

How to find an image of ancestral Central or Eastern European towns on antique topographic maps

*My step-by-step directions for finding towns on
19th to early 20th century government/military survey maps,
compared with LOC-recommended steps*

New York Map Society
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Andrew Kapochunas
Secretary



I first became interested in maps -- those of historic Lithuania -- 35 years ago. My map sites: <https://www.lithuanianmaps.com/> (*static since March 31, 2021*) and its successor site: <https://lietuvoskartografija.lt/lithuanianmaps/> (*created thanks to the Lithuanian Cartographic Society and Lithuania's Ministry of Foreign Affairs*) have 4,330 downloadable high-definition maps from 1507 – 1954 of Eastern Europe.

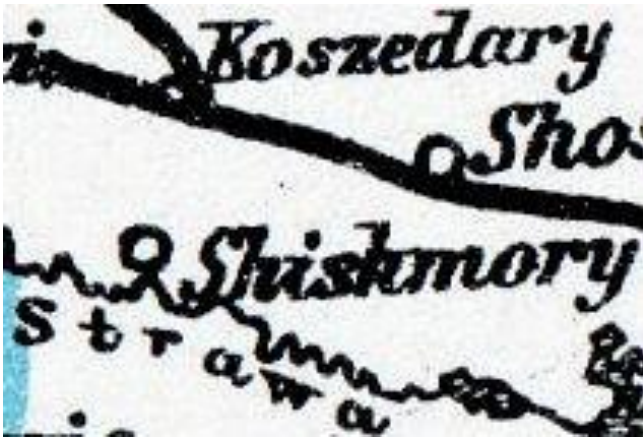
The **669 high-definition topographical maps at LithuanianMaps.com** are not yet in the format I'd like at the new site, so I'll use LithuanianMaps.com as a starting point, but I'll also go further east and west in Europe to other sites with antique topographic maps. And I'll compare my steps with LOC-recommended steps.

But why focus on Central and Eastern Europe? Because Europe has experienced the most significant and frequent national boundary changes in the last 150 years (1875–2025), compared with any other area in the world, and particularly in Central and Eastern Europe. With those changes come place name changes.

But why look for your town on a *topographic* map?

Historically, topographic maps were created by military surveys to assist in planning for invasions, so they include not only political boundaries, but natural elements: hills and valleys, often with brown lines showing changes in elevation, and artificial elements: buildings, highways, and railroads.

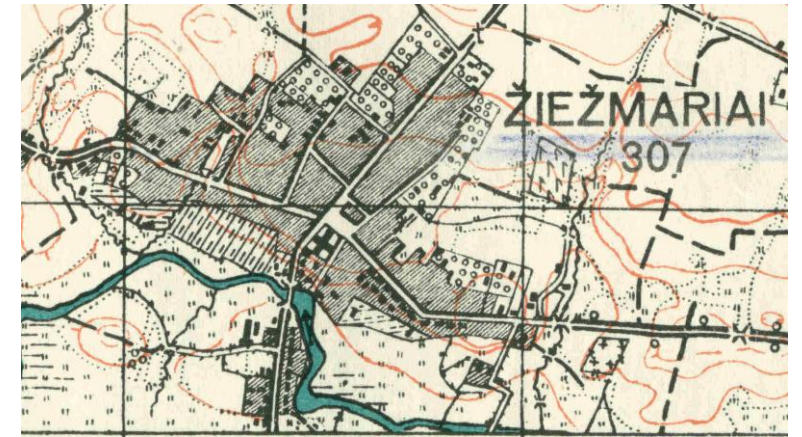
And you need to be aware of name variants.



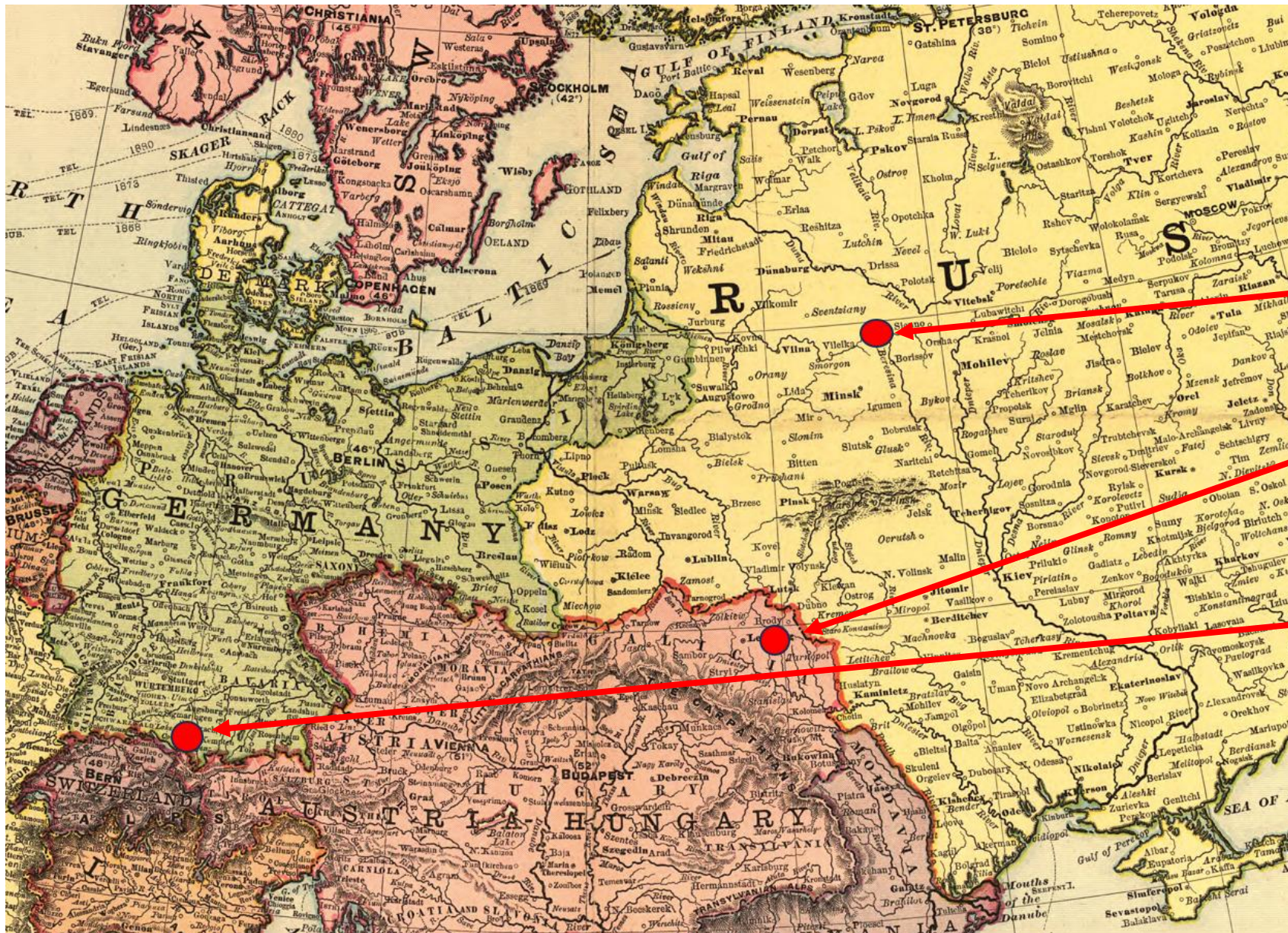
1:1 500 000 1914 German political map



1:100 000 1916 Prussian topographic map



1:25 000 1936 Lithuanian topographic map



We're going to look for images of three towns:

- **Dokshits**
in today's Belarus, Vitebsk region
- **Zlochev**
in today's Ukraine, Lviv region
- **Bad Wurzach**
in Germany's Baden-Württemberg region

1891 "Europe," from Rand McNally's "Indexed Atlas of the World." US L.O.C.

We'll need to be aware of multiple names of towns over time:

- **Dokshits** (*DOHK-shih-ts in Belarusian; DOK-shits in Yiddish*)
 - 1536-1793: Grand Duchy of Lithuania
 - 1793-1918: Empire of Russia
 - 1918-1939: Poland
 - 1940-present: Byelorussian SSR/Belarus
- **Zlochev** (*ZWO-cheff in Polish; ZLO-tchev in Yiddish; ZOH-loh-cheev in Ukrainian*)
 - 1523-1772: Kingdom of Poland
 - 1772-1867: Austrian Monarchy
 - 1867-1918: Austrian half of Austro-Hungarian Empire
 - 1918-1939: Poland
 - 1944-1991: Ukrainian SSR/Ukraine
- **Bad Wurzach** (*Bahd-VUHR-tsak*)
 - 1273-1313: Duchy of Swabia
 - 1313-1806: Holy Roman Empire
 - 1806-1918: German Confederation/German Empire
 - 1871-1945: Deutsches Reich
 - 1949-present: Federal Republic of Germany (1950: “Bad” officially added “Wurzach”)

Step 1: Try to narrow your search geography

- Just as in the United States, where a third of all US place names are not unique (*there are seven towns in the US named “New York”*) European town names aren’t necessarily unique (*there are 11 different “Orlowos” just in Poland*).
- Searching on “Eastern Europe,” for example, should be a last resort, not a first, because you’ll likely get multiple possibilities

Step 2: Log in to a gazetteer or communities database – for Eastern Europe I always first go to JewishGen.org

	<u>JewishGen Gazetteer</u>	<u>JewishGen Communities Database</u>
<u>Number of Localities</u>	<u>4 million localities in 63 countries</u>	<u>~6,500</u>
<u>Localities Included</u>	<u>All localities</u>	<u>Only villages with Jewish communities</u>
<u>Synonyms Included</u>	<u>Official synonyms only</u>	<u>All known synonyms, including Yiddish town names</u>
<u>Source of the Data</u>	<u>U.S. Board on Geographic Names</u>	<u>Experts at JewishGen have used multiple sources</u>
<u>Contents for each Locality</u>	<u>Town Name, Official Synonyms, Latitude/Longitude, Distance/Direction from reference point, Links to Maps and Radius Search</u>	<u>Everything that JewishGen Gazetteer has... plus much more Historical names and jurisdictions, Links to JewishGen resources (JGFF, Yizkor Books, KehilaLinks, etc.), Jewish population figures, Inset maps, List of Nearby Jewish Communities, Links to search JewishGen databases, List of applicable SIGs and resources.</u>

Step 3: search on “Dokshits,” the ancestral home of a late boss and friend of many years – a “*Landsman*”

JewishGen Communities Database

The **JewishGen Communities Database** contains information about 6,500 Jewish communities in Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East.

