fundacja Ochrony Dziedzictwa Żydowskiego)

www.fodz.pl

Tel.: +48 22 436 60 00

Fax: +48 22 436 06 58

E-mail: fodz@fodz.pl

FOUNDATION FOR
THE PRESERVATION
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IN POLAND



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The restored synagogue in Zamość

The Foundation for the Preservation of Jewish Heritage in Poland (FODZ)

protects and commemorates surviving sites and monuments of Jewish cultural heritage in Poland. Foundation projects involve nearly **200 synagogues** and **1200 cemeteries** covering two-thirds of modern-day Poland. In 2013 and 2014, FODZ had active projects in more than two dozen Jewish cemeteries and synagogues. The Foundation is also engaged in ongoing educational programs and cultural events, many aimed at revealing the rich and long history of Jewish life in Poland.

SAVING JEWISH HERITAGE IN POLAND,
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SYNAGOGUES

FODZ projects include some of the most important and prominent Jewish structures in Poland, such as the synagogues in Kraśnik, Łańcut, Przysucha, and Rymanów, as well as the only Renaissance-style synagogue in Poland, located in the UNESCO-listed town of Zamość. The range of sizes and styles is as broad and varied as the Jewish communities that once prayed within them. Several synagogues date from the 17th and 18th centuries, incorporating grand Baroque-style architecture and features; some were designed or embellished by influential architects and artists of the period; many retain their original bimah, frescoes, and highly decorative stuccowork.



Interior of the Łańcut synagogue

FODZ strongly believes that Poland's remaining synagogues deserve to survive, even those in towns today lacking a Jewish presence. While many of these buildings may never again function as originally intended, they serve as daily reminders of a town's rich pre-war Jewish life. Once rehabilitated, they provide community space for showcasing cultural exhibits, musical events, hosting conferences, and conducting educational programs. The "Synagogue Center" rehabilitation in Zamość is a shining example of adaptive reuse; in 2014, a bar mitzvah was held in the restored synagogue, the first in town since the Holocaust. Restoration of a rare synagogue complex in Kraśnik and creation of a new Jewish museum in the synagogue in Łęczna are in progress.

CEMETERIES



Memorial at the cemetery in Wysokie Mazowieckie

FODZ has completed work in more than 100 Jewish cemeteries in Poland. All FODZ projects, whether cleaning, fencing, renovating, or memorializing a site through the installation of plaques, markers, or monuments, are carried out with supervision of the Chief Rabbi of Poland and the Rabbinical Commission.

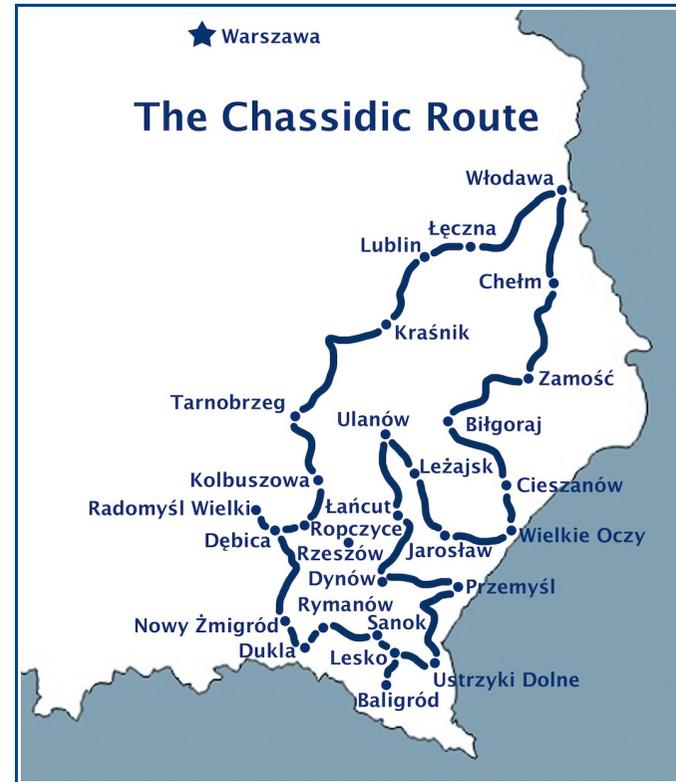


Lapidarium at the cemetery in Leżajsk

Sadly, the vast majority of the surviving cemeteries today still have no markers or commemorative plaques evidencing their pre-war Jewish past and purpose. For this reason, at the beginning of 2015 the Foundation launched a new initiative inviting the Jewish diaspora to "adopt" a Jewish cemetery and become a FODZ financial partner.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL PROGRAMS

The Foundation organizes and leads educational programs with schools in Polish towns where Jewish heritage provides opportunities for learning and community service. FODZ also participates in Jewish cultural revival programs throughout the country.



Another FODZ focus is travel and heritage tourism. Our *Chassidic Route* map, which can be downloaded as a .pdf from the FODZ website, covers a large area in southeast Poland known for its many pre-war Jewish communities, and is an excellent travel planning resource for family members planning heritage trips to Poland - a popular, growing form of tourism in central and eastern Europe. With some advance notice, FODZ can also aid in the planning of such trips, applying our unique knowledge, practical experience, and personal connections in Polish towns and cities: arranging hotels, transportation, and tours, as well as access to local synagogues, Jewish cemeteries, and sites of Jewish religious pilgrimage.