

Schönhauser Allee Cemetery Description

Berlin, Germany

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This cemetery was the primary Jewish burial ground in Berlin from 1827, when the older cemetery at the Große Hamburger Straße closed down and the Schönhauser Allee opened as its replacement, and 1880, when the yet newer cemetery at Weißensee opened. Yet some burials took place at the Schönhauser Allee until 1949. The cemetery features close to 23'000 graves.

Unfortunately, the documentation of that cemetery was lost during the German-French war of 1870/71, i.e., when descendants of persons buried there write to Berlin to inquire about the location of the graves of their ancestors, they cannot get a meaningful answer. I am in the process of trying to reconstruct that cemetery to the best of my abilities, yet I cannot dig up gravestones that have fallen to the ground, and some gravestones (mostly early ones made from sandstone) are no longer decipherable. Yet, I do what I can.

I have submitted slightly more than 6,000 graves for inclusion in the JOWBR database. I have also photographed approximately 2,000 headstones so far. This is an ongoing project.

- The rows are numbered in such a way that lower row numbers are always closer to the cemetery entrance, i.e., in all fields, the rows are numbered from West to East except for fields L3 and L4, where they are numbered from East to West.
- There no longer exist indicators marking the borders separating fields D, F, and SF. When you walk along the Northern cemetery wall (W1) from West to East, you will see on your right-hand side the gravestones of Georg and Gertrud Sackur. They are in row 1 of field F. You will see on your right-hand side the gravestone of Lippmann and Sara Schachtel. It is in row 1 of field SF.
- The indicator marking the border that separates field C from field E is no longer visible either. When you walk on the path separating fields C and E from field G from East to West, you will see on your right-hand side a short path that extends only a few meters into the field. This path separates field C from field E, i.e., row 1 of field E is to the East of that path.
- Many graves are marked with a dual field description separated by a dash. "A-B" indicated that the grave is located in field A at the border adjacent to field B. "B-A" denotes that the grave is located in field B adjacent to field A.