This database contains each community's name in various languages, and political jurisdictions during different time periods.

In the search results, hover your mouse over a town name for additional information, or click on the  icon next to a community's name to see a full page of information — including maps, Jewish population figures, and links to JewishGen resources for that community.

For a database of nearly 4 million localities in Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East, search the [JewishGen Gazetteer](#).

The default search criterion is “**Phonetically Like.**” If you don’t get a good match, try casting an ever-widening net until you get a satisfactory option.

Search for Jewish community:	Dokshits
Narrow the search by modern country ::	Belarus
Narrow the search by inter-war country ::	Poland
Narrow the search by pre-WWI country ::	Russian Empire
Show the distance and direction in miles from:	
☒ The capital city of the relevant country	
☐ Latitude: ° ' N Longitude: ° ' E	
☐ Selected City: Select Country No cities	
Search method:	Phonetically Like

Phonetically Like

Sounds Like

Starts with

Contains

is Exactly

Fuzzy Match

Fuzzier Match

Fuzziest Match

JewishGen Communities Database

Searching for Town (Phonetically like) : DOKSHITS in modern country Belarus in interwar country Poland in pre-WWI country Russian Empire					
Run on Tue, 16 Dec 2025 11:46:08 -0500					
Modern Town & Country	Other Names	c. 1950 After WWII Town / Country	c. 1930 Between Wars Town / District / Province / Country	c. 1900 Before WWI Town / District / Province / Country	# of JGFF Entries
 Dokshytsy , Belarus 54°54' N 27°45' E 70 miles N of Minsk	Dokshytsy [Bel], Dokshitsy [Rus], Dokshits [Yid], Dokszyce [Pol], Dokšica [Lith], Dokšici [Latv], Dokšyцы, Dokshitse, Dokshitsya, Dokschyzy, Dokshitz, Dugscitz	Dokshitsy Soviet Union	Dokszyce Dzisna Wilno Poland	Dokshitsy Borisov Minsk Russian Empire	231
Dokshytsy, Belarus Number of matches = 1					

Dokshytsy, Belarus

Dokshytsy [Bel], Dokshitsy [Rus], Dokshits [Yid],
 Dokszyce [Pol], Dokšica [Lith], Dokšici [Latv], Dokšyцы,
 Dokshitse, Dokshitsya, Dokschyzy, Dokshitz, Dugscitz

Russian: Докшицы. Belarusian: Докшыцы.
 Yiddish: דאָקשיצ. Hebrew: דוקשיצה.
 69 miles N of Minsk, 50 miles SSW of Dzisna (Disna).

Jewish Population: 2,762 (in 1897)

1900: Dokshitsy, Borisov uyezd, Minsk gubernia,
 Russian Empire
 1930: Dokszyce, Dzisna powiat, Wilno województwo, Poland

As long as there was a Jewish community in your village, whether or not you're Jewish, you won't find a better online database of name variants.



RESEARCH GUIDES

Search this Guide

Search

[Library of Congress](#) / [Research Guides](#) / [Geography & Map](#) / [Cartographic Resources for Genealogical Research: Eastern Europe and Russia](#) / Introduction

Cartographic Resources for Genealogical Research: Eastern Europe and Russia

This guide provides researchers information about geographic feature names in East Central Europe, Eastern Europe, and Russia among the collections of the Geography and Map Division at the Library of Congress.

Introduction

[Latitudes, Longitudes, and Geographic Coordinates](#)
[Using Topographic Set Maps](#)
[Reference Resources](#)
[Electronic Resources](#)
[Using the Map Collections](#)

Geography & Map



Have a question? Need assistance?
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Author:

Mike Klein, *Cartographic Reference Specialist, Geography and Map Division*

Created: March 10, 2022

Last Updated: March 10, 2022

Introduction

Some of the more perplexing areas in the world, especially for those researching their family's history, involve East Central Europe, Eastern Europe, and western Russia. Needless to say, the Eastern European region of the European subcontinent has been one of the most turbulent over the last three hundred-or-so years, which probably accounts for the thrust of emigration to America and elsewhere during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Certainly one significant characteristic of the region is its diverse population of multifarious groups of people, each with its own language, religion, traditions, and preferred form of rule. This has been both the cause and the product of much political, social, and economic instability, all likely incurred by changing venues of authority, which in turn has led to revisions of boundaries and alterations of place names at national and local levels, often in two or more tongues.

Consequently, confusion abounds when attempting to identify the name and location of an ancestral village in the region. There is no easy solution to finding a multilingual place name on a map or an old document. Nevertheless, there are cartographic and place name aids to consult in attempting to mitigate the difficulty.

For our purposes, this research guide focuses on the three regions that now cause some of the most grief for genealogists and reference staff. Those are East Central Europe, Eastern Europe, and Russia. At the outset let us keep in mind that these regions are geographic constructions, devised by academics, planners, and politicians to enable description, research, and the making of domestic and foreign policy. No natural boundaries separate them, all have overlapped at some place or another and at some point in history, and they will be used by us to compartmentalize our cartographic resources in an effort to facilitate genealogical research.

With that caveat in mind, we may define each region. Initially, East Central Europe corresponds to both Imperial Germany and the former Austro-Hungarian Empire that existed from 1867 up to its dissolution at the end of the First World War; secondly, Eastern Europe, a discrete but increasingly ambiguous region that contains a range of similar cultural, ethnic, political, and geographic influences; and lastly, Imperial Russia, once the major possessor of large chunks of Eastern Europe.



Richard Andree, cartographer. *Europa politisch*. 1881. Library of Congress Geography and Map Division.

But wait – the **US Library of Congress** has lots of topographic maps, as well as a whole section devoted to “**Cartographic Resources for Genealogical research in Eastern Europe and Russia.**”

Let’s go to their page “**Using Topographic Set Maps**”

LOC's process for finding an ancestral village using their topo maps of Eastern and Central Europe and Russia:

1. **Narrow the search**
2. **Use a Gazetteer:** apart from non-digitized books in other languages, they recommend the **JewishGen Gazetteer** for Poland, Lithuania, Belarus and Ukraine
3. **Search on a name**

Let's compare results from the **Gazeteer** with those from the **Communities Database**

Using Topographic Set Maps

Sets of large-scale topographic maps of countries in East Central Europe, Eastern Europe, and European Russia consistently have been among the most heavily consulted materials in the collections because of their value to genealogists who attempt to identify locations of communities from which their ancestors emigrated. Because many of the communities tend to be villages or settlements consisting of no more than a few households, they generally do not appear on maps produced at a national scale. Hence, researchers must use large-scale topographic maps that identify obscure place names, as well as other cultural features that add context, such as adjacent communities, roads and trails, railroads and railroad stations, post offices, cemeteries, churches, and cultivated lands, in addition to natural features, such as vegetation, rivers and streams, and relief.

By and large those kinds of geographic features are most pronounced on maps produced at a scale of 1:100,000 or greater. Below we examine five sets of maps from the collections of the Geography and Map Division useful in locating communities in East Central Europe, Eastern Europe, and European Russia. These were issued at scales of 1:126,000 (Russia), 1:100,000 (Germany, Poland, and western Russia), and 1:75,000 (Austria-Hungary). Each set bears distinctive characteristics in one or more areas, such as its depiction of topography, practice of naming features, style of lettering of place names, symbols by which it identifies cultural features, and coloring or absence thereof. Yet they all overlap somewhat in their chronology of coverage, and, given the shifting nature of European borders in the first half of the twentieth century, several extend over the same geographic areas. Nevertheless, each set is appropriate for locating a specific locale within a limited time frame.



Russia. Armiiā. Glavnyi shtab. Kartograficheskoe zavedenie. Sheet 8. L'vov. Spetsial'naia Karta Evropeiskoi Chasti SSSR s Prilegaiushchimi Gosudarstvami / Kartograficheskoe zavedenie 1933. Library of Congress Geography and Map Division.

