

# *Bialystok Cemetery Restoration Fund*

Working to **Right-A-Wrong** at the Bagnowka/Wschodnia Street  
Burial Grounds in Bialystok Poland.

## PRESS RELEASE

Dateline: August 18, 2022 Bialystok, Poland: The USA-based 501c3 non-profit organization **Bialystok Cemetery Restoration Fund** would like to announce an extremely important discovery of significant importance to the Jewish history of Bialy ### and. The remains of potentially hundreds of headstones or matzevot have been discovered on a reserve parcel of land just outside the fencing surrounding the Bagnowka Cemetery on the outskirts of Bialystok. Chief Rabbi Michael Schudrich granted permission along with the municipal government to explore the mound in a limited capacity. The mound measures approximately 75 meters x 25 meters x 3 meters tall. We unearthed 3 pristine headstones with dates from 1820 to 1851. The earliest dated tombstone (1820) suggests these headstones belong to the Rabbinic Cemetery formerly located in a large central city park as it was the only functioning Jewish cemetery at that time. This park was constructed while Poland was under Communist occupation. According to sources, the matzevot were cleared in the 1960's and transported to this new area then covered with soil to obscure their presence. With the provenance of these headstones now clarified, Chief Rabbi Schudrich instructed us to temporarily move them into an area within Bagnowka Cemetery where no burials had ever occurred for safe keeping until a formal plan can be approved. Bialystok Vice-President Rudnicki worked with us to approve our plan. On Tuesday, August 16, 2022, Bialystok President Truskolaski formally granted written permission to perform this work under the guidance of Rabbi Schudrich's cemetery expert. Work will begin with expertly and experienced operators of specialized machinery on Wednesday, August 17, 2022. We will issue additional updates during the work. For more information contact: Joshua Degen, Chairman at [bialystokcemeteryrestoration@gmail.com](mailto:bialystokcemeteryrestoration@gmail.com).

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The Bialystok Cemetery Restoration  
Fund is a nonprofit 501(C)3  
organization.

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