The three sets of maps most frequently consulted by patrons searching for the locations of ancestral home towns have been those covering the Austro-Hungarian Empire, Germany, and Poland, all major sources of emigration to the United States in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Each provides comprehensive coverage of its respective territory, with the *Spezialkarte der Österreichisch-Ungarischen Monarchie* issued 1:75,000 scale from 1877 to 1914, and both the Wojskowy Instytut Geograficzny's maps of Poland issued from 1919 to 1939 and the Reichsamt für Landesaufnahme's maps of Germany issued from ca. 1880 to ca. 1930 at 1:100,000 scale. Both the Austro-Hungarian and Polish sets of maps cover those parts of Galicia under their respective control, with the Polish set covering western (Polish) Galicia and the Austro-Hungarian set covering eastern (Ukrainian) Galicia.

JewishGen Gazetteer

Search for **locality**:

Narrow the search by **country / region**?: ▼

Measure distances in: ☒ Miles ☐ Kilometers

Show the distance and direction from:

☒ The capital city of the relevant country

☐ Latitude: ° ' N ▼ Longitude: ° ' E ▼

☐ Selected City: ▼ ▼

Search method: ▼

- Phonetically Like — Beider-Morse Phonetic Matching
- Sounds Like — Daitch-Mokotoff Soundex
- Starts With — Town names starting with this prefix
- Is Exactly — Town names with this precise spelling
- Contains — Town names containing this text
- Fuzzy — Town names most similar to this text
- Fuzzier — Town names very similar to this text
- Fuzziest — Town names similar to this text

JewishGen Communities Database

Search for **Jewish community**:

Narrow the search by **modern country**?: ▼

Narrow the search by **inter-war country**?: ▼

Narrow the search by **pre-WWI country**?: ▼

Show the distance and direction in ▼ from:

☒ The capital city of the relevant country

☐ Latitude: ° ' N ▼ Longitude: ° ' E ▼

☐ Selected City: ▼ ▼

Search method: ▼

- Phonetically Like
- Sounds Like
- Starts with
- Contains
- is Exactly
- Fuzzy Match
- Fuzzier Match
- Fuzziest Match

The **Gazeteer**'s search options are limited compared with those of the **Communities Database**; the search methods are identical. *Results?*

JewishGen Gazetteer

Location DOKSHITS (soundex) in						
Run on Tue, 10 Feb 2026 17:22:09 -0500						
For an online Map click on  Google Maps						
Location (Native names in BOLD)	Feature Type & Number	Coordinates (Click for JewishGen Resource Map)	Map	Country	Distance/Direction from reference point	10 mile radius
 Dokshitsy [Russian], Dokshytsy [Belarusian], Докшыцы [Belarusian], Докшицы [Russian], Dokszyce [Polish], Dokshytse [Russian]	seat of a second-order administrative division, -1942464	54°53' N 27°46' E		Belarus in/near Vitsyebskaya Voblasts'	68.9 miles N of Minsk 53°54' N 27°34' E	
Dokshytsy, Belarus 1 match						
Dokshytsy [Bel], Dokshitsy [Rus], Dokshits [Yid], Dokszyce [Pol], Dokšica [Lith], Dokšici [Latv], Dokšytsy, Dokshitse, Dokshitsya, Dokschyzy, Dokshitz, Dugscitz Russian: Докшицы. Belarusian: Докшыцы. Yiddish: דאָקשיצ. Hebrew: דוקשיצה. 69 miles N of Minsk, 50 miles SSW of Dzisna (Disna). Jewish Population: 2,762 (in 1897) 1900: Dokshitsy, Borisov uyezd, Minsk gubernia, Russian Empire 1930: Dokszyce, Dzisna powiat, Wilno województwo, Poland						

JewishGen Communities Database

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 Dokshytsy , Belarus 54°54' N 27°45' E 70 miles N of Minsk	Dokshytsy [Bel], Dokshitsy [Rus], Dokshits [Yid], Dokszyce [Pol], Dokšica [Lith], Dokšici [Latv], Dokšytsy, Dokshitse, Dokshitsya, Dokschyzy, Dokshitz, Dugscitz	Dokshitsy Soviet Union	Dokszyce Dzisna Wilno Poland	Dokshitsy Borisov Minsk Russian Empire	231
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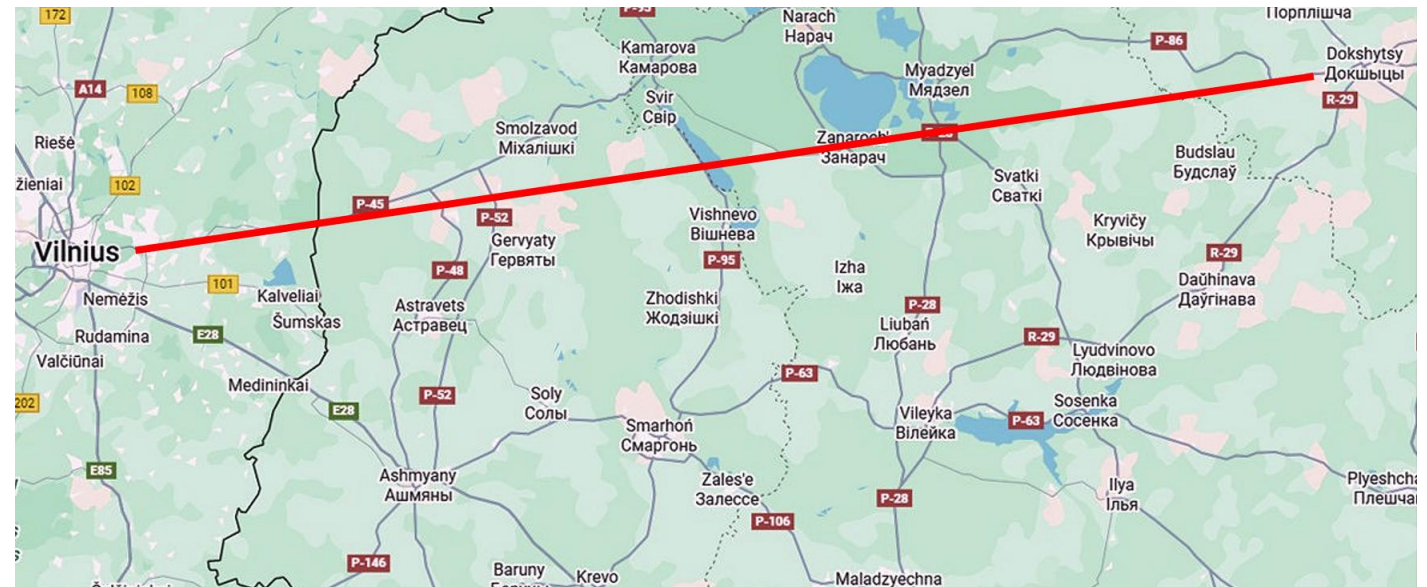
The **Gazeteer**'s default search method: "Phonetically Like," got no matches, but a second search, using the broader net "Sounds Like," got essentially the exact same result as the **Communities Database**. Now we've got to decide on a topo map.

Here's where my method really differs from that recommended by the LOC:

My Step 4: Go first to Google Maps to search on the contemporary name of your village. Then look for a larger town to help narrow the geography of your search on a topo map.



Dokshytsy, Vitebsk region



Dokshytsy: East-north-east of Vilnius, Lithuania

LOC Step 4: Find Coordinates for the Selected Site

The easy to use JewishGen Gazetteer informs us that [Dokshits] is located at [54° 53' N, 27° 46' E]. To locate a map of [Dokshits] as it appeared in the 1920s as part of the Second Polish Republic, let us consult the set of maps prepared at **1:100,000** scale by Poland's **Wojskowy Insytut Geograficzny (WIG)**. The graphic index to the set is illustrated below. Each rectangle on the graphic index covers a sheet within the series.

LOC Step 5: Convert the Coordinates

From our gazetteer we know that [Dokshits] is located at [54° 53' N, 27° 46' E] east of Greenwich. Like other large-scale maps produced in several European nations, those in [Belarus] employed as their prime meridian the island of Ferro, 17°40' west of the Greenwich meridian. Thus, we need to add 17°40' to [27° 46'], which gives us [44°86'] east of Ferro. **[But] remember that there are 60 minutes to a degree and that our base number is 60, which means we are using a sexagesimal system of counting. Therefore, adding 40' to 36' give us 1 degree and 16 minutes, and by carrying the 1 and adding it to the 17 and 18 we arrive at 36°16'. Or, we can consult the table for converting geographic coordinates from Greenwich Prime Meridian to various other meridians (PDF, 8.1 MB).** <https://guides.loc.gov/maps-genealogy-eastern-europe/topographic-sets/poland>

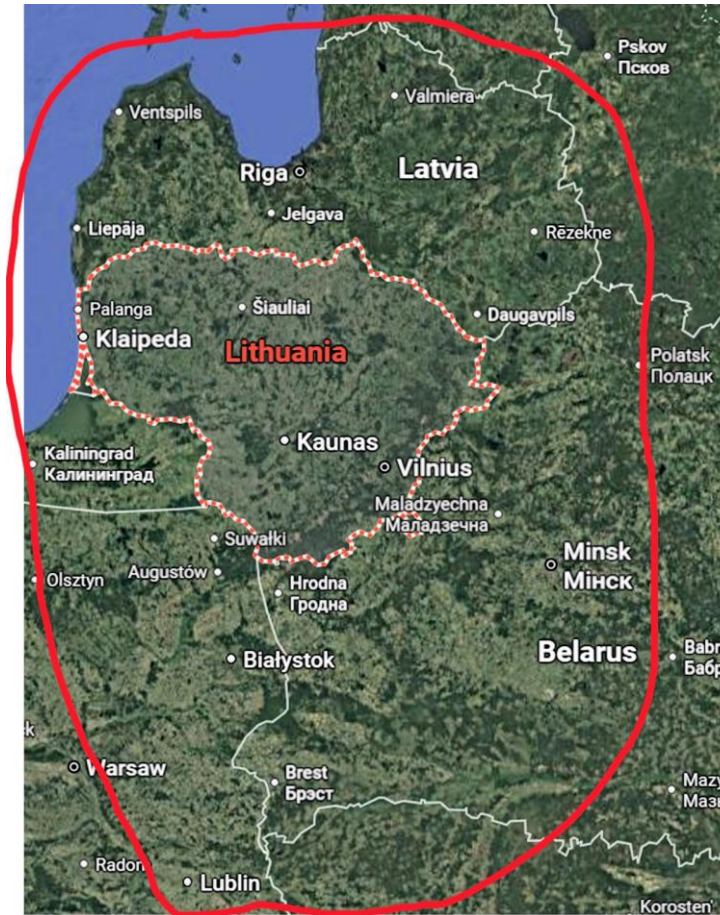
LOC Step 6: Consult the Graphic Index

The alert researcher will notice that the graphic index below has been annotated by hand to denote longitude by the Greenwich meridian, which is the one we use to find [Dokshits]. Moving east along the top of the index to approximate position of 18° 36' east brings us to column 27, and moving down column 27 to latitude 53° 1' brings us to row 36. **(Whew!)**

My Step 5: Go to www.LithuanianMaps.com to access 669 topographic maps from 1808 – 1945.

We'll first try Prussian topo maps published 1893 – 1914 at 1:300 000 on the page **TopoMapsGerAus1876 – 1945**.

(A map scale of 1:300 000 means 1 cm on the map = 300 000 cm, or 3 kilometers/1.9 miles on the ground. The smaller the number, the larger the scale of the map.)



**Area covered by
LithuanianMaps.com**

Maps1922-39
Maps1940-45
Maps1946-54
TopoMapsEastPrussia1808-15
TopoMapsGerAus1876-1945
TopoMapsLatvian1920-39
TopoMapsLithuanian1920-39
TopoMapsPolish19thCent
TopoMapsPolish1915-44
TopoMapsRussian1836-1945
MapsEthnographic
MapEthnoLithMinor
MapsLithuaniaMinor
1897RussianCensusMaps
MapsHistoricalUpTo1795
MapsHistoricalAfter1795
MapsHistorical1899Atlas
MapsLithuaniaInEurope
MapsRussiaInEurope
MapPlaying-CollectibleCards
SeaChartsBaltic
LithLatPrints
TownViewsA-L
TownViewsKaunas
TownViewsKlaipeda
TownViewsN-Z
TownViewsRiga
TownViewsVilnius

1893 - 1914 "Übersichts Karte von Mitteleuropa" at 1:300 000. "Herausgegeben von der Kartogr. Abteilung der Kgl. Preuss. Landesaufnahme." (Published by the Cartographic Department of the Royal Prussian Land Registry). General Maps of Central Europe, a series which was continued after WWI, and during WWI morphed into Europa, Mitteleuropa, Nordeuropa and Osteuropa variants. From www.maps.vlasenko.net, T54, T57, U56, U57, U58 are from Berkeley Library, Univ. of Calif.; R54, R55, S56, S57 are from www.mapywig.org



Map Key: 1:300 000



The U55 map titled "Wilejka" covers a large area due east of "Wilna." Let's try it.



Found: Dokszyce on the 1896 topo map titled "Wilejka," from the 1893 – 1914 series "Übersichts Karte von Mitteleuropa," at 1:300 000, published by the Cartographic Dept. of the Royal Prussian Land Registry.

But let's see if we can't get more detail from a 1:100 000 map.

1897 - 1921 "Karte des westlichen Russlands" at 1:100 000 Kartographische Abteilung d. Königl. Preuss. Landes - Aufnahme."

German topographical maps (a full set of the area is about 470 sheets), based on late 19th and early 20th century Russian maps, for most of (but not all of) Lithuania; the thumbnails on the right are keyed to the map below. Mostly from mapsug.org, www.davidrumsey.com, and www.austrotopo.org



We'll try the **1897 – 1921** series "Karte des westlichen Russlands" at **1:100 000** at LithuanianMaps.com to see if we can't get a more detailed view of Dokshytsy.

But no, my maps for this series – and for those at my page TopoMapsPolish1915-44 -- don't go that far east. **No worries.**

Navigation
Introduction
› About the Project
› Copyright
› Authors & Contact
› FAQs
Active Indexes
› WIG 1:25 000
› WIG 1:100 000
› WIG 1:300 000
WIG Maps
› WIG maps 1:10 000
› WIG maps 1:25 000
› WIG maps 1:100 000
› WIG maps 1:300 000
› WIG maps 1:500 000
› Other WIG maps
Non-WIG Maps
› Other Central European maps
› Allied maps
› German maps - 1919
› German maps 1919-1945
› KUK (Austro-Hungarian) maps
› Russian and Soviet maps
› Town plans
Other Material
› Literature
› Web Links
› Polish --> English Map Key
Users Online
› Guests Online: 36
› Members Online: 0
› Total Members: 4,394
› Newest Member: Anna Zaranko
Co-operation:
Tomek Pluciński (in Polish)
Archive Maps of Gdańsk Pomerania (in Polish)
Old maps of Lithuania and the Baltics
Western Poland Map Archive (in Polish)
Military Treasure Hunters Forum (in Polish)
FTP access to ziomał.org
Tiger Militaria Catalog (Polish)
Zecernia Map Collection (Polish)



Z powodów technicznych i ze względów bezpieczeństwa, strona mapywig.org została podzielona na dwa części, dla użytkowników polskich i angielskojęzycznych. Kliknij [tutaj](#) lub na flagę, aby przejść do nowej polskiej strony.

[Więcej informacji...](#)



For technical and security reasons, mapywig.org has been split into two sub-sites, one for Polish-speakers, and the other for English-speakers. Click the flag or [here](#) to proceed to the new English sub-site.

[More information...](#)

We're going to the Polish site my friend Marek Zielinski manages: www.mapywig.org Finding the right map here requires a different process. **First, click on the British flag to get the English table of contents (not the "More information" link).**

Navigation
Introduction
‣ About the Project
‣ Copyright
‣ Authors & Contact
‣ FAQs
Active Indexes
‣ WIG 1:25 000
‣ WIG 1:100 000
‣ WIG 1:300 000
WIG Maps
‣ WIG maps 1:10 000
‣ WIG maps 1:25 000
‣ WIG maps 1:100 000
‣ WIG maps 1:300 000
‣ WIG maps 1:500 000
‣ Other WIG maps
Non-WIG Maps
‣ Other Central European maps
‣ Allied maps
‣ German maps - 1919
‣ German maps 1919-1945
‣ KUK (Austro-Hungarian) maps
‣ Russian and Soviet maps
‣ Town plans

Without the benefit of experience on this site (*where many of my topo map images on my site came from, and where many of my own map images reside*), or knowledge of Polish, you're apt to get frustrated, looking for the right map:

- Forget about the **WIG 1:10 000** and **1:25 000** maps – they're the highest magnification, but there are very few of them, and they're crude.
- Start by clicking the **WIG maps 1:100 000** hotlink

WIG 1:100 000 maps

Mapa taktyczna WIG (tactical map by W.I.G.)

Below you will find links to all [available](#) sheets and editions of "tactical map of Poland" 1:100,000 by Wojskowy Instytut Geograficzny (WIG). Approx. 480 single sheets of this map type were published covered Poland, in up to 4 editions per sheet. There were also up to 280 sheets of the territory of neighbouring countries (Lithuania, USSR, Czechoslovakia and 3rd Reich).

Please note: A certain confusion as to the sheet names and numbers might stem from the fact that some earlier WIG maps from the eastern areas of Poland were based on Russian (Imperial) maps and those exactly the same ground as later, 1930s edition - they are shifted east and sometimes south, by (up to) half a sheet. Sheets of WIG maps from early 1920s, cut along Russian Imperial sheetlines, [are available](#). Naturally all 1:100,000 maps covering an area around a town or village, old and new, will be shown on a map list through [Mapster search engine](#).

Abbreviations:

IWG: Instytut Wojskowo-Geograficzny – the name of the Wojskowy Instytut Geograficzny prior to the name change in 1921.

KDR: Karte des Deutschen Reiches (German 1:100 000 map used for early WIG editions).

KdwR: Karte des westlichen Russlands (WW1 German 1:100 000 map of the western Russia, which was used for some early WIG editions)

BOM: WW2 Polish Underground editions by Służba Geograficzna Komendy Głównej AK (Geographic Service of the General Staff of the Home Army). Abbreviation "BOM" was used on some maps, code of the three people involved in map production:

„Bury”, Lt Col Mieczysław Szumański – Head of the AK Geographic Service,

„Ogończyk”, Lt. Stanisław Twardowski – Head of the reproduction facility,

„Marks”, Czesław Śmieciński – senior printer.

Last update: 30th October 2020

To make access to the maps easier, all sheets and editions have been made available for download via a database driven mapster system:

1. WIG 1:100,000 based on Russian earlier, Russian maps

[Index sheet](#)

[Map list](#)

Now click the “Index sheet” hotlink



Strona główna



Wyszukiwarka



Skorowidze



Zestawienia



O projekcie



Przeglądarka skorowidzów

Wybierz kategorię:

WIG - Półwysep Hel 1:5 000 /1930/

Dla tej kategorii nie mamy skorowidza, a tylko listę arkuszy

Skorowidz graficzny

Eksport txt: wszystko

Eksport txt: tylko linki

Filtr listy: ustaw

Filtr lity: usuń

Sortowanie listy:

godło, data publikacji, tytuł mapy ROSNAĆO



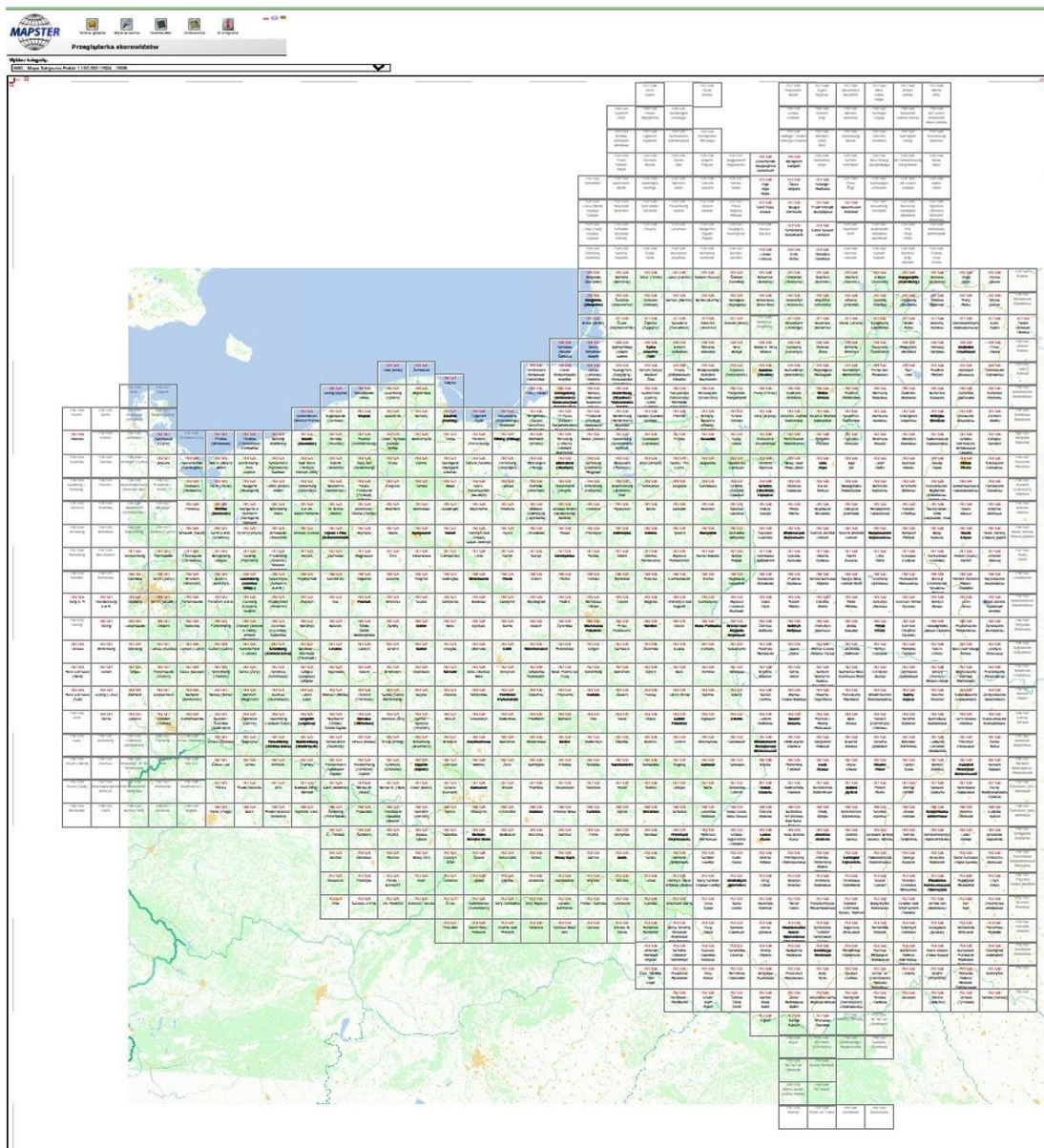
Typ listy:

Standardowa



brak map

Now click the “Skorowidze” (*pr. skoh-roh-VEE-dseh*) (*Indexes*) icon to get to the index map



Coverage of ***Mapa taktyczna WIG*** (tactical maps by W.I.G. – *Wojskowy Instytut Geograficzny*) at **1:100 000**.

About 480 single sheets of this map type were published by the outbreak of WWII, covering Poland in up to 4 editions per sheet. There were also about 280 sheets of the territory of neighboring countries (*Lithuania, Latvia, USSR, Czechoslovakia and the 3rd Reich*).

P28 S40 Pozelwa Želva	P28 S41 Orniany Arnionys	P28 S42 Święciany Švenčionys	P28 S43 Hoduciszki Adučiškis	P28 S44 Postawy Паставы	P28 S45 Głębokie Глыбокае	P28 S46 Plissa Пліса
P29 S40 Mejszogoła Maišiagala	P29 S41 Niemeczyn Nemenčinė	P29 S42 Michaliszki Міхалішкі	P29 S43 Świr Свір	P29 S44 Miadzioł Мядзел	P29 S45 Dokszycy Докшыцы	P29 S46 Tumiłowicze Тумілавічы
P30 S40 Wilno Vilnius	P30 S41 Miedniki Medininkai	P30 S42 Worniany Варняны	P30 S43 Żodziszki Жодзішкі	P30 S44 Kurzeniec Куранец	P30 S45 Dołhinów Даўгінава	P30 S46 Biehomla Бягомль
P31 S40 Olkieniki Wschód Valkininkai	P31 S41 Soleczniki Šalčininkai	P31 S42 Oszmiana Ашмяны	P31 S43 Smorgonie Смаргонь	P31 S44 Wilejka Вілейка	P31 S45 Olkowicze Альковічы	P31 S46 Ziembin Зембін
P32 S40	P32 S41	P32 S42	P32 S43	P32 S44	P32 S45	P32 S46

Remembering the relative position of Dokshyty to Vilnius, we've lucked out with a map: **P29 S45 Dokszycy**, that should have the image we need.



1932 WIG topo
map **"PAS 29 SLUP
45 DOKSZYCE"** at
1:100 000, *based
on maps created
1910 at 1:42 000,
and one from
1930 at 1:84 000.*

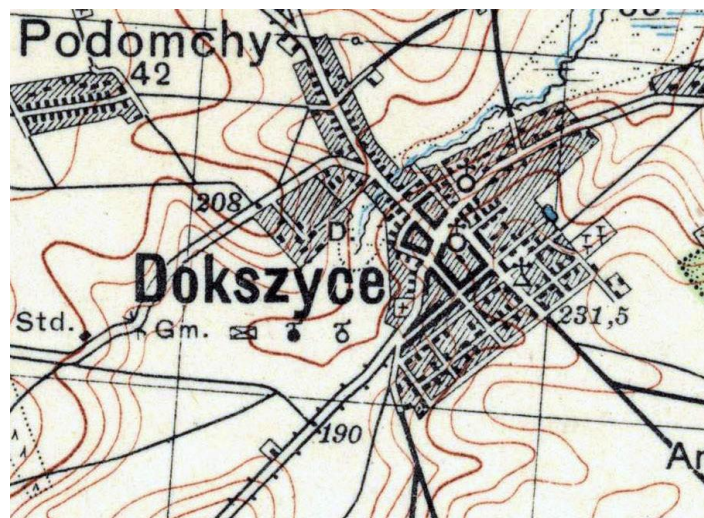


Early 20th century “Dokshytsy.” Aaron Ginsburg at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/jewishdokshitsy>

How “Dokshyty” is depicted on different types of maps



1:300 000 1896 Prussian topo map



1:100 000 1931 Polish topo map



Google maps

**A map scale of 1:100 000 means 1 cm on the map = 100 000 cm, or 1 Kilometer/.62 miles on the ground. Counter-intuitively, the smaller the number, the larger the scale of the map.*

Now, let's look for “Zlochev,” the town my dear late mother-in-law said her mother came from

JewishGen Communities Database

The **JewishGen Communities Database** contains information about 6,500 Jewish communities in Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East.

This database contains each community's name in various languages, and political jurisdictions during different time periods.

In the search results, hover your mouse over a town name for additional information, or click on the  icon next to a community's name to see a full page of information — including maps, Jewish population figures, and links to JewishGen resources for that community.

For a database of nearly 4 million localities in Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East, search the **JewishGen Gazetteer**.

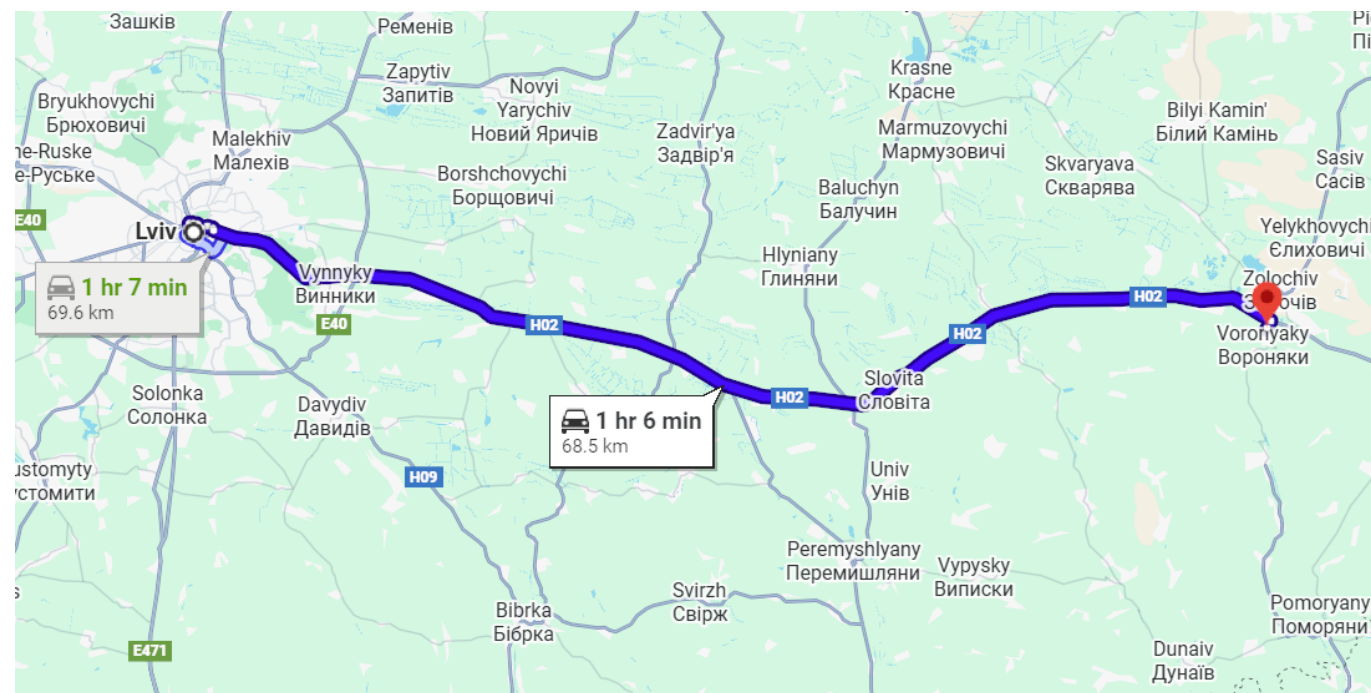
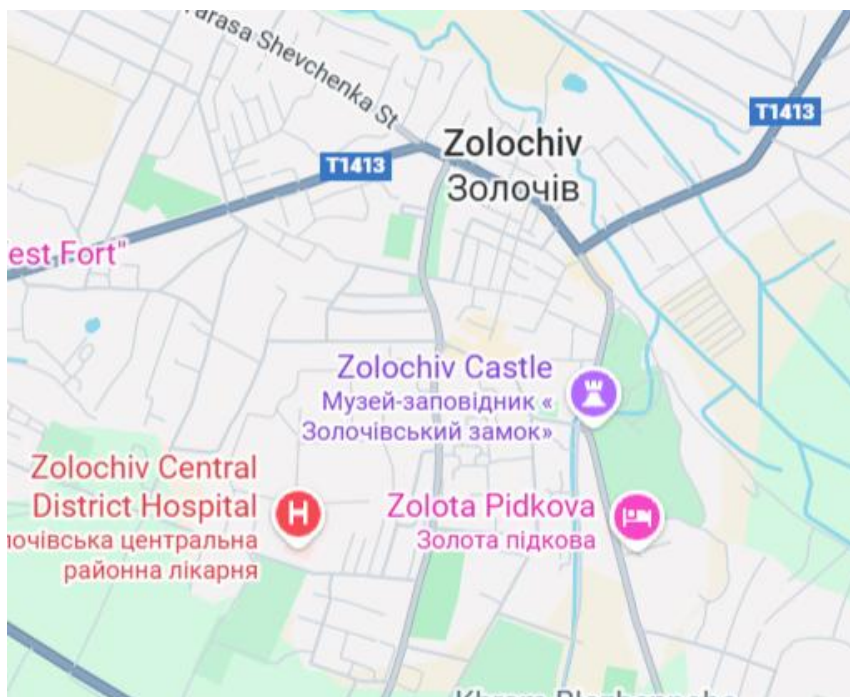
Search for Jewish community :	Zlochev
Narrow the search by modern country ?:	Ukraine
Narrow the search by inter-war country ?:	Poland
Narrow the search by pre-WWI country ?:	Austrian Empire
Show the distance and direction in miles from:	
☒ The capital city of the relevant country	
☐ Latitude: ° ' N Longitude: ° ' E	
☐ Selected City: Select Country No cities	
Search method:	Phonetically Like Phonetically Like Sounds Like Starts with Contains is Exactly Fuzzy Match Fuzzier Match Fuzziest Match

JewishGen Communities Database

Searching for Town (Phonetically like) : ZLOCHEV in modern country Ukraine in interwar country Poland in pre-WWI country Austrian Empire Run on Fri, 19 Dec 2025 17:33:07 -0500					
Modern Town & Country	Other Names	c. 1950 After WWII Town / Country	c. 1930 Between Wars Town / District / Province / Country	c. 1900 Before WWI Town / District / Province / Country	# of JGFF Entries
 Zolochiv , Ukraine 49°48' N 24°54' E 253 miles W of Kyiv	Zolochiv [Ukr], Złoczów [Pol], Zlotshev [Yid], Zolochev [Rus], Solotschiw [Ger], Zlochev, Zlochuv, Zlotchev, Zolociv	Zolochev Soviet Union	Złoczów <u>Złoczów</u> <u>Tarnopol</u> Poland	Złoczów <u>Złoczów</u> <u>Galicia</u> Austrian Empire	448
Zolochiv, Ukraine Number of matches = 1					

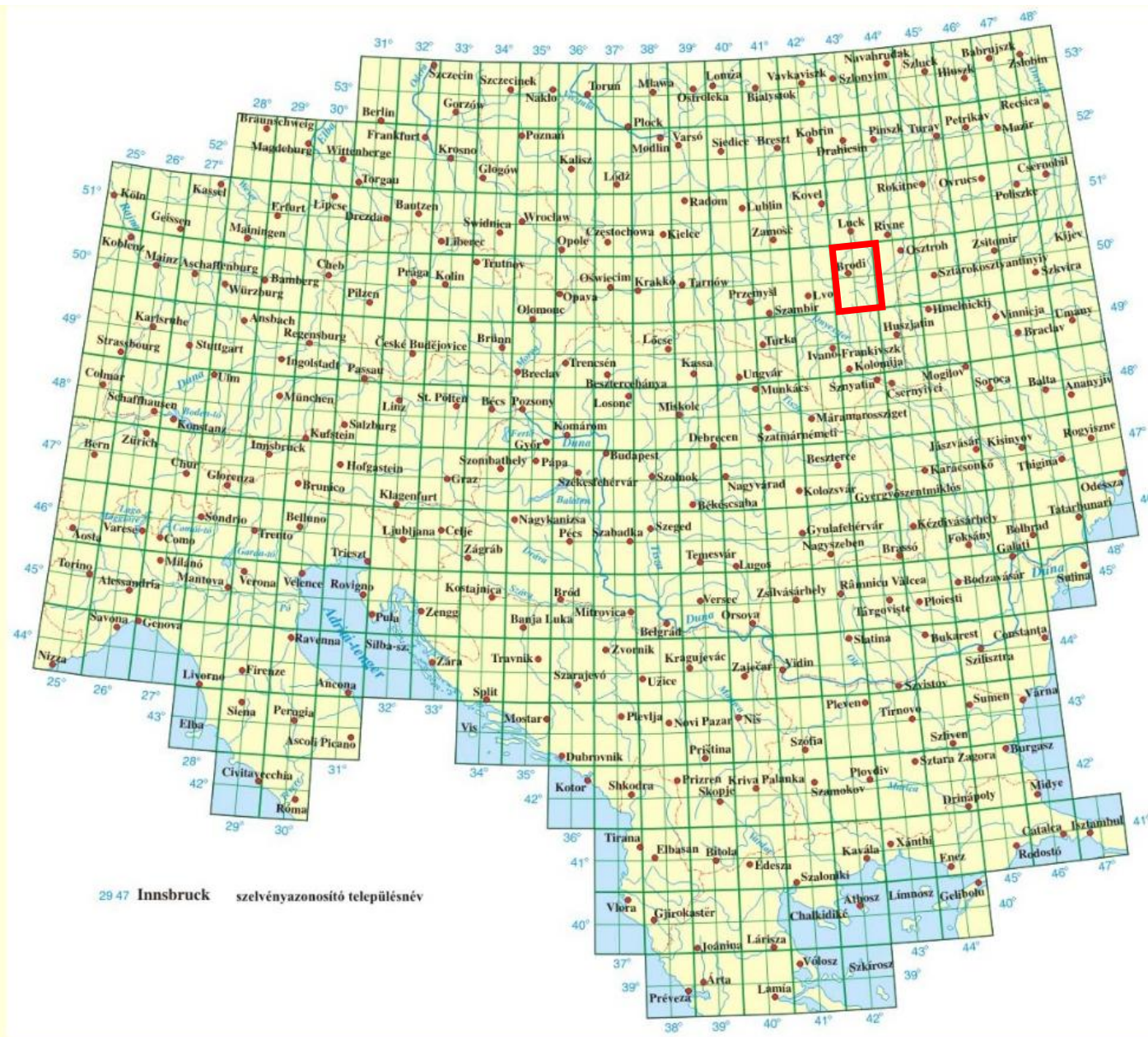
Zolochiv, Ukraine

Zolochiv [Ukr], Złoczów [Pol], Zlotshev [Yid], Zolochev [Rus], Solotschiw [Ger], Zlochev, Zlochuv, Zlotchev, Zolociv
 Ukrainian: Золочів. Russian: Золочев. Yiddish: זלאטשעוו
 40 miles E of L'viv (Lvov), 35 miles WNW of Ternopil (Tarnopol).
 Jewish Population: 4,046 (in 1890), 5,744 (in 1921)
 1900: Złoczów, Złoczów, Galicia, Austrian Empire
 1930: Złoczów, Złoczów powiat, Tarnopol województwo, Poland



At Google Maps, **Zlochev** is 69.6 km east of **Lviv** (*pr. leh-VEEV or LEV in Ukrainian*).

I first tried Austro-Hungarian topographic maps at my site at [TopoMapsGerAus1876-1945](https://topomapsgeraus1876-1945.com) but they don't cover that area. **We'll go to a different, Hungarian, site.**



<http://lazarus.elte.hu/hun/digkonyv/topo/3felmeres.htm>

3rd Military Mapping Survey of Austria-Hungary

Index sheet of the general map of Central Europe (1:200 000)

Clicking on an index map you can look at the sheets (3-3.5 MB each)

The original sheets were published about 1910

Currently 265 sheets are available (935 MB)

The map just east of one titled “Lvov”:
“Brodi,” is promising:



1889 Sheet 43-50: “Brody”

Going back to www.mapywig.org for Polish maps @ 1:100 000, we find a map east of Lwów titled **Złoczów**.

P48 S38 Żółkiew Жовква	P48 S39 Kamionka Strumiłowa Кам'янка- Бузька	P48 S40 Brody Броди	P48 S41 Krzemieniec Кременець
P49 S38 Lwów Львів	P49 S39 Busk-Krasne Буськ	P49 S40 Złoczów Золочів	P49 S41 Założce Залізці
P50 S38 Bóbrka Бібрка	P50 S39 Przemyślany Перемишляни	P50 S40 Zborów- Pomorzany Зборів- Поморяни	P50 S41 Tarnopol Тернопіль

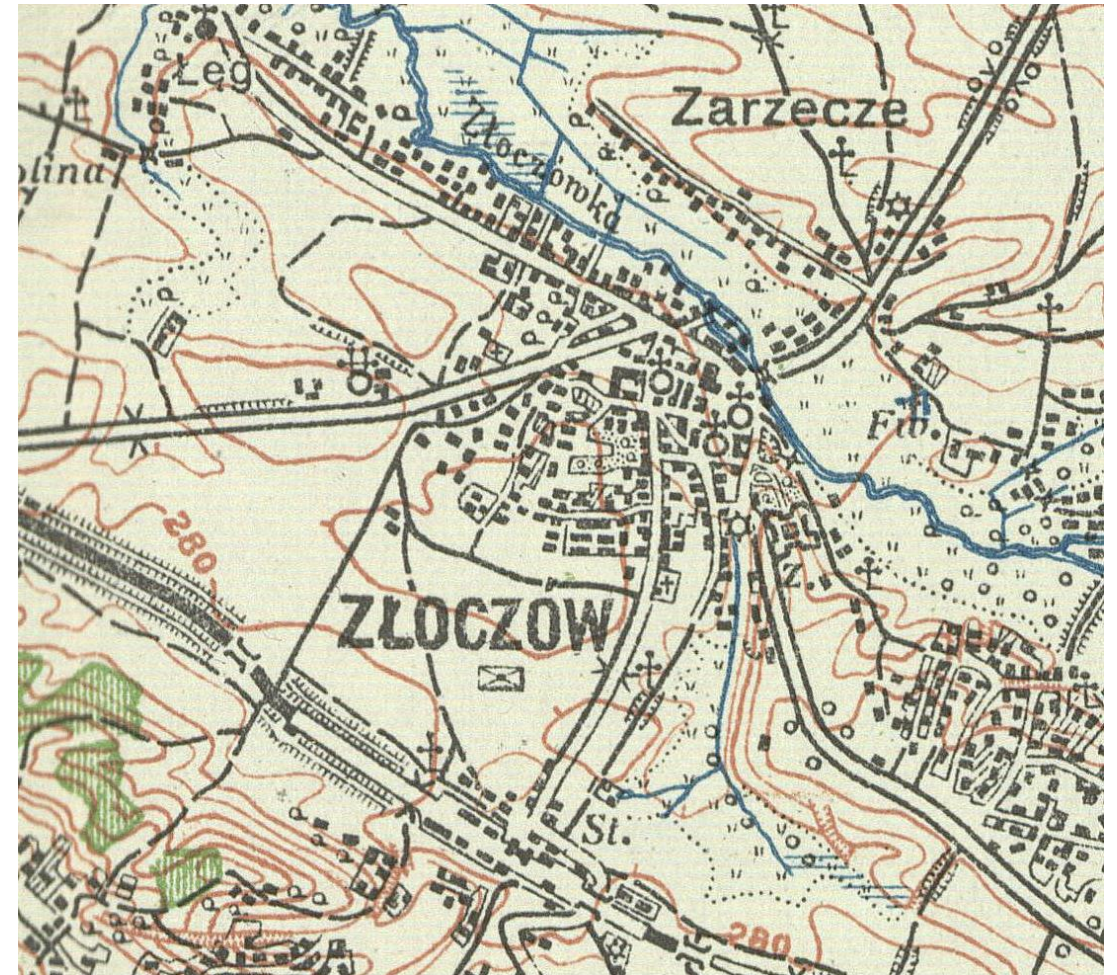


1924 (Detail): A 49 B 40 Złoczów www.mapywig.org

Change in depiction of Złoczów in 35 years



1889 (Detail): "Sheet 43-50 Brody" <http://lazarus.elte.hu>



1924 (Detail): "A 49 B 40 Złoczów" www.mapwig.org



1916 "Złoczów, Sobieski Street." *wikimedia*

Now we'll look for **Bad Wurzach/Wurzach** in today's Germany. *Results:*

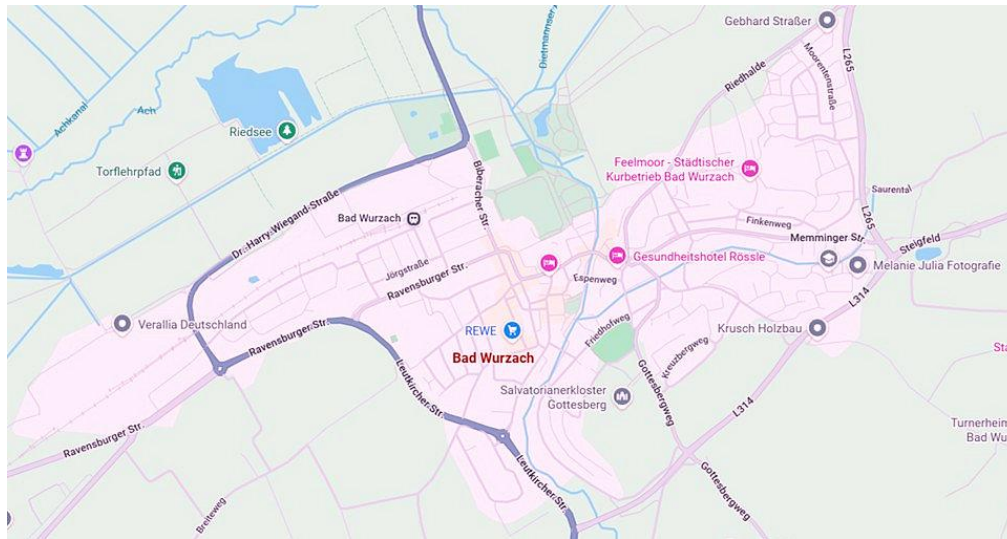
1. No match at the Jewish Communities database
2. Multiple matches at the JewishGen Gazeteer:
 1. **Wurzach** in Bavaria
 2. **Bad Wurzach** in Baden-Württemberg
3. Search for Wurzach or Bad Wurzach at Google Maps, and you get only one match: **Bad Wurzach** in Baden-Württemberg

We'll go to a site that has comprehensive topo maps of Germany.

Brigham Young University

The screenshot displays the 'DIGITAL COLLECTIONS' page for the 'BYU LIBRARY'. The browser address bar shows the URL: contentdm.lib.byu.edu/digital/search/collection/GermanyMaps. The page header includes a search bar and an 'Advanced Search' link. The left sidebar contains navigation options: 'Collections' (with a 'Select All Collections' checkbox and a 'Show All' button) and 'Subject' (with links for 'germany -- maps, topographic (3529)' and 'aachen (germany) -- maps, topographic (1)'). The main content area shows 'Browsing items in: Germany Maps' with a 'Sort by: Title Ascending' dropdown and a 'Results per page: 20' dropdown. Below this, a pagination bar indicates 'Records 1-20 of 3,529' and includes a 'Go to page' input field. The main display area features a grid of map thumbnails, each with a label: Aachen, Aalen, Abensberg, Achim, Achtrup, Adelsheim, Adenau, Adorf, Adorf, and Aham. The bottom of the page contains a 'BYU BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY' logo, a 'WE VALUE YOUR PRIVACY' notice, and two buttons: 'MANAGE CHOICES' and 'AGREE & PROCEED'.

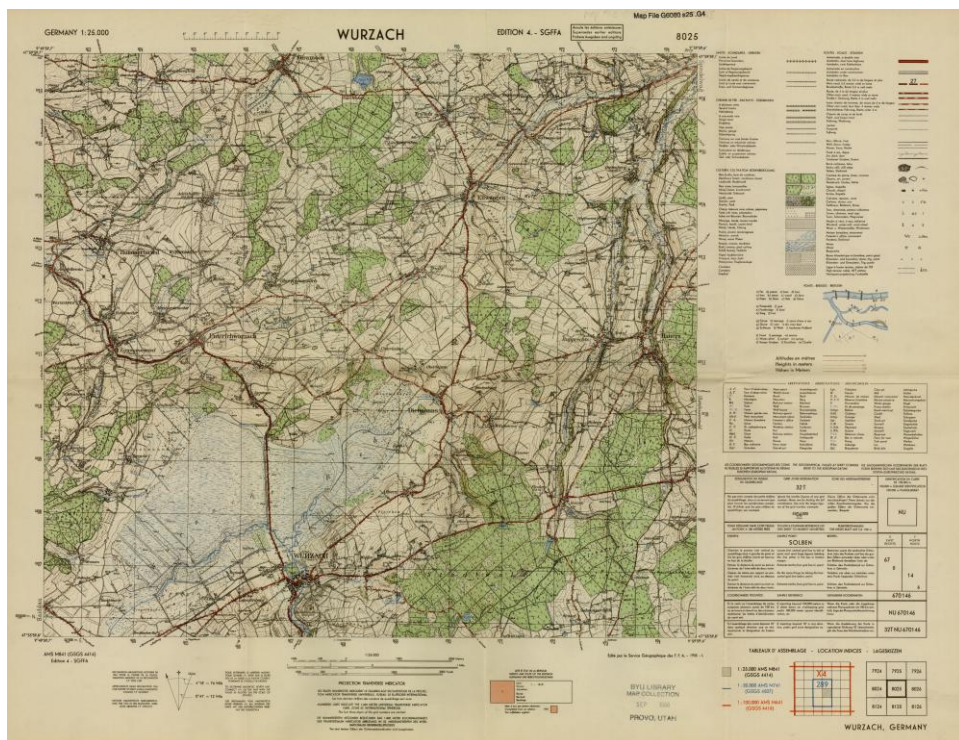
BYU's site does not have a Mapster-like page superimposing a grid of maps over a map of 19th century Germany, and it allows search only by the sheet number of a map and the title of the map -- usually the name of largest city in the quadrant -- so we're going to have to rely on the nearest large towns to Wurzach, and then see if there's a topo map with those names.



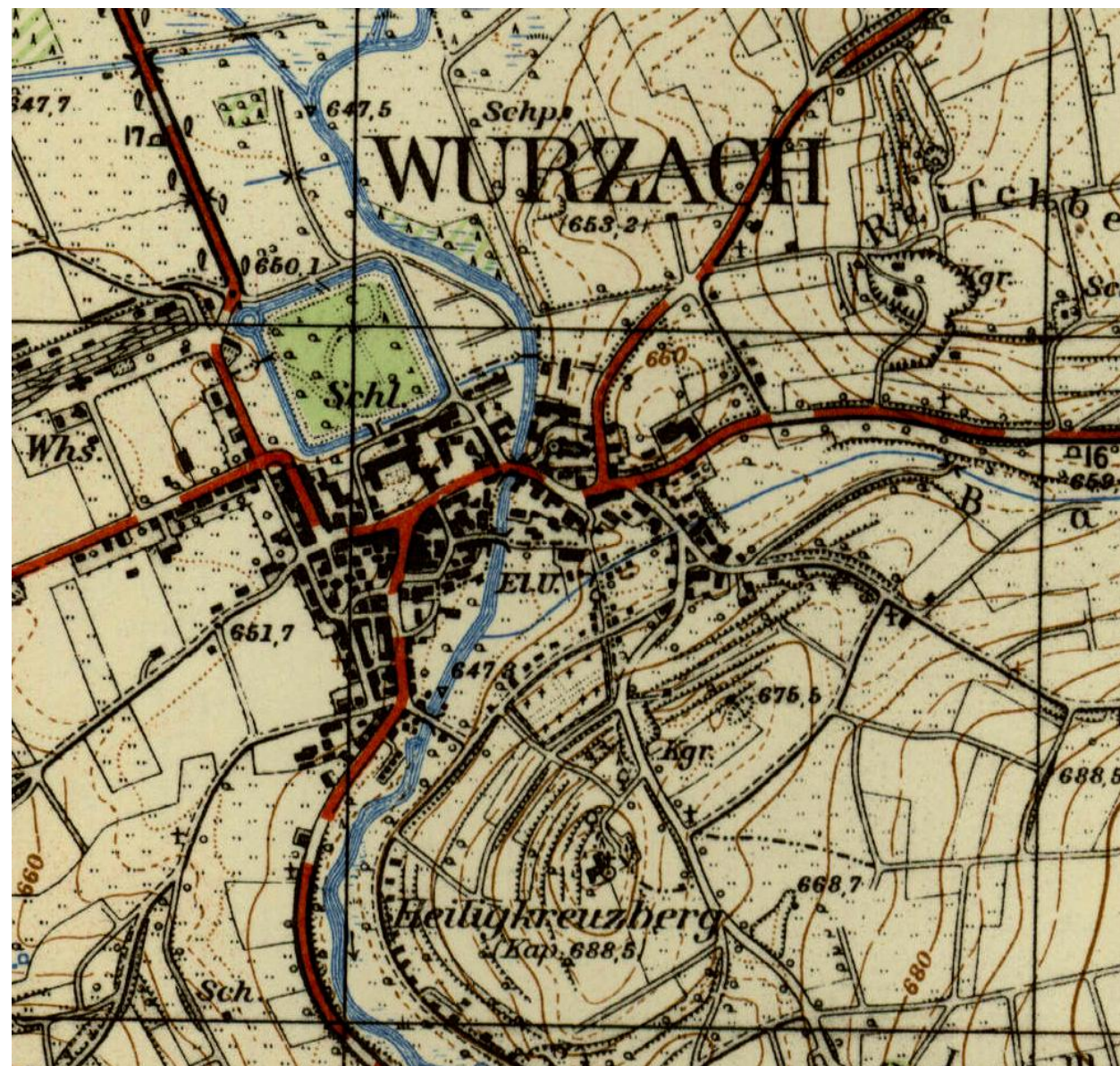
Bad Wurzach, Google Maps



Bad Wurzach between Ravensburg and Memmingen



Wurzach: pre-WWI topographic map by *Reichsamt für Landesaufnahme*, confiscated by the U. S. military, printed the U. S. Army Map Service. *Free download of 1:25 000 map at 16.2 MB from BYU.*





Wurzach Internment Camp. April 28, 1945: French troops free Brits; after May 8: Polish DPs, then Lithuanians.

Find Eastern/Central European town images on topographic maps:

	Library of Congress	A. Kapochunas
Recommended gazeteers to find name variations	1. Language-specific gazeteer books available at LOC 2. Online JewishGen Gazeteer	1. Online JewishGen Communities Database 2. Online JewishGen Gazeteer
To narrow the map search	Correct the latitude/longitude coordinates given by gazeteers; refer to hand-annotated index map with longitude added to individual sheets	Use Google Maps to locate the village/town and nearby larger ones to check index map titles
Access to printed maps?	Yes, in-person in DC	No
Download options	1. Up to 5 low-resolution scans free 2. High-res scans \$50 each 3. Link to www.mapywig.org	Links to multiple map sites offering free high-resolution (up to 600 dpi!) downloadable maps

Topographic maps of Lithuanian, Latvian, Kaliningrad Oblast, Belarusian, Polish and Ukrainian areas:

- www.lithuanianmaps.com (*My site, static since March 2021*)
- <https://lietuvoskartografija.lt/lithuanianmaps/index.php/topographic-maps/> (*My new site*)
- www.mapywig.org (*Online source of many of my – and LOC's -- topo maps*)
- www.easteurotopo.org (*Hap Ponedel has helped many to find their shtetl*)
- <http://igrek.amzp.pl/index.php>
- <https://www.maps4u.lt/en/maps.php?cat=14>

Topographic maps of Germany and Austro-Hungary:

- <https://contentdm.lib.byu.edu/digital/search/collection/GermanyMaps>
- <http://lazarus.elte.hu/hun/digkonyv/topo/3felmeres.htm>

How to find any town on topographic maps of Eastern and Central Europe

Happy Hunting!

Questions on today's presentation?

Need help?

Ask Andrew Kapochunas

kapochunas@gmail.